

THIRD ANNUAL MESSAGE
OF
HON. SETH LOW,
MAYOR OF BROOKLYN,

PRESENTED TO

The Honorable the ^{Brooklyn.} Common Council,

JANUARY 7, 1884.



BROOKLYN:
PRINTED FOR THE CORPORATION.

1884.

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THIRD ANNUAL MESSAGE

OF

HON. SETH LOW,

MAYOR OF BROOKLYN.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL, }
BROOKLYN, January 7, 1884. }

To the Honorable the Common Council :

GENTLEMEN :

I have the honor to hand you herewith the reports of the various Departments of the City Government for the year 1883.

THE CITY DEBT.

The outstanding obligations of Brooklyn, as shown in the Comptroller's statement of city bonds and certificates of indebtedness, amount to.....	\$42,764,788 56
Amount at credit of the sinking fund.....	5,716,608 93
Net debt, December 31, 1883.....	\$37,048,179 63
Net debt, December 31, 1882.....	\$37,493,723 40
Net debt, December 31, 1883.....	37,048,179 63
Decrease in 1883.....	\$445,543 77
Gross debt, December 31, 1883.....	\$42,764,788 56
Gross debt, December 31, 1882.....	42,165,051 19
Increase in 1883.....	\$599,737 37

Sinking fund, December 31, 1883.....	\$5,716,608 93
Sinking fund, December 31, 1882.....	4,671,327 79
Increase in 1883.....	\$1,045,281 14
Deduct increase in gross debt.....	599,737 37
Showing decrease in net debt, as above.....	\$445,543 77

The following tables show the changes in the various items of the debt during the year :

PERMANENT DEBT PAYABLE FROM TAXATION.

	Amount Dec. 31, 1882.	Amount Dec. 31, 1883.
Prospect Park.....	\$9,236,000 00	\$9,236,000 00
New York and Brooklyn Bridge.....	11,090,000 00	12,245,237 37
Mount Prospect Square.....	90,000 00	90,000 00
Wallabout Bay Improvement.....	268,000 00	221,000 00
Soldier's Aid Fund.....	552,000 00	552,000 00
Arrearage Fund Bonds.....		1,650,000 00
Bonds for payment of old awards for lands taken in former years for local improve- ments.....		200,000 00
Totals.....	\$21,236,000 00	\$24,194,237 37
Increase in debt for Bridge.....		\$1,155,237 37
Increase in debt for Arrearage Bonds.....		1,650,000 00
Increase in debt for Bonds of Awards.....		200,000 00
		\$3,005,237 37
Decrease in debt for Wallabout Bay.....		47,000 00
Increase in Permanent Debt.....		\$2,958,237 37

WATER DEBT.

	Amount. Dec. 31, 1882.	Amount. Dec. 31, 1883.
Permanent Water Loan.....	\$9,859,500 00	\$10,452,000 00
Increase in Water Debt, \$592,500 00		

TEMPORARY DEBT PAYABLE FROM ASSESSMENTS.

	Amount. Dec. 31, 1882.	Amount. Dec. 31, 1883.
Brooklyn Local improvement.....	\$213,000 00	\$213,000 00
Gowanus Canal improvement.....	116,000 00	92,000 00
Bushwick avenue improvement.....	134,000 00	117,000 00
Union street improvement.....	194,000 00	194,000 00
South Seventh street improvement.....	157,000 00	137,000 00
Fourth avenue improvement.....	273,000 00	248,000 00
Knickerbocker and Central ave. Sewer.....	98,000 00	.....
Boulevard improvement.....	842,000 00	.....
Assessment fund bonds.....	1,400,000 00	1,250,000 00
Assessment fund bonds, W. & S.....	1,500,000 00	1,200,000 00
Sewerage fund bonds.....	1,725,000 00	1,500,000 00
Certificates of indebtedness.....	237,551 19	137,551 19
Average Compilation bonds.....	30,000 00	30,000 00
Totals.....	\$6,919 551 19	\$5,118,551 19

Showing decrease in debt for—

Gowanus Canal improvement.....	\$24,000
Bushwick avenue improvement.....	17,000
South Seventh street improvement.....	20,000
Fourth avenue improvement.....	25,000
Knickerbocker and Central avenue sewer.....	98,000
Boulevard improvement.....	842,000
Assessment fund bonds.....	150,000
Assessment fund bonds, W. & S.....	300,000
Sewerage fund bonds.....	225,000
Certificates of indebtedness.....	100,000

Decrease in 1883, \$1,801,000

TAX CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN ANTICIPATION OF THE PAYMENT
OF TAXES IN ARREARS.

	Amount Dec. 31, 1882.	Amount Dec. 31, 1883.
Tax Certificates.....	\$4,150,000	\$3,000,000

Decrease in 1883. \$1,150,000

RECAPITULATION.

	Amount Dec. 31, 1882.	Amount Dec. 31, 1883.
Permanent debt.....	\$21,236,000 00	\$24,194,237 37
Temporary debt.....	6,919,551 19	5,118,551 19
Tax certificates.....	4,150,000 00	3,000,000 00
Totals.....	\$32,305,551 19	\$32,312,788 56
Water debt.....	9,859,500 00	10,452,000 00
Totals.....	\$42,165,051 19	\$42,764,788 56
Showing increase of permanent debt.....		\$2,958,237 37
Decrease of temporary debt.....	\$1,801,000 00	
Decrease of tax certificates.....	1,150,000 00	\$2,951,000 00
Being an increase of gross debt, independent of Water Loan, of..		\$7,237 37
Increase of Water debt.....		592,500 00
Total increase of gross debt.....		\$599,737 37
Offset by increase of Sinking Fund.....		1,045,281 14
Showing a decrease in net debt in 1883, of.....		\$445,543 77

A few words concerning these tables may not prove uninteresting.

The temporary debt payable from the collection of arrearages of taxes and assessments, has decreased during the year to the extent of..... \$2,951,000
 Of this sum, there has been paid off..... \$1,301,000
 And there has been funded into 10-40 arrearage bonds..... 1,650,000 \$2,951,000

ARREARAGE BONDS WITH AN OPTION OF REDEMPTION.

I have the pleasure of noting in this connection that by a law passed by the last Legislature, Brooklyn has secured the privilege, alone among all the cities of the State, of issuing all her long bonds with an option of redemption by the city. While money is so cheap as at present such an option is not likely to be so valuable as it would have been twenty years ago, but no one look-

ing back over a period of twenty years and realizing the changes it has brought, can look forward for a like period into the future without feeling that the option is well worth to the city the slight difference in premium that it costs. Beyond this, the funding of this amount of arrearages means that Brooklyn has begun to pay off by taxation some of the ascertained deficiencies caused by the large cancellation of taxes and assessments in arrears.

Besides paying off the temporary debt to the extent of \$1,301,000, the city has issued bonds for new purposes in the following sums :

For the Bridge.....	\$1,155,237 37
For the payment of old street awards.....	200,000 00
In all.....	<u>\$1,355,237 37</u>

But notwithstanding this large issue of new bonds the increase of the gross debt, independent of the water loan, is less than \$7,250. This is due in the main to the large collections of arrears.

The increase of the water debt is due to payments on account of the large improvements in the water works effected during the year, being issues on account of the following items authorized by the Common Council of 1882:

For new pumping engine at Ridgewood.....	\$177,500 00
For increase of water supply by 5,000,000 gallons daily.....	215,000 00
For new 36-inch main for Eastern District.....	270,000 00
Total.....	<u>\$662,500 00</u>

The new pumping engines are in place and under test.

The increase of the water supply was effected just in season to save us from serious suffering from last summer's drought. Of the new Eastern District main, 26,082 feet are in place out of a total length of 29,674 feet, and the whole main will be completed and in use by early spring.

It would have been pleasant to have been able to report a decrease in the gross debt of the city as well as in the net debt. But

it is something to know that the net debt has decreased \$450,000, although we have spent

In improving the Water Works.....	600,000
And in completing the Bridge.....	1,150,000
<hr/>	
Say in all for new work.....	\$1,750,000

I can have the pleasure of reporting, however, that the interest on the present gross debt of the city, though the debt on its face is larger, is \$14,000 less than the interest on the gross debt as it stood a year ago. This is due to the payment of a large amount of temporary debt, bearing 7 per cent. interest.

ARREARS OF CITY TAXES DUE THE COUNTY.

There is one item representing in effect indebtedness on the part of the city, which up to this time has been in such a shape that it has not appeared as city debt. The time has come, I think, when it should be cared for, in order that the obligation may appear to be where it really does rest. During the years 1878 and 1879 the city paid of its proportion of the county tax only so much as was actually collected, and Brooklyn thus fell into arrears to the county to the extent of \$548,928.03. In 1880 the law was so amended as to compel the city to pay its share of the county tax in full, whether collected or not. This prevented any further arrearage on the part of the city to the county, and was in fact just, because the county towns are not in arrears to the county. All deficiencies in the collection of taxes on the part of the towns are assumed by the State which sells the property in arrears to make itself good. The county, in the emergency alluded to, when the city failed to respond in full, issued certificates of indebtedness in the sum of \$550,000, in order to meet its current necessities. These certificates remain unpaid, although overdue, because the county has no resources from which to pay them. Meanwhile the city of Brooklyn has paid the interest upon them year by year, and has so carried the debt. I recommend that a law be passed authorizing the city to issue arrearage

bonds in the necessary amount to pay off these old county certificates, thus squaring the county's account with the city. As already stated, the city has always paid the interest, and to act in the manner suggested is only to recognize, in fact, a debt we have always recognized in effect. It is discouraging to find the effects of the extravagance and wrongs of the past coming upon us in so many forms, but each difficulty that is disposed of marks a necessary step towards complete soundness.

ARREARS.

Up to December 31, 1879, the volume of arrearages increased every year.

As showing the progress of collections from the arrears due the city in the interval since 1879, the following table will be of interest :

Years.	Collections.	Arrears incurred.	Excess of collections over new arrearages.
1880.....	\$2,121,416 00	\$1,712,143 00	\$409,273 00
1881.....	2,975,961 00	1,690,086 00	1,285,875 00
1882.....	2,615,188 00	1,435,894 00	1,179,294 00
1883.....	2,132,694 00	1,311,909 00	820,785 00
Totals.....	\$9,845,259 00	\$6,150,032 00	\$3,695,227 00

From this it will be seen that the volume of arrearage is \$3,700,000 less than it was four years ago, without reference to the reduction in the nominal amount of the arrears caused by cancellations. By the completion in 1883 of the arrears ledgers, the compilation of which was begun in January, 1882, it has become possible to form some accurate idea of the magnitude of the arrears problem as it was, and as it is, and also to form some estimate of the extent of the city's probable loss therefrom.

On the 14th November, 1883, according to the report of the Comptroller, the city had claims against property in arrears, without regard to default and interest, for taxes, water rates and assessments, in the sum of.....		\$4,616,992 00
Arrearage incurred in 1883, certified to Register on or before December 1, 1883.....		1,311,909 00
Showing total arrearage December 1, 1883.....		\$5,928 901 00
There have been cancelled under the arrear laws		
Of 1880, claims to the amount of.....		\$87,231 00
Of 1881.....		1,433,736 00
Of 1882.....		341,906 00
Of 1883, to November 15, estimated.....		270,000 00
		\$2,132,873 00
Cancelled by action of the Legislature, Courts, Common Council and Board of Assessors.....		1,410,999 00
Showing total cancellations.....		3,543,872 00
Excess of collections in 1880-1883 over arrearage incurred.....		3,700,000 00
Estimated total of arrears as it stood December 31, 1879.....		\$13,172,773 00

Allowing for items actually in arrears, but which did not appear in the city debt, I estimate that at its maximum the arrearage due the city could not have been far from \$14,000,000. The situation to-day is as follows:

The temporary debt of the city payable from arrears December 31, 1883, amounted to.....		\$5,118,000 00
Tax certificates.....		3,000,000 00
		\$8,118,000 00
Less face amount of claims against property in arrears.....		6,000,000 00
Showing on the face of the claims a loss of, say.....		\$2,000,000 00
Estimated loss on outstanding claims through cancellations, and from indebtedness before alluded to, due the county, and from all pending litigations.....		2,000,000 00
Deficiencies already funded into 10-40 arrearage bonds.....		1,650,000 00
		\$5,650,000 00

Showing estimated loss to city on account of arrears, say \$6,000,000.

In other words, the city at large is obliged to assume the cost of purely local improvements to the extent of about \$6,000,000, as the result of the frauds and extravagance and misgovernment of the past.

Under the Arrears Law of 1883, an attempt has been made for the first time to deal with the whole question of arrearage. The provisions for voluntary payments under the law expired October 1, 1883. Under these provisions the sum of \$1,550,622.85 was collected. On the 1st of October it became the duty of the Board of Assessors "to name a sum which they shall deem to be fair and just to be now imposed as a tax, assessment and lien, in lieu of all taxes, water rates and assessments imposed upon each parcel of land prior to July 1, 1882, and which remain unpaid and in arrears."

On the 1st of May it was estimated that there were 44,000 parcels so in arrears. By the 1st of December the payments under the voluntary clauses of the law had reduced this number to 32,000. Upon each one of these parcels the Assessors sit in judgment, fixing a single item in lieu of the oftentimes numerous claims now resting against them.

Independent of the certificates filed in other wards, to accommodate individual owners wishing to clear their property from arrears promptly, the Assessors have completed action with reference to the first eight wards, with the following results:

Ward.	Number of parcels certified.	Amounts certified.	Amount cancelled by certificates.
1.....	284	\$131,963	\$118,201
2.....	117	48,292	47,938
3.....	320	86,037	70,958
4.....	212	53,048	51,466
5.....	311	60,972	52,538
6.....	594	112,911	94,073
7.....	1,206	260,880	300,222
8.....	1,869	155,379	155,202
Totals.....	4,913	\$909,482	\$890,598

The certificates fixing the amounts upon parcels in these wards were filed on the following dates :

Ward 1.....	October 24, 1883	Ward 5.....	November 9, 1883
Ward 2.....	October 24, 1883	Ward 6.....	November 28, 1883
Ward 3.....	October 26, 1883	Ward 7.....	December 31, 1883
Ward 4.....	November 9, 1883	Ward 8.....	December 22, 1883

Under the law the amounts so certified may be paid without interest for sixty days after the filing of such certificate. If not paid by that time interest becomes chargeable at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum from the date of filing of said certificate, and if not paid within six months from the filing of such certificate, at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum from the time of filing the certificate.

The payments of amounts certified by the Assessors have been as follows :

Wards.	Number of Parcels.	Amounts.
1.....	45	\$10,374 73
2.....	14	2,801 94
3.....	34	7,455 02
4.....	19	3,986 82
5.....	24	1,296 39
6.....	59	4,717 87
7.....	..	.....
8.....	11	658 50
Scattering.....	68	21,688 94
Totals.....	274	\$52,980 81

This would indicate the number of parcels in arrears for anything more than the tax of 1882 (which went into arrears November 15 last, and therefore is not before the Assessors) to be as follows :

Total number of parcels to be passed upon by Assessors.....	32,044
Number of such parcels so passed upon and now paid off.....	274
Leaving.....	31,770

It is safe to conclude that parcels having no other arrears against them, than the tax of 1882, if they have even that, have been permanently restored to the lists of tax-paying property. I see no reason to doubt that the law of 1883, will in time completely solve the arrears problem. Some few amendments of detail have suggested themselves, but in the main the law has thus far met all reasonable expectations. Payments have been made under it in large sums by parties who have hitherto treated all arrearage laws with indifference, and I think the feeling has grown to be general among the lawyers best acquainted with the subject, both that the law will prove effective in its enforcing clauses and that it may be looked upon as final legislation in the matter. In other words, I think it has come to be believed that no better terms need be expected at any time by delinquents.

Under the terms of the act the city will sell the fee of the lands upon which the certificates of the assessors remain unpaid for more than one year. We have behind the law the great authority of the name of the Hon. William M. Evarts to warrant the belief that the title so given will be upheld by the courts. A special provision of the act enables the city, after six months, to foreclose, after the manner of a mortgage, any lien as certified by the assessors, thus placing within our reach a prompt determination by the courts upon every point involved.

I congratulate the prompt taxpayers of the city upon the near approach, as I believe, of a complete settlement of this arrears problem. Every lot relieved of arrearage contributes thenceforth its share of the annual tax, and while the deficiencies of the past must be made up by all, it is a great thing to reduce the deficiencies in each current tax levy.

THE BRIDGE.

I congratulate the city on the happy opening on May 24, 1883, of the New York and Brooklyn Bridge. Certainly it is a great pleasure to know that its demands upon our treasury for the issue of bonds, have at last come to an end.

The total amount of bonds, all of which are still outstanding, issued by Brooklyn on account of the Bridge, is.....	\$12,245,237 37
The amount of interest raised in the tax levy up to 1884, on account of the Bridge, without compounding, is.....	\$2,462,852 30

Showing Brooklyn's share of the cost, including interest to December 31, 1883, to be..... \$14,708,089 67

It is a novel but gratifying occupation for the Mayor in his message to speculate upon the income rather than upon the outgo in this connection.

Up to the 1st of January the earnings of the Bridge were	\$175,970 33
Expenditures on account of maintenance.....	148,753 47

Showing net earnings of..... \$27,216 86
that is to say, up to this time the Bridge has barely paid its running expenses.

It is to be borne in mind, however, that many expenses have fallen into these six months which will not occur again. Also that the cars, which form the principal source of income and of profit, have not been in anything like good running order for more than two months. The law requires Brooklyn to place \$150,000 a year in the sinking fund as against the Bridge bonds. The Board of Estimate have assumed that this sum will be forthcoming to Brooklyn this year from the earnings of the Bridge up to December 31, 1884. If it is not so earned the tax levy of 1885 will have to contain not only \$705,000 on account of interest on Bridge bonds, as this year, but enough to make up any deficiency in the annual payment to the sinking fund. It becomes a matter of much concern, therefore, to see what are the chances in the premises. The earnings of the Bridge the last two months have been at the rate of \$37,000 per month, or at the rate per annum of...\$444,000 To pay to Brooklyn \$150,000 would involve a payment to

New York of \$75,000, or a total of.....\$225,000

Leaving for running expenses.....\$219,000

The present rate of running expenses is in the neighborhood of \$300,000 per annum. I cannot help thinking that the pruning knife, judiciously used, could considerably reduce this sum. At all events, the effort should engage the prompt attention of the Trustees.

With all the charges incident to beginning met in 1883, I think the city will have a right to be disappointed if it does not receive this year at least enough to make the Sinking Fund good. From this time on the city ought to receive a constantly increasing amount towards the payment of the interest on the Bridge debt. All this has very direct bearing on the rates of tolls. I am clear that \$705,000 per annum is as much of a charge as ought to be put upon the taxpayers of to-day on account of the Bridge, for it is to be remembered that the taxpayers of to-day not only have to carry the direct burden of the structure when it is heaviest, but they are also called upon to make large expenditures for streets, schools and sewers, which have been of force deferred until the completion of the Bridge. I am sure, therefore, that until the ability of the city grows to be much greater, or until the earnings of the Bridge grow larger, no change should be made in the rates of toll that threatens to decrease by a dollar the income from the structure itself. The tendency will be, and should be, towards lower fares, but for the present we can very safely "make haste slowly" in that direction. •

WATER SUPPLY.

The situation of the city with reference to its water supply has received my most earnest attention during the past year.

When the water works were originally projected, a supply of twenty million gallons daily was provided for, and the works were built to conform to this scale in every particular, except as to the conduit. There was

I. Supply—20,000,000 gallons.

II. Pumping power at Ridgewood—20,000,000 gallons, with 10,000,000 reserve.

III. A distribution reservoir at Ridgewood—storing 160,000,000 gallons.

IV. The conduit—with a capacity of 40,000,000 to 45,000,000 gallons.

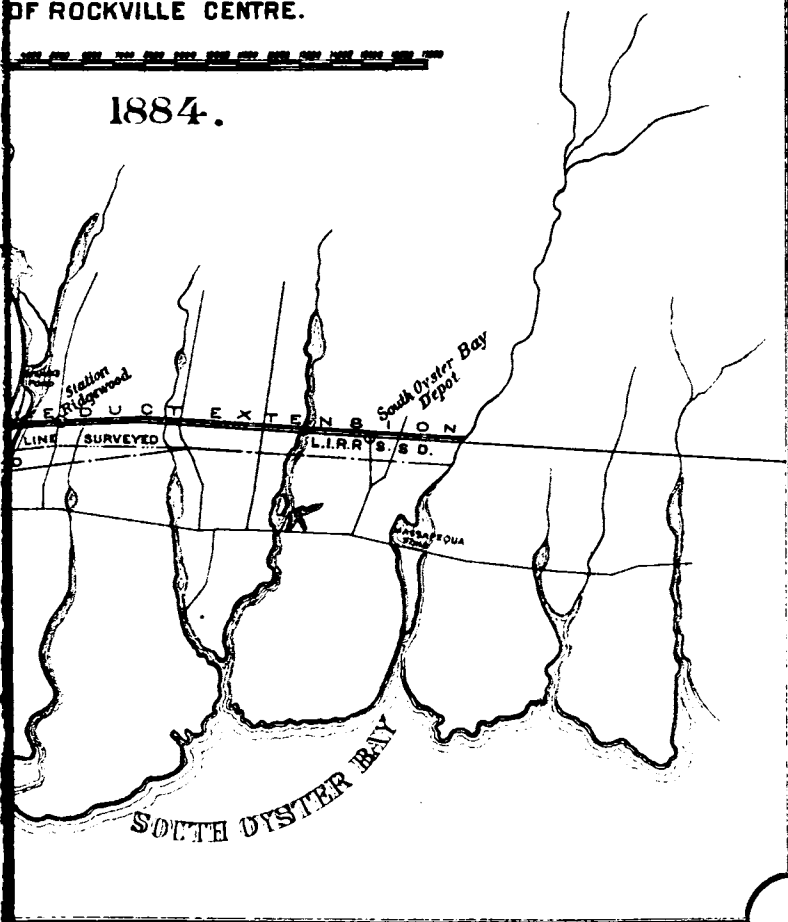
In the interval since the completion of the works in 1859, we have increased items I. and II.—the supply and the pumping power. We have increased the supply to 40,000,000 gallons daily, and have made the pumping power equal to 45,000,000 gallons, with a reserve of 15,000,000 gallons. These things the city was obliged to do, because the annual average consumption of water has grown to 36,000,000 gallons daily, while the winter average is 43,000,000 gallons daily.

Meanwhile, items III. and IV.—the distributing reservoir and the conduit—remain as they were twenty-five years ago. It is clear from this that the storage capacity of the distributing reservoir at Ridgewood should be doubled at once. In passing, let me remark that the distributing reservoir at Ridgewood should not be confused with the storage reservoir, so called, at Hempstead. Up to 1871, the Ridgewood reservoir held more than eight days' supply; now it does not hold five days' supply. This storage at Ridgewood is the city's only protection against disaster resulting from a serious interruption in the supply of water from the conduit. The city's daily consumption of water reached 20,000,000 gallons in 1871. In twelve years, therefore, our margin of storage at Ridgewood has been reduced in percentage almost one-half, while the magnitude of the interests dependent upon the uninterrupted flow of water through the city has certainly doubled. I conceive it to be the immediate duty of the city to enlarge the distributing reservoir at Ridgewood to double its present size. This was suggested as desirable by Colonel Adams, then Chief Engineer of the water works in 1873. What was desirable in 1873 the lapse of time has made imperative now. The city already owns one-half the needed land adjacent to its present reservoir. The additional reservoir will cost approximately \$500,000. It will require about three years to complete the work. It should be begun at once.

MAP

SHOWING THE LINE OF THE
EXTENSION OF THE AQUEDUCT E.
OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE.

1884.



Now, as to item IV.—the conduit. We are certainly within 5,000,000 gallons of the maximum capacity of the conduit, unless we increase its capacity by raising the level of the dams at Baisley's Pond, Hempstead Pond and Pine's Pond. In this way we might increase the capacity of the conduit to 60,000,000 gallons daily by deepening the stream which should run through it. Beyond 60,000,000 gallons daily we could in no case go with safety to the conduit itself. But if we raise the level of these ponds, which would cost \$50,000, or thereabouts, we shall diminish our supply from the streams by increasing the depth of water ponded. And this leads up to the fundamental question—the supply. We have, at present, literally, no margin above the city's needs, for the minimum supply does not come at the season of the year when the consumption is smallest, but at a time when the consumption is far above the average. This last year, for example, if we had not been able to draw from Andrews & Co.'s driven wells 3,500,000 gallons more per day than was contracted for, the city would have suffered in the autumn all the inconveniences of being short of water. In other words, if we had not in 1883 increased the supply as it stood a year ago by 25 per cent., we should have suffered very unpleasant consequences. At the present rate of the city's growth, an additional supply even of 20,000,000 gallons will meet our needs only for ten or twelve years. If the city grows, as we believe it will, under rapid transit even more rapidly than hitherto, the rate of consumption of water will grow with the city's growth. Another element bearing upon the increase of consumption is the new Eastern District main. More water per capita will be used because more water will be given. We need not regret this, for the ability to get good water in abundance should always be one of the advantages incident to living and doing business in Brooklyn. I speak of it in this connection only to emphasize the importance of prompt and comprehensive action. In my opinion we ought to take steps at once to secure an increase, not of five or ten million gallons, as in 1883, but of twenty million gallons, and that as part of a plan having in view an ultimate supply of at least 100,000,000 gallons.

You will notice that such an increase of supply from the point we have now reached carries with it, as a necessity, an increase in all the items, viz :

Of pumping power at Ridgewood.

Of the distributing reservoir at Ridgewood.

And, for the first time since the construction of the works, of the conduit.

No doubt we can pick up along our present water shed another five million gallons by wells, but, this being done, the present limit of the conduit is reached. Meanwhile it is to be remembered that not only Brooklyn is growing, but the demand for water from Jamaica, Garden City, and the whole country between the City Line and Hempstead is increasing year by year. The swamps also are being dried up by cultivation. Our stream supply, at its best, some years ago, amounted to 20,000,000 gallons daily. Now it amounts only to 18,500,000 gallons. The records of the Department of City Works indicate that the supply from the streams grows smaller constantly. Our whole increase in supply of late years has been from wells. I apprehend, therefore, that the true policy of the city, in looking for a large increase of its supply, is to go east, and so to tap new ponds and streams. And here we meet with another difficulty. The grade of Long Island is so low that in order to get head to carry the additional supply from the present eastern terminus of our conduit at Rockville Centre to the pumping station at Ridgewood, it will be necessary to build at Rockville Centre a reservoir having sufficient height to give the necessary fall to the water, into which reservoir the water shall be pumped from the conduit which brings the water from the east. The Chief Engineer suggests, for the present, to build a new conduit eastward so far as South Oyster Bay, of a capacity equal to conducting fifty to sixty million gallons daily. By this extension of ten miles to South Oyster Bay we should secure an immediate increase in our supply of 20,000,000 gallons. When, ten or twelve years later, it becomes necessary to increase the sup-

ply to 100,000,000 gallons, it can be done by extending this same conduit eastward to Babylon. As to a supply of more than 100,000,000 gallons, we must leave the Brooklyn of twenty-five years from now to plan and execute.

To bring the water from Rockville Centre to Ridgewood, there are several plans under consideration, it being as yet undetermined whether it is better to increase the capacity of the old conduit, or to lay an independent conduit for the increased supply. All this has been matter of very careful study by the Chief Engineer and the Commissioner of City Works, and I have gone into it at length only to acquaint the people with the actual situation in order that public opinion may be prepared for the expenditure demanded. Speaking approximately, and including the suggested increase of the distributing reservoir at Ridgewood, it will require an expenditure of \$4,500,000 to place our water works in all their parts on the basis of a supply of 60,000,000 gallons daily.

Including the time taken to condemn land and water rights, it will probably take three years to accomplish this result in full, but the city can no doubt avail of enough of the increase as the work progresses to meet the current growth of the demand. We shall hardly have completed this work before a further increase will be wanted. But the work we now propose will be directly in the line of future development.

I have said that the probable cost of this work will be in the neighborhood of \$4,500,000. It should be added that the income derived through the growth of the city from the additional supply of water will, no doubt, pay the interest on the cost, and provide at maturity for the bonds which can be issued now at low rates of interest. In other words, the burden will not be felt in the tax levy. So much for water.

THE SEWERS.

I have now to ask your attention to another matter touching the City's needs, in importance only second to this. I refer to our sewers. There are several points in our sewerage system

which are defective, where the property which should be drained is subject to overflow in every storm. These districts have all paid for sewerage once, and they get such a parody on relief, as overflowed cellars, whenever there is a heavy rain. As the city grows and the sewers become more largely used, these evils grow worse. I am clearly of the opinion that every motive of self-interest, and of fair dealing alike, makes it the duty of the city to remedy at once these grave defects. Of course I assume that local sewers will continue to be paid for by the property drained. I speak now of defects in the sewer system which cannot be remedied unless done at the general expense. It will cost \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000 to remedy all such defects. The cost of the work should be met by bonds, thus scattering the burden over a series of years. It would take three or four years to complete the needed sewers, and the issue of bonds would be divided through a like interval.

I am profoundly impressed with the belief that neither of these works, the increase of the water supply nor the perfecting of our sewer system can be deferred longer without serious damage to the city. It has been one of the greatest evils in connection with our arrears problem, as it has hitherto stood, and in connection with the Bridge, in the large demands which that structure has made upon us, that every need which by any possibility could be deferred, has been put off for better times. This policy crowds the present moment with pressing needs, which now, however, in the betterment that has come, we ought to have the courage to face.

Besides providing for more water and making complete our sewer system, there are two other directions in which Brooklyn must spend freely, namely for streets and for schools. As to our streets, I am well content to accept the policy enforced by the action of the Governor last year, in vetoing the bill which authorized the expenditure of \$300,000 for street repairs, and which, by the issue of certificates of indebtedness, would have distributed the expense over a series of years. Let us do what we can and what we must for our streets through the tax levy.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

With the present year Brooklyn adopts the policy of free books in the public schools. While there has been a difference of opinion both in the Board of Education and outside of it as to the wisdom of this course, there can be no difference of opinion, now that this departure has been taken, as to the importance of making free books practically a success. The Board of Education have taken hold of the matter vigorously, and I have no doubt they will master the difficulties of the problem. In their efforts to this end they shall have my cordial co-operation.

No one can glance at the report of the President of the Board of Education without feeling that a condition of things exists as to our schools generally which urgently requires a remedy. I quote from that report :

“Notwithstanding the number of new buildings erected and occupied during the year, I am unable to report any relief from the general crowded condition that existed at the time of my last report. The children come faster than we can make room for them, and in some localities for nearly every seat provided there are two applicants. As evidence of the demand made upon our new schools, at their opening, by primary pupils, I cite the following: The new primary building to relieve No. 24 was opened on the 4th inst., this being the last of the new buildings. The crowd of children with their parents seeking admission was so great and the excitement so intense that for two days two policemen were required to preserve order at the doors. In a building seating 676 pupils 899 were registered, the average ages being 8 years. Only the fifth and sixth primary grades are admitted to this building. It is not pleasant for me to state that many of these children, 9 and 10 years old, have never before had a day's schooling, because there was no public school into which they could gain admittance. From the first day the class-rooms have been devoted to half-day classes.

“The registry of attendance in October of this year numbered 67,314 pupils. Our regular seating capacity is but 64,200 or 3,114 less than the actual attendance. We have 76 classes, num-

bering over 90 pupils each, and of this number 16 classes have over 140 each, the largest class having 218 pupils. A large proportion of these crowded classes are from necessity divided into half day sessions.

"This is our condition after re-districting the city and re-organizing several schools, thereby decreasing the number of grammar classes and increasing the number of primary classes by eighteen, and after building eight new school buildings, we have been compelled to crowd and pack our school rooms without due regard to the convenience, comfort and health of the pupils and to the proper facilities and conditions for imparting instruction. * * *

"We have exhausted every means at our disposal to utilize space save one. It is now the purpose of the Committee on Studies to so revise the course of study that all grammar class rooms will be full.

"When this has been done we shall have no resource left by which to gain space but to build new buildings."

So much from the president's report. I think I am not wrong in believing that the people of Brooklyn consider no interest they have so precious and so sacred as their public schools. There is nothing, I am sure, for which they will so cheerfully submit to taxation. And yet there is a limit even in this direction beyond which taxation cannot go. In the last two years the Board of Estimate have granted \$430,000 for an increase in school accommodation. This is as much as was granted in the previous six years. I cannot foresee the day in the near future when Brooklyn can afford to deal much more liberally than this even for new school buildings. The appropriation for 1884, \$280,000, represents about as large a sum as the Board of Education can wisely handle for building purposes in any one year. When it is remembered that it takes \$150,000 each year to provide enough additional school room to keep pace with the current growth of the city, and when it is recalled that every additional school building adds permanently to the annual expense of supporting and conducting the schools, and so increases necessarily the yearly allowance to the Board of Education, it becomes apparent, if new buildings are the

only remedy within our reach, that it will be a decade at least before the present deficiency in accommodations is made up. I have gone into this matter at length because I wish to urge, with all my influence, a remedy which in some quarters may be considered heroic. I have little doubt that to the people at large it will commend itself as common sense.

The report of the Board of Education lays great stress upon the large numbers seeking admission to the schools at the bottom. I desire to call attention to the small numbers which find their way out at the top. Leaving out of consideration the Central Grammar School, there were graduated by the then thirty-six grammar schools of the city the following number of pupils: In 1878, 448; in 1879, 418; in 1880, 482; in 1881, 508; in 1882, 474.

As a basis of comparison let us take the year 1882, and compare Brooklyn with the city of Boston. We shall get the following results:

	Number of sittings in schools.	Average daily reg- ister.	Average daily at- tendance.
Brooklyn.....	62,198	61,501	54,372
Boston.....	56,730	54,834	48,721

In Boston, in 1882, the number of pupils in the first, or highest grammar grade was 1,875, the number graduated was 1,568. In Brooklyn, in 1882, the number of pupils in the first, or highest grammar grade was 2,172 (occupying sittings, by the way, for 2,857), and of this number there were graduated only 474. I believe our highest grammar grade is divided into two sections, in which case the figures, in this aspect, are somewhat less unfavorable to us than they appear to be. Four schools graduated two each, from classes occupying in all, sittings for 138, and numbering on the register 112. The following table, indicating the schools having in 1882 their lowest, or sixth grade primary classes, over 100 on the average in number, is equally suggestive:

School No.	Average of Sixth Primary Classes.	First Grammar Grade.		
		Sittings.	No. on Reg.	Graduates.
10	104	70	55	18
12	102	78	59	19
15	123	122	111	30
16	103	166	109	40
18	202	110	66	9
23	117	156	124	6
24	130	92	49	15
25	116	40	36	10
32	125	76	61	19
33	109	40	30	2
35	105	124	119	32
37	114	93	54	12
Twelve schools,		1,167	873	212

Now, what do these figures mean? They mean, first of all, that in twelve schools, where the lowest primary classes averaged in each school in 1882 above 100 in number, sittings were surrendered in the highest grammar grade to the number of 1,167, for the accommodation of a registry of 873 pupils, producing as a result, the paltry graduation in one year of 212 graduates. This small graduation must signify one of two things—either that the instruction in our grammar classes is wonderfully inefficient, or that, under one pretense or another, pupils are retained in the higher grades in the grammar schools after they should be sent out of the schools. I have little doubt that this latter is the true explanation. The heroic remedy I wish to suggest for the present overcrowding of the primary classes is to crowd out the scholars at the top instead of at the bottom. It seems to me clear that Brooklyn has been making it as hard to get out of the schools as it is hard to get into them. We never can build school buildings enough to meet the demand unless the outflow is as certain and regular as the inflow. The course of studies laid down by the Board of Education is intended to be completed in seven years. I suggest that the Board cause an investigation to be made of the number of pupils in the schools who have been there over seven years.

It is hardly fair to keep some children beyond the requirements of the course, while others are shut out altogether. The rules of

the Board require a graduation from the schools in February as well as in June. If that graduation this year is as insignificant as usual, I shall call upon the Board for an explanation of the reason why, as to each school in detail. By June, I confidently rely upon such action on the part of the Board as will secure a graduation which will compare favorably with the results achieved in Boston. It is not gratifying to the people of Brooklyn to realize that with 5,500 more pupils in daily attendance upon the schools here than attend in Boston, that we graduate 474 where Boston graduates 1,568 in a given year. After a most careful study of the subject, I have reached the conclusion that the number of grammar schools in Brooklyn having classes above the third grammar grade can be advantageously reduced from thirty-two in number, as they now stand, at least to twenty. I commend to the Board of Education another redistricting of the city with this end in view.

In connection with this they should determine that no class, on any pretense whatever, should be maintained anywhere having fewer scholars than as below: In Grade A 1, 35; Grade B 1, 40; Grade A 2, 40; Grade B 2, 40. In this way, I believe, accommodation equal to three new school buildings can be added to the primary departments without expense, while at the same time setting free for new classes forty-five or fifty teachers, and in addition to all this increasing the efficiency of the grammar classes themselves by improving the quality of their work. The community will not be satisfied with the Board of Education if it accomplishes this year less than this. While I have dwelt so long upon this subject, it is due to the present Board of Education to say that every step they have taken has been in the right direction. They have increased the primary sittings by about 5,000. They have rearranged the pay of teachers so that the youngest pupils shall no longer be placed under the care of the most inexperienced teachers. They have redistricted the city in such a way as to make available for primary purposes, without expense, space equal to an entire new building. They have much raised the standard of new teachers appointed. In the time in which

they have had to work they have accomplished as much as by any reasonable person could have been expected. The manner of appointing teachers may perhaps be susceptible of some further improvement. I incline to the training school idea, if not too expensive. I commend it to the Board of Education to consider thoroughly. There is no direction in which the principle of appointment on merit should be more stringently insisted upon. I hope to see the Board press right on in the direction I have indicated—setting before themselves as their ideal the purpose of making Brooklyn's primary accommodations equal to all demands, and of quality second to none afforded by any city in the Union. When this has been accomplished, but not before, the grammar departments may be developed to the highest point to which the judgment of the community desires to carry them.

THE DEPARTMENTS.

In regard to the work of the departments in general, little need be said. All have been conducted with a fair degree of efficiency, and some of them with marked success. The general health of city has been excellent, the death rate for 1883 being 22.04 per thousand, as against 24.84 in 1882.

The growth of the city is shown in the following comparison :

Period.	Number of new buildings.	Estimated cost.
Dec. 1, 1882, to Dec. 1, 1883.....	2,692	\$12,093,452 00
Dec. 1, 1881, to Dec. 1, 1882.....	2,376	10,386,263 00
Excess in 1883 over 1882.....	316	\$1,707,189 00

THE PARK DEPARTMENT.

The expert's examination of the accounts of the old Park Commission has been completed, and a report has been handed to the Comptroller. This report develops an indebtedness due by the

city to the National City Bank of \$53,946.38 as cash January 1, 1884, for moneys spent by the old Park Commission in improving Ninth avenue and Fifteenth street, which expense was subsequently authorized by the Legislature. It will be necessary to issue city bonds in this amount to pay off this loan, hitherto standing in the name of Mr. Stranahan. The authority to do so is given by an act of the Legislature passed in 1875. During the last year the Board of Supervisors obtained from their counsel, the Hon. John B. Meyenborg, an opinion to the effect that the present Department of Parks could not exercise control over the Ocean Parkway because the Parkway lies outside of the city, while the Park Commissioners, as now constituted, are appointed by the Mayor. This opinion seems to make it desirable for me to say that, before the present Park Commissioners were appointed by the Mayor, all questions as to their jurisdiction over lands outside the city were examined independently by the Hon. John A. Taylor, the Hon. Wm. C. DeWitt and the Hon. Joshua M. Van Cott. These gentlemen, after pursuing their own investigation, each in his own way, all reached the same conclusion—that the powers of the Department of Parks, as appointed by the Mayor, were unquestionably identical with the powers lodged in the old Park Commission, no less as to those lands lying without the city limits than as to those which lie within the city.

EXCISE.

The unending strife on the Excise question has been continued in Brooklyn throughout the year. Whatever just criticism of details may be made on either hand upon the doings of the Excise Board, it remains to be said of them that at different periods they have incurred the hostility of both extremes. I think much of the criticism to which the Board has been subjected on the part of the temperance element is due to the fact that the community at large has little realization of the powers of the Excise Board or of the conditions under which they are called upon to act. In the matter of granting new licenses the Board can exercise some control. By the report of the Excise Board I observe that 237 applications for

license were refused in 1883. Those who have had experience in resisting a single application will realize how great an amount of pressure resisted is involved in this simple statement. It will enable them also to understand why the element which desire licenses, as well as themselves, find fault with the Commissioners of Excise.

Coming now to the question of revocation of licenses, I find that the Excise Board in 1883 revoked thirty-six licenses. In the same interval, so far as I have learned, there have been in the courts just two convictions by a jury for a violation of the Excise Law. There has been one appeal to the courts from the decision of the Excise Board, on the ground that the Board of Excise had revoked a license in a case where a jury had acquitted the same party. The judge in this instance has reserved judgment now for more than three months, the saloon in the mean season doing its business under the protection of his court. In other words, the Excise Board has exercised its punitive power eighteen times as often as the courts have done. I doubt whether an administrative department can sustain itself, if it is much more than this in advance of the temper of the community, as expressed in the jury-box.

The grounds upon which revocations of licenses are ordinarily sought are for selling liquor on Sunday, and latterly for selling liquor to minors under 14 years of age. I need not say that no Excise Board truly represents me which would hesitate for an instant to revoke a license upon either of these grounds. In my opinion it would represent an enormous advance in the well-being of the community if the spirit of the law upon these points could be reflected in practice throughout the city. The Excise Board will co-operate heartily with every reasonable movement to make the enforcement of the law in these respects more vigorous. But before the Excise Board can accomplish more in this direction, it must be enabled to see that the selling of liquor in Brooklyn without a license is a practical impossibility. The whole question of the action of the Excise Board in this connection is a question of the character of the evidence upon which they shall base action. It is idle to ask the board to adopt a rule of evidence differing

materially from that adopted in the courts. To do so would be simply to harass and annoy those doing business under a license while the courts decline to close the places of those who sell without a license.

To bring this matter to a practical conclusion. There are in the city, as evidenced by the report of the Excise Commissioners and also by the communication addressed to me by the Police Commissioner, a number of places where liquor is being sold without a license. These places have passed beyond the jurisdiction of the Excise Board. The names and addresses of these violators of the law will be furnished on request to those who believe that a more stringent enforcement of the excise law is desirable in Brooklyn. The police will do all in their power to aid them in securing evidence, and if through the District Attorney and the courts they can cause these places to be broken up, the Excise Board will move cheerfully in the same direction.

Some suggestions occur to me as to the general question of Excise, which, from the opportunities I have had of observing the matter from the standpoint of administration, may prove of use. The chief point of objection to the present Excise law, to my mind, lies in its fundamental structure. It gives to three men the arbitrary power, practically without cause, to say to one man: You may do this business, and to another: You shall not. I think of no parallel to this power in any other department of government. It is this control over the fortunes of men which makes an Excise Board, if composed of unscrupulous men, so dangerous a political power. Free the liquor dealers, as a class, from this influence, and they will divide, as other men do, on political questions. I believe that whatever restriction in the number of saloons, an Excise law aims to accomplish, that restriction ought to be automatic in the law itself. This can be brought about in two ways; either—

First—By limiting the number of saloons to a fixed proportion of the population, and providing some method for determining who shall conduct such saloons; or,

Second—By fixing a license fee so high as itself to work a restriction in the number of saloons, and yet not so high as to lead to a general sale of liquor without license.

The second plan would, I am inclined to think, in large cities, give the most satisfactory results. The only discretion I would leave with the Excise Board would be to decide, as between the property owners in the respective neighborhoods, whether or not a given place should be used for saloon purposes.

I would also commend for consideration the propriety of making a sharper distinction than now between distilled and fermented liquors, by making two licenses; one for the sale of distilled liquors only, and the other for the sale of fermented liquors only. Unquestionably the more these two things can be kept apart the better. In my opinion, the arbitrary discretion now lodged in the Excise Board is the great difficulty with which the Excise law has to contend when cases are tried before the courts. Were this element taken out of it, I think public sentiment would more largely sustain the law even in the jury box.

THE WATER FRONT.

The past year has brought one decision touching the relations of the city to its water front which is of interest as well as importance. The city built a pier a number of years ago at the foot of North Sixth street, without having title to the land under water upon which the pier stood. The owner of the upland on the southern side of the street took, prior to 1882, the southern half of the pier away from the city by widening it upon his own ground. In another case, action similar to this had been held to be lawful by the Court of Appeals and the city lost its pier. In the spring of 1882 those interested in the upland on the northern side of North Sixth street enjoined the city from collecting wharfage on the other side of the pier, and commenced an action against the city for damages in the sum of \$25,000, founded one-half against this pier, and one-half against another. The Special Term, while deciding in so many words that the plain-

tiffs had no proper grant for the land under water upon which the northern half of the pier stood, still awarded one of the plaintiffs \$5,000 damage. The case will, of course, be litigated by the city to the Court of Appeals, but in view of this decision, I felt it good judgment to concede to the owner of the upland on the southern side of the street, who had already taken from us our pier, a waiver of opposition to a grant to him by the State of the land under water upon which the southern half of the pier stands, upon receiving from him and the parties of whom he bought the upland, a waiver of all claims against the city for damages and for wharfage collected. It is a sorry outcome from such an expenditure by the city, but it is better than paying damages besides.

CIVIL SERVICE.

The year 1883 will be memorable in the annals of the country for the first State Civil Service Law passed in the United States by our own great State of New York. I congratulate our own city that, under the eighth section of the State Civil Service Act, Brooklyn has been the first city in the Empire State practically to inaugurate the reform. Already she has a goodly companionship in the movement in the City of New York, and the promised support of Buffalo, and possibly of Rochester.

I am happy to know that the Aldermen-at-Large, of whatever party, were elected upon a platform distinctly indorsing this law, and I have no doubt it will be given in Brooklyn a full and fair trial.

The eighth section of the act alluded to contains these words: "It shall be the duty of all those in the official service of any said city to aid and facilitate, in all reasonable and proper ways, the enforcement of all regulations, and the holding of all examinations which may be required under the authority conferred by this section." Meanwhile it may be proper for me to say that no warrant for salary will be signed by me in behalf of any new appointee not appointed in conformity to the regulations duly issued under the authority of the Civil Service Act.

RAPID TRANSIT.

At this writing it is impossible to say whether the city is, or is not, definitely nearer to the securing of rapid transit. Nearer we certainly are, for a universally recognized need is already half met. But my words upon this point will be few, because of the uncertain situation in view of pending applications. I need say no more than that I realize more and more keenly every day that rapid transit is Brooklyn's one great necessity outside of its current wants. In this connection I desire to say most clearly that the city will never realize its full benefit from the Brooklyn Bridge until there is continuous travel over that structure from any point in Brooklyn to any point in New York. It is of the utmost consequence, of course, that every passenger transported across it shall pay toll to the two cities, and that no company shall be allowed the use of the Bridge to the exclusion of others. But any consummation which permanently stops short of taking people across the river for a single fare without a change of cars is wholly unworthy of the Bridge, of the two cities, of the times in which we live, and of the spirit of the American people.

More than this, the capacity of the Bridge is very limited if confined to dragging cars back and forth; but for continuous travel, without switching, the capacity of the Bridge is as limitless as that of the Pacific Railroad.

One needs to be no prophet to foresee for Brooklyn a great and splendid future. The people of the city have vindicated their right to respect by winning the commendation of the whole country, from Maine to California. Great material opportunities entrusted to a people who have shown themselves worthy, are sure of great development. We have only to be true to ourselves, to care for the reputation of our city as a very precious thing, to deal uprightly in all things, and above all to be watchful and self-sacrificing in our city's behalf, to secure for Brooklyn all that her fondest sons can ask for her.

Respectfully,

SETH LOW,

Mayor.

REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, CITY HALL,
BROOKLYN, December 21, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

DEAR SIR :

In accordance with the usual custom of this Department, I have the honor to submit you a Statement of the Bonded Indebtedness of the City, as it exists at present, and as it will appear December 31, 1883, together with other matters of interest to the public which are pertinent at this time. The situation of the debt will be found to be as follows :

Statement of City Debt, December 31st, 1883.

TITLE OF LOANS.	Amount Dec. 31, 1882.	Amount Dec. 31, 1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
PERMANENT DEBT PAYABLE FROM TAXATION.				
Prospect Park	\$9,236,000 00	\$9,236,000 00		
New York Bridge.....	11,090,000 00	12,245,237 37	1,155,237 37	
Mount Prospect Square...	90,000 00	90,000 00		
Wallabout Bay Improve- ment	268,000 00	221,000 00		47,000 00
Soldiers' Aid Fund	552,000 00	552,000 00		
Arrears Fund Bond.....		1,650,000 00	1,650,000 00	
Local Improvement		200,000 00	200,000 00	
	\$21,236,000 00	\$24,194,237 37		
WATER DEBT.				
Permanent Water	\$9,859,500 00	\$10,452,000 00	592,500 00	

Statement of City Debt, December 31st, 1883.--(Continued.)

TITLE OF LOANS.	Amount Dec. 31, 1882.	Amount Dec. 31, 1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
TEMPORARY DEBT PAYABLE FROM ASSESSMENTS.				
Brooklyn Local Improve- ment	\$213,000 00	\$213,000 00		
Gowanus Canal Improve- ment	116,000 00	92,000 00		24,000 00
Bushwick avenue Improve- ment	134,000 00	117,000 00		17,000 00
Union street Improvement	194,000 00	194,000 00		
South Seventh street Im- provement	157,000 00	137,000 00		20,000 00
Fourth avenue Improve- ment	273,000 00	248,000 00		25,000 00
Knickerbocker and Central avenue Sewer	98,000 00			98,000 00
Boulevard Improvement...	842,000 00			842,000 00
Assessment Fund Bonds ..	1,400,000 00	1,250,000 00		150,000 00
Assessment Fund Bonds, W. & S.	1,500,000 00	1,200,000 00		300,000 00
Sewerage Fund Bonds.	1,725,000 00	1,500,000 00		225,000 00
Certificates of Indebtedness	237,551 19	137,551 19		100,000 00
Arrearage Compilation Bonds	30,000 00	30,000 00		
	\$0,919,551 19	5,118,551 19		
Tax Certificates	4,150,000 00	3,000,000 00		1,150,000 00

RECAPITULATION.

TITLE OF LOANS.	Amount Dec. 31, 1882.	Amount Dec. 31, 1883.	Increase	Decrease.
Permanent Debt	\$21,236,000 00	24,194,237 37	2,958,237 37	
Water Loan	9,859,500 00	10,452,000 00	592,500 00	
Temporary Debt	6,919,551 19	5,118,551 19		1,801,000 00
Tax Certificates	4,150,000 00	3,000,000 00		1,150,000 00
Gross Debt	\$42,165,051 19	42,764,788 56	3,350,737 37	2,951,000 00
Less Sinking Fund	4,167,327 79	5,716,608 93		
Net Debt	\$37,997,723 40	37,048,179 63		

Sales of Tax Certificates and Bonds of various kinds have been made during the year, and they are as follows, viz.:

Tax Certificates, 4 per cent.....	\$1,000,000 00
Bridge Bonds for interest on and completion of the Bridge, 4 per cent.....	1,155,237 37
Arrearage Bonds, 4 per cent., 10-40	1,650,000 00
Local Improvement Bonds, for payment of awards for lands heretofore taken by the city 4 p. c. 10 years.....	200,000 00
Water Bonds.....	592,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,597,737 37

It will be noticed from the above that Bonds and Certificates have been issued for the year amounting to \$4,597,737.37, and, during the same period Bonds and Certificates have been paid to the amount of \$3,998,000.00, making an increase in the bonded indebtedness of \$599,737.37. But as the Sinking Fund has increased in the same time to the amount of \$1,045,281.14, the actual indebtedness of the city will be decreased to the amount of \$445,543.77.

Sales of Tax Certificates, bearing 4 per cent. interest, were made at an average premium of 1.67 per cent., four per cent. Local Improvement Bonds, at an average premium of 4.58 per cent.; four per cent. Arrearage Bonds, at an average premium of 3.96 per cent., and four per cent. Bridge Bonds brought an average premium of 8.69 per cent.

The premium received on the sales of Bonds for the year amounts to \$141,451.62.

The compiling of the Arrears Ledgers has been completed, and the amount ascertained to be in arrears on November 14 was \$4,616,992.02, and the amount transferred from the Collector of Taxes to the Registrar of Arrears was \$1,096,664.10, making a total in arrears on the 15th of November of \$5,713,656.12.

Under the various laws of 1880, '81 and '82, and by the Courts

and other sources the cancellations up to December 31, 1882, amounted to the sum of \$3,273,871.85, and are as follows, viz.:

Under laws of 1880.....	\$ 87,231 16
“ “ 1881	1,433,736 05
“ “ 1882	341,906 03
	<hr/>
	\$1,862,873 24
By action of the Legislature, Courts, Common Council and Board of Assessors	1,410,998 61
	<hr/>
	\$3,273,871 85

The Board of Audit has completed the examination of the accounts of Rufus L. Scott, former Registrar of Arrears, and they having been found correct, his bonds have been surrendered.

The accounts of the late Registrar of Arrears Michael O'Keefe are now being examined, and the work is progressing satisfactorily.

The accounts of the Collector of Taxes have been examined from November 9, 1877, to November 30, 1882, inclusive, and found to be correct.

The accounts of the late Comptroller Semler have been examined and found correct; also, the accounts of the City Treasurer have been examined for the years 1881 and 1882 and found correct.

The accounts of the City Clerk have been examined and found correct up to April 1, 1883.

The accounts of the Department of Parks, Health, Fire, Police, and Excise and the Police and Justice Courts have been examined up to January 1, 1883, and were found to be correct.

The Income and Maintenance Account of the N. Y. and Brooklyn Bridge has been examined from May 24 to October 1, 1883, and found correct.

Expert accountants have re-examined and put in book-shape the accounts of the Board of Park Commissioners, and will be ready to make their final report some time during the present month.

Very Respectfully yours,

A. BRINKERHOFF,

Comptroller.

REPORT
OF THE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE OF THE CITY TREASURER,
BROOKLYN, December 6, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor*:

DEAR SIR:

In response to your request, I herewith submit my annual report. This embraces a summary abstract of all the cash transactions of the City as shown by the books of this department for the full year ending November 30, 1883.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant,

W. H. FLEEMAN,

City Treasurer.

Warrants paid on account of the Board of Education during the year ending November 30th, 1883, and charged to the following accounts.

GENERAL FUND.

Teachers' wages.....	\$857,283 24	
Janitors' wages.....	41,437 21	
Officers' salaries.....	34,558 77	
Music Teachers' wages.....	12,020 49	
Salary of Librarian.....	750 00	
Evening Schools.....	17,048 80	
Printing.....	4,877 68	
Books.....	86,902 39	
Fuel.....	21,340 86	
Gas.....	2,211 40	
Supplies.....	12,604 21	
Orphan Asylums.....	19,510 53	
Compulsory education.....	11,379 74	
Expressing Books.....	916 63	
Library Fund.....	3,336 62	
		\$1,126,178 57

SPECIAL FUND.

Employees in workshop.....	\$15,608 72	
Warming and ventilating.....	11,000 99	
Repairs and furnishing.....	39,988 81	
Pianos and repairs.....	1,397 00	
New building for No. 7.....	39,345 20	
New primary building for No. 13.....	29,435 00	
New primary building for No. 25.....	13,327 02	
New primary building for No. 21 and 24.....	29,631 20	
New primary building for No. 26.....	29,476 45	
New building for colored No. 1.....	24,324 00	
New building for No. 40.....	29,289 40	
Wings for No. 30.....	18,220 00	
Rent.....	9,258 34	
		\$290,302 13
Revenue Fund.....		10,318 00
		\$1,426,798 70

TREASURER'S OFFICE,

BROOKLYN, Dec. 4th, 1883.

W. H. FLEEMAN,

Treasurer.

Warrants paid during the year ending November 30th, 1883, and charged to the following accounts.

GENERAL FUND.

Money derived from Tax Levy and balance of Revenue Fund, August 31st, 1882.

Public Instruction.....	\$977,925 10
County of Kings.....	1,785,210 63
Interest on City debt.....	916,660 00
Lighting streets.....	325,550 42
Maintenance of public Parks.....	117,445 07
Dispensaries and Hospitals.....	54,000 00
Department of Police and Excise.....	29,402 08
Repairing streets.....	84,409 17
Advertising in Corporation papers.....	54,000 00
Department of Health.....	14,756 17
Cleaning streets.....	95,035 90
Repairing sewers.....	25,810 59
Department of Fire.....	76,646 02
Maintenance of Eastern Parkway.....	5,079 60
Maintenance of Ocean Parkway.....	10,083 71
Wells and pumps.....	15,414 64
Election expenses.....	51,075 40
Rent for Public Buildings.....	11,515 73
Repairing Public Buildings.....	7,037 08
Repairing bridges.....	4,148 87
Piers and docks.....	12,866 20
Contingencies.....	18,383 75
Removal of garbage.....	11,955 10
Printing and stationery.....	17,351 31
Gas for Public Buildings.....	5,149 51
Truant Home.....	5,655 81
Repairing patent pavement.....	7,207 92
Department of Buildings.....	751 96
Public baths.....	3,219 50
Bedford Avenue, repairing, &c.....	1,794 75
Contingencies, Comptroller's office.....	176 94
Contingencies, Mayor's office.....	629 40
Assessments on city property, Board of Education.....	9,000 00
Celebration, Fourth of July.....	2,985 75
Fountain, Division avenue.....	75 00
Fountain, Broadway and Fourth street.....	75 00
Fountain, Washington and Underhill avenues.....	92 00
Fountain, Bedford and Roger avenues.....	75 00
Monument, Greenwood Cemetery.....	50 00
Removal of street obstructions.....	1,202 25
Supplies for public buildings.....	2,056 50
Breaks on streets, special.....	3,040 62
Fuel for public buildings.....	3,504 16
Salaries, Mayor's office.....	10,482 71
Salaries, Aldermen.....	29,513 29

Carried forward.....\$4,808,500 61

Warrants paid during the year ending November 30th, 1883.—
(Continued.)

GENERAL FUND

Brought forward.....	\$4,808,500 61	
Salaries, Department of Finance.....	40,298 46	
Salaries, Treasury Department.....	9,199 94	
Salaries, Department of Collections.....	38,417 11	
Salaries, Department of Assessments.....	42,538 97	
Salaries, Department of Law.....	21,156 33	
Salaries, Department of Arrears.....	33,272 23	
Salaries, City Clerk's office.....	15,566 35	
Salaries, City Courts.....	59,301 91	
Salaries, Board of Audit.....	17,032 89	
Salaries, Board of Elections.....	9,599 84	
Salaries, Department of Buildings.....	17,474 48	
Salaries, Department of Fire.....	319,401 96	
Salaries, Department of Parks.....	9,759 96	
Salaries, Department of Police and Excise.....	755,934 95	
Salaries, Department of Audit.....	11,220 00	
Salaries, Department of Docks.....	6,934 84	
Salaries, Department of Health.....	46,678 53	
Salaries, Department of City Works.....	93,493 39	
Salaries, Truant Home.....	5,455 16	
Salaries, Department of Finance, special.....	11,831 74	
Installments on principal on city debt.....	350,000 00	
Redemption of Certificates of indebtedness.....	100,000 00	
		\$6,823,969 65

MONEY DERIVED FROM WATER REVENUE.

Water maintenance.....	\$219,346 93	
Interest on permanent water bonds.....	615,722 50	
Salaries, Department of City Works.....	186,644 82	
Transfer to Sinking Fund account of payment of bonds.....	220,000 00	
Refunds, &c.....	877 32	
		\$1,242,641 57

MONEY DERIVED FROM BONDS AND CERTIFICATES.

New York and Brooklyn Bridge.....	\$883,333 34	
Interest on Bridge Bonds.....	456,107 99	
Water Construction.....	412,196 97	
Third Avenue Sewer Extension.....	30,026 65	
Cleaning Streets, Special.....	20,655 62	
Salaries, Department of City Works.....	21,311 77	
Arrearage Fund transferred to Sinking Fund for payment of Bonds.....	842,000 00	
		\$2,665,632 34
Carried forward.....		\$10,732,243 56

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

41

Warrants paid during the year ending November 30th, 1883.—
(Continued.)

Amount brought forward.....		\$10,732,243 56
MONEY DERIVED FROM ASSESSMENTS.		
Sackett Street Improvement.....	Transferred to Sinking Fund	\$32,651 94
Prospect Park Improvement.....		10,430 11
Third Street Improvement.....		6,478 65
Atlantic Avenue Improvement.....		9,532 14
Fourth Avenue Improvement.....		3,571 91
Kent Avenue Basin Improvement.....		6,912 61
Gowanus Canal Improvement.....		16,146 76
Union Street Improvement.....		9,376 69
Bushwick Avenue Improvement.....		3,073 44
South Seventh Street Improvement.....		5,334 39
Central Avenue Sewer.....		1,295 41
Bedford Avenue Improvement.....		5,534 64
Metropolitan Avenue Improvement.....		80 00
Newtown Highway.....		1,406 73
Union Street Improvement.....		12,734 24
		\$124,559 66
GENERAL FUND.		
Tax Certificates.....		\$2,150,000 00
Premiums on bonds.....		75,599 42
Repairing streets by law.....		52,443 75
Firemen's Insurance Fund.....		17,500 00
Arrearage expenses of 1883.....		14,595 76
Advances on meter account refunded.....		7,411 00
Licenses, City Clerk.....		1,409 83
Dog Fund.....		1,298 16
Taxes refunded.....		6,813 61
Docks and wharves.....		681 56
Dekalb avenue, grading.....		5,086 39
Bridge Celebration.....		4,647 30
Grading, 39th street.....		751 59
Badeau's real estate.....		360 00
Water meters.....		22 75
Cruelty to Animals.....		846 50
Cruelty to Children.....		60 00
Contingencies, Department of City Works.....		496 74
Contingencies, Department of Law.....		1,395 59
Default and interest on taxes.....		695 72
		\$2,342,115 67
MONEY DERIVED FROM EXCISE FUND.		
Orphan Asylums.....		\$27,670 52
Charity Homes.....		24,286 88
Industrial Schools.....		9,525 04
Dispensaries and Hospitals.....		5,786 24
Inebriates Home.....		33,727 50
Police Pension Fund.....		32,561 00
		133,557 18
Carried forward.....		\$13,332,476 07

Warrants paid during the year ending November 30th, 1883.—
(Concluded.)

Amount brought forward.....		\$13,332,476 07
REDEMPTION FUND.		
Redemption of property sold for unpaid taxes...		31,510 46
SPECIAL FUND.		
Assessment Fund Bonds.....	\$450,000 00	
Sewerage Fund Bonds.....	225,000 00	
Sewerage Fund.....	42,128 50	
Opening and widening streets.....	58,364 62	
Street Improvement Fund.....	588 12	
Default and interest on Opening and Widening Streets.....	54,005 87	
Assessment Fund, W. and S.....	538 74	
Interest on Assessment Fund Bonds.....	173,145 82	
		\$1,003,771 67
REVENUE FUND.		
Interest on tax certificates.....	\$183,698 95	
Judgments.....	12,288 94	
		\$195,987 89
Total payments.....		\$14,563,746 09

CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE,
BROOKLYN, Dec. 5th, 1883.

W. H. FLEEMAN,
City Treasurer.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BROOKLYN, in Account with W. H. FLEEMAN, City Treasurer, for
and during the Year ending November 30th, 1883.

Dr.		SINKING FUND REDEMPTION ACCOUNT.		Cr.	
1883. Nov. 30.	To bonds redeemed and ret'd to Comptroller. Balance deposited in the Nassau Nat'l B'k.....	\$1,096,000 00	1882. Nov. 30. By Balance		\$31,500 00
			1883. Nov. 30. By Receipts from Comptroller for re- demption of bonds, derived from the Sinking Fund		1,073,000 00
				\$1,104,500 00	
			1883. Nov. 30. By Bal. brought down.....		\$8,500 00
				W. H. FLEEMAN, City Treasurer.	

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BROOKLYN, in Account with Wm. H. FLEEMAN, *City Treasurer, for*
and during the Year ending November 30th, 1883.

DR.

REGISTERED AND COUPON INTEREST.

Cr.

1883, Nov. 30.	To Registered Int. paid.	\$1,407,542 16	1882, Nov. 30.	By Balance	\$13,063 59
	" Coupon Int. paid.	701,260 00			
	" Balance deposited in	25,643 50	1883, Nov. 30.	By Receipts from Comptroller, derived from the following sources:	
	" Nassau Nat'l Bank.	\$2,134,445 75		By Water Revenue.	\$615,772 50
				Interest on City debt	916,660 00
				Tax Levy.	456,069 66
				Bridge Bonds.	132,880 00
				Sinking Fund.	\$2,121,382 16
					2,134,445 75
			1883, Nov. 30.	By Bal. brought down.	\$25,643 59

W. H. FLEEMAN,
City Treasurer.

REPORT
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL,
BROOKLYN, N. Y., December 5, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

DEAR SIR :

In compliance with your request of the 20th ultimo, I respectfully submit the following statement of the business transacted in this Department, commencing December 2, 1882, and ending December 1, 1883.

The following table exhibits six thousand four hundred and ninety-five (6,495) claims, amounting to three million eight hundred and sixty-eight thousand five hundred dollars and forty cents (\$3,868,500.40) which were examined and allowed, viz.:

Statement of Claims Audited from Dec. 2, 1882, to Dec. 1, 1883.

YEAR.	Month.	Week ending.	No. of Claims.	Amount.
1882.	December.	December 9.	156	\$91,723 42
"	"	" 16.	138	53,860 95
"	"	" 23.	145	58,983 57
"	"	" 30.	195	157,380 50
1883.	January.	January 6.	48	20,055 75
"	"	" 13.	133	68,376 77
"	"	" 20.	85	6,336 54
"	January.	" 27.	70	5,356 31
"	January & February.	February 3.	194	173,380 29
"	February.	" 10.	104	24,078 38
"	"	" 17.	94	12,527 17
"	"	" 24.	54	8,691 70
"	February & March.	March 3.	175	162,832 52
"	March.	" 10.	86	25,595 91
"	"	" 17.	64	4,945 45
"	"	" 24.	67	10,323 82
"	"	" 31.	180	171,376 47
"	April.	April 7.	108	45,737 06
"	"	" 14.	83	15,223 69
"	"	" 21.	72	7,232 85
"	"	" 28.	68	30,237 51
"	April & May.	May 5.	194	199,185 59
"	May.	" 12.	100	30,711 26
"	"	" 19.	112	30,916 70
"	"	" 26.	64	9,302 01
"	May & June.	June 2.	196	174,055 29
"	June.	" 9.	143	62,684 95
"	"	" 16.	137	109,853 86
"	"	" 23.	174	166,254 18
"	"	" 30.	230	186,491 30
"	July.	July 7.	123	68,016 13
"	"	" 14.	159	86,359 96
"	"	" 21.	111	29,901 62
"	"	" 28.	80	18,514 29
"	July & August.	August 4.	217	196,533 43
"	August.	" 11.	90	77,569 28
"	"	" 18.	75	9,528 94
"	"	" 25.	61	21,524 91
"	August & September.	September 1.	160	174,405 98
"	September.	" 8.	108	39,390 22
"	"	" 15.	120	74,158 15
"	"	" 22.	94	11,419 25
"	"	" 29.	192	194,463 98
"	September & October.	October 6.	125	44,788 52
"	October.	" 13.	148	95,686 46
"	"	" 20.	80	21,467 00
"	"	" 27.	97	28,804 47
"	October & November.	November 3.	192	206,424 77
Amounts carried forward,			\$6,001	\$3,522,669 13

Statement of Claims Audited from Dec. 2, 1882, to Dec. 1, 1883.—
(Concluded.)

YEAR.	Month.	Week ending.	No. of Claims.	Amount.
	Amounts brought over		6,001	\$3,522,669 18
1883.....	November.	November 10.	124	93,409 64
".....	"	" 17.	112	53,000 75
".....	"	" 21.	112	23,587 07
".....	November & December.	December 1.	146	175,833 81
Total number claims audited.....			6,495	
Total amount of claims audited.....				\$3,868,500 40

DISTRIBUTION OF ACCOUNTS.

General Fund.....	\$2,868,361 51
Special ".....	997,223 84
Revenue ".....	5,915 05
	\$3,868,500 40

The reports rendered weekly to the Common Council, in accordance with requirements of Title 5, Section 6 of the Charter, and published in the Minutes of the proceedings of that body, will show in detail the names of the claimants, the accounts to which they are chargeable, the nature of the claims and the amounts for which they are respectively audited.

Respectfully submitted,

AUGUST VOEGE,

Auditor.

REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF LAW.

LAW DEPARTMENT, CITY HALL,
BROOKLYN, December 1, 1883.

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

SIR :

In compliance with the city charter I beg leave to herewith present to you the records of this Department for the year ending November 30th, 1883.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to state that, exclusive of the judgments in the Hardy cases, the responsibility in which had been fixed by judgment and affirmed at General Term before my term of office began, the entire amount of judgments and costs paid over by the city during the past year is less than sixteen hundred and fifty dollars, a sum somewhat smaller than that paid by the city during any previous year for fifteen years.

I believe this result to have been largely obtained by the careful co-operation of all the departments of the city in avoiding causes of litigation and inspiring corporations and persons dealing with the city with the belief that all honorable opportunities would be given them to protect their interests and to receive whatever their agreements with the city provided for, without captious delays or needless circumlocution.

Nevertheless, Schedule A, attached to this report, which shows each action in detail, will demonstrate that many difficult and im-

portant matters have found their way to the calendars of the court where they still remain in various stages of adjustment.

The following is a summary of the results of the city's litigation for the past two years :

Entire amount recovered against the city and paid over during that period	\$30,907 70
Portion thereof fixed by recovery during administration of former incumbent.....	26,971 17
Portion thereof recovered against city during administration of present incumbent, a period of twenty-two months.....	3,936 53

I am glad also to be able to state that I have not been compelled, as yet, during my administration of this office, to seek authority from the Common Council to retain counsel in any litigation.

I can readily foresee that circumstances might arise where the assistance of able counsel would be an advantage to the city, which I should be bound to secure for it, and which, it would be a palpable neglect of official duty to fail to provide.

Indeed, in the preparation of our last Arrears Act, I cannot but think that the name and fame of Mr. Evarts, who professionally sanctioned every line and letter of its text, will be of far greater value as a means of enforcing its provisions than the very reasonable amount which was paid to him by the city under the provisions of the act.

Two important patent suits, the only ones upon our calendar, have been finally disposed of during the past year.

In the first of these, that of *Markland v. The City*, the plaintiff sought to recover a large amount from the city, as damages, for the use of the transparent signs on our street lamps, which are of much value to the city. After a protracted litigation, in which the late George Gifford, easily first in his specialty, represented the city, final judgment has been entered in our favor, and an expensive and annoying litigation is happily disposed of.

The second was a suit in which the Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company asked heavy damages and a perpetual injunction against the use of their ingenious and efficient apparatus by our fire department.

The city in this suit was confronted with the necessity not only

of paying a large sum of money in liquidation for the use made of that apparatus during a number of years past, but also of the probability, in case any other apparatus was secured, of being compelled to use an inefficient means of transmitting the alarms to the various engine-houses, and at the same time paying to the plaintiffs in this action a royalty for such infringement as might be found to be made of their various patents.

On a careful investigation of the matter it seemed clear that the plaintiffs had become lawfully possessed of the original "Page patent," which lay at the foundation of the entire system of telegraphy.

Various negotiations were had, with which, as a principal party, you are fully familiar; the final result being that the suits in question have been discontinued without expense to the city, and the plaintiffs therein have undertaken to supply the city with their perfected apparatus at a rate somewhat lower than that at which they are furnished to the other principal cities of the Union.

During these negotiations the death of Mr. George Gifford occurred, but the matter has received the considerate and efficient attention of Livingston Gifford, Esq., his son, who has courteously conducted them to the final issue without any additional charge to the city.

This successful termination of these two pieces of litigation can but add to the reputation which Brooklyn has always maintained of compelling applicants for royalties upon novel inventions used by the city to substantiate in the most thorough manner their claims to remuneration, and wherever they have been found not satisfactory to the parties representing the city to prosecute them through all the courts to final adjudication before the city should recognize their right to any reimbursement.

I believe the city has in no case been called upon to pay any money to any such litigants after they have carried their claims into the courts.

The adverse decision in the Sage case involved a similar determination of a number of suits at that time pending against the city for awards made in the Sackett Street Improvement. Early in the year, however, such legislation was had as provided for the issue

and sale of bonds in a sufficient sum to meet all the claims not then in litigation, and those matters have now ceased to be sources of any contest in the courts, except in the case of *Genet v. City*, now pending in the Court of Appeals.

Two small cases—those of *Dunne v. City* and *Holloran v. City*—which were brought for extra work in the Comptroller's office, and for which the city was found liable in the Justice's Court to respond, demonstrate the care necessary to be taken in the various departments to definitely determine the term of office held by subordinates who are brought into the departments for some temporary work; these cases having turned upon the failure of the officers employing the plaintiffs to definitely notify them that they were discharged from public service.

The objections urged before the Land Commissioners at Albany last year, under which the Board suspended grants of land under water to the various applicants therefor, have been efficient to secure to the city the opportunity of passing upon each application with regard to its specific relation to the interests of the city.

Understanding from the special message sent by you to the Common Council in relation to this subject that in some instances such grants as inducing the establishment of important manufactories along our river front are to be considered advantageous to the city rather than conflicting with its interests, I would recommend that such action should be taken by yourself, in conjunction with the Common Council, as should relieve me from the specific instructions which, under various resolutions passed by the Common Council, have seemed to require me to oppose the particular grants therein mentioned.

In connection with this subject I am not able at this time to report any definite conclusion in any of the actions brought against the city testing the title of its piers.

In the case of *Steers v. The City*, adverse judgment has been rendered at Special Term, and that judgment found confirmation at General Term.

An appeal, however, has been taken to the Court of Appeals, and nothing definitely can be determined until the final judgment of that court shall be rendered.

The case of *Andrews v. The City*, where the plaintiffs sought to recover not only the pier, but some \$25,000 damages for the obstruction and use of the same for many years past by the city, has resulted in a dismissal of the complaint as to one of the plaintiffs, a judicial determination of the invalidity of the land patent held by the plaintiffs, and a judgment against the city in behalf of one of the plaintiffs, for the sum of \$5,000.

This judgment has not yet been entered at Special Term, and many months must elapse before any definite determination upon either side of the controversy can be reached.

However much it may be regretted that public improvements have gone forward upon such unsubstantial titles as the city is found to have with relation to these piers, it is an obvious necessity for the future that the title to the land upon which any piers shall hereafter be built shall be as unquestioned as that of the land upon which it is proposed to erect our public buildings.

I was able to inform you in my last report that the very serious question of taxation involved in the pretended exemption by the lessees of the Heany estate from taxation had been decided against them upon argument at General Term.

Since that time the case has been brought before the Court of Appeals, and the position taken by the city unanimously sustained, thus limiting the scope of this exemption act in a very important degree.

The many suits pending against the city brought by the employees of the Fire Department to recover back salaries which involve upwards of \$100,000, have none of them been brought to a final determination as yet.

Various decisions have been made concerning them during the course of the year, but no final determination can be had until argument shall be made upon such of them as may reach the Court of Appeals. I am confident that the position taken by the city in resistance of these claims will be finally maintained.

Since my last report the case of *Shanley v. The City*, involving the payment of some \$150,000 to a large number of policemen whose salaries were reduced by the Common Council, has been decided in favor of the city at Special Term, and in November last

the General Term affirmed the decision of the Special Term, maintaining the constitutionality of the act under which their salaries were reduced.

An appeal to the Court of Appeals has been allowed to the plaintiff, where, I am confident, however, the decisions of the lower courts will be sustained.

The important cases of the Brooklyn City Railroad Company and the Union Ferry Company *v.* the Board of Assessors have furnished occasion to the Court of Appeals to determine the sufficiency of our provisions for the imposition of taxes omitted during a previous year to be inserted in the following year, a decision which will affect favorably to the city the situation of large and important corporate interests.

In the Clemente case, also decided by the Court of Appeals during the past year, the validity of the Act of 1882, validating taxes declared void under the authority of the case of *Brevoort v. The City*, has been determined.

Early in the present year, in response to a petition largely signed by residents of the city, the Common Council passed an ordinance requiring all street car companies operating on the streets of the city to furnish a conductor as well as a driver upon each of their cars.

Some of the companies in the city acknowledged the reasonableness of the ordinance by at once acquiescing in its provisions.

The Cross-town Railroad Company, however, for itself and representing other companies not named in the complaint, brought an action in the Supreme Court, in which they sought to restrain the carrying out of the ordinance upon the ground that it was a void ordinance and beyond the power of the Common Council to pass.

Not conceiving it to be a necessity for the city to insist upon an immediate compliance with an ordinance, the validity of which seemed to be seriously disputed, a formal temporary injunction was allowed to be obtained and the main issue was tried before Mr. Justice Cullen during September last.

Briefs have been submitted to him on both sides, but no decision has yet been rendered in the matter.

However important may be the necessity of placing conductors upon the street cars of the city as a means of protection to travelers therein, the question of the power of the Common Council to control the action of these corporations enjoying franchises of yearly increasing importance in our city is one of the most vital concern to our municipal interests.

If it shall be found that the city as a corporation has no reserved power to deal with those persons or corporate bodies who have the absolute control of these important means of transit, Brooklyn will not reap those important advantages over its neighboring city, New York, which the totally different system of legislation with regard to all such matters has been hitherto supposed to afford it.

The efficiency of home-government must largely depend upon the scope of powers vested in the governing departments.

I am strongly in hopes that the decision in this case will establish in the local legislative body the wholesome powers of restriction and control over those corporations, and of protection to the citizens who are by necessity compelled to deal with them, which the ample terms of the Charter seem to me to afford.

And this brings me to restate my earnest conviction that in two respects our municipal legislation should be largely improved.

In the first place, the very large number of important statutes which have been the foundation of all exercise of local authority and have given validity to all the very important improvements which have gone forward in the city for the past thirty years should soon be brought within the terms of a perspicuous and symmetrical charter law which should be so plain in its terms, ample in its scope and well balanced in its provisions as to afford a certain means of determining the powers, duties and requirements of every department of the city government.

In other States of the Union it has been thought wise to pass general municipal codes applicable to all the cities of a State having a population sufficient to bring them within either of the two divisions provided for in such Acts, namely, cities of the first grade and cities of the second grade.

In a city like Brooklyn, which in the very near future can have

no less than one million people within its borders and dependent upon the efficiency of its local laws largely for that government which comes nearest to its homes, and which has of late strenuously insisted for itself that it should be permitted to rule itself, it seems to be of the first importance that it should secure by delegation from the State the investiture of the broadest powers necessary to enable it to legislate finally for its people.

Such a remodeling and collection of existing laws into one harmonious charter would not, in my judgment, involve any material alteration of the very broad provisions now existing in the statute books providing for our municipal government; but it would set at rest for ever and make plain to all the existence of the power to compel at the hands of all men and corporations doing business within our borders the recognition of the right of the municipality to deal with them, so far as the municipal territory extended, with the same absolute power that the State deals with its citizens at large.

Assuming these powers to have been plainly defined, the necessity is then brought to notice, in the second place, of a like codification and re-enactment of the various ordinances which since 1877 have been added to that compilation at various times and for different purposes during the past six years.

Many of these ordinances are temporary in their nature, have been passed with the design to relieve special instances of supposed hardship, have had no symmetrical relation each to the other, and therefore present to the department seeking to enforce them practically, and to the department called upon to maintain them in the courts many features of ambiguity.

It would be well worth considering whether a city clothed with the ample powers of legislation, which I have suggested, should not itself provide for a more formal consideration of the legislation which it proposes to make than is afforded by the existing provisions for enacting ordinances.

These provisions are those which have been deemed competent to meet the necessities for small townships passing ordinances, relating in most cases to unimportant matters.

A city having a population of one-third the number of the en-

ture nation at its birth can well afford to deliberate with some seriousness upon a proposition to change its local law in any respect.

It is, however, of the highest importance that whatever should be done in connection with these very serious questions should be committed to no one not thoroughly equipped in point of character, capacity and personal training for the work.

The projection of the Third avenue sewer under authority obtained from the legislature during the past session, will doubtless remove a fruitful source of litigation from the city.

In connection with the forwarding of that improvement, the Department of City Works advertised for bids, and the contract was awarded under the provisions of the statute to Mr. Seth L. Keeney, he being the lowest bidder.

Subsequent to this Mr. Keeney announced to the Department his inability to comply with the terms of his proposal upon the ground of an alleged mistake in the estimate made upon the improvement from which he anticipated a loss to himself of an amount nearly equal to the difference between his bid and the next highest bidder.

The Department had taken the precaution to obtain from Mr. Keeney a check for \$10,000, and also a bond with sufficient sureties to secure the acceptance and execution of the contract by him in case his proposal should be entertained and accepted by the city.

Upon his written expression of his determination not to enter upon the contract, suit has been brought against his sureties to recover the amount of the difference.

It would seem to be the first duty of the city to vigorously follow up responsibilities thus assumed by parties dealing with it, and to exact from them the same rigid compliance with the terms of their undertaking which the city officers themselves are expected to insure on the part of the city.

The suit will therefore be pressed as immediately as the condition of the calendars of the Court will permit.

The reduction in the salary list from \$27,000 to \$21,100, which was effected during my first year I have found it practicable to

continue without detriment to the public interest, nor has it been necessary to make any changes in the officers of this Department during the past year.

I confess myself very greatly indebted to these gentlemen who have aided me in protecting the interests of the city, and from whom I have at all times received the most cordial co-operation.

Out of the \$250, allowed me by the Common Council at the beginning of the year for renovating the offices of this Department, I have been able to procure all that seemed necessary for the sum of \$186,72.

In closing this brief review of the year's work in this Department, I think that I may also safely advise you that no serious drafts upon the revenue fund need be anticipated from judgments likely to demand payment during the coming year.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN A. TAYLOR,
Corporation Counsel.

SCHEDULE A.

I. Cases mentioned in last report in which action has been taken during the current year—

COURT OF APPEALS—

George C. Genet *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

Action taken to set aside assessments for widening Sacket street Boulevard; or, to recover \$9,572, the amount of award for land taken.

Appeal noticed for argument and argument set down for December 3, 1883.

CITY COURT—

Margaret Koener and others *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

Action to recover \$657.86, amount of award for land taken for widening Washington avenue.

Settled under the Sage case and under Chapter 211, Laws of 1883.

CITY COURT—

John E. Burrill and Others *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

Action to recover \$2,233, amount of award for lands taken for Sackett street Boulevard.

Settled under the Sage case and under Chapter 211 of Laws of 1883.

U. S. CIRCUIT COURT—

Thomas. T. Markland and Samuel Tucker *v.* The City of, Brooklyn. Commenced March 13, 1880.

Suit in Equity for the violation of a patent for street lamps used by the city.

Testimony taken and decree entered, dismissing the complaint.

CITY COURT—

George G. Sickles *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 17, 1880.

Action to recover \$373.45, amount of award for land taken for opening Flushing avenue.

Settled under the Sage case and under Chapter 211 of Laws of 1883.

SUPREME COURT, NEW YORK COUNTY—

The Gutta Percha and Rubber Manufacturing Company *v.* James Tanner, Collector, &c., and another. Commenced January 19, 1881.

Inter-pleader of the tax collectors of Brooklyn and New York to determine which city is entitled to a personal tax levied upon plaintiff, it having been taxed by the authorities of each city.

Appeal taken to General Term, noticed for argument and will be disposed of next term.

SUPREME COURT—

Catharine A. Vincent *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced March 1, 1879.

Action for damages for death of plaintiff's son, caused by an explosion in the new Municipal Department Building.

Tried before Justice Pratt and a jury, and a verdict for \$5,000 rendered in favor of the plaintiff.

An appeal taken to the General Term, was argued last September, and a decision is expected next month.

COURT OF APPEALS—

The Union Ferry Company *v.* The Board of Assessors of the City of Brooklyn, &c. Commenced August 15, 1881.

Appeal argued at Court of Appeals and decision rendered affirming the decision of the Supreme Court and sustaining the action of the Board of Assessors.

COURT OF APPEALS—

The Brooklyn City Railroad Company *v.* The Board of Assessors, &c.

Same as above.

SUPREME COURT—

In the matter of the petition of S. B. Duryea to have the valuation on his property reduced.

Referee's report rendered, reducing the valuation of petitioner's property from \$104,000 to \$90,000, and report confirmed by Supreme Court and acquiesced in by the city.

COURT OF APPEALS—

The People *ex rel* C. Otto, C. Muller and Others *v.* The Board of Assessors of the City of Brooklyn. Commenced August 18, 1881.

This proceeding involves the question as to the taxability of the dwelling-houses built upon the Heany Estate. This estate, consisting of a large tract of land in this city, was devised to the Brooklyn Benevolent Society for charitable purposes, and was subsequently exempted from taxation by the Legislature.

The Society executed leases of lots to various persons for twenty-one years, providing that the lessees should build houses on the lots, pay rent only for the land, have privilege for a renewal for another term of twenty-one years, and then for a further renewal, unless the Society elected to pay the value of the houses to the lessees.

Appeal taken to the Court of Appeals by the relators, and argued. Decision rendered affirming the decisions of the Supreme Court, and sustaining the action of the Assessors in assessing relators' property for the purposes of taxation.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT—

The Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced August 4, 1881.

Suit for damages for infringement of patent for portion of telegraph apparatus used by the Fire Department.

Negotiations have been pursued for the settlement of claim of plaintiff resulting in discontinuance of action without any payment by the city.

SUPREME COURT—

Daniel McGrath *v.* City of Brooklyn. Commenced October 24, 1881.

Case tried before Cullen, Justice, but decision not yet rendered.

SUPREME COURT—

Robert J. Furey *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced October 24, 1881.

Case tried before Mr. Justice Cullen, but not yet decided.

SUPREME COURT—

Patrick Kevenny *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced October 22, 1881.

Same as above.

SUPREME COURT—

Eben H. Shute *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced October 24, 1881.

Case tried before Mr. Justice Cullen and a jury, and a verdict rendered for plaintiff for \$684.93.

Appeal taken to the General Term.

SUPREME COURT—

George C. Genet *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 27, 1881.

Action for balance of award for land taken in opening Troy avenue.

Settled under the Sage case and under the provisions of Chapter 211 of the Laws of 1883.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* Amelia M. Robinson *v.* Michael O'Keefe, Registrar, &c.

Application for writ of mandamus to compel the Registrar of Arrears to pay relator money received in redemption of assessment sales.

Issues tried before Gilbert, Justice, and decision rendered in favor of the plaintiff.

Appeal taken to General Term and argued. Decision rendered reversing judgment of the Special Term.

SUPREME COURT—

Henry Steers *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 21, 1881.

Action to compel removal of pier in front of plaintiff's premises at foot of Java street; or, to surrender the same to plaintiff, and for an accounting for wharfage, dockage, &c., received by defendant.

Appeal argued at General Term, and decision rendered affirming the judgment of the Special Term.

Appeal taken to the Court of Appeals.

SUPREME COURT—

James W. Smith and Wilbur F. Smith *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 21, 1882.

Same as above, except claim is for southerly part of the pier.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

John J. Hardy *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 25, 1882.

Action to recover damages to plaintiff's property, caused by deposit of refuse matter and noxious odors arising from sewer at foot of Twenty-eighth street.

Settled under direction of the Common Council on payment of \$5,000.

SUPREME COURT—

The People of the State of New York *ex rel.* Francis M. Craft *v.* The Commissioner of the Department of Fire. Commenced March 7, 1882.

Certiorari to review action of Fire Commissioner in removing relator from his position in the Fire Department.

Decision of General Term rendered and writ quashed, thus sustaining the action of the Fire Commissioner.

SUPREME COURT—

Joseph F. Knapp *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced February 10, 1882.

Action to reduce an assessment for a local improvement, and to recover money paid thereon.

Appeal to General Term, argued and decision rendered affirming judgment of Special Term in favor of defendant.

Appeal taken to Court of Appeals. Not yet argued.

SUPREME COURT—

Samuel H. Cornell *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced February 4, 1882.

Same as Knapp *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Henry Pennie *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced March 23, 1882.

Action to recover salary for a period between the removal of plaintiff from the Fire Department and the time of his re-instatement therein by the Court.

Tried before Judge Reynolds and a jury, and verdict directed for plaintiff.

Appeal taken to General Term, and judgment affirmed.

Appeal taken to Court of Appeals.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

William E. Langan *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced March 25, 1882.

Same as Pennie *v.* The City of Brooklyn—above.

SUPREME COURT, COUNTY OF NEW YORK—

The Lidgerwood Manufacturing Company *v.* Martin T. McMahon, Receiver of Taxes, &c., and James Tanner, Collector, &c.

Same cause of action as Gutta Percha &c. Co. *v.* Tanner, &c., above.

Action tried before Van Vorst, Justice, and decision rendered in favor of the Receiver of Taxes of New York.

Appeal taken to the General Term.

SUPREME COURT, NEW YORK COUNTY—

The Royal Baking Powder Company *v.* Martin T. McMahon, Receiver, &c., and James Tanner, Collector, &c. Commenced January 6, 1882.

Same as above.

JUSTICES' COURT—

Joseph Linker *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced May 1, 1882.

Appeal withdrawn and case settled under direction of the Common Council, and judgment paid.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Francis Riley *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced May 18, 1882.

Same cause of action as Pennie *v.* The City of Brooklyn, above. Case tried and judgment rendered for the plaintiff.

Appeal taken to the General Term. Not yet argued.

SUPREME COURT—

Patrick Larney *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced May 4, 1882.

Discontinued.

SUPREME COURT—

Michael McGuinness *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced November 15, 1881.

Same as McGrath *v.* The City of Brooklyn, above.

SUPREME COURT—

James McCormick, *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced November 15, 1881.

Same as McGrath *v.* The City of Brooklyn, above.

SUPREME COURT—

James Reilly *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced August 17, 1882.

Action tried before Brown, Justice, but not yet decided.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Michael Friel *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced September 8, 1882.

Action for salary as fireman.

Tried before Clement, Judge. Decision not yet rendered.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Edward Shaugnessy *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

Abides decision in Friel *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

SUPREME COURT—

Maria H. Whitney *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced May 23, 1882.

Action for award for street opening.

Issues tried, and judgment rendered for the defendant.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

William Pelham *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced May 27, 1882.

Action for salary as policeman.

Tried before Reynolds, Judge, without a jury, and judgment rendered for plaintiff.

Appeal taken to General Term, and judgment affirmed.

Appeal will be taken to the Court of Appeals.

SUPREME COURT—

Ann Fitzpatrick, by Guardian, *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced July 1, 1882.

Action for damages for personal injuries.

Tried before Mr. Justice Brown and a jury, and verdict rendered for the plaintiff.

Appeal taken to the General Term, argued, but not yet decided.

TH CITYE COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Richard Poillon and Another *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced June 22, 1882.

Action for rent of plaintiffs' wharf occupied by the public bath at the foot of Bridge street.

Tried before Judge McCue and a jury, and a verdict rendered for the plaintiff.

Appeal taken to the General Term, argued, and judgment affirmed.

Appeal taken to the Court of Appeals.

SUPREME COURT—

John Shanley *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced July 21, 1882.

Action for portion of salary as policeman, claimed to have been unlawfully decreased.

Demurrer argued before Cullen, Justice, and decision rendered in favor of the city.

Appeal taken to the General Term, and decision affirmed.

Appeal taken to the Court of Appeals.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* Ephraim M. Roberts *v.* The Fire Commissioner. Commenced May 29, 1882.

Certiorari to review proceedings of the Fire Commissioner, and to return relator to his position in the Fire Department.

Decision rendered quashing the writ and sustaining the action of the Fire Commissioner.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* Albert B. Joy *v.* The Commissioner of the Fire Department.

Same as Roberts *v.* Commissioner.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* Francis M. Crafts *v.* The Fire Commissioner.
Same as Roberts *v.* Commissioner.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* James Devlin *v.* The Fire Commissioner.
Same as Roberts *v.* Commissioner.

SUPREME COURT—

Abraham Lott and another *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Com-
menced August 9, 1882.

Action for award for land taken for a street opening.

Settled under Sage case and under Chapter 211 of the Laws of
1883.

SUPREME COURT—

Alfred J. Cammeyer, as Executor, &c., *v.* The City of Brooklyn.
Commenced July 14, 1882.

Same as Lott *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Amy Pallin *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced July 25,
1882.

Same as Lott *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Henry Grenzebeck *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced
July 3, 1882.

Same as Lott *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Nathan May and another *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Com-
menced November 25, 1882.

Same as Lott *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN.—

The People *ex rel.* James A. Van Brunt *v.* The Common Council. Commenced June 12, 1882.

Alternative mandamus to compel the Common Council to send the assessment for Third avenue Sewer back to the Department of City Works for Correction.

Appeal from the judgment in favor of the city. Argued and judgment affirmed.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* William H. Semlear *v.* The Fire Commissioner. Commenced May 8, 1882.

Same as Roberts *v.* Commissioner, above.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* The Citizens Gas Light Company *v.* Theodore F. Jackson, Registrar, &c. Commenced November 22, 1882.

Motion for mandamus against the defendant to compel him to receive certain amounts in full payment for the assessment for the Gowanus Canal improvement.

Argued and motion denied.

SUPREME COURT—

James S. Haleran *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced November 17, 1882.

Action for salary as employee of Comptroller.

Tried and judgment rendered for the plaintiff.

SUPREME COURT—

John Dunne *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

Same as Haleran *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

Judgment for plaintiff.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN.—

In the matter of the Petition of Charles B. Hartt and others.

Petition for the reduction of an assessment for a sewer.

Settled under the direction of the Common Council, on basis of the Referee's Report.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

In the Matter of the Application of Mary C. Clemente for a writ of mandamus *v.* Theodore F. Jackson, Registrar of Arrears, &c. Commenced October 27, 1882.

Motion for mandamus to compel the defendant to receive a certain amount tendered him in payment of taxes.

Appeal argued at General Term, and decision granting motion affirmed.

Appeal taken to Court of Appeals, and judgment affirmed.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* Isaac W. Peck *v.* The Commissioners of the Department of Fire and Buildings.

Application for re-argument in certiorari to review proceedings removing relator from his position in the Fire Department.

Argued and motion denied.

SUPREME COURT—

In the Matter of the Petition of George L. Kingsland, and others. Commenced August 16, 1882.

Certiorari, to review the action of the assessors in placing valuations on petitioner's property, for the purposes of taxation.

Referee's report, making various reductions rendered and confirmed by the Court.

SUPREME COURT—

Norman Andrews, and John S. Ellis, as executors, &c., and others *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced June 14, 1882.

Action to recover a wharf at foot of North Seventh and North Sixth streets, built by the City in front of plaintiffs' property.

Temporary injunction asked for to restrain defendant from interfering with plaintiffs' agents in the collection of wharfage.

Motion for injunction granted, and appeal taken and argued.

Since last report, decision rendered sustaining the temporary injunction. Issues tried before Cullen, Justice, without a jury—and decision rendered judgment in favor of the executors of the estate of Lawrence Waterbury, for \$5,343.75 for damages to the intervening bulkhead, caused by the erection of the piers during the lifetime of their testator, and dismissing the complaint as to the other plaintiffs, and holding that the plaintiffs in the suit had no title to the piers, or to the intervening bulkhead and land under water. Judgment not yet entered.

II. Action and proceedings commenced since the date of the last report of the Law Department.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Eugene G. Blackford *v* The City of Brooklyn, The Mayor and Common Council of the City of Brooklyn, and Henry Hamilton. Commenced December 4, 1882.

Action for an injunction to prevent the Common Council from acting on an application of the defendant Hamilton, for permission to run a line of stages on Bedford avenue.

Argued motion for injunction at Special Term, and motion granted. Appeal taken to General Term and argued.

Injunction order modified so as to permit Common Council to act on the application of Hamilton, but forbidding the granting of permission until the further order of the Court.

Action at issue but not yet tried.

SUPREME COURT, COUNTY OF NEW YORK—

H. W. Johns Manufacturing Company *v* Martin T. McMahon, &c., and James Tanner, Collector, &c. Commenced December 2, 1882.

Action to determine whether a tax on certain of plaintiffs personal property assessed in New York or Brooklyn.

At issue.

NEW YORK SUPREME COURT—

The Bradley White Lead Company *v.* the Mayor, &c., of New York, The City of Brooklyn, and others. Commenced December 4, 1882.

Same cause of action as H. W. Johns Manufacturing Co., *v.* McMahon, &c.—above.

Issues tried before Mr. Justice Donohue, at Special Term, and decision reserved until the decision of the General Term in the appeal in the case of The Gutta Percha and Rubber Manufacturing Company *v.* McMahon, &c., is rendered.

N. Y. SUPREME COURT—

The Manhattan Chemical Company *v.* Martin J. McMahon, &c. Commenced December 1, 1882.

Same as H. W. Johns Manufacturing Co. *v.* McMahon—above.

SUPREME COURT—

The Gutta Percha and Rubber Manufacturing Company *v.* James Tanner, Collector of Taxes and Assessments, in the City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 2, 1882.

Action for injunction to restrain defendant from selling plaintiff's property for non-payment of a personal tax.

Discontinued.

SUPREME COURT—

The City of Brooklyn *v.* George Copeland. Commenced December 15, 1882.

Action to compel defendant to take title to Park Lands purchased of the City of Brooklyn, at a public sale.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

The City of Brooklyn *v.* Henry M. Johnston. Commenced December 18, 1882.

Same as the City of Brooklyn *v.* Copeland.

SUPREME COURT—

Alfred Roe *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 14, 1882.

Action to recover money paid on tax sale, on the ground that taxes are void.

Tried before Mr. Justice Cullen, but not yet decided.

SUPREME COURT—

Ezra Woodruff *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 8, 1882.

Action to recover money paid for redemption of tax sale.

Tried before Justice Cullen, but not yet decided.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

James Murphy Jr., as administrator of the estate of John Murphy, deceased *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced December 27, 1882.

Action for damages for death of plaintiff's son who, it is alleged, was drowned by falling from the sewer-box at the foot of Twenty-eighth street into a hole filled with water.

Tried before Judge Reynolds and a jury, and verdict rendered in favor of the plaintiff for \$1,000.

Appeal taken to the General Term but not yet argued.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

In the matter of the application Thomas Shields for a mandamus. Commenced December 15, 1882.

Application for a mandamus to compel the removal of obstructions on the old Wallabout road.

Argued before Judge Reynolds, and application denied.

N. Y. SUPREME COURT—

The Lidgerwood Manufacturing Company *v.* Martin T. McMahon, Receiver, &c., of New York, and James Tanner, Collector, &c., of Brooklyn. Commenced December 27, 1882.

Same as H. W. Johns Manufacturing Company *v.* McMahon, —above.

N. Y. SUPREME COURT—

The Gutta Percha & Rubber Manufacturing Company *v.* Martin T. McMahon, Receiver, &c., of New York, and James Tanner, Collector, &c., of Brooklyn. Commenced December 23, 1882.

Same as H. W. Johns Manufacturing Company, *v.* McMahon, &c., above.

SUPREME COURT—

In the matter of the application of George C. Genet for a writ of mandamus. Commenced December 30, 1882.

Application for a mandamus to compel the Registrar of Arrears to re-adjust a tax of the applicant.

Motion argued and denied.

SUPREME COURT—

Ruth McCormick *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 17, 1883.

Action for damages to plaintiff's property, caused by alleged improper grade to street.

At issue.

N. Y. SUPREME COURT—

Peter Cooper Glue Factory *v.* Martin T. McMahon as Receiver, &c., of New York, and James Tanner, as Collector, &c., of Brooklyn. Commenced January 24, 1883.

Same as H. W. Johns Manufacturing Company *v.* McMahon, &c.,—as above.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

William H. Berdan *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 16, 1883.

Action for amount claimed by plaintiff for salary as fireman.

Another action being brought by the plaintiff for the same cause of action, through another attorney, a motion was made for a stay of proceedings until it should be determined in what action the plaintiff would proceed, which was granted, and the stay is still in force.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

James Cottrell *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 16, 1883.

Action for salary as member of Fire Department.

Trial had before Judge Clement and a jury, and a verdict rendered for defendant.

Appeal taken to the General Term. Not yet argued.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

John O'Mara *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 16, 1883.

Action for salary as bell-ringer in the Fire Department.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

James T. Shannon *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 16, 1883.

Action for salary as member of the Fire Department.

Tried before Judge McCue without a jury, decision not yet rendered.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Thomas McPherson *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 16, 1883.

Action to recover salary as member of Fire Department.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

James H. Dillon *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 16, 1883.

Action for salary of James Slattery as member of Fire Department, assigned to plaintiff.

Tried before Judge Clement and a jury, and verdict rendered for defendant.

Appeal taken to General Term.

Not yet argued.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

James Slattery *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 16, 1883.

Action for salary as member of Fire Department.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

George S. Magrath *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 16, 1883.

Action to recover salary as member of the Fire Department.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

Asahel H. Birdsall *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 31, 1883.

Action for damages for personal injury caused by obstruction in a street.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

William H. Berdan *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 31, 1883.

Action for salary as member of the Fire Department.

Tried before Judge Clement and a jury, and verdict rendered for the plaintiff.

Appeal taken to the General Term. Not yet argued.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

James T. Shannon *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 31, 1883.

Action for salary as fireman.

Tried before Judge Reynolds without a jury, and judgment rendered for the defendant.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Isabella Burns *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced February 3, 1881.

Action for damages to plaintiff's property caused by an alleged riot on election night.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Patrick Larney *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced February 6, 1883.

Action for salary as fireman.

Tried before Judge Clement and a jury, and verdict rendered for the plaintiff.

Appeal taken to General Term. Not yet argued.

N. Y. SUPREME COURT—

H. W. Johns Manufacturing Company *v.* Martin T. McMahon, Receiver, &c., of New York, and James Tanner, Collector, &c., of Brooklyn. Commenced December 2, 1883.

Same as H. W. Johns Mfg. Co. *v.* McMahon, Receiver, &c., of New York, and James Tanner, Collector, &c. of Brooklyn, except that tax under question is for a different year.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

In the matter of the certiorari of Peter W. Birek. Commenced January 31, 1883.

Certiorari to review proceedings by which relator was removed from Fire Department.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

John Hobbins *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced March 16, 1883.

Action for damages for personal injuries to plaintiff caused by alleged obstruction in street.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

The Brooklyn Cross-town Railroad Company *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced February 26, 1883.

Action for an injunction to restrain defendant from enforcing a city ordinance providing that every street car shall be furnished with a conductor as well as a driver.

Tried before Mr. Justice Cullen, but not yet decided.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Rosannah Ford *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced March 17, 1883.

Action for damages caused by personal injury.
Discontinued.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN.—

Thomas J. Clarke *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced March 21, 1883.

Action on tax certificate.
At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

James D. Fish and another *v.* The New York & Brighton Beach Railway Company, The Brooklyn Park Commissioners and others. Commenced March 29, 1883.

Action to foreclose a mortgage.
At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

John Danaher, as administratrix of the estate of Charles M. Danaher, deceased, and the estate of Thomas P. Danaher, deceased, *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced March 15, 1883.

Action for damages caused by the deaths of plaintiff's intestates, occasioned, as alleged, by drinking water from a city well.

Demurrer interposed by the defendant and argued before Mr. Justice Cullen, but not yet decided.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Rebecca J. Evans, as administrator, &c., of George Evans, deceased, *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced April 5, 1883.

Action for damages caused by personal injuries to plaintiffs' intestate.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Edward Fitzsimmons *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced March 26, 1883.

Action to recover plaintiff's salary as policeman, claimed to be due for period intervening his dismissal from and reinstatement to the force.

Tried before Clement, Judge and a jury, and verdict rendered for plaintiff.

Appeal taken to General Term, not yet argued.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Michael Sheppard *v.* The City of Brooklyn.

Action for damages for personal injury caused by plaintiff's slipping on ice on sidewalk.

Tried before Judge McCue and a jury, and complaint dismissed.

SUPREME COURT—

Charles P. Rosengren *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced June 8, 1883.

Action for damages for personal injuries alleged to be caused by obstruction in street.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

In the matter of the Petition of William E. S. Fales, Robert Payne and Michael Chauncey. Commenced June 26, 1883.

Proceeding to compel the payment to petitioners, by the City, the amount of their fees as Commissioners on street opening.

Application denied.

SUPREME COURT—

Cornelius Gallagher, by Joseph A. Bruce, Jr., guardian *ad litem* v. The City of Brooklyn. Commenced July 5, 1883.

Action for damages for personal injury.

Discontinued.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* Francis E. Johnson v. The Common Council of the City of Brooklyn. Commenced August 8, 1883.

Application for mandamus to compel the Common Council to call a special election for Alderman of the 14th Ward to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Felix Doyle.

Argued before Mr. Justice Barnard and application granted.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Frank Siefert v. The City of Brooklyn. Commenced July 25, 1883.

Action for damages to plaintiff's property, caused by alleged defective construction of sewer.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* John Prentice and others v. The Board of Assessors.

Certiorari to review action of the assessors in placing a valuation upon relator's property for the purposes of taxation.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

Robert Payne, Michael Chauncey and William E. S. Fales v. The City of Brooklyn. Commenced August 14, 1883.

Action for amount alleged to be due plaintiffs for fees as Commissioners on street opening.

Demurrer interposed but not yet argued.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* William Beard and Jeremiah P. Robinson v.

Ripley Ropes, Commissioner of City Works. Commenced July 31, 1883.

SUPREME COURT—

Certiorari to review action of the Commissioner in levying an assessment for the Third Avenue Sewer.

Motion to quash writ noticed, but not yet argued.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* Samuel B. Duryea *v.* Ripley Ropes, Commissioner, &c. Commenced October 10, 1883.

Same as Beard, &c., *v.* Ropes, above.

Motion to quash writ noticed, but not yet argued.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Thomas White and Samuel C. White *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced July 24, 1883.

Action on tax certificate.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

George Taylor *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced September 17, 1883.

Action for award for land taken on street opening.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Ruth McCormick *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced September 6, 1883.

Action for award for land alleged to have been taken for a street opening.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Ann Eliza Rogers *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced October 5, 1883.

Action for damages to plaintiff's property by water, caused by alleged negligence in repairing water mains.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

James Slattery *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced October 27, 1883.

Action for salary alleged to be due to plaintiff as a member of the Fire Department.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

James Patten *v.* The Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Brooklyn. Commenced November 5, 1883.

Action for damages for personal injuries caused by slipping on ice.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Michael McManus *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced September 10, 1883.

Action for salary alleged to be due to plaintiff as a member of the Fire Department.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Seth L. Keeney *v.* The City of Brooklyn and others. Commenced November, 1883.

Action for an injunction to restrain defendants from using certified check deposited as security for fulfilling a contract with the Commissioner of City Works.

Discontinued.

SUPREME COURT—

The People *ex rel.* Bernard McEntee *v.* Ripley Ropes, Commissioner. Commenced June 20, 1883.

Application for mandamus to compel the Commissioner of the Department of City Works to remove some street obstructions.

Discontinued.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Daniel McGlone *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced September 26, 1883.

Action for salary alleged to be due to plaintiff as a member of the Fire Department.

At issue.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

The Brooklyn Water-Front, Warehouse and Dry Dock Company *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced January 15, 1883.

Action for damages to plaintiff's property, caused by nuisance alleged to be due to the Twenty-eighth Street Sewer.

SUPREME COURT—

Albert Halm *v.* Harry O. Jones, The City of Brooklyn and others. Commenced August 7, 1883.

Action to foreclose a mortgage.

The city has no interest in the result.

SUPREME COURT—

Margaretta Remsen and others *v.* The City of Brooklyn and others. Commenced November 5, 1883.

Action to determine who is entitled to money paid to redeem tax certificates.

The city has no interest in the result.

SUPREME COURT—

Isabella Smith *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced November 28, 1883.

Action for damages for personal injuries caused by alleged obstruction in street.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

William Tebo *v.* Henry DuBois, The City of Brooklyn and others. Commenced November 8, 1883.

Action to foreclose a mortgage,

The city has no interest in the result.

THE CITY COURT OF BROOKLYN—

Peter W. Birk *v.* The City of Brooklyn. Commenced November 28, 1883.

Action for salary alleged to be due to plaintiff as a member of the Fire Department.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

The City of Brooklyn *v.* George Copeland. Commenced November 23, 1883.

Action to compel defendant to take title to lands purchased of the city.

At issue.

SUPREME COURT—

In the Matter of the application of Clark D. Rhinehart, for a writ of mandamus. Commenced November 28, 1883.

Application for mandamus to compel the Board of Aldermen, acting as a Board of Canvassers, to canvass the vote for Justice of the Peace, and to compel the District Canvassers to correct their returns.

The Corporation Counsel appeared for the Mayor and City Clerk, and Winchester Britton opposed the motion on behalf of the Aldermen.

Motion argued and granted.

III. *STREET CLOSING PROCEEDINGS.*

In the matter of the closing of Arm or Ann street from Commercial street to permanent bulkhead line, Newtown Creek.

Commissioners appointed and report made and confirmed closing the street as indicated.

In the matter of closing Ferris street, from Van Dyke street to west side of Elizabeth street.

Commissioners appointed and report made closing street as indicated.

In the matter of closing Elizabeth street from Conover street to Ferris street.

Commissioners appointed and report made closing street as indicated.

In the matter of closing Eighth avenue from Twentieth street to Greenwood Cemetery line.

Commissioners appointed, report not yet made.

IV. *BUILDING CASES.*

CITY COURT.

The City of Brooklyn *v.* G. W. Meade.

Discontinued.

The same *v.* same.

Discontinued.

The same *v.* John Urquhardt.

Building repaired. Discontinued.

The same *v.* Ruling & Whiting.

Received letter from defendants stating that they were not the owners of the building.

In the hands of the Commissioner.

The same *v.* Edward Patchen and ano.

Fire escape erected. Discontinued.

The same *v.* Thos. Conway.

Pending.

The same *v.* Margaret Duff.

Fire escape erected. Discontinued.

The same *v.* Grace Schilling.

Fire escape erected. Discontinued.
The same *v.* H. Ludwig.
Fire escape erected. Discontinued.
The same *v.* T. Powell.
Wrong person. Discontinued.
The same *v.* Neidig.
Pending.
The same *v.* Albert Peck.
Pending.
The same *v.* Henry Clise.
Fire escape erected. Discontinued.
The same *v.* Thomas Edwards.
Fire escape erected. Discontinued.
The same *v.* Catharine Eccardt.
Fire escape erected. Discontinued.
The same *v.* C. S. Woodhull.
Fire escapes erected. Discontinued.
The same *v.* L. Blumenan.
Fire escape erected. Discontinued.
The same *v.* Charles Diefenback.
Fire escape erected. Discontinued.
The same *v.* L. H. Hurst.
Pending.
The same *v.* Catharine Irwin.
The same *v.* Thomas Berry.
Not found by Constable.
The same *v.* George J. Hardy.
Not the owner.
The same *v.* M. M. Hyde.
Discontinued.
The same *v.* George R. Connor.
Violation removed. Discontinued.
The same *v.* Gordon L. Ford.
Violation removed. Discontinued.
The same *v.* Patrick Monahan.
Violation removed. Discontinued.

The same *v.* Bridget McDermott.
Decree.
The same *v.* Mrs. Green.
Not found by Constable.
The same *v.* T. Powell.
Discontinued.
The same *v.* Thomas Cassin.
Violation removed. Discontinued.
The same *v.* A. Snow.
Discontinued.
The same *v.* Robert McComell.
Violation removed. Discontinued.
The same *v.* Edward G. Duffy.
Violation removed. Discontinued.
The same *v.* John Schreyer.
Violation removed. Discontinued.
The same *v.* Samuel J. S. Vose.
Not found by Constable.
The same *v.* Henry A. Mott.
Discontinued.
The same *v.* Mr. Freeland.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Mr. Greenwood.
In the hands of constable,
The same *v.* Walter Philips.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Robert McConnell.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* C. B. Sheldon.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* N. Wood.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Eberhard Beck.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Jane Walsh. Two cases.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* John P. Sutton. Two cases.

In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* John Riley.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* J. Sollner.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* John McGarry.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* John Broschart. Two cases.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* P. Kenny.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* P. Connelly. Two cases.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Thomas Gunn.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* J. C. Hazlet.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* P. Cullen.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* J. M. Kiefer. Five cases.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* A. C. Hanna.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* J. Schmidt. Two cases.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* John Hickey.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Philip Wackerman.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Wm. Hackett.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Alex. Howe.
In the hands of constable.
The same *v.* Philip Berbert.
In the hands of constable.

REPORT

OF THE

Department of City Works.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY WORKS,
Commissioner's Office, Room No. 15, }
MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT BUILDING, }
BROOKLYN, December, 15, 1883.

HON. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

SIR :

In compliance with the request of your Honor, and in accordance with Section 11 of Article 1 of Ordinances, I herewith submit statements of the transactions and work of this department for eleven months of the present year terminating November 30.

I have earnestly endeavored to so guide the business of this department of the city government that all work should be done and services rendered which the public needs required in such manner as to conduce to economy, perfect work and proper results.

The receipts of the department from sources of general revenue for the eleven months ending November 30, 1883, were \$1,080,474.35. In addition thereto the sum of \$223,094.00 has been received from contractors and others, as temporary deposits on proposals for work to be done, &c, which, together with the balance on hand, \$2,338.00, January 1, 1883, make the total re-

ceipts from all sources \$1,305,906.35, of which the sum of \$1,080,474.35 has been paid into the City Treasury and placed to the credit of the several accounts to which the amounts properly belong. The sum of \$212,882.00 has been refunded to contractors and others for temporary deposits on proposals and for permits for crossing sidewalks under a regulation of the department in relation thereto, leaving a balance on hand of \$12,550.00.

A comparison of the receipts for the present year from sources of general revenue with those of the corresponding months of the previous year, shows an increase in deposits of \$208,539.00, making a total increase from all sources of \$297,198.25.

This increase is from water revenue in the sum of \$54,953.76; from advances on meter accounts, \$2,962.50; from vault permits, \$606.15; from sewer permits, \$6,024.30; from repairing over water and sewer connections, \$3,920.66; from water permits, extensions, &c., \$2,255.23; from miscellaneous sources (see statement accompanying), \$17,936.65.

The total receipts from water revenue during the past eleven months (including the amount received by the Registrar of Arrears) aggregates \$1,183,208.09, from which the sum of \$423-759.35 has been transferred to account of water maintenance, and the sum of \$533,563.41, paid by the Comptroller for interest on the bonded debt, refunds, &c.

The present condition of this water fund is as follows:

Balance in Treasury January 1st, 1883.....	\$324,498 64
Receipts, eleven months, including arrears.....	1,183,208 09
Total.....	\$1,507,706 73
Transferred and discharged as above.....	957,322 76

Balance in Treasury to credit of account..... \$550,383 97
Of which sum about \$320,000 will be required for interest on bonded debt due January 1, 1884. Probable surplus, \$230,000.

The payments on account of maintaining the work during the eleven months aggregate \$369,935.06, of which \$97,529.54 was taken from the appropriation of the water year ending April 30,

1883, and the sum of \$272,405.52 was from the current appropriation for maintaining the work.

The matter which has given me greatest anxiety during the past season has been that of the water supply. The omission of the past in looking mainly to immediate wants instead of the true policy which should have obtained of providing for present and future needs at the same time, left me no other recourse but to pursue the methods of my predecessors—that of tiding over present necessities by procuring such water supply as was possible from within the lines of our present works. But while this was being done by the cleaning out of pond bottoms, deepening of wells and having recourse to driven wells, the continually increasing consumption warned me that no narrow policy should govern us in the matter of our further supply; but that the work should be promptly extended on a scale commensurate with the city's prospective growth. I therefore caused surveys to be made for extending the works easterly with the view of adding at least 20,000,000 of gallons daily to our present limited supply. The plans and calculations are now rapidly progressing toward completion, and, in a short time, will be submitted for your consideration.

Greater storage capacity at Ridgewood is also imperatively demanded. With the works extended as proposed, the distributing reservoir enlarged, and our newly constructed pumping engine working in unison with the three older ones, Brooklyn need have no fears of a short supply of the purest of water for some years to come.

The work of laying the new 36-inch supply main (authorized by resolutions of the Common Council of December, 1882) will be completed early in the Spring. This main will not only give full relief to those suffering from an inadequate supply of water in the Eastern District, but will be the means of increasing the pressure through the 48-inch main leading to the Western District.

Touching the matter of sewer construction, I respectfully refer you to my report to the Common Council for the year 1882.

The experience of the department during the past year has

fully justified my views as therein expressed. The same class of applications therein mentioned are constantly being made for relief through small drain pipes for first-class improvements in outlying wards. I have urged upon parties so applying to unite the property-interests of the streets and construct proper sewers by private contract under the general sewer plan as the more economical and satisfactory method of relief, even though every lot owner should not enter into the compact to build. To protect the interests of the original contributors in the matter of expense of sewerage in front of the lots of owners not contributing, I have established a regulation providing that non-contributors on the line of a sewer should have the privilege of connecting therewith upon payment to the original parties in interest of a *pro rata* amount of the cost of the sewer. This plan of relief, however, is confined principally to a single block, as it is impossible to combine interests on a more extended scale. It has had its advantages, however, as it has been an incentive to building on the line of such improvements—vacant lots selling more readily than in localities with unsewered streets.

The improvement in the condition of the streets, as to cleanliness, since the execution of the new street-cleaning contract entered upon July 2, 1883, is very apparent. The ashes have been removed with promptness and regularity.

In the matter of the encumbrances of streets with building material, the department has been subjected to much annoyance; having been placed in rather a delicate position as between builders and other citizens. Numerous complaints have been made that the ordinance (which provides the terms of the permit to be issued by this department), was being constantly violated by builders in placing their material beyond the space allowed for that purpose, and in front of adjoining houses, thereby preventing access thereto from the roadway. The business of this department has been in these cases simply to enforce the ordinance. This has been effected generally with but little trouble. In some cases, however the opinion has obtained among a certain class of builders that the use of the streets for the deposit of building material to

such extent as they deem proper, is a privilege which they have a right to claim. Such claimants fail to comprehend that the Commissioner of City Works has no power to grant such privileges—it being in utter violation of the general public interest.

The condition of the pavement in many of the streets and avenues of our city is far from satisfactory. The failure to become a law during the last Session of the Legislature of the bill appropriating \$300,000 for the repairing and repaving of streets, left this department with a sum inadequate to meet a pressing demand. With the limited sum left at my disposal from the tax levy, I have endeavored, first, to repair such streets and avenues as are absolutely dangerous ; second, to repair streets subject to heavy traffic, which from the nature of their uses require constant attention.

Statements and tables giving details of the work, follow and form a part of this report.

Respectfully,

RIPLEY ROPES,
Commissioner.

*Amount of Money Received by the Department from January 1 to
November 30, 1883.*

Balance on hand per Annual Report, January 1, 1883	\$2,338 00
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RECEIPTS.		\$85 05
For Extra Water Rates, 1881	26,717 26	
Regular Water Rates, 1882	1,891 88	
Defaults on Water Rates, 1882	25,977 55	
Extra Water Rates, 1882	585,144 90	
Regular Water Rates, 1883	336,657 11	
Extra Water Rates, 1883	3,295 45	
Defaults on Water Rates, 1883		
		\$979,769 20
Advances on Meter Accounts		22,222 50
Vault Permits		1,376 20
Sales Copies of Charter and Ordinances		6 00
Water Meters and Setting		266 53
Temporary Deposits to Cross-walks		9,199 00
" " of Contractor on		
Proposals		213,895 00
Repairing and Improving Conditions of Streets under Laws of 1882		20,176 22
Sewer Permits, &c.		25,258 85
Repairs Streets—old cobble stone sold		109 30
Re-paving over W. and S. connections		19,196 04
Water Permits, Extensions, &c.		12,062 26
Old Pump-logs removed		5 50
Street Obstructions		25 75
		<hr/> 1,303,568 35
Total Cash Receipts from all sources to November 30, 1883		<hr/> 1,305,906 35

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Amounts paid into City Treasury to the credit of the following accounts, viz.:	
Water Revenue	979,769 20
Advances on Meter Accounts	22,222 50
Vault Permits	1,376 20
Revenue Fund	6 00
Water Meters	266 53
Repairs to Streets, by law	20,176 22
" " old account	19,305 34
Repairing and Cleaning Sewers	25,258 85
Water Maintenance	12,062 26
Wells, Pumps and Crosswalk	5 50
Street Obstructions	25 75
	<hr/>
Paid City Treasurer	\$1,080,474 35
Sidewalk Deposits Refunded	8,374 00
Contractors' Deposits Refunded	204,508 00
	<hr/> 1,293,356 35
Balance Deposits on hand Nov. 30, 1883	\$12,550 00

*Expenditures on all Accounts of the Departments from January 1
to November 30, 1883.*

REQUISITIONS ON THE COMPTROLLER FOR EXPENDITURES
approved for payment by the Commissioner on the
following accounts from January 1 to November
30, 1883.

From appropriations from Water Revenue for the
maintenance of the water works, under the fol-
lowing heads of expenditures, viz.:

Salaries, Commissioner, Registrar's Bureau, &c	\$31,839 47	
Distribution and repairs	41,875 20	
Ridgewood engine house	36,713 58	
Prospect engine house	3,935 00	
Ponds and conduits	2,435 00	
Prospect reservoir	2,454 97	
Ridgewood reservoir	1,141 64	
Smith's pond pumping stations	4,957 27	
New reservoir	1,066 68	
Watt's pond pumping station	3,281 87	
Springfield pond pumping station	3,297 82	
Spring Creek pumping station	2,058 88	
Jamaica pumping station	1,926 98	
Supplies, Spring Creek	886 75	
Distribution and repairs	27,758 50	
Ridgewood engine house	19,368 50	
Prospect engine house	2,055 00	
Ponds and conduit	7,200 32	
Prospect reservoir	2,183 09	
Ridgewood reservoir	514 86	
Smith's pond pumping station	11,223 27	
New reservoir	835 01	
Watt's pond pumping station	8,535 45	
Springfield pond pumping station	12,285 75	
Jamaica Pond pumping station	964 40	
Printing and stationery	1,649 79	
Taxes	1,942 97	
Tapping mains	3,482 13	
Office expenses	739 21	
Contingencies and water survey east of Hempstead	6,205 35	
Re-survey pipe district	4,471 89	
Telegraphic lines	1,837 28	
Coal pumping stations	118,912 18	
		\$369,935 06
From money derived from the issue of Bonds and Certificates of Indebtedness:		
Salaries, extension of distribution, water account	3,041 62	
Supplies, extension of distribution	22,489 56	
Additional water supply, sinking wells, &c.	110,049 33	
New Engine No. 4 and boilers	52,056 58	
Amount carried forward	187,637 09	\$369,935 06

*Expenditures on all Accounts of the Department from January 1,
to November 30, 1883.—Continued.*

Amount brought forward	187,637 09	\$360,935 06
Engineering and inspection, Engine No. 4	5,588 02	
Force mains, Engine No. 4	18,607 03	
Buildings, Engine No. 4	25,418 36	
Contingencies, Engine No. 4	3,225 21	
New distributing main	167,996 83	
		408,472 54
Water meters and setting		22 75
Dykman street sewer, District No. 22		848 89
Rochester avenue sewer, District No. 37		3,168 13
Retained per centage on completed sewers		110 72

From moneys derived chiefly from tax levy :

Repairing sewers	15,508 76	
Cleaning sewers	19,242 99	
Repairing streets, cobble-stone	50,701 64	
Repairs patent pavement concrete	24,142 81	
Repairing streets, by law, including Bedford avenue	28,407 19	
Cleaning streets	109,684 77	
Metropolitan avenue bridge	315 00	
Repairs bridges, ordinary	3,764 14	
Contingencies, D. C. W.	496 74	
Lighting streets	292,649 99	
Fuel, public buildings	3,472 69	
Printing and stationery	10,605 84	
Gas, public buildings	4,630 72	
Docks, piers and dredging	11,803 29	
Truant Home	5,140 01	
Wells, pumps and crosswalks	14,503 99	
Public baths	7,850 28	
Removal garbage, dead animals, &c.	10,447 05	
Salaries department	63,559 81	
Advertising, corporation newspapers	49,500 00	
Conveying prisoners	4,583 34	
Repairs, public buildings	5,747 27	
Supplies, public buildings	2,021 03	
Miscellaneous and aldermanic contingencies	76,873 71	
Fountain, Broadway and Fourth street	75 00	
“ Division avenue	75 00	
“ Bergen street	75 00	
Street obstructions	1,153 25	
Special breaks in streets	2,124 13	
Washington avenue bridge	100 00	
Third avenue sewer extension	31,239 75	
Repairing water and sewer connections	9,406 24	
		859,901 43
Total expenditures for the eleven months ending November 30, 1883		\$1,642,459 52

	ADVANCES ON METER ACC'T.	DEFAULT.	TOTAL EXTRAS.	TOTALS.
7	\$5,720 00	\$5,162 31	\$318,575 95	\$892,501 81
3	19,260 00	4,698 67	353,305 24	944,074 44
0	22,222 50	5,187 33	390,129 54	1,001,991 70

DEPARTMENT OF CITY WORKS,
Bureau of Water Rates, Registrar's Office,
BROOKLYN, December 1, 1883.

HON. RIPLEY ROPES, *Commissioner Department of City Works:*

SIR:

I have the honor to submit the following exhibit of receipts on account of Water Revenue, for the eleven months commencing January 1, and ending November 30, 1883; also a statement of receipts for same period, in years 1881 and 1882:

Receipts on account of liens (which includes frontage), street washers, water closets, and baths were.....	\$685,821 49
Receipts on account of non-liens, which includes metered water, water for steamboats and shipping, bars, fountains, hose-bibs, building purposes, and water retailed for miscellaneous uses; also including advance payments on meter account were.....	316,170 21
Showing total receipts for 11 months.....	\$1,001,991 70
The receipts for liens, as above, in year 1882 were.....	\$657,264 20
And for non-liens.....	286,810 24
Total for eleven months, 1882.....	944,074 44
Increase in receipts over 1882.....	57,917 26
The receipts for liens, as above, in year 1881, were.....	\$633,067 32
And for non-liens.....	259,434 29
Total receipts, 11 months, 1881.....	892,501 61
Increase in receipts over 1881.....	109,490 09

The large increase in receipts is due in part to the addition of new pipe district, to the many new houses which have been erected, to the extension of the manufacturing interests, to the additional facilities offered to tax-payers, and their disposition to avail themselves of such facilities.

Should the receipts keep up until April 30th next, when the Water year ends, the amount of liens which will have to be returned to the Registrar of Arrears, will be very much less in proportion than in any year in the past.

Very respectfully,

CHAS. A. McLAUGHLIN,

Registrar Water Rates.

BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION.—WATER.

Depth and Quantity of Water in Reservoirs, and average Consumption.

MONTH.	RIDGEWOOD RESER- VOIR.		MOUNT PROSPECT RESERVOIR.		CONSUMPTION
	Feet.	Gallons.	Feet.	Gallons.	
January.....	18.13	135,323,567	19.44	18,562,622	36,577,010
February.....	19.74	147,633,074	19.59	18,728,805	34,619,738
March.....	20.10	150,714,634	19.46	18,584,760	31,679,643
April.....	20.31	152,479,377	19.43	18,551,554	33,191,764
May.....	19.46	145,480,326	17.71	16,673,271	34,981,626
June.....	18.25	135,584,109	13.66	12,444,603	37,013,841
July.....	20.42	153,501,072	15.36	14,186,788	38,247,747
August.....	20.42	153,501,072	16.78	15,678,326	38,765,360
September.....	17.80	131,777,134	17.38	16,318,581	37,142,798
October.....	19.60	146,639,498	18.84	17,901,658	36,647,894
November.....	20.50	154,244,122	19.38	18,496,246	35,378,130
Average.....	19.52	145,977,114	17.91	16,889,124	36,131,232
Maximum winter consumption.....					40,337,645
Maximum summer consumption.....					41,768,049
Total consumption for eleven months.....					12,068,026,386

Work done with Ridgewood Engine No. 1.

MONTH.	No. of hours pumping per month.	Quantity pumped per month in U. S. gallons.	No. of Revolutions made per month.	Quantity of coal consumed in pounds.
	H. M.			
January.....	487.45	292,345,495	289,710	718,100
February.....	503.20	305,019,753	302,270	735,600
March.....	408.10	246,956,311	244,730	604,800
April.....	365.50	219,640,055	217,660	533,100
May.....	295.30	175,986,518	174,400	432,600
June.....	395.35	241,376,004	230,200	596,300
July.....	459.20	276,119,214	273,630	709,400
August.....	483.45	288,278,834	285,680	718,800
September.....	302.15	181,042,094	179,410	460,600
October.....	465.20	276,744,854	274,250	691,600
November.....	296.10	175,562,697	173,980	438,900
Totals.....	4,463.00	2,679,071,829	2,654,920	6,639,800

Work done with Ridgewood Engine No. 2.

MONTH.	No. of hours pumping per month.	Quantity pumped per month in U. S. gallons.	No. of Revolutions made per month.	Quantity of coal consumed in pounds.
	H. M.			
January	578.30	355,018,816	363,630	1,001,600
February	427.20	268,789,959	275,310	771,400
March	579.40	373,568,349	382,630	1,075,000
April	598.15	385,040,078	394,380	1,063,000
May	688.40	439,977,462	450,650	1,269,100
June	658.50	406,333,564	416,190	1,210,400
July	730.55	467,265,535	478,600	1,380,000
August	719.00	462,188,684	473,400	1,285,400
September	671.10	432,518,396	443,010	1,222,100
October	664.15	427,666,100	438,040	1,188,400
November	691.30	443,824,154	454,590	1,242,300
Totals	7,008.05	4,462,190,597	4,570,430	12,708,700

Work done with Ridgewood Engine No. 3.

MONTH.	No. of hours pumping per month.	Quantity pumped per month in U. S. gallons.	No. of Revolutions made per month.	Quantity of coal consumed in pounds.
	H. M.			
January	744.00	476,523,368	469,620	1,058,100
February	611.15	391,866,955	386,190	872,000
March	744.00	475,762,343	468,870	1,092,100
April	611.00	390,486,964	384,830	868,900
May	724.00	463,555,503	456,840	1,036,100
June	691.45	443,332,534	436,910	1,028,400
July	687.40	445,635,903	439,180	1,040,800
August	736.00	473,083,535	466,230	1,063,700
September	717.30	460,491,110	453,820	1,033,500
October	740.40	474,433,086	467,560	1,071,100
November	663.45	426,417,487	420,240	979,100
Totals	7,671.35	4,921,588,788	4,850,290	11,143,800

SEWERS.

Streets in which Sewers have been Constructed under Private Contract in 1883.

STREET.	BETWEEN WHAT STREETS.	SIZE.			
		9 inch.	12 inch.	15 inch.	18 inch. 30 inch.
Broadway	Lafayette and Van Buren streets.	256			
Park Place	Broadway and Beaver streets.		528		
Bushwick avenue	Woodbine street and Linden street		724	41	
Evergreen avenue	Dekalb and Greene avenues.		1,240	40	
Greene avenue	Evergreen and Bushwick avenues.		420		
Fayette street	Broadway and Beaver street.		250	42	
Lafayette avenue	Broadway and Bushwick avenue.		560		
Bushwick avenue	Woodbine and Vigeliuss streets.		778	240	
Stanhope street	Greene and Harman streets.		240		
Evergreen avenue	Evergreen and Bushwick avenues.		340		
Mangolia street	Palmetto and Mangolia streets.		299		
Locust street	Bushwick and Evergreen avenues.		382		
Harmon street	Broadway and Beaver street.		521		
Bushwick avenue	Evergreen avenue and Bushwick avenue.		400		
Van Cott avenue	Harman and Hinrod streets.		240		
Graham avenue	Exford street and Graham avenue.			220	
Broome street	Van Cott and Broome street.		590	170	
Ellery street	Graham avenue and Humboldt street.		480	40	
Lewis avenue	Broadway and Beaver street.			42	
Van Buren street	Lafayette and Greene avenues.				538
Greene avenue	Lewis and Summer avenues.		650	40	
Myrtle street	Central and Hamburg avenues.		750	43	
Stanhope street	Knickerbocker and Hamburg avenues.		600		
Madison street	Ralph and Howard avenues.		250	618	40
George street	Knickerbocker and Hamburg avenues.			618	41
Greene avenue	Lewis and Stuyvesant avenues.		200	39	
Degray Street	Fourth and Fifth avenues.		650	40	
	Total.	256	11,087	2,233	91

Miles of sewer built under private contract. 2.70.

Streets in which Sewers were Built by the Department.

STREET.	BETWEEN WHAT STREETS.	SIZE.		
		12 inch.	15 inch.	18 inch. 30 inch.
Dykeman street	Richards and Dwight streets.	540	45	
Rochester avenue	Dean and St. Marks avenues		45	610
St. Marks avenue	Rochester and Buffalo avenues	500		
	Total	1,040	90	610
Miles of sewers built by Department.		0.33		

CONNECTION GANGS.

MONTH.	Connections Received.	Amount Collected.	Cost of Connections.	Cost on Street Repair.	Total Cost.
January	116	\$339 57	\$454 26	\$139 61	\$593 87
February	144	511 00	300 00	180 23	480 23
March	398	1,461 00	588 75	165 59	754 34
April	650	1,900 00	848 49	269 85	1,118 34
May	652	2,140 35	996 49	185 75	1,182 24
June	628	1,834 20	922 01	229 85	1,151 86
July	577	1,756 00	733 03	346 99	1,080 02
August	659	2,065 67	787 75	329 10	1,116 85
September	655	2,042 75	820 12	238 24	1,058 36
October	605	2,006 10	824 00	245 22	1,069 22
November	606	2,033 50	920 49	158 00	1,078 49
Totals	5,690	\$18,090 04	\$8,195 39	\$2,488 43	\$10,683 82
Balance				\$7,406.22	

Amount expended in each Ward on Repairs to streets with Cobble-Stone.

WARD.	Pavement No. Yds.	Curb Reset No. Ft.	Gutter Reset. No. Ft.	Bridging Reset. No. Ft.	Cost of Labor.	Cost of Sand.	Cost of Stone.	Total Cost.	REMARKS.
First.....	1,385	100	115	15	\$299 88	\$86 75	\$44 00	\$410 63	
Second.....	2,518	325	188	20	595 20	287 63	70 40	953 23	
Third.....	2,625	.....	150	.....	590 10	229 41	87 00	906 51	
Fourth.....	2,000	350	185	.....	508 56	240 75	57 90	807 21	
Fifth.....	2,005	.....	.....	.....	431 88	171 87	42 50	645 75	
Sixth.....	6,145	10	615	.....	1,634 63	331 00	156 00	2,121 63	(1640 yards Re- surfacing with gravel.
Seventh.....	3,887	.....	575	.....	1,282 13	273 37	276 70	1,832 20	
Eighth.....	6,375	518	1,600	160	1,397 34	348 00	205 75	1,951 09	
Ninth.....	3,237	20	85	127	1,765 29	159 50	105 00	1,929 79	
Tenth.....	5,770	.....	.....	.....	1,289 49	841 59	138 00	1,769 08	
Eleventh.....	580	.....	.....	.....	125 00	38 25	8 00	171 25	
Twelfth.....	4,075	.....	190	.....	956 08	273 75	115 00	1,344 83	
Thirteenth.....	3,738	.....	115	.....	916 34	225 08	112 34	1,254 36	
Fourteenth.....	5,725	60	165	5	1,443 40	417 40	214 34	2,075 14	
Fifteenth.....	245	.....	.....	.....	47 12	13 50	10 50	71 12	
Sixteenth.....	6,666	.....	555	.....	1,600 81	451 04	246 83	2,296 08	
Seventeenth.....	8,360	50	245	20	1,897 12	496 50	336 00	2,599 62	(1,840 yards Re- surfacing with gravel.
Eighteenth.....	3,777	.....	.....	.....	1,125 54	186 87	148 50	1,400 91	
Nineteenth.....	10,985	.....	430	.....	2,596 10	653 50	426 00	3,675 60	
Twentieth.....	756	.....	.....	.....	165 48	42 38	13 50	221 36	
Twenty-first.....	2,365	50	450	180	581 73	154 75	97 50	833 98	
Twenty-second.....	14,215	640	6,647	2,237	2,941 02	876 00	508 50	4,325 52	
Twenty-third.....	909	206 98	65 00	26 50	298 48	

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Amount expended in each Ward on Repairs of Streets with Cobble-Stone.—(Concluded.)

WARD.	Pavement No. Yds.	Curb Reset No. Ft.	Gutter Reset. No. Ft.	Bridging Reset. No. Ft.	Cost of Labor.	Cost of Sand.	Cost of Stone.	Total Cost.	REMARKS.
Twenty-fourth.	1,656				1,508 33.	89 25.	118 50	1,716 08	(5,325 yards Re-surfacing with gravel.
Twenty-fifth.	630				152 40	23 35	9 00.	184 75	
Various Places.		265	490	295	2,287 93	463 50	112 07	2,863 50	Special Repairs.
Cleaning after Repairs.					1,224 15			1,224 15	
Total.	100,629	2,388	12,800	3,059	\$28,500 03	\$6,860 09	\$3,684 33	\$39,044 45	

Inspection, rent of lots, horse hire, tools, granite blocks and repairs other than by daily labor. . . . \$11,657 19
 Total cost of street repairs by cobble-stone under appropriation. \$50,701 64

	Amount Expended.	Condition.
GRADING AND PAVING.		
147-100 miles of streets have been graded and paved under private contracts.		Completed.
GAS LAMPS.		
Appropriation for 1883	\$325,000 00	
Amount expended for lighting streets to December 1.	289,033 64	
Deductions for unlighted lamps to December 1	755 28	
38 lamps uncapped and re-lighted		Completed.
51 new lamps erected under private contracts		"
434 lanterns delivered to gas companies to replace worn-out lanterns		Completed.
75 frames delivered to gas companies to replace worn-out frames		Completed.
323 lanterns and 280 frames now on hand		"
DOCKS, PIERS AND BULKHEADS.		
Bulkhead foot of South Tenth street	\$2,300 00	Completed.
Bulkhead, First street, Gowanus canal	1,133 00	"
Pier No. 2, Washington ave.	15,770 00	"
Various repairs to piers, &c., amounting to	415 22	"
	\$19,518 22	
DREDGING.		
At the foot of Division avenue	\$250 00	Completed.
BRIDGES.		
Third street bridge repairing and replanking	\$986 36	Completed.
Various repairs to bridges amounting to	2,845 33	"
	\$3,831 69	
POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS.		
New cells building, Fifth Sub Precinct	\$3,240 00	Completed.
Third Precinct Station House (heating app.)	900 00	"
Various repairs to Justices' courts	161 18	"
	\$4,301 18	

	Amount Expended.	Condition.
FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS.		
New Fire Engine house, Eleventh street, near 8th avenue.....	\$10,896 00	Completed.
Re-constructing cellars, Truck 6 and Engine 18.....	1,945 00	"
Repairing bell frame Seventeenth Ward.....	124 50	"
	<hr/> \$12,965 50	
PUBLIC BATHS.		
Repairing and painting 3 baths.....	\$1,147 00	Completed.
Gang-planks, towing, &c.....	346 03	"
	<hr/> \$1,493 03	
CITY HALL.		
Various items of repairs amounting to.....	\$3,255 57	Completed.
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS.		
Various items of repairs amounting to.....	\$2,165 48	Completed.
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Various items of filling, fencing, &c.....	\$459 39	Completed.
" " " cisterns.....	89 00	"
" " constructing culverts and drains....	1,222 00	"
" " repairing fountains.....	274 00	"
	<hr/> \$2,044 39	
WELLS AND PUMPS.		
Various items of repairs.....	\$1,321 80	Completed.
Filling in wells condemned by Health Department...	404 50	"
	<hr/> \$1,726 30	
CROSS-WALKS.		
86 new cross-walks.....	\$7,858 89	Completed.
220 cross-walks repaired.....		
CURB, GUTTER AND SIDEWALKS.		
21 72-100 miles of curb and gutter reset and vari- ous items of repairing sidewalks.....	\$6,455 00	Completed.

ROBERT VAN BUREN, Esq.,

Chief Engineer, D. C. W.

SIR :

I herewith submit table showing amount of work done and materials used in this Bureau from January 1 to December 1, 1883.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. GOFF,

General Superintendent of Sewers.

TABLE No. 1.

Basins cleaned.....	4,830
Brick sewers cleaned, 59,925 feet, equal to.....	11-35 miles
Pipe cleaned, 208,700 feet, equal to.....	39-52 "
Sewer connections inspected.....	3,952
Sewers repaired.....	78
Basins repaired.....	239
Manholes repaired.....	67
Perforated covers substituted for solid.....	76
Iron manhole heads substituted for granite.....	80
Sewer basins built.....	36
Manholes built.....	1
Sewer trunks repaired.....	12

MATERIALS USED.

Loads of sand.....	45
Loads of paving stones.....	28
Barrels of cement.....	48
Pounds of nails and spikes.....	3,076
Feet of cement pipe.....	824½
Feet of lumber.....	33,650½
Brick.....	10,609
Lengths of gutter stone.....	12
Lengths of flag stone.....	2
Lengths of bridge stone.....	4
Feet of curb.....	33

DEPARTMENT OF CITY WORKS,
Water Purveyor's Office,
Room 37, Municipal Building,
BROOKLYN, December 1, 1883. }

HON. RIPLEY ROPES,

Commissioner Dept City Works.

SIR:

Hereunto annexed you will find tabulated statements of the work of the several branches of the Water Purveyor's Bureau for eleven (11) months of the year 1883. Table No. 1 shows that portion of the work of the Repair Yards and Permit Office which it is practicable to tabulate. The leaks in water mains have been 20 per cent. less than during the previous year.

The number of fire hydrants repaired, has been 12 per cent. less than during the year 1882, notwithstanding the increase in number of hydrants, and the increased use of them by street sprinklers and street cleaners. This is due to the better organization of the repair gang, which is now composed of practical machinists, with a portable machine shop in their repair wagon. By this means the work is now done more effectually and economically than it has been heretofore.

The leaks in service pipes were 622 more than last year, the detection of increased number of leaks is due to a greater efficiency in our inspection corps, as well as to the use of the waterphone.

Five hundred and six (506) more taps have been driven this year than were last, due mainly to the increase in number of new buildings.

Fewer premises have been cut off for non-payment of extra water rates, this year than were last. The inspectors possessing the advantage of last year's experience, have succeeded in procuring a settlement of the accounts, in most cases, without resorting to the extreme measure of cutting off water.

Complaints of waste of water, and violations of rules, have increased from 971 in 1882, to 2,109 in 1883, which fact speaks well for the vigilance of the inspectors.

Permits for extension have increased this year 25 per cent. over those of last year, which is chiefly due to more effective work by the inspectors. Plumbers are more careful and prompt in the matter of obtaining permits for doing this class of work than ever before.

A new system for the inspection of hydrants has been gradually introduced, the inspection and repairs of hydrants being simultaneous, thereby effecting a large saving over the old system.

In order to save water that must be drawn from large districts of pipe, as well as to prevent inconvenience to consumers by shutting off the water, when repairs are to be made, a large number of new stop-cocks have been set, during the year.

Table No. 2 shows the work of the meter service; 212 having been added thereto during the year; the meters in use are generally in a satisfactory condition; a stringent inspection of plumbing work in connection with the setting of meters has largely reduced the cost of their repairs.

Table No. 3 shows the work of the inspectors of plumbing with the number of leaky and wasteful water fixtures found by them, and developing facts which demonstrate the necessity for continuing the work.

Table No. 4 shows the work of resurvey, the figures given determine the amount of money that has been annually lost to the city in the past, and that would continue to have been lost had not this work been undertaken. The great number of surreptitious connections made with the water service shows the necessity for the passage of a law, making this kind of theft a misdemeanor, punishable as other thefts are punished.

Table No. 5 shows the work done on construction; over 2,000 feet of distributing mains have been laid in excess of the amount laid last year, exclusive of the new main now under construction in the Eastern District.

The progress made in laying the new Eastern District main has been very satisfactory. The work was commenced in the month of June of this year, and has continued to this date with but one

interruption, viz. : that of one month (August), caused by delay at the foundries in casting of pipe. The estimated number of feet of pipe to be laid under the terms of the contract is 29,674, of which about 24,862 feet have been laid. The completion of this important work is assured early in the Spring of 1884.

One foundry has finished its contract with the city, the other foundry will, in all probability, have completed its contract by the 15th of the present month.

Respectfully submitted,

PETER MILNE, JR.,

Water Purveyor.

BUREAU OF EXTENSION AND DISTRIBUTION.

TABLE No. 1.

Work in Repair Yard and Permit Office.

1883.	LEAKS IN DISTRIBUTION.								Drinking Hydrants Repaired.	Fire Hydrants Repaired.	Leaks in Service.	Premises cut off.	Taps Inspected.	Complaints.	Permits for Extension.	Permits for New and Alterations to Buildings.	Stop-cocks Repaired.	Permits for Street Openings.	Iron stop-cock boxes set.	New stop-cocks.	Branches cut in.
	6 in.	8 in.	12 in.	20 in.	30 in.	36 in.	48 in.	Totals.													
January.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	96	89	232	9	46	140	26	70	11	100	2	1	1
February.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	67	54	204	11	75	160	43	117	4	89	2	1	1
March.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	84	84	209	10	242	185	86	208	8	164	3	2	2
April.....	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	75	51	150	19	337	176	149	244	12	301	5	5	5
May.....	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	108	110	146	13	216	153	76	332	49	371	10	35	3
June.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	130	115	163	4	174	248	115	260	35	342	4	5	3
July.....	2	2	5	1	1	1	1	8	139	88	204	13	193	221	80	203	50	243	11	9	2
August.....	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	164	119	167	11	207	223	102	210	58	246	7	12	2
September.....	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	125	139	168	43	195	220	83	236	37	280	12	10	5
October.....	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	80	116	183	29	270	155	97	232	52	289	6	9	2
November.....	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	5	85	85	169	5	266	228	114	171	27	286	2	3	4
	26	5	11	3	1	1	1	247	1,151	1,050	1,995	167	2,211	2,109	971	2,433	343	2,711	62	97	19

TABLE No. 2.
Work in Meter Department.

SIZE.	NEW METERS SET, JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 1, 1883.										METERS IN SERVICE, DECEMBER 1, 1883.									
	1/2 in.	3/4 in.	1 in.	1 1/2 in.	2 in.	3 in.	4 in.	6 in.	10 in.	Total.	1/2 in.	3/4 in.	1 in.	1 1/2 in.	2 in.	3 in.	4 in.	6 in.	10 in.	Total.
Worthington	11	3	9	1	8	1	2	.....	.....	35	211	8	136	9	59	13	15	.....	.....	451
Gem	4	.....	2	.....	6	.....	2	.....	1	15	229	12	113	8	80	14	31	3	1	491
Crown	170	15	20	4	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	215	472	36	27	10	18	3	.....	.....	.....	566
Miscellaneous .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	2	3	.....	4	1	6	1	.....	.....	22
Totals	185	18	31	5	20	1	4	.....	1	265	917	58	279	27	161	31	52	4	1	1530
Meters in use during year to test consumption	107																			
Number of Horse Trough Permits granted, January 1 to December 1, 1883	118																			
Number of Steamboat Permits granted, January 1 to December 1, 1883	127																			
Number of Diagrams showing supply, made January 1 to December 1, 1883	288																			
Number of Diagrams, Surveys and Reports for rates and locations of meters, January 1 to December 1, 1883	855																			
Number of visits of Machinist to meters for repairs	1,866																			
Number of Regular and Special Inspections by Shore Line Inspector, January 1 to December 1, 1883	2,000																			
Number of visits of Inspector for reading of meters	15,164																			

TABLE No. 3.

WORK OF INSPECTORS OF PLUMBING.

January 1 to December 1, 1883.

Number of houses inspected.....	8,026
Water closets found with single valves, or running all the time while in use.....	1,446
Water closets and urinals with no valves, water let on by common stop-cock.....	203
Hydrants with fixtures for holding down the handles.....	10
Hydrant wastes connected with privy vaults.....	295
Boston water closet valves acting as stop-cocks.....	117
Water found running continually.....	54
Sundry violations of rules.....	22

TABLE No. 4.

WORK OF RE-SURVEY.

Amount, regular rates placed on books, May 1, 1883.....	\$4,912 40
Extra liens placed on books, May 1, 1883.....	5,247 00
Total.....	\$10,159 40
Amount taken off books, May 1, 1883.....	291 00
Balance.....	\$9,868 40
Amount, increase extra rates (not liens).....	5,909 64
Total.....	\$15,778 04
Number of streets and avenues re-surveyed prior to May 1, 1883.....	129
Streets and avenues re-surveyed since May 1, 1883.....	82
Extra water closets found, not charged.....	2,075
Extra baths found, not charged.....	165
Street washers found, not charged.....	301
Buildings cut off for non-payment since January 1, 1883.....	93
Buildings turned on since January 1, 1883.....	75

TABLE No. 5.
WORK ON CONSTRUCTION.

January 1 to December 1, 1883.

Number of feet, 6-inch water pipe laid.....	13,341
8-inch water pipe laid.....	1,747
12-inch water pipe laid.....	1,442
Total.....	16,530

Number of streets and avenues.....	35
6-inch stop-cocks set.....	28
8-inch stop-cocks set.....	2
12-inch stop-cocks set.....	2
Fire hydrants set.....	46

WORK ON NEW E. D. WATER MAIN.

Number of feet, 20-inch main laid.....	7,820
30-inch main laid.....	3,236
36-inch main laid.....	13,806
Total.....	24,862

Number of 12-inch stop-cocks set.....	2
20-inch stop-cocks set.....	15
30-inch stop-cocks set.....	1
36-inch stop-cocks set.....	4

BUREAU OF STREETS.

*Report of Notice and Complaint Clerk, from January 1
to December 1, 1883.*

Complaints received by Superintendent, as per "Register," from "Inspectors,"
"Board of Health," "Department of Police," and citizens, for violation of
city ordinances, from January 1 to December 1, 1883 :

Dangerous sidewalks	154
Obstructions, sidewalks	158
Obstructions, streets	188
Dirty streets	359
Non-removal of ashes	58
Building material obstructing street and sidewalk	216
Dirt and rubbish left on the street after building	153
Carts, wagons and trucks standing on public streets	124
Signs across and on the sidewalk	20
Peanut stands obstructing sidewalk	17
Dangerous coal slides	4
Drop curtains obstructing sidewalk	10
Coal boxes obstructing sidewalk	22
Buildings, fences and stoops over area line	25
Fire hydrants obstructed	19
Ash boxes obstructing sidewalk	129
Dead and dangerous trees	234
Snow and ice on sidewalk	12
Dead animals	41
Dangerous awnings	25
Cellar diggers dropping dirt on the street	29
Miscellaneous	28
Dangerous telegraph poles	3
Newspaper stands obstructing sidewalk	2
Non-removal of garbage	4
Bill boards obstructing sidewalk	5
Total	2,034
 Total number complaints received	 2,034
Total number notices served	1,617

A number of the above complaints were served with a second notice, and where parties refused to obey notices of the Commissioner or Superintendent, they were put in the hands of the Corporation Counsel for prosecution, or their goods were sent to the corporation yard.

*Goods, &c., removed to the Corporation Yard for violation
of the City Ordinances.*

1883.

January	12....	One wagon from Adams street, between Myrtle and Fulton avenues.
"	29....	Three barrels pitch from Furman street, between Fulton and Montague streets.
Feb.	10....	One ladder from 89 Livingston street.
"	15....	One peanut stand from southeast corner Court street and Atlantic avenue.
"	23....	Transparencies over street lamps corner Adams and Fulton. " corner Myrtle avenue and Adams street and corner Myrtle and Navy.
March	8....	Three loads timber from Tompkins avenue and Floyd street.
"	12....	One boiler from corner Delmonico place and Tompkins avenue.
April	18....	One wagon from 123 Graham avenue.
May	8....	One peanut stand from corner Smith and Wyckoff streets.
"	11....	Wooden structure from corner South Oxford street and Fulton avenue.
June	9....	Wooden awning from corner Duffield street and Myrtle avenue.
"	15....	One large refrigerator from Cumberland street and Fulton avenue.
"	22....	One axle, one cart top, nine wheels, part of wagon with two wheels, five tires, one pole and whiffletree, one shafts of cart, one part of wagon with two wheels from Classon avenue, between Pacific and Dean streets.
July	14....	One truck from Lafayette avenue, between Marcy and Tompkins avenue.
"	19....	One newspaper stand from corner Flatbush avenue and State street.
"	23....	One coal box from 609 Broadway.
Sept.	17....	Eight barrels and seven bags flour and nine baskets peaches from corner Duffield street and Myrtle avenue.
"	17....	One chair, one table, one bag feathers from 46 Myrtle avenue.
"	17....	One crib, nine chairs, one rocking chair from 48 Myrtle avenue.
"	19....	One wagon from Adams street, corner Willoughby street.

Goods, &c., delivered from the Corporation Yard to the owners.

1882.		Amount.
March	15.... Drop curtain removed from 475 Fulton street, at an expense to owner.....	\$1 00
"	16.... Three load timber from corner Tompkins avenue and Floyd street.....	6 75
April	14.... One wagon from 154 Atlantic avenue.....	2 00
May	10.... One peanut stand from corner Smith and Wyckoff streets.....	3 00
June	20.... One large refrigerator from Cumberland, corner Fulton street.....	4 00
"	22.... Part of wagon from Classon avenue, between Pacific and Dean streets.....	No chg.
July	9.... Wooden awning from Myrtle avenue and Duffield street.....	4 00
"	30.... One peanut stand from Myrtle and Vanderbilt avenues.....	4 00
Sept.	18.... Eight barrels flour, seven bags flour and nine baskets peaches from corner Duffield street and Myrtle avenue.....	5 00
"	22.... One crib, nine chairs and one rocking chair from 48 Myrtle avenue.....	5 00
October	5.... One wagon from Lafayette avenue, between Marcy and Tompkins avenues.....	3 00
"	22.... One cart from Furman street, between Fulton and Montague streets.....	2 00
		<hr/> \$39 75

Miscellaneous.

1883.		Amount.
January	5.... Removed dirt and rubbish from Piers 1 and 2, Wallabout, at an expense of.....	\$20 00
"	12.... Removed 255 Elevated Railroad foundation stone from Bridge Company's yard, Washington and Kent avenues and Wallabout place, and stored in yard on Washington avenue, at an expense of.....	318 75
March	15.... Removed boiler from Tompkins avenue, corner Delmonico place, to the yard on Washington avenue at an expense of.....	5 00
April	2.... Cleaned and removed dirt from Washington avenue, between Flushing avenue and the Bridge, at an expense of.....	71 00
"	13.... Removed ashes from southwest corner Flushing and Grand avenues, Grand avenue, 150 feet north of Myrtle avenue, Graham street, between Myrtle and Willoughby avenues, at an expense of.....	50 00
"	19.... Removed ashes from Union avenue and North Seventh street at an expense of.....	163 00
May	1.... Removed ashes and dirt from Meserole avenue, Skillman avenue and Ewen street at an expense of.....	38 00
"	10.... Removed tree blown down, corner President and Clinton streets, at an expense of.....	3 00
"	10.... Removed tree blown down, corner Eighth street and Fifth avenue, at an expense of.....	2 00
"	16.... Removed dangerous tree from northwest corner Gates and Grand avenues at an expense of.....	5 00
August	17.... Removed dangerous tree from southeast corner Third avenue and Forty-second street at an expense of...	5 00
Sept.	21.... Removed dirt from Throop avenue, between Lexington and Greue avenues, at an expense of.....	3 00
October	30.... Removed ashes from sidewalk on North Ninth street, between First and Second streets, at an expense of...	15 00
Nov.	24.... Removed ashes and dirt from northeast corner of Grand and Olive streets at an expense of.....	24 60

*Number of blocks of streets cleaned from January 1 to
December 1, 1883.*

First	Ward	3,751
Second	"	349
Third	"	1,607
Fourth	"	895
Fifth	"	440
Sixth	"	1,547
Seventh	"	2,601
Eighth	"	357
Ninth	"	539
Tenth	"	710
Eleventh	"	1,731
Twelfth	"	607
Thirteenth	"	1,681
Fourteenth	"	902
Fifteenth	"	776
Sixteenth	"	747
Seventeenth	"	663
Eighteenth	"	528
Nineteenth	"	1,413
Twentieth	"	1,756
Twenty-first	"	837
Twenty-second	"	902
Twenty-third	"	584
Twenty-fourth	"	289
Twenty-fifth	"	574
Total		26,786

Permits granted from January 1 to November 30, 1883.

PERMITS FOR NEW BUILDINGS.		
For new houses.....	1,890	
Extensious.....	78	
Factories.....	10	
Stables.....	12	
Walls.....	6	
Churches.....	3	
Schools.....	1	
Shops.....	5	
Storehouses.....	1	
Armories.....	1	
To alter buildings.....	271	
Repair buildings.....	180	
		2,458
CROSSWALK PERMITS.		
For digging cellars.....	1,206	
Grading lots.....	48	
Filling lots.....	48	
Crossing walks in all parts of the city.....	9	
Crossing walks to stable.....	10	
Crossing walks to cart material on lot.....	56	
Crossing walks for business purposes.....	20	
		1,395
SPECIAL PERMITS.		
To cut down dead and dangerous trees.....	305	
Trim trees.....	17	
Plant trees.....	156	
Relay sidewalks.....	307	
Relay sidewalks in all parts of the city.....	9	
Pave walks.....	4	
Pave streets.....	3	
Place dirt and rubbish on streets.....	11	
Erect telegraph poles and wires.....	71	
Erect lamp posts.....	8	
Erect tie posts.....	5	
Erect board fences.....	4	
Erect temporary platforms.....	11	
Erect awnings.....	112	
Repair awnings.....	14	
Remove awning posts.....	4	
Erect bridge over street.....	1	
Construct tunnel across street.....	1	
Place material on street.....	28	
Build vaults and ovens.....	59	
Repair vaults and ovens.....	28	
Bridge gutter for driveway.....	23	
Remove old buildings.....	18	
Build fires on street for roofing purposes.....	60	
Carried forward.....		

Special Permits.—Concluded.

Brought forward.....	
Repair railroad track and switches.....	28
Place platform scales on street.....	11
Place arms on telegraph poles.....	29
Repair cesspools.....	1
Repair crosswalks.....	3
Lay tanbark on street.....	2
Lay steam pipe.....	6
Open streets to put in sewer for city.....	13
Open walk to repair scales.....	1
Repair driveway.....	44
Repair salt water pipe.....	1
Fill in old wells in all parts of the city.....	4
Erect derrick for hoisting.....	5
Open street to repair shafting.....	1
Open street to repair oil pipe.....	3
Erect sign for public meetings.....	6
Place ground plates for fire boxes.....	1
Erect sign posts.....	38
Remove banner poles.....	1
Place tin roof on street.....	1
Open street to lay gas mains.....	38
Place iron pipe on street.....	1
Erect bridge over street for temporary use.....	1
Open street to drive iron pin.....	3
Place rope across street for hoisting.....	3
Rebuild telegraph wires.....	3
Repair roadway.....	4
Remove oil tank.....	2
Mix mortar on street.....	14
Open walk to build coal shutes.....	8
Fill in street.....	4
Fence in sidewalk.....	1
Dump sand and stone on street.....	3
Erect stoop.....	3
Remove oil bleacher across street.....	3
Uncover public cistern.....	1
Erect gates at railroad crossing.....	2
Erect derrick on canal.....	1
	<hr/> 1,553
Total.....	<hr/> 5,406

The increase in the number of building permits granted over the year 1882 is 569, and the total increase in all permits granted is 692.

BUREAU OF SUPPLIES.

TABLE NO. 1.

Amount of Bills Certified from January 1st, to November 30th, 1883.

Truant Home.....	\$5,325 48
Fire Department.....	46,672 50
Department of Police and Excise.....	5,092 95
Corporation advertising.....	54,000 00
Transportation of prisoners.....	4,583 36
Printing Minutes Common Council documents, &c.....	2,705 39
Printing and stationery.....	7,686 00
Fuel for Public Buildings, W. D.....	3,182 29
.. .. " " " " E. D.....	340 25
Gas " " " " ..	12,324 75
Department of " ..	541 50
Miscellaneous purposes ..	193 50
Supplies for Keepers City Hall and Municipal Building.....	1,087 16
Repairs Public Buildings.....	139 36
Celebration Fourth of July, 1883 ..	2,444 00
	<hr/>
	\$146,319 39

TABLE No. 2.

Yearly Contracts expiring December 31, 1883, and amounts expended thereon to November 30, 1883.

FOR WHAT PURPOSE.	Amount of Contract.	Amount Expended.
Bread for Truant Home.....	\$775 00	\$631 41
Meats and fish for Truant Home.....	1,195 00	955 41
Hay, straw, feed, &c., for Truant Home.....	435 36	379 62
Supplies for keepers, City Hall and Municipal Building..	1,087 16	1,087 16
Hay, oats, straw, &c., for Fire Department.....	10,303 20	7,527 00
Seed, seed potatoes, manure, mops and brooms, books and stationery for Truant Home.....	300 00	300 00
Cloth, towelling, bed-ticking, blue denims, &c., for Truant Home.....	307 00	307 00
Shoes for Truant Home.....	84 60	84 60
For keeping and serving two (2) ambulances, W. D., for Department of Health.....	814 00	370 00
For keeping and serving two (2) ambulances, E. D., for Department of Health.....	823 13	523 81
Printing Minutes Common Council.....	4,000 00	2,509 69
Leather, &c., Fire Department.....	179 18	179 18
Miscellaneous supplies, Fire Department.....	1,210 90	1,210 90
Telegraph supplies, Fire Department.....	1,189 00	1,189 00
Bedsteads, bedding, &c., Fire Department.....	439 73	439 73
Painters' supplies, Fire Department.....	378 00	378 00
Material for repair shop, Fire Department.....	1,203 00	1,203 00
Rubber goods, Fire Department.....	689 00	689 00
Stationery, &c., Fire Department.....	597 00	597 00
Stationery, blanks, blank books, for Building Department.....	459 50	459 50
Transportation of prisoners.....	5,000 00	4,583 28
Material for wheelwright shop, Fire Department.....	264 00	264 00
Hose (2,000 ft.), Fire Department.....	1,860 00	1,116 00
Hose (2,000 ft.), Fire Department.....	1,860 00	1,116 00
Coal, W. D., Fire Department.....	1,871 25	1,387 22
Coal, E. D., Fire Department.....	1,192 50	641 30
Wood, Fire Department.....	288 00	212 40
Lumber and timber, Fire Department.....	1,320 72	1,320 72
Lime, lath, cement, &c., Fire Department.....	226 16	226 16
Stationery and books for the various departments and Justices' Courts.....	5,440 00	5,400 00
Stationery, &c., Department of Health.....	153 00	153 00
Books and blanks, Department of Health.....	855 00	600 00
Stationery for Department of Police.....	1,112 39	1,112 39
Blanks for Department of Police.....	247 00	247 00
Hay, feed, oats and straw for Department of Health.....	398 00	299 18
Supplies, &c., Department of Police.....	525 00	525 00
Supplies, &c., for the various Justices' Courts.....	79 93	79 93
Three (3) boilers, Fire Department.....	1,674 00	1,674 00
Carried forward.....	\$50,836 69	\$41,978 57

TABLE No. 2.—Concluded.

Yearly Contracts expiring, &c.

FOR WHAT PURPOSE.	Amount of Contract.	Amount Expended.
Brought forward.....	\$50,836 69	\$41,978 57
Twelve (12) Aldermanic badges.....	518 40	518 40
One (1) Amoskeng steam fire engine for Fire Department.....	4,500 00	4,500 00
Gas, Public Buildings, People's Gas Light Co.....	582 35	148 94
" Brooklyn Gas Light Co.....	6,741 40	4,125 96
" Williamsburgh Gas Light Co.....	1,956 66	409 46
" Metropolitan Gas Light Co.....	722 33	39 54
" Nassau Gas Light Co.....	816 15	119 22
" Citizens' Gas Light Co.....	1,505 86	190 48
Ice, Public Buildings.....	695 00	618 82
Fireworks, Fourth of July celebration.....	1,900 00	1,900 00
Coal, Public Buildings, W. D.....	4,706 30	2,255 00
" E. D.....	1,158 54	641 30
Coal, Truant Home.....	332 50	332 50
Hose (4,000) ft., Fire Department.....	3,640 00	3,640 00
One Hayes Extension Truck, Fire Department.....	3,150 00	3,150 00
Mauure, Fire Department, paid city for privilege of removal, \$97.00.....		
Wood, Public Buildings, E. & W. D.....	178 85	
Binding Minutes, Vols. 1, 2. and documents Common Council.....	300 00	
Fire alarm boxes for Fire Department.....	6,250 00	
Groceries, Truant Home.....	1,258 40	1,114 51
Blanks for the various departments and Justices' courts..	1,374 00	1,374 00
Total.....	\$93,023 52	\$67,056 70

TABLE No. 3.

Mayor's Orders acted upon from January 1, 1883, to November 30, 1883.

Department or Purpose.	Amount Appropriated.	Amount Expended.
Fuel Public Buildings.....	\$47 00	\$45 50
Printing and Stationery.....	17 00	14 00
Supplies Public Buildings.....	98 00	95 25
Contingencies.....	20 00	17 25
	\$182 00	\$172 00

TABLE No. 4.

Resolutions of the Common Council acted upon for the year 1883, commencing January 1, 1883, and ending November 30, 1883, inclusive.

Department or Purpose.	Amount Appropriated.	Amount Expended.
Truant Home.....	\$1,052 00	\$982 37
Fire Department.....	11,235 00	7,327 03
Repairs to Public Buildings.....	225 00	92 36
Celebration of Fourth of July.....	540 00	540 00
Printing and Stationery.....	1,272 00	806 40
Fuel for Public Buildings.....	1,046 00	1,033 42
Contingent and Miscellaneous Accounts.....	350 00	223 90
Street Cleaning and Obstructions.....	250 00	250 00
Supplies to Public Buildings.....	680 50	555 70
Wallabout Dock.....	172 00	14 79
Department of Buildings.....	95 00	82 00
Repairs and Supplies to Bridges.....	148 00	28 50
Church Bedford avenue and Madison street.....	150 00	125 00
Church Hicks and Summit streets.....	150 00	150 00
Health Department.....	240 00	36 00
	\$17,605 50	\$12,257 47

TABLE No. 5.

Resolutions of the Finance Committee of the Common Council, acted upon from January 1, 1883, to November 30, 1883.

Department or Purpose.	Appropriated.	Expended.
Union Gas Light Co., for Truant Home, passed December 18, 1882; entered January 11, 1883.		
Gas for month of October, 1882.....	\$31 50	\$31 50
	\$31 50	\$31 50

TABLE No. 6.

Bridgekeeper's supplies furnished from January 1, 1883 to November 30, 1883.

Gallons of oil (about).....	24	Oil Cans.....	4
Locks.....	13	Hatchets.....	0
Corn brooms.....	20	Chains.....	0
Rattan brooms.....	5	Hammers.....	1
Wire brooms.....	0	Squirt Cans.....	4
Axes.....	1	Rope.....	88 feet.
Wooden shovels.....	4	Waste.....	6 lbs.
Steel shovels.....	3	Wrenches.....	3

Bridgekeeper's supplies on hand November 30, 1883.

Gallons of oil (about).....	1	Oil Cans.....	6
Locks.....	16	Hatchets.....	0
Corn brooms.....	29	Chains.....	1
Rattan brooms.....	18	Hammers.....	1
Wire brooms.....	5	Squirt cans.....	28
Axes.....	11	Rope.....	7 fathoms
Wooden shovels.....	19	Waste.....	94
Steel shovels.....	15	Wrenches.....	3

Charter and Ordinances.....	165
Directories (Brooklyn City.....)	0
Directories (New York City).....	0
One platform scale (Fairbanks).....	1
One Aldermanic badge, Die.....	1

REPORT

OF THE

Department of Assessment.

DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENT, }
BROOKLYN, December 1, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

DEAR SIR :

I have the honor to report the proceedings of the Department of Assessment for the year ending November 30, 1883, as follows :

ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS.

The valuations for 1883 of the taxable real and personal property in the city were duly made. The sum thereof for each of the wards, together with the same for 1882, is shown in Schedule A, hereto annexed. They aggregate as follows :

	1883.	1882.	Increase or Decrease in 1883.
Real Estate	\$280,800,597	\$264,404,017	Increase, \$16,396,580
Personal Property	18,135,909	19,334,300	Decrease, 1,198,391
Real and Personal	\$298,936,506	\$283,738,317	Increase, \$15,198,189

Of the personal property included above, \$5,425.109 in 1883, and \$4,950,760 in 1882, the capital of certain corporations, is exempt from State tax here, because especially taxed at Albany for State purposes.

REAL ESTATE.

The increase of assessments of real estate in 1883 is \$16,396,580, of which \$6,871,900 is for new buildings (see Schedule B). This leaves \$9,524,680 to be attributed to other causes—these are actual increase of value and rectification of former valuations. Considerable increase was realized from the latter cause in 1881 and 1882, but much less in 1883—it is probable that not over \$2,000,000 is attributable to equalization of valuations, while all the remaining increase represents either new buildings or enhanced value. Much has been said about increased assessments, but as matter of fact, probably less than one-third of the parcels of property have been appraised higher than before, during the years 1881 to 1883 inclusive. Those whose assessments have not been raised do not object, but the others are sufficiently numerous, though in a minority, to attract attention to their complaints—and yet the Assessors have only attempted to put all on one plane of equality—rather should they who complain, congratulate themselves, (if they have a heart for it,) that in the years past they have escaped from a part of their liability, by reason of under-assessment, than that now they must assume their full, fair share of the public burdens.

Then, too, ample opportunity was given to all who were able to prove over-assessment to have the same corrected—the entire month of June having been, pursuant to law, devoted to that purpose.

That the Assessors are very ready to correct, when shown to be wrong, is proved by the fact that out of 1,364 cases in which owners, in June last, were willing to make the necessary affidavits to the statements on which they based their applications for reduction, 888 did receive deductions. When it is considered that in 1870, with a population of 396,099, the assessments of real and

personal property were \$201,210,859, or \$533 per capita; and in 1883, with a population estimated at 628,300, the assessments were but \$298,936,506 or \$476 per capita, it cannot fairly be supposed that the valuations now are excessive.

PERSONAL PROPERTY.

The following is a classified statement of the assessments of personal property :

Liabie to City and County Taxes and not to State Taxes.

	1883.	1882.	Increase or Decrease in 1883.	
Gas companies.....	\$2,443,600	\$2,404,500	Increase,	39,100
Insurance companies.....	122,000	151,100	Decrease,	29,100
Railroad companies.....	2,148,600	1,801,600	Increase,	347,000
Ferry companies.....	495,000	483,000	Increase,	12,000
Sundry companies.....	167,600	62,300	Increase,	105,300
	\$5,376,800	\$4,902,500	Increase,	\$474,300
Add for shares of banks belong- ing to corporations exempt from State tax.....	48,309	48,260	Increase,	49
	\$5,425,109	\$4,950,760	Increase,	\$474,349

Liabie to City, County and State Taxes.

	1883.	1882.	Increase or Decrease in 1882.	
Manufacturing companies.....	\$587,300	770,400	Decrease,	\$183,100
Shareholders of banks, less in- cluded above.....	2,152,300	1,946,740	Increase,	205,560
Individuals.....	9,971,200	11,666,400	Decrease,	1,695,200
	\$12,710,800	\$14,383,540	Decrease,	1,672,740
Liabie to city and county taxes only.....	5,425,109	4,950,760	Increase,	\$474,349
Liabie to city, county and State taxes.....	12,710,800	14,383,540	Decrease,	1,672,740
Total personal property.....	\$18,135,909	\$19,334,300	Decrease,	\$1,198,391
Corporate property.....	8,164,709	\$7,667,900	Increase,	\$496,809
Individuals.....	9,971,200	11,666,400	Decrease,	1,695,200
Total.....	\$18,135,909	\$19,334,300	Decrease,	1,198,391

It is observable that while the assessments of the personal property of corporations are \$496,809 more than in 1882, those of individuals are \$1,695,200 less than in 1882. This is undoubtedly the natural result, under our very imperfect tax laws, of the increase made last year of this class of property, when the amount assessed to individuals was \$4,056,050, or more than 50 per cent. greater than in 1881.

All of those assessed in 1882, excepting a very small number removed or deceased, were again assessed for like amounts in 1883, besides a large number of persons not before assessed, but having been found out in 1882, and though then unable to avoid the assessments many of them took care to avail themselves of the numerous loop-holes of the law through which they were prepared in time, to escape in 1883.

TAX LEVIES AND TAX RATES.

In Schedule C. is given a statement for each of the past fourteen years to the present, of the population, assessments, tax levies for State, County and City purposes respectively, and the tax rates.

LOCAL ASSESSMENTS.

This branch of the duties of this department continues, under the operation of the two-third act, as it is called, to be practically suspended, Schedule D., containing the statement of but one preliminary estimate for a proposed improvement, and Schedule E. but one for a local assessment, and that only for the expenses incident to the closing of a useless street. It is perhaps proper, however, to mention that assessments for sewers are not made by this department.

PROSPECT PARK ASSESSMENT.

Pursuant to the law of 1878, the sixth annual installment, (of the thirty-eight which were to be levied,) for benefits for cost of lands taken for Prospect Park, was levied on November 30, 1883, amounting to \$33,545.94.

Apportionments of taxes and assessments, correction of errors, and the making of the annual list of jurors, are all regular duties devolving upon this department, which have been duly performed.

LITIGATION.

The following suits against the Board of Assessors, mentioned in last year's report as then pending, may now be reported upon as follows :

1. The Heany estate suit—the Court of Appeals have fully sustained the position of the Board of Assessors, that the lessees of this estate are liable for taxation of their buildings.

2. The Brooklyn City Railroad Company, and

3. The Union Ferry Co. claimed that the assessments were void—the Court of Appeals have decided that the assessments were valid.

4. H. Von Deilen, and

5. S. B. Duryea, both claiming over-valuation—not yet decided.

6. Edward and James Rorke, claiming exemption—not yet decided.

7. George L. Kingsland, claiming over-valuation—reduced by Court from a valuation of \$249,730 to \$156,179.

But one new suit was begun this year, viz. : by the executors of John H. Prentice, claiming over-valuation—not yet decided.

ARREARAGES.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 5, of Chapter 548, of the Laws of 1882, various reductions of assessments have been made in accordance with reductions made by the courts, to the amount of \$8,965.49. See Schedule F.

The Board of Assessors early entered upon the preliminaries incident to the great and important work imposed upon them by *Chapter 114, of the Laws of 1883, passed March 16, 1883.*

This law requires the Board of Assessors to name a sum which

they shall deem to be fair and just to be now imposed as a tax, in lieu of all taxes, water rates and assessments imposed upon each parcel of land prior to July 1, 1882, and which remain unpaid and in arrears. At the outset, it was necessary to provide for the use of the Board, a full statement of the arrears against each parcel of property. For this purpose, the arrears ledgers recently made up, under the direction of the Comptroller, were of great value. Books of convenient size had to be obtained, and the number of parcels in arrears having been found to be nearly 44,000, there were procured 73 volumes of a little over 300 pages each, arranged to contain two accounts upon a page. By May 1st, the books being ready, clerks were set at the task of making up therein, that vast number of delinquent accounts.

Meanwhile, the period of the voluntary privileges of the law, as they have been called, was running. These provisions were to the effect that those who would pay by October 1st, 1883, might do so at only six per cent. per annum, interest, and further, that if the arrears amounted to more than sixty per cent. of the assessed value, they could be settled by paying that amount. It did not appear to be advisable that the Board of Assessors should enter upon their duties, under the law, until these voluntary privileges had expired, other than the preparations already referred to. By October 1st, many payments had been made by which the number of accounts in arrears was reduced to about 32,000, and the books being sufficiently advanced, the Assessors then at once entered upon their work of adjudication, and have continued to prosecute the same with all of the expedition that the circumstances will admit of. Up to the time of this report, full certifications, with a few necessary exceptions of cases temporarily reserved, have been made of all the first six Wards, together with a number of miscellaneous parcels in the other Wards, of which an early settlement was desired. A statement of the amounts certified with other particulars is herewith rendered in Schedule G.

The members of the Board of Assessors are very mindful of the important and delicate duty imposed upon them, in which, on one hand, the city's assets must be sacrificed at the expense of the

prompt tax-payer, while on the other, relief is to be extended in those cases where the property is over-burdened. And so, while the work is being accomplished as rapidly as may be, great circumspection is used, so that each account is carefully scrutinized, and an earnest effort made to effect that which the law demands, viz., the fixing of an amount which shall be "fair and just."

There is a class of arrears against various parcels of property to which some reference may here be made. The sales made for the unpaid taxes of 1862 and the subsequent years, have been by the courts declared void, because of an informality in levying the taxes, but the defect in the taxes (not in the sales) was remedied by a law passed in 1882. Hence the taxes in the cases referred to now appear as a charge against the property, the outstanding certificates being of no effect as a lien upon the property. This change of circumstances, by which outstanding sales with heavy charges are converted into a claim for only the original tax and simple interest, is an advantage to the property owner, excepting in a few cases, comparatively speaking, when the certificates of sales are held by or in behalf of the owner of the property, and the owner has perhaps for years esteemed the taxes in question practically paid. But they are not paid in fact; the city authorities have no adequate means of determining whether the outstanding certificates are held adversely to the property or otherwise, or if they did know that they are held by the owner of the property, there is no security for the city against a claim for a refund of the money paid upon the void certificate, so long as it remain uncanceled; hence it is necessary that the tax shall be held as binding against the property so long as the certificate remains uncanceled. But it seems very desirable that authority be had from the Legislature for the Registrar of Arrears, upon the cancellation of a certificate of sale, to cancel so much of an amount certified by the Board of Assessors in lieu of arrears as the same was increased by reason of the tax for which such certificate of sale was made, the amount so to be cancelled to be certified to the Registrar of Arrears by the Board of Assessors on his application.

There should also be authority of law for the Board of Assessors to certify for a reduction of an amount fixed by them under the

provision of the law, where the same has been increased by reason of any error in the records upon which they acted, or in the computations of the arrears.

EQUALIZATION OF STATE TAXES.

The usual effort was made by the writer, at the request of the Committee of the Board of Supervisors, with the State Assessors and the State Board of Equalizations, to secure an adjustment of the assessments of property in the counties of the State for the levy of the State tax, by the process called "equalization," which might indeed be equal, and just to our County. The result was not all that was claimed, but was somewhat more reasonable than in past years, a deduction of \$10,643,763 from the local assessments of Kings County having been obtained.

I have the honor to be, Dear Sir,

Very respectfully,

JOHN TRUSLOW,

President of the Department of Assessment.

DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENT.

139

1882.

1883.

WARDS AND TOWNS.

	Valuation of real estate.	Valuation, personal es- taxable and local for State and purposes.	Aggregate valuation, real estate, taxable ex- cept for State and purposes.	Valuation, personal es- taxable and local for State and purposes.	Aggregate valuation, real estate, taxable ex- cept for State and purposes.	Aggregate valuation, personal es- taxable and local for State and purposes.
First.	\$27,081,413	\$3,918,775	\$31,873,188	\$2,983,103	\$34,156,291	\$34,856,394
Second	5,001,848	717,542	5,719,390	834,071	6,553,461	6,553,461
Third	1,965,982	373,000	2,338,982	785,100	3,124,082	3,124,082
Fourth	1,085,953	493,410	1,579,363	1,112,030	2,691,393	2,691,393
Fifth	4,527,058	91,500	4,618,558	387,900	5,006,458	5,006,458
Sixth	17,351,775	990,300	18,342,075	1,906,581	20,248,656	20,248,656
Seventh	14,311,241	615,500	14,926,741	6,825,954	21,752,695	21,752,695
Eighth	6,704,554	158,400	6,862,954	10,381,596	17,244,550	17,244,550
Ninth	10,344,263	371,500	10,715,763	10,690,924	21,406,687	21,406,687
Tenth	10,328,421	81,000	10,409,421	9,845,701	20,255,122	20,255,122
Eleventh	13,732,383	657,841	14,390,224	82,000	14,472,224	14,472,224
Twelfth	7,817,021	27,300	7,844,321	7,844,321	15,688,642	15,688,642
Thirteenth	5,879,711	82,800	5,962,511	5,962,511	11,825,022	11,825,022
Fourteenth	8,308,158	60,800	8,368,958	8,368,958	16,737,916	16,737,916
Fifteenth	11,408,456	125,000	11,533,456	11,533,456	23,066,912	23,066,912
Sixteenth	8,303,310	184,800	8,488,110	8,488,110	16,876,220	16,876,220
Seventeenth	17,865,349	583,600	18,448,949	18,448,949	36,897,898	36,897,898
Eighteenth	1,402,700	1,402,700	2,805,400	2,805,400	5,610,800	5,610,800
Nineteenth	11,107,563	467,000	11,574,563	11,574,563	23,149,126	23,149,126
Twentieth	19,313,763	328,200	19,641,963	19,641,963	39,283,926	39,283,926
Twenty-first	12,250,140	373,800	12,623,940	12,623,940	25,177,880	25,177,880
Twenty-second	4,600,683	107,300	4,707,983	4,707,983	9,415,966	9,415,966
Twenty-third	8,433,170	107,300	8,540,470	8,540,470	17,080,940	17,080,940
Twenty-fourth						
Twenty-fifth						
Total, city	\$290,800,597	\$12,270,800	\$303,071,397	\$5,425,109	\$308,496,506	\$308,496,506

The valuation of the town of Kings County is here given, though not made by this Board.

New Utrecht	\$2,056,021	\$171,000	\$2,227,021	\$2,028,635	\$4,255,656	\$4,255,656
Flatbush	4,206,783	417,963	4,624,746	4,151,241	8,775,987	8,775,987
New Lots	2,717,340	18,000	2,735,340	2,627,565	5,362,905	5,362,905
Gravesend	2,281,538	90,800	2,372,338	2,106,800	4,479,138	4,479,138
Flatlands	1,083,225	85,730	1,168,955	1,000,665	2,169,620	2,169,620
Total, towns	\$12,344,907	\$606,750	\$12,951,657	\$12,385,906	\$25,337,563	\$25,337,563
Total, city	\$290,800,597	\$12,270,800	\$303,071,397	\$5,425,109	\$308,496,506	\$308,496,506
Total, towns	12,344,907	606,750	12,951,657	12,385,906	25,337,563	25,337,563
Total, County	\$293,145,504	\$13,317,550	\$306,463,054	\$5,425,109	\$311,888,163	\$311,888,163

SCHEDULE "B."—NEW BUILDINGS.

Number and Assessed Value of New Buildings in the City of Brooklyn during the ten years ending June 1, 1883, as Found and Assessed by the Assessors.

Wards	1874.		1875.		1876.		1877.		1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.		1882.		1883.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
1	16	\$140,400	8	\$198,500	9	\$105,500	19	\$207,100	12	\$116,300	13	\$154,300	9	\$188,000	43	\$234,700	11	\$514,400	14	\$164,100
2	1	3,000	1	17,000	2	21,000	1	8,500	5	55,700	8	19,000	5	30,200	4	102,500	3	27,700	12	105,000
3	28	146,500	13	63,800	9	81,400	25	182,200	21	133,000	7	33,300	10	44,300	17	63,300	9	75,800	9	60,900
4	5	27,300	7	14,700	3	14,700	7	15,800	6	14,700	5	29,700	6	18,100	5	30,500	12	85,000	6	86,300
5	2	6,300	7	15,800	1	15,100	1	15,100	6	26,400	3	8,200	3	5,000	7	18,200	2	16,000	3	11,200
6	70	231,000	46	148,300	20	148,300	20	110,700	53	135,400	77	215,300	38	229,100	39	502,900	4	18,000	16	67,800
7	147	504,200	104	385,000	110	301,400	119	833,300	114	419,800	62	199,000	106	408,800	110	405,700	94	467,300	70	854,700
8	141	98,100	60	71,500	56	66,500	69	63,700	50	66,500	23	35,000	62	87,900	51	114,800	57	317,900	63	285,400
9	36	118,900	63	179,300	30	45,400	34	67,300	44	117,000	25	64,300	22	87,900	23	102,100	21	118,000	33	71,100
10	100	288,900	67	182,800	28	55,700	80	58,500	16	57,000	60	122,300	74	287,900	36	172,500	65	216,000	63	270,300
11	32	91,600	8	16,400	21	100,000	5	13,500	17	121,000	6	9,000	7	30,500	10	50,400	10	47,000	6	15,300
12	91	220,400	11	23,300	42	92,800	5	80,600	30	53,500	24	69,800	30	56,900	18	65,500	13	47,550	23	65,900
13	42	204,600	24	92,800	25	73,500	10	27,800	12	55,600	17	62,700	9	32,300	15	210,800	15	36,800	17	650,100
14	44	75,000	32	132,600	30	58,600	26	49,700	19	98,700	16	96,000	8	10,300	15	143,100	26	67,700	30	137,300
15	45	58,500	32	132,600	30	58,600	26	49,700	19	98,700	16	96,000	8	10,300	15	143,100	26	67,700	30	137,300
16	112	221,000	74	168,200	36	71,000	46	110,700	29	47,300	20	32,600	33	60,000	45	119,600	50	139,000	19	50,300
17	115	217,800	108	168,200	73	141,100	47	98,000	32	115,400	51	194,800	33	60,000	45	119,600	50	139,000	28	77,300
18	64	361,400	111	316,600	115	312,100	70	93,400	73	256,400	74	258,400	70	254,700	63	251,000	206	445,355	101	990,000
19	43	301,400	111	316,600	115	312,100	70	93,400	73	256,400	74	258,400	70	254,700	63	251,000	206	445,355	101	990,000
20	47	162,700	30	116,000	58	97,000	38	211,300	52	219,300	74	195,400	37	210,000	25	328,000	154	470,300	70	318,300
21	144	315,100	128	221,700	175	310,700	110	217,700	141	319,400	106	233,400	153	194,400	170	314,700	157	372,000	158	453,000
22	151	395,600	122	221,700	175	310,700	110	217,700	141	319,400	106	233,400	153	194,400	170	314,700	157	372,000	158	453,000
23	108	276,200	165	220,400	120	270,800	103	247,300	67	180,200	107	210,300	74	235,200	94	424,300	275	1,154,800	242	1,067,500
24	17	18,300	36	50,100	42	80,000	42	90,400	42	106,600	38	70,700	31	145,000	27	73,300	76	138,740	75	166,700
25	40	56,900	112	226,300	146	226,300	142	206,200	84	153,400	131	222,300	95	156,100	48	127,000	170	319,405	108	330,300
1796	1,281,700	1,460	\$3,617,300	1,506	\$3,745,100	1,270	\$3,349,300	1,076	\$3,067,300	1,125	\$2,338,100	1,106	\$3,420,500	1,207	\$1,861,600	1,023	\$6,380,600	1,540	\$6,471,900	

SCHEDULE C.
Comparative Statement, for Fourteen Years, of Population, Assessments, Tax Levies and Tax Rates.

Year.	ASSESSMENTS.			TAX LEVIES.				Average Tax Rates per \$100 of valuation.			
	Real.	Personal.	Real and Personal.	For State purposes.	For County purposes.	For City purposes.	Total Levy.	Average, whole City.	Average, 1st to 12th Wards (Western District).	Average, 13th to 18th Wards (Eastern District).	
1870.	306,099	\$183,822,789	\$201,210,859	\$1,331,257	\$1,680,259	\$4,576,969	\$7,588,486	\$3.77	3.97	\$3.65*	
1871.	412,443	187,676,251	18,245,531	1,007,183	1,202,231	3,542,576	5,751,900	2.79	2.86	2.52	
1872.	429,421	192,613,962	15,338,370	1,086,581	1,384,178	4,952,148	7,424,907	3.57	3.62	3.25	
1873.	447,058	198,537,060	17,725,810	1,196,232	1,530,654	4,851,821	7,578,707	3.50	3.57	3.22	
1874.	465,380	204,132,803	16,136,304	1,364,040	1,454,895	5,002,574	7,821,509	3.55	3.63	3.27	
1875.	484,616	208,904,750	16,287,125	1,243,134	1,457,607	5,017,507	7,718,248	3.43	3.51	3.16	
1876.	500,154	213,134,543	13,878,580	760,927	1,633,588	4,999,865	7,394,380	3.26	3.34	2.99	
1877.	516,129	216,481,801	13,111,215	788,682	1,490,784	4,998,634	7,278,100	3.17	3.23	2.97	
1878.	532,553	218,373,093	14,968,911	718,973	1,340,144	4,246,347	6,305,464	2.70	2.79	2.43	
1879.	549,440	220,363,599	12,562,100	699,755	1,114,464	4,115,410	5,929,629	2.53	2.63	2.27	
1880.	566,689	223,620,197	11,215,794	838,491	1,158,138	4,319,445	6,316,074	2.69	2.73	2.41†	
1881.	586,520	240,128,905	15,137,040	547,256	1,119,646	4,439,701	6,106,573	2.38	2.45	2.13	
1882.	607,050	264,404,017	19,334,300	617,097	1,146,113	4,831,253	6,594,463	2.33	2.40	2.10	
1883.	628,300	280,800,597	18,135,909	874,088	1,242,476	5,632,795	7,749,359	2.60	2.67	2.38	

* In 1870 the rates varied greatly in the several wards—from \$3.50 to \$3.82 in the Eastern District, and \$3.67 to \$4.33 in the Western District. In the subsequent years there was but little variation among the several wards, except the difference shown above, between the Eastern and Western Districts, owing to the exemption of the Eastern District from payment of interest on the Park debt.

† The statement of population for 1870, 1875 and 1880, is according to the census; that for the other years is by a proportional estimate.

SCHEDULE "D."—PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES.

*Pursuant to Charter, of amounts probably to be assessed
for proposed improvements.*

When delivered to Board of Assessors.	Title of Proposed Improvement.	Amount.	When reported by Assessors.
1883. Oct. 16.	Grading and paving Hayward st. from Bedford to Wythe ave. . .	\$2,653 64	1883. Oct. 22.

SCHEDULE "E."—LOCAL ASSESSMENTS.

When delivered to Board of Assessors	Title of Improvement.	Amount.	When reported by Assessors.
1883. July 10.	Closing Ann or Arm street from Commercial st. to permanent bulkhead line, Newtown Creek	\$582 75	1883. July 30.

SCHEDULE F.

*Reductions of Assessments certified under Section 5, of Chapter 348,
of the Laws of 1882.*

TITLE.	Number of Parcels.	Original Amounts.	Rate per cent of Reduction.	Amount of Reduction.
Central avenue sewer.....	760	\$39,476 71	20	\$7,895 34
Grading and paving Albany avenue.	2	81 35	31	25 22
“ “ Buffalo “	3	923 38	27	249 32
“ “ Braxton street ..	1	212 72	25	53 18
“ “ Eleventh “	4	467 59	25	116 88
“ “ Flushing avenue	1	23 42	25	5 86
“ “ Halsey street....	2	356 00	25	89 00
“ “ Second avenue...	1	125 00	39	48 75
“ “ Seventh “	2	636 44	30	190 93
“ “ Schenectady ave.	4	520 92	24½	127 62
“ “ Reid avenue	1	131 57	45	59 21
“ “ Utica “	3	185 49	47	87 18
Repaving Atlantic avenue.....	1	143 28	11	15 76
Sewer in drainage Dis. 37, Sub. 6..	1	41 20	3	1 24
Total.....	786	\$43,325 07		\$8,965 49

SCHEDULE "G."—ARREARAGES

Of Taxes, Water Rates and Assessments levied prior to July 1, 1882, concerning which the Board of Assessors were, by Chapter 114 of the Laws of 1883, required to certify, as to each parcel of land, an amount to be paid in lieu of the arrears against the same.

Number of parcels in arrears to Nov. 30, 1883.	Ward.	Certifications to Nov. 30, 1883.		Amounts Cancelled by the Certificates.	
		No. of parcels cert'fd	Amounts certified	Amounts of the original sums in arrears.	Interest thereon. (See note below.)
285	1	284	\$131,963 50	\$118,201 37	\$37,960 11
117	2	117	48,292 08	47,937 08	17,027 59
330	3	320	86,037 06	70,958 17	18,987 93
214	4	212	53,048 10	51,465 98	14,291 97
326	5	311	60,971 67	52,538 21	16,099 43
645	6	594	112,910 94	94,072 65	23,055 07
1,415	7				
2,376	8				
1,492	9				
888	10	10	4,147 47	8,309 01	1,624 83
467	11	1	709 14	582 67	126 47
990	12	1	450 00	657 86	239 49
692	13				
847	14	3	467 21	388 34	137 72
1,504	15	5	870 24	1,416 87	256 16
733	16	5	2,345 31	1,933 16	489 55
1,372	17				
4,125	18	6	614 81	698 61	150 82
891	19	1	291 92	244 59	47 33
699	20				
1,369	21	1	949 10	753 80	287 24
3,438	22	2	378 00	584 91	91 16
811	23				
3,236	24	8	763 70	1,553 79	549 12
2,782	25				
32,044 Total.		1,881	\$503,210 25	\$452,297 67	\$131,431 99

The amount of interest which was legally chargeable, and which is cancelled by the certificates, is greater than here shown; for the amounts which could be charged were at 7 per cent. per annum from dates of levy up to June 8, 1878, and at 9 per cent. for all subsequent time, while the statement of interest here given is only at 6 per cent. per annum, computed from dates of levy to time of certificates, except as to special assessments levied prior to March 16, 1879, and the interest on them for the purposes of the foregoing statement is computed only from June 1, 1882.

November 30, 1883.

JOHN TRUSLOW,
President of Department of Assessment.

REPORT
OF THE
Department of Collection.

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES, }
BROOKLYN, December 11, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

DEAR SIR :

I have the honor to submit herewith a statement in detail of the operations of this Department for the year ending November 30, 1883.

I have the honor to remain,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES TANNER,

Collector.

A.

*Statement of James Tanner for the Collection of the General
Tax for the year 1882.*

Tax levy.....	\$6,594,463 73	
Increased by Board of Assessors.....	669 97	
		\$6,595,133 70
Received, cash.....	\$5,528,020 76	
" rebate.....	20,393 85	
" cancellations.....	34,691 88	
	\$5,583,106 49	
Balance to Registrar of Arrears.....	1,012,027 21	6,595,133 70

B.

*Collection of Installments of Improvements in Tax Rolls for 1882,
viz.: Widening and Grading South Seventh Street; Widening and
Paving Bushwick Avenue and Central Avenue Sewer.*

Levy of Installments.....		\$58,424 32
Received, cash.....	\$31,351 98	
" rebate.....	86 54	
" cancellations.....	3,756 66	
	\$35,195 18	
Balance to Registrar of Arrears.....	23,229 14	\$58,424 32

C.

Collection of Installments for Special Improvements for year ending November 30, 1883, viz.: Prospect Park, Sackett Street, Union Street, Third Street, Fourth Avenue, Gowanus Canal and Kent Avenue Basin and Dock.

Levy of Installments.....	\$127,653 17	
Increase report.....	11 40	
		\$127,664 57
Received, cash.....	32,821 95	
" rebate.....	86 27	
" cancellations.....	28,801 72	
	61,709 94	
Balance to Registrar of Arrears.....	65,954 63	
		\$127,664 57

D.

Collection of Miscellaneous Assessments.

Balance of unexpired Assessments, Dec. 1, 1882.....	\$43,915 63	
Am't of assessments received during the year.....	5,792 77	
		\$49,708 40
Received cash.....	8,586 69	
Received rebate.....	4 23	
Received cancellations.....	407 49	
	8,998 41	
Returned to Registrar of Arrears.....	36,112 97	
Balance unexpired to 1883.....	4,597 02	
		\$49,708 40
Balance unexpired assessments.....	4,597 02	

E.

Receipts for default, interest, full payments, (on special Improvements, and over payments.

Received for default on tax and improvements	\$45,057 89
" " assessments	378 14
" interest on full payments	408 41
" full payments, (improvements)	15,697 15
" over payments	6,668 57
	<hr/>
	\$68,210 16

F.

Recapitulation of Cash.

Received for taxes	\$5,528,020 76
" improvements in Rolls	31,351 98
" special improvements	32,821 95
" assessments	8,586 69
" default and interest	45,436 03
" over-payments	6,668 57
" full payments (improvements)	16,105 56
	<hr/>
	\$5,668,991 54

G.

Ledger Account.

Dr.

To tax levy.....	\$6,595,133 70	
installments of improvements in rolls	58,424 32	
" special improvements.....	127,664 57	
assessments	49,708 40	
full payments (improvements).....	16,105 56	
over-payments	6,668 57	
default and interest.....	45,436 03	
		\$6,899,141 15

Cr.

By City Treasurer (receipts).....	\$5,638,991 54	
rebate.....	20,570 86	
cancellations	67,657 75	
amount to Department of Arrears.....	1,137,323 95	
balance (assessments unexpired)*.....	4,597 02	
		\$6,899,141 15

* To balance, assessments unexpired, \$4,597 02.

REPORT
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ARREARS.

DEPARTMENT OF ARREARS,
Municipal Department Building,
BROOKLYN, December 1, 1883. }

Hon. SETH Low, *Mayor*.

SIR:

I have the honor to submit herewith detailed statements of the transactions of this Department for the year ending November 30, 1883.

Very respectfully yours,

THEO. F. JACKSON,
Registrar of Arrears.

STATEMENT "B."

Total amount of collections during the year ending November 29, 1882.....	\$2,615,188 57
Total amount of collections during the year ending November 30, 1883.....	2,132,694 47
Difference 1882 over 1883.....	\$482,494 10

STATEMENT "C."

Amount of Taxes, Water Rates and Assessments cancelled during the year ending November 30, 1883, by acts of the Legislature, orders of Supreme and City Courts, Common Council, Board of Assessors and Board of City Works, not including cancellations made under Section 8, Chapter 114, Laws of 1883.

Taxes.....	\$5,456 22
Water Rates.....	530 29
Assessments.....	13,404 69
Total.....	\$19,391 20

STATEMENT "D."

Amount of collections under Section 8, Chapter 114, Laws of 1883.....	\$377,753 16
Amount of collections under Section 9, Chapter 114, Laws of 1883.....	113,577 53
Amount of collections under Section 10, Chapter 114, Laws of 1883.....	1,059,292 16
Total.....	\$1,550,622 85

STATEMENT "E."

The amount of Arrears transferred by the Collector of Taxes and Assessments and the Registrar of Water Rates during the year ending November 30, 1883, is as follows :

Water rates, transferred May 1, 1883	\$146,911 33
Tax of 1882, transferred November 15, 1883	1,010,907 85
Improvements in tax rolls, transferred November 15, 1883	20,439 32
Special improvements (1881), not in tax roll, transferred December 1, 1882	97,537 23
Assessments received during the year	36,112 97
Total	\$1,311,908 70

STATEMENT "F."

Redemption Fund Account.

November 29, 1882, balance to credit	\$27,484 43
Amount of collections to November 30, 1883, inclusive	49,835 31
By transfer, July 6, 1883, from taxes, water rates, city redemptions, default and interest on taxes, default and interest on water rates, and default and interest on city redemptions	287 89
Warrants drawn on City Treasurer	\$77,607 63 31,510 46
November 30, 1883, balance to credit	\$46,097 17

STATEMENT "G."

STATEMENT OF THEO. F. JACKSON, *Registrar of Arrears, for collection of amounts under Section 2 of Chapter 572, Laws of 1880.*

Amount remaining for collection, Dec. 1, 1882.....		\$3,746 05	
Amount collected for interest on same.....		154 53	
			\$3,900 58
Received for installments.....	\$1,971 33		
Received for interest.....	154 53		
		\$2,125 86	
*Amount of installments voided by non-compliance with law.....		844 95	
Amount remaining for collection, Dec. 1, 1883.....		929 77	
			3,900 58

*Amount collected under this item has been credited to the original claims of the city, as said law directs.

H.

STATEMENT OF THEO. F. JACKSON, *Registrar of Arrears, for collection of amounts under Section 2, of Chapter 443, Laws of 1881. (Amounts as fixed and reduced by "The Board of Commissioners, for the Revision and Settlements of Arrearages of Taxes and Assessments in the City of Brooklyn.")*

Amount remaining for collection Dec. 1, 1882.....	\$255,625 87	
Amount collected for interest on same.....	7,066 13	
		\$262,692 00
Received for full payments.....	4,076 00	
" installments.....	56,994 69	
" sales.....	150 00	
" interest.....	7,066 13	
		\$68,286 82
Transferred to Laws of 1883 for collection.....	42,144 80	
Remaining for collection Dec. 1, 1883.....	152,260 38	
		\$262,692 00

I.

STATEMENT OF THEO. F. JACKSON, *Registrar of Arrears, for collection of amounts under Section 7, of Chapter 443, Laws of 1881. (Installments of valuation of 1880).*

Amount remaining for collection Dec. 1, 1882.....	\$39,712 00		
Amount collected for interest on same..	690 79		
			\$40,402 79
Received for instalments.....	3,352 00		
" interest.....	690 79		
		\$4,042 79	
Transferred for collection, to Laws of 1883.....		160 00	
Amount remaining for collection Dec. 1, 1883.....		36,200 00	\$40,402 79

K.

STATEMENT OF THEO. F. JACKSON, *Registrar of Arrears, for Collection of Amounts under Section 13 of Chapter 443 Laws of 1881, (Installments of Valuation of 1880, less Installments paid under Section 1 of Chapter 572, Laws of 1880).*

Amount remaining for collection Dec. 1, 1882.....	\$6,584 39		
Amount collected for interest on same..	235 11		
			\$6,819 50
Received for installments.....	\$1,571 60		
" " interest.....	235 11		
		\$1,806 71	
Transferred to laws of 1883 for collection.....		2,240 00	
Amount remaining for collection Dec. 1, 1883.....		2,772 70	\$3,819 50

STATEMENT "L."

STATEMENT OF THEO. F. JACKSON, *Registrar of Arrears, for Collection of Amounts under Section 1 of Chapter 348, Laws of 1882. (Sixty per centum of Assessed Valuation of 1881, or, Installments thereof.)*

Amount remaining for collection, Dec. 1, 1882.....		\$185,410 80	
Amount collected for interest.....		4,842 91	
			\$190,253 71
Received, installments.....	\$15,537 00		
" balance of installments.....	11,007 00		
" interest.....	4,842 91		
		\$31,386 91	
Amount remaining for collection, Dec. 1, 1883.....		158,866 80	\$190,253 71

STATEMENT "M."

STATEMENT OF THEO. F. JACKSON, *Registrar of Arrears, for Collection of Amounts, under Section 8, Chapter 114, Laws of 1883. (Sixty per centum of assessed valuation of 1881.)*

Total amount of sixty per centum of assessed valuation of parcels compromised.....	\$367,083 60	
Collected for interest on same.....	10,669 56	
		\$377,753 16
Received for principal.....	\$367,083 60	
" interest.....	10,669 56	
		\$377,753 16
Amount of taxes, assessments, &c., cancelled (<i>estimated</i>).....		\$635,741 08
" collected for principal.....		367,083 60
" of deficiency (<i>estimated</i>).....		\$268,657 48

The above amount of sixty per centum of assessed valuation, viz. : \$367,083 60 is made up from 698 parcels, covering 750 lots or plots. Of the 698 parcels, 2 were transferred from "Law of 1881" (assessed valuation of 1880), and 44 from "Amounts as reduced and returned by the Commissioners of Arrears, Law of 1881," leaving 652 parcels as the actual number settled under "Section 8, Chapter 114, Laws of 1883."

STATEMENT "N."

Recapitulation of Collections, under the several Acts of the Legislature, from December 1, 1882, to

November 30, 1883.

Acts of Legislature.	Amount for collection.	Amount Received.	Amount cancelled or transferred.	Amount remaining for collection Dec. 1, 1883.	TOTAL.
a. Section 2, Chapter 572, Laws of 1880.....	\$3,746 05	\$1,971 33	\$844 95	\$929 77	\$3,746 05
b. Section 2, Chapter 443, Laws of 1881.....	255,625 87	61,220 69	42,144 80	152,260 38	255,625 87
c. Section 7, " ".....	39,712 00	3,352 00	160 00	36,200 00	39,712 00
d. Section 13, " ".....	6,584 39	1,571 60	2,240 00	2,772 79	6,584 39
e. Section 1, Chapter 348, Laws of 1882.....	185,410 80	26,544 00	.....	158,866 80	185,410 80
f. Section 8, Chapter 114, Laws of 1883.....	367,083 60	367,083 60	.....	.....	367,083 60
	\$858,162 71	\$461,743 22	\$45,389 75	\$351,029 74	\$858,162 71

a. — See Statement G.

d. — See Statement K.

b. — See Statement H.

e. — See Statement L.

c. — See Statement I.

f. — See Statement M.

REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE AND EXCISE.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE AND EXCISE,
MUNICIPAL BUILDING,
BROOKLYN, December 1, 1882.

Hon SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

SIR :

In compliance with your request, I have the honor to submit the following brief statement of the business transacted in this office during the year ending November 30, 1883, and also such suggestions as seem wise concerning the administration of affairs of this department.

The police force is constituted as follows, to wit : one superintendent, one inspector, one drill captain, thirteen precinct captains, sixty-six sergeants, twenty-five detectives, thirty-four roundsmen, four hundred and eighty-nine patrolmen, and thirty-five doormen, total, six hundred and sixty-five men.

The number of patrolmen detailed for duty at the courts and other places requiring the services of police officers, is fifty-four, or about one-ninth of the whole patrol force, notwithstanding the fact that the Board of Estimate has provided for the payment of nineteen additional patrolmen (which increases the number to five hundred) for the ensuing year, the necessity for increasing the

force still exists, and grows more and more urgent each year. There are five hundred and forty-six miles of streets within the limits of the city, the residents of which need the protecting arm of this department for the prevention of crime, and the preservation of the public peace.

The various precincts are divided into day and night posts. One-quarter of the available patrol force, which is about one hundred men, is used to cover the day posts, and about one-half of said force is used to cover the night posts, which is about two hundred men, therefore each patrolman on day duty is required to patrol about five and one-half miles of streets, and each one on night duty is required to patrol about two and three-quarters miles of streets. In this connection, I would state that police telegraph boxes properly located throughout the city would be a most valuable auxiliary to the patrol force.

Under title 11, section 36 of the charter, the Commissioner of Police and Excise is required to "detail on each day of election within the city of Brooklyn, at least two patrolmen to each election poll." In consequence of this law the residents of the city have been practically without any protection from this department on that day, during which I have been obliged to hold in reserve at headquarters, invalids who were not confined to their beds, and also all others who could be pressed into the service, in order that I might be prepared, in a measure at least, to meet any emergency that might arise, but I have been unable to prevent the destruction of property in various parts of the city, such as tearing down fences, stoops, and in some instances small houses, for the purpose of securing material for bonfires, for the reason that I had not the officers to assign to the various precincts for duty, I have been informed by a member of the Board of Elections that there will be at least two hundred and forty polling places in this city next year, therefore, four hundred and eighty patrolmen will be required for duty at said polling places, and judging from the number of officers that have been available for duty on that day in the past, with the nineteen additional patrolmen, the Commissioner will not have sufficient force to enable him even to comply

with the law in that respect, and the property of those who pay for the maintenance of this department must necessarily remain unprotected as far as the city is concerned.

The importance of establishing a river and harbor police service, with two steam launches, increases in proportion as the business along our water front is increased. Merchandise and other property is stolen from the wharves and piers by river thieves, and the regular force is unable to prevent such depredations, owing to the fact that many of the piers are inaccessible to them, and also that the insufficiency of our force will not warrant an increase in the number of posts along the water front. In view of the foregoing, I respectfully but earnestly request that you will give these matters the careful consideration that their importance suggests.

The number of arrests made during the year was 27,011; unlighted street lamps reported to the Department of City Works, 15,505; persons provided with lodgings in the various station houses, 19,707; lost children taken charge of, 1,919, who were restored to their parents or guardians or transferred to the care of institutions established for that purpose; vacant houses reported to the various precincts for special attention during the summer months, 2,086; 307 cases of violation of city ordinances were reported to the corporation counsel; sanitary work performed as follows: fumigations of infected premises, 967; small-pox cases removed to hospital, 10; wells disinfected, 9; inspections, 137; complaints made and notices served, 53.

Estimated value of stolen and unclaimed property in custody of the	
Department December 1, 1882.....	\$924 72
Property recovered during the year.....	104,256 90
Total.....	\$105,181 62
Property delivered to persons during the year.....	103,804 56
Balance on hand December 1, 1883.....	1,377 06
	\$105,181 62

The telegraph lines and instruments are in good working order,

and during the year 179,813 telegraph messages passed through the office.

Complaints were made against members of the force for violation of the rules, neglect of duty, or misconduct to the number of 467, of which 310 were sustained, 157 dismissed; 11 patrolmen were dismissed from the Department during the year. The police surgeons attended 960 cases of sickness reported to them during the year, making 3,852 professional visits. There were 558 fires reported during the year; six arrests were made of persons suspected of having set fire to their premises; one was convicted and sent to the Penitentiary for two years; two were indicted by the Grand Jury for arson in the first degree, and are now awaiting trial; one is held for the Grand Jury, and two were discharged; 2,735 steam boilers were examined and tested hydrostatically, 29 of which were condemned and ordered removed; 1,463 engineers were examined, of which number 1,196 passed satisfactory examinations and certificates were issued to them; 267 were found to be incompetent and were prohibited from taking charge of engines or acting in the capacity of engineers.

The following statement shows the condition of the finances of the Department, and also of the Police Pension Fund on December 1, 1883, for 11 months:

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$773,200 00
From balance of 1882, credited on the books of the Comptroller to this account for the year 1883.....	5,002 08
From sale of two horses.....	210 00
From Williamsburgh Savings Bank for services of two patrolmen...	2,000 00
From Captains of various Precincts for salaries returned.....	34 67
	<hr/>
	\$780,446 75

DISBURSEMENTS.

Salaries.....	\$690,125 69
Police Fines and lost time.....	3,119 92
General purposes.....	20,771 19
Balance, December 1, 1883.....	66,429 95
	<hr/>
	\$780,446 75

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE AND EXCISE.

163

This Department has received and deposited with the City Treasurer moneys as follows :

For excise licenses.....	\$209,950 00
For salaries.....	2,034 67
For sale of horses.....	210 00
	<hr/>
	\$212,194 67

POLICE PENSION FUND.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in Brooklyn Trust Co., January 1, 1883.....	\$3,067 38
From Comptroller, for percentage of excise license receipts, to Oct. 1, 1883.....	32,561 00
From Comptroller, for fines and lost time.....	3,119 92
From Committee, for proceeds of benefit at Park Theatre.....	4,729 75
From Brooklyn Trust Co., interest on deposit.....	65 74
From Commissioner of Police and Excise, for 10 per cent. of awards.....	50 50
From Commissioner of Police and Excise, for sale of property.....	176 98
	<hr/>
	\$43,771 22

DISBURSEMENTS.

For pensions to retired officers, widows and orphans.....	\$35,283 11
Balance in Brooklyn Trust Co.....	8,488 11
	<hr/>
	\$43,771 22

BUREAU OF EXCISE.

The number of licenses issued was 2,704, classified as follows :

First class, 1761, at \$100 each.....	\$176,100 00
Second class, 182, at \$50 each.....	9,100 00
Third class, 761, at \$50 each.....	38,050 00
	<hr/>
	\$223,250 00

The amount received from sale of licenses was \$223,250.00, which was deposited with the City Treasurer, as the law requires.

Two hundred and sixty-seven complaints were made for violation of the Excise Law, against persons holding licenses, of which the Board revoked 36 licenses, dismissed 94 complaints, allowed 14 to

be withdrawn, and suspended action in 123 cases, but recommended the premises be placed under police surveillance.

There have been changes made in the Excise Laws, the tendency of which is good, but there are other amendments which might be made, that would make them even less objectionable than they are at present.

For such recommendations I respectfully refer you to my report contained in your last annual message to the Common Council.

Very respectfully,

JAMES JOURDAN,

Commissioner.

REPORT
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF EXCISE.

DEPARTMENT OF EXCISE, }
BROOKLYN, Dec. 10, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor*.

SIR :

We have the honor to submit herewith our second annual report of the Department of Excise, commencing December 1, 1882, and ending November 30, 1883, as per detailed statement from the cashier of this Department hereto annexed.

The records in our office show that on November 30, 1883, there were in existence 2,658 licensed places, classified as follows :

First-class, saloons.....	1,744
Second-class, storekeepers.....	188
Third-class, beer saloons.....	726
	<hr/>
	2,658
	<hr/>

Licenses issued from December 1, 1882, to November 30, 1883 :

First-class.....	1,761.....	@ \$100.....	\$176,100
Second-class.....	182.....	" 50.....	9,100
Third-class.....	761.....	" 50.....	38,050
			<hr/>
			2,704

Amount of fees collected for the same..... \$223,250

For the same period last year we issued 2,776 licenses.

Amount of fees received for the same..... 220,200

2,704 licenses this year.

Amount of fees received for the same..... 223,250

Excess of receipts in 1883 over 1882..... \$3,050

With a decreased issue of 72 licenses.

This amount, however, will be largely increased when the certificates now in the hands of the cashier are paid for during this month, a delay having occurred in receiving in time blank certificates from the printers.

The new law abolishing the three-bed clause, which we recommended last year, has enabled us to grant more first-class licenses to saloon-keepers who held only a third-class license and yet sold liquors. We are rapidly regulating this matter by compelling such saloon-keepers to take out a first-class license, whereby we expect the revenue will be increased not less than \$10,000.

Your Commissioners instituted recently an investigation in how far our records agreed with that of the United States Revenue Department, with a view to ascertain if we were correct in our suspicions that there must exist in Brooklyn a large number of places which do business in liquors without a license from this Department. The cashier made a report to us in October last, with the following results :

United States tax receipts issued :	
To retail liquor dealers.....	2,831
“ “ malt “	113
	<hr/>
	2,944

By comparing these figures with the records in the Excise Department, we found—

Licensed as liquor dealers, 1st class.....	1,672
“ “ storekeepers, 2d class.....	183
“ “ beer saloons, or 3d class.....	770
	<hr/>
	2,625
<i>Not licensed by this Board.....</i>	<i>319</i>
	<hr/>
	2,944

It may be interesting for your Honor to know, and to the public, the details of this apparent discrepancy, as well as to the parties interested, that nothing escapes our attention. We have the names of all engaged in this illegal traffic, and trust that the proper authorities will institute at once proceedings which will tend to diminish this increasing evil.

The details are as follows :

Licenses refused by this Department.....	20
“ revoked by us.....	2
“ expired and no application for renewal made.....	2
Reported closed to us.....	15
Duplicates in Revenue Department.....	2
Outside of city limits.....	9
Revenue tax receipts to sell liquor issued to druggists.....	154
Revenue tax receipts to sell liquor issued to chemists, painters, lamp-stores, perfumers and picture-frame makers....	8
Revenue tax receipts to sell liquor issued to grocers as per City Directory, not licensed by us.....	45

Revenue tax receipts to sell liquor issued to bottlers of liquor and beer.....	20
Revenue tax receipts to sell liquor issued to liquor dealers...	16
" " " " " brewers.....	5
" " " " " restaurants.....	5
Revenue tax receipts to sell liquor issued to weiss beer brewers	2
" " " " " club-houses.....	7
" " " " " oyster-houses...	3
" " " " " pottery.....	1
" " " " " segar store.....	1
Revenue tax receipts to sell liquor issued to naval store supplies.....	1
Revenue tax receipts to sell liquor issued to feed store.....	1
<hr/>	
Total.....	319

There are among these many whom we are not authorized to license, such drug stores and those not coming properly under our jurisdiction. Yet, why liquor dealers, grocers and those to whom we have, for good and sufficient reasons, refused licenses, are permitted thus to set the laws at defiance, is a matter which we leave to your Honor to investigate and apply the proper remedy, it being entirely beyond our jurisdiction and control.

It is plain, that from the U. S. Government through its Internal Revenue Department having a perfect detective system, no one can escape, and the punishment being quick and severe, those engaged in this illegal traffic hesitate long before taking the risk, while they can defy the State laws with reasonable security, owing to the imperfect method in our courts to reach this class of offenders by a conviction, particularly in the Police courts. Legislation upon this subject would seem to us very desirable, in justice to those saloon keepers who comply with the law in every respect.

In our last Annual Report, we alluded to the trials and difficulties which beset our path. In the first year of our administration of this difficult and thankless department, we lived in hopes, that our future experience would be more pleasant, flattering ourselves

with the delusive idea that we had nearly surmounted all obstacles, or at any rate by steadily persisting in keeping the middle course, to steer clear of any serious conflicts. In this, however, we were sadly mistaken. No sooner had we fairly started upon our second year's labors than an attack was made upon us in the Legislature instigated by those whose licenses we had refused on the ground that we desired to purify the moral atmosphere of our city, by eliminating therefrom a number of saloons which had made the traffic disreputable, and a reproach to every good citizen. So violent was this warfare, and at one time dangerous, that it even jeopardized the existence of our present city charter, constituting the Mayor the responsible head over all the departments except two. We were accused of illiberality, oppression, &c., in refusing to increase the number of saloons ad-libitum, and in exterminating those who never should have had a license. Through your efforts this danger has been averted, but scarcely had we weathered this storm when, we regret to say, we encountered the bitter hostility of a class of citizens who held extreme views on the other side of the question, and which is raging at the present time unabated, and all this owing to existing laws which do not clearly define and explain neither the spirit, meaning nor intent.

The laws give the Excise Commissioners to some extent discretionary powers, and it is just from this cause that all their troubles originate, for every one expects them to exercise that power in his or their behalf, and how the Commissioners can avoid giving offense to either one or the other of the contending and disappointed parties, is a matter we fail to understand. No department is at all times so open to criticism as ours, and with the very best intentions and the purest motives, Excise Commissioners, no matter who they are, will always encounter the hostility of either one or the other class of citizens who hold extreme views on opposite sides. We are conscious, however, of the fact that we have given satisfaction to moderate thinkers, both in and out of the traffic. If we have erred in properly interpreting incongruous laws, it has been the fault of our heads not our hearts. God knows the rectitude of our motives, to do the best we could, and

in the language of the Reformer, we also can say, "Here we stand, we can not do otherwise."

The question that agitates the public mind at the present time in our city was forced upon us by a class of citizens holding extreme views on the temperance side—namely, the sale of liquors to minors. Our position upon this question is clear and well defined. Your Commissioners have never for a moment hesitated to revoke a license, when reasonable proof was furnished them that the sale was to the minor for his or her consumption; but no such proof was presented to us in any of the cases brought before us for adjudication. We have held that the minors, in obedience to the orders of their parents, requesting the saloon or store-keeper to deliver for the parents' use a quantity of beer or other beverage, is not a sale to the minor; nor did we ever know, or were informed by our counsel, that there had been any decision upon this question by any court of competent jurisdiction. And as the law says they (the Commissioners) must be *satisfied* that the law had been violated, leaving it entirely to our judgment whether it has been or not, we have refused to revoke licenses on that ground. It is possible that your Commissioners have been in error, but we have deemed it right and proper that, so long as there was a doubt, to give the defendants the benefit thereof, for two reasons:

First: Nearly all saloon-keepers, as well as those holding second-class licenses, have been guilty, if that is an offence against the laws, for a number of years. It would be manifestly unjust to revoke the licenses of over a thousand saloon-keepers, when nearly all are equally guilty without any criminal intent.

Second: Those who advocated that the Board should take such an arbitrary, sudden, and dictatorial course forget that while they desire to enforce an idea, the result would be disastrous to a large class of people engaged in a legitimate traffic. Property rights of large taxpayers were involved, which your Commissioners were bound to respect, and while the law is explicit upon one point, that the Board of Excise must *not* act in an arbitrary manner, we would have made ourselves personally liable in civil damages by doing so. We concluded to take the safe course until a court of

competent jurisdiction had enlightened us upon the subject. We have since learned that there is a decision, seemingly against our interpretation of the law, and we shall not hesitate to act promptly in this matter in future cases, for *now* the court is responsible and not we. As far as we are concerned, we had to construe the law not as we should wish it to be, but as we find it. All laws are based upon common sense, and if they cannot stand that test, then they are not good laws. We intend to construe the law, in absence of judicial decisions, for ourselves, and refuse to be bound by the interpretation of interested parties. By doing so we claim to have pursued the safest course, which could work no harm to any one. Meantime the public discussion of this question has had one good effect in educating all saloon and store-keepers, that while this question may still be in doubt, as to whether it is lawful or not, they had better discontinue the practice as soon as possible, consistently with what seems to be public opinion, and in compliance with the wishes of a large class of citizens.

Another question of importance which has been brought before us by certain citizens who agitated the minor matter, is the strict enforcement of the Sunday laws, and prohibiting the sale under any pretext whatsoever. Your Commissioners have at all times cordially co-operated with the police force in punishing wilful and persistent violators of the law. Long experience and practice has made them familiar with the law and evidence required to secure from us a conviction, and uniformly it has been free from malice and spite. In such cases the Board has *never* hesitated to do their plain duty. We have looked, however, unfavorably upon what has been termed the "spy system" by private citizens, who, in order to obtain evidence, contribute themselves to the breaking of the law. Their evidence would have had greater force with us if it was obtained through the legitimate channel of the Police Department, believing most of the officers to be free from prejudice.

In so far as the observance of the Sunday law is concerned, we claim Brooklyn to be a model city, compared with other cities, even those located in prohibition States. The city is quiet and orderly on the Sabbath day; whatever violations do occur accord-

ng to the strict letter of the law, are committed in such a manner as not to give the slightest offence to any passer-by, yet, at the same time, we recognize that it is a violation of the law for any saloon-keeper to dispense beverages of any kind on the Sabbath day to any one. Those who do it, run the risk of having their licenses revoked when satisfactory proof is brought before us, we cannot and will not wink at persistent and habitual violations, and we hope and trust that saloon-keepers themselves will come to a unanimous agreement to close their places and do but six days in the week business, this would relieve us of much trouble, and spare us the unpleasant duty of revoking licenses to otherwise good and orderly citizens engaged in the liquor-traffic.

There are many citizens, however, who claim the right to meet their friends at their favored places of resort, and hold social intercourse there, and that as long as they do not infringe upon the rights of others, it is no one's business what they eat or drink; the fact, however, remains that the law forbids it, and we find it difficult to convince those citizens that it is unlawful, and leaves us no choice as to our action when the violation is clearly proven. An agreement of *all* the saloons to absolutely close on Sundays, and admit no one, would greatly relieve us, and at the same time be respectful to the religious portion of the community.

Again we must report that when our December statement shall have been completed, it will show that the number of saloons has been increased in about the same proportion as the rapidly growing city has seemed to justify. The report from the Department of Buildings must have convinced you of the fact that a constant demand for licenses in new neighborhoods is pressing upon us all the time, and is a source of irritating annoyance to us. We are, however, firm believers in local option. Where residents have petitioned for it, we have felt justified in granting licenses to new places. Yet when the people and property owners protested, we have persistently refused to grant the same, very often causing hardships to those who had incurred, at their own risk, heavy expenses before they were certain that a license could be obtained.

We have often wished that this Board had no discretionary powers

in this respect. Much criticism that we had acted according to whims, would be avoided. By law or otherwise a well defined power or policy should be enacted, stating distinctly what the Board may or may not do. Then no one could complain and the law would be blamed, not the Commissioners.

There is at present, the case before the Supreme Court, where we revoked a license, viz. : that of the Bedford Brewery for violation of the Sunday law. The court served us with an injunction, prohibiting us from interfering with the defendant's business. It has been there now over three months, but no decision has as yet been had. We await with some curiosity what the decision will be, for counsel for defendant claims that the Board had no power to revoke licenses at all, but that the Police Courts had sole jurisdiction, another evidence of the uncertainty of what the law really means.

Another case was appealed from where we refused on a protest to grant a license to a saloon in Flatbush avenue near Lafayette avenue, the complainant however, withdrew his complaint, and the place remains still unlicensed.

We again refrain from making any extended comments upon the Excise laws. We are happy however, that this year the Legislature abolished the obnoxious three-bed clause, and permitted the Board to transfer licenses where parties were unjustly dealt with by landlords, thereby saving a loss to the saloon keeper of the unexpired time of his license.

We remain however by our convictions that :

First : Bonds should be abolished, as being perfectly useless.

Second : Separation, in two distinct departments of the Police and Excise.

Third : A more effective mode of punishment to those, who sell without a license by both fine and imprisonment by some summary process the same as in the United States Courts.

Fourth : The repeal of all Excise Laws now on the Statute Books, and the enactment, of one general, good comprehensive law instead, which can easily be understood by all, and which at the same time shall be equitable and just to all classes of our citizens.

Fifth : Taking from the Excise Commissioners all discretionary powers, and clearly defining what they shall or shall not do.

Sixth : Limiting by law, by fixing a standard of the number of saloons or licenses which Excise Commissioners shall grant, according to the population in Wards, and fixing the fees for the same.

We believe that your Honor has decided opinions upon this subject, and we leave it to you, to suggest such improvements upon the general system, as may seem to you wise and proper, and hope no difficulties will be encountered in getting the Legislature, where there is such a diversity of opinions, to grant the desired reforms. All the old laws seem to have outlived their usefulness and a new one, in conformity with the times seems to us very desirable.

It may be possible that upon the second term of your office, you desire to adopt a general policy for the next two years of your administration, with regard to the Excise question in this city, in order that you may be relieved of the constant complaints by either one or the other parties in interest, we sincerely trust, you may be able to solve the problem. We have done all we could, and can do no better, feeling convinced that to satisfy all is an absolute impossibility, the very fact that we have encountered the hostility of both extremes, must be the best proof that we have chosen as you originally intended "The Golden Middle Road."

Very respectfully,

RICHARD LAUER,

THOS. T. EVANS,

Commissioners of Excise.

REPORT

OF THE

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

HEADQUARTERS FIRE DEPARTMENT,
365 and 367 Jay street,
BROOKLYN, December 1, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

SIR :

In compliance with your request of November 20th I have the honor to make the following report of the affairs of this Department to November 30th of the current year.

ORGANIZATION.

The "force for extinguishing fires" comprises 293 men, classified as shown in Statement A, appended hereto. In addition thereto there are on the rolls of the Department:

Commissioner.....	1
Deputy Commissioner and Chief Clerk.....	1
Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon.....	2
Superintendent of horses.....	1
Bookkeeper, clerks, and employes at Headquarters, including Telegraph Bureau.....	9
Superintendent and employes Repair Shop.....	10
Bell ringers.....	13
Total.....	37

Making a total of three hundred and thirty (330) in the Department. The changes, as appear in Statement B, have been fewer than for the corresponding period last year, there being a total gain of 25 and loss of 18, against a gain of 76 and loss of 41 for the same period in 1882.

FINANCIAL.

The amount credited to this Department for salaries and maintenance, including balance from 1882, amount received from sale of old apparatus and horses, and for services rendered at a fire at Long Island City, was \$409,674.29. Of this \$362,537.02 has been expended, \$11,832.44 will be required to meet outstanding contracts, and \$35,304.83 to purchase apparatus and supplies, and pay salaries for the month of December, as is shown in detail in Statement C. Statement D shows what contracts have been made for account of this Department since January 1st.

For details of the receipts, disbursements and investments of the Firemen's Insurance Fund you are respectfully referred to Statements E, F and G. By the latter you will observe that the amount loaned on bond and mortgage has been increased from \$3,000 to \$25,000, by reason of which we are receiving a higher rate of interest on \$22,000. The total amount of securities and money is now \$55,202.96, against \$49,535.84 a year ago. The changes which have taken place in the list of pensioners are noted in Statement H.

During the past year it was discovered that the City Treasurer's accounts showed \$300 less to the credit of this fund than did the records of the Trustees of the fund. It appears that this amount was paid on December 31st, 1880, to W. D. Moore for services as bookkeeper for the Trustees. I am informed that the payment was authorized by a majority of the then Trustees, though no record of such authorization appears on their minutes. The amount was paid on a bill rendered, and by means of a city warrant, instead of by the Trustees' check, the latter being the usual manner of paying money from this fund. These facts explain the

apparent discrepancy. I have endeavored to obtain from the former Trustees such a statement of the case as will enable the present Trustees to harmonize the accounts, and hope soon to have it.

During the last session of the Legislature the law establishing the Firemen's Insurance Fund was so amended as to extend the limit of the pension of firemen from \$300 per annum to an amount equal to one-half of their salary at the date of retirement, and also to provide an insurance fund, by the monthly payment of \$1 by such members of the department as might choose to avail themselves of its provisions. The fund is known as the "Brooklyn Fire Department Widows' and Orphans' Relief Fund." The contributions of the subscribers to this fund are deducted by the Comptroller from their monthly pay, and upon the death of any member of the department so subscribing, the sum of \$500 is paid at once to his heirs. In Statement I will be found the receipts and disbursements for account of this fund.

FIRES AND ALARMS.

For statistics relating to fires and alarms, and to the character of property burned, I respectfully refer to statements J and K. The most disastrous fires, and the only ones where the losses exceeded \$17,000, were :

January 6, Ovington Bros	\$171,755
July 19, Harbeck's Pier, 3 ships, &c.	168,500
August 27, oil works, &c., Gowanus Canal	33,800
September 15, hat factories, cor. Park ave. and Hall st.	39,500

In statement L will be found statistics relating to the fires and losses thereby in this city, and the appropriations for maintaining the department, its apparatus, &c., from 1872 to this date inclusive. It appears from them that the percentage of serious fires (*i. e.*, fires where the services of more than two engines were required to extinguish) has been growing smaller, while the average loss by each fire also tends to decrease. It also appears that during the same period the population of the city has increased over

46 per cent., and the value of real and personal property 43 per cent., while the appropriation for the maintenance and extension of this department has increased but about 21 per cent.

TELEGRAPH.

Considerable delay has been experienced in increasing the number of fire-alarm boxes by reason of a suit against the city regarding certain patent rights, which has been pending for some years. This has at last been settled in a very satisfactory manner, and with no expense to the city for damages, through the personal efforts of your Honor, as you are already aware, and a contract was made last month for fifty street fire-alarm boxes containing all the improved devices. They will probably all be in position and connected with the central telegraph system within the next two months.

In connection with this improvement, all the Eastern District telegraph circuits are now being centralized at these headquarters, and a new code of fire-alarm numbers for the whole city substituted for those now in use in the Eastern and Western Districts, that in the Eastern District being almost a duplicate of that in the Western District, and often creating confusion.

This, with the extension of, and addition to present circuits, for the purpose of connecting the fifty new boxes, requires about 50 miles of new wire, 4,000 insulators, and an increase of battery of about 150 cells.

The only means of rapid communication between the various houses of the department and these headquarters at present is by the use of a code of signals upon the "small gong circuit." This limits our communications, much to the detriment of the department, and often puzzles the horses and men, the same gong being also used for signalling alarms of fire. A telephone system for the use of this department alone, with wires centering at these headquarters, and provided with switches for making necessary connections, is almost indispensable.

APPARATUS.

One "Amoskeag" steam fire engine has been purchased and assigned to Engine Company No. 2, upon the South Brooklyn river front. A new "Hayes Extension Ladder," capable of being raised to a height of 85 feet, and answering to a considerable extent the purposes of a water tower, has also been purchased and assigned to Truck Company No. 3, in Concord street. One serious objection to these ladder trucks has been their great weight, which weight is indispensable on account of the great height of the ladder. This objection has been overcome, however, by Superintendent James Lynch, of the Department Repair Shop, by so fitting the truck that it can be drawn by three horses harnessed abreast, and this without materially increasing the time of hitching up. This truck, as we have improved it, is considered by the officers of the department a valuable addition to our apparatus. It is very desirable that a second should be purchased at an early date, and stationed near the high buildings upon the water front of the Eastern District.

There are in service 20 steam fire engines, 20 hose tenders, 5 hook and ladder trucks and 8 coal wagons in good order. In reserve there are 2 steam fire engines, 2 hook and ladder trucks, 2 hose tenders (2-horse), 3 hose tenders (1-horse) in good condition; and 2 hook and ladder trucks and 1 coal wagon in fair order. The hose tenders of Engines Nos. 1, 19 and 20 have been rebuilt in the repair shop during the year, and nearly every tender and hook and ladder truck has been repaired.

In addition to the above, there are in service 2 supply wagons and 1 supply truck, 2 light wagons, 2 engineers' wagons and 5 district engineers' wagons; and in reserve, 1 light wagon, 1 engineers' wagon and 1 district engineers' wagon, all in good order. With few exceptions, all have been repaired during the year.

There have been sold at public auction 1 old steam fire engine, 1 supply wagon and 2 light wagons unfit for service; and there have been built in the repair shop 1 supply truck, 2 light wagons and a wagon for the Assistant Chief Engineer.

The boilers of all the engines have been inspected during the year by the Superintendent of Steam Boilers, all standing the required tests. Engines No. 3 and 9 have been supplied with new boilers, and every engine has been more or less repaired since my last report.

There have been purchased under contract 80 lengths (50 feet each) of rubber fire-hose, and 80 lengths of cotton fire-hose, rubber lined; 40 lengths, which had become unfit for use in this department, have been turned over by order of the Common Council to the Department of City Works for use in the sewers, and 30 lengths have been used in repairing other hose or destroyed. There are on hand 424 lengths in good condition, 189 lengths in fair condition, and 185 lengths in bad condition.

The wear and tear on our hose is very severe by reason of the limited number of hydrants, which necessitates at many fires the use of a great amount of hose. It is very desirable that the number of hydrants should be considerably increased, especially along the river front, and in the vicinity of manufactories and large buildings. Such an increase would materially improve the efficiency of this department by enabling it to get to work more quickly and with more effect, because of having a less length of hose to handle and to force water through. It would also materially relieve the strain upon engines and hose which is now sustained by being obliged to use such long lines of hose.

HORSES.

The management of the horses remains in the hands of Superintendent John L. Heins. During the year 20 horses have been purchased, 14 have been sold, being unfit for our service, 1 has died and 3 were killed by order of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The general condition of the horses is much more satisfactory than a year ago, though there are quite a number old and infirm, which ought soon to be replaced by new ones; and in order to be better guarded against being crippled by accidents the number of reserve horses should be increased. Be-

sides those required for the apparatus and wagons, there are now but 3 in reserve. We have in all 85 horses.

BUILDINGS AND REPAIRS.

A list of the buildings under the control of this department will be found in Statement M. The repairing of houses continues to be performed by mechanics of the department (firemen), under the supervision of Fireman Charles Goodwin, of Truck No. 3, and the results are quite as satisfactory as last year. Besides effecting a considerable saving in the actual cost of repairs by this plan, a reserve force of skilled firemen is constantly at hand, the value of which was seen at the time of the fire at Harbeck's Pier in July last. By the falling of a burning shed eleven firemen were injured and placed under the Surgeon's care, and their places were immediately filled by returning an equal number of these detailed firemen to their companies and temporarily suspending the work of repairs.

The repairs and alterations to the house of engine 5, which had been commenced at the time of making my last annual report, have been completed, as have also those to the houses of engines 1 and 8, commenced this year. In each the stalls have been turned to face the front, engine room floors relaid and caulked, and sliding poles, of which I spoke in my last report, have been introduced and been found to greatly facilitate the movements of these companies. The number of lockers in these houses has been increased so as to furnish one to each fireman; plumbing has been put in order, and the interiors of the houses painted and kalsomined. The old engine house on South 1st street corner of 5th street, formerly used as a court room, and turned over to this department in October 1882, has been entirely altered, providing an office for the assistant Chief and one of the district Engineers, with accommodations for their horses and wagons, and also a coal depot which has been much needed in that portion of the city.

A brick extension has been added to the paint room of the repair shop, more than doubling its size, and affording room for painting our longest hook and ladder trucks; minor repairs to

roofs and stalls, and in the way of painting, plumbing, mason work etc., have been made to nearly every house.

In addition to the above repairs made by the firemen, the cellars of the house of Engine Co., No. 18 in Siegel street, and of Truck Co., No. 6, in Greenpoint avenue, which have always been damp and in rainy weather, often had several inches of water standing in them, producing sickness among the firemen, have been made water tight and perfectly dry by the use of concrete, hydraulic cement and waterproof felt. This work was done under the supervision of the Department of City Works, by contract, at an expense of \$1,945.

A new house has been built by contract, under the supervision of the Department of City works, in 11th street between 7th and 8th avenues, and was formally occupied on November 1st by a steam fire engine company fully equipped, made up by details from other companies, and designated No. 20.

In this connection an explanation should be made in relation to an allusion to the leasing of 153 and 155 Furman street for an engine house, made in my report of a year ago. On October 23d 1882, the Common Council authorized the leasing of the above named property, and at the time of making my report the lease was being prepared. Later, and before the lease was signed, it was discovered that by a clerical error the resolution as passed called for the leasing of the whole of the premises, whereas a lease of only the first and second stories had been contemplated. On December 11th I requested the Common Council to rescind their resolution of October 23d, and to authorize the leasing of the first and second floors. The resolution was rescinded, and the matter of the lease was referred to the Law Committee. The President and a Special Committee of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, and also a number of property owners on the river front, have urged the matter upon the attention of the committee; and on August 2d, shortly after the disastrous fire at Harbecks Pier, I again communicated with the Common Council urging action in this matter. As yet no report whatever in relation thereto has been made by the committee, as appears by the Minutes of the Common Council,

and millions of dollars worth of property on Furman street remains without adequate protection.

BUREAU OF COMBUSTIBLES.

On the 21st of July last the efficient Superintendent of this Bureau, Mr. Charles E. Miles, was suddenly removed by death. His place has been filled in an acceptable manner by Fireman James Kellock of Truck No. 6. The entire work of this bureau continues to be done, as it was last year, by five men (firemen), instead of by about fifteen clerks as was the case prior to 1882, and more licenses have been issued and more money received thus far this year than during the corresponding eleven months of 1882. For statistics you are respectfully referred to Statement N.

It is claimed by some oil dealers that the high standard of "100° flash" as fixed by the law of 1882 does not apply to the city of Brooklyn. The Corporation Counsel and District Attorney are not agreed as to whether it does or not. As soon as the District Attorney elect takes office an effort will be made to have the question decided, if necessary, by bringing a test case in court.

All of the samples tested have run considerably above the old standard of "110° fire test," and most ran nearly if not quite up to "100° flash."

SANITARY.

Dr. E. A. Lewis, Department Surgeon, makes report of the sanitary condition of the Department as follows, viz. :

"The houses have been inspected from time to time, and during the last month, have all been thoroughly examined. They are well kept, clean, neat and in good sanitary condition. The needed repairs and the minor defects in ventilation and plumbing have been before pointed out and many of them already corrected. The general health of the men has been good. While there has been a great deal of work for the Surgeons, most of it has been due to accidents and the exposures which it is part of a fireman's

duty to undergo. Two serious accidents have happened during the year. One on May 21, by which eight men were disabled, but all of these are returned to duty. On July 19, another occurred disabling thirteen men. Of these one died from his injuries, and one is not yet on duty, the others have recovered. It is worthy of remark that very few cases of illness as result of drinking have occurred. The only death which has taken place among the uniformed force is that of Robert McDougal, fireman of Truck No. 3. He was so badly burned and crushed on July 19, that he died July 25. Charles E. Miles, Superintendent of Bureau of Combustibles, died suddenly of apoplexy, July 21. I append a tabulated statement of the year's work:" (Statement O.)

DISCIPLINE.

There has been a much closer attention to duty in the Department, and less tendency to violate rules, than in 1882. The following is a comparative record of trials, &c., since January 1, 1882, viz.:

	1882.	11 months of 1883.
Total trials.....	65	33
Acquittals.....	9	1
Reprimands.....	7	7
Fines imposed.....	41	22
Dismissals.....	8	3
Amount of fines collected.....	\$407.55	\$174.86

LEGISLATION.

In my report of 1882 I urged a modification of our laws relating to the rank and pay of firemen. The experiences of another year strengthens my opinion that such changes as I then suggested are not only desirable, as tending to increase the efficiency of the Department, but are just towards the firemen. I deem the matter of

sufficient importance to warrant my repeating a portion of what I said last year upon the subject, viz :

“ Under present laws, each company consists of a foreman, at a salary of \$1,100, and firemen, whose pay ranges from \$1,000 down to \$700, depending upon length of service, and in no way upon the duty performed. This hardly seems just, when it is considered that the fireman performing the duties of engineer and also his assistant must be skilled engineers and be provided with official certificates, and that a driver is expected to be experienced in the care and management of horses, and must have more than average skill in driving. As the foreman is necessarily absent at meals three times daily, and occasionally has a day off, his place, under the present law, can only be filled during such absence by the temporary appointment of a fireman to act as foreman. Such an appointee may have to assume grave responsibilities in case of fire during a foreman's absence, and he could hardly be expected to command the respect and obedience of the company, as could one of higher rank than his comrades. These evils, I am confident, could be overcome by establishing rank and pay as follows, viz.:

Privates—Salaries graded, as at present, according to length of service.

Drivers and assistant engineers—Salaries a little higher than privates.

Engineers and assistant foremen—Salaries a little higher than drivers ; and

Foremen—Salaries a little higher than assistant foremen.

I would have all candidates for promotion carefully examined as to their fitness, so that merit alone should ensure promotion ; and I would provide for reducing from one grade to any grade below on trial and conviction.

Under the present law, the engineers and drivers receive no more pay, while they have greater responsibilities and more work than their comrades, and, when tired of this, there is a strong inducement to be negligent ; whereas, with even a small increase of pay, and a possibility of reduction in rank and pay as a penalty

for negligence, there would be every inducement for men to try to retain their positions, and their comrades would be more ready to render them assistance in emergencies, as by so doing they would be learning the duties of, and fitting themselves to fill, higher positions when vacancies occurred.

* * * *

I would discourage any legislation tending to "equalize" the pay, believing any equalization, without regard to length of service or character of service rendered, to be unbusinesslike and tending to demoralization."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN N. PARTRIDGE,
Commissioner.

STATEMENT "A."

Rank, Number and Distribution of the Force for Extinguishing Fires."

	Chief.	Assistant Chief.	District Engineers.	Foremen.	Engineers.	Drivers.	Firemen.	Total.
Engineers.....	1	1	6					8
Supt. of Harness Shop.....				1				1
Engine Co. No. 1.....				1	1	1	6	9
" 2.....				1	1	1	8	11
" 3.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 4.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 5.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 6.....				1	1	1	8	11
" 7.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 8.....				1	1	1	8	11
" 9.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 10.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 11.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 12.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 13.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 14.....				1	1	1	8	11
" 15.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 16.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 17.....				1	1	1	8	11
" 18.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 19.....				1	1	1	9	12
" 20.....				1	1	1	5	8
Truck Co. No. 1.....				1		1	8	10
" 2.....				1		1	10	12
" 3.....				1		1	9	11
" 4.....				1		1	10	12
" 5.....				1		1	9	11
Total.....	1	1	6	26	20	25	214	293

STATEMENT "B."

Changes December 1, 1882, to November 30, 1883, inclusive.

	Foremen.	Firemen.	Repair-shop Employees	Other Employees.	Gain.	Loss.	Promoted.	Total Gain.
Resigned.....		10		1		11		
Retired on Pension.....		1				1		
Decensed.....		1		1		2		
Dismissed.....	1	2	1			4		
Appointed.....		20	3	2	25			
Promoted.....	*1	†3		‡1			5	
	2	37	4	5	25	18	5	7

* From fireman.

† From repair shop.

‡ Inspector of Telegraph to be Superintendent of the Telegraph Bureau.

STATEMENT "C,"

FINANCIAL

Purpose.	Expended.	Appropriated.
Balance from appropriation of 1882.....		\$13,901 42
Salaries for 1883.....		319,950 00
Maintenance.....		74,000 00
Amount derived from sale of old apparatus, &c.....		751 97
Amount derived from sale of disabled horse (14).....		920 90
Amount for service at fire in Long Island City, which occurred August 22d.....		150 00
On account of contracts and bills of 1882.....	\$2,241 41	
Contract for building house of Engine Co. No. 20.....	10,812 00	
Salaries from January 1 to November 30, 1883.....	292,855 73	
Horses (20).....	5,850 00	
Shoeing horses.....	2,478 05	
Feed and bedding for horses.....	8,659 79	
Gas consumed in houses of department.....	1,513 85	
Coal and wood.....	2,677 81	
General supplies, brooms, mops, oil, waste, &c.....	4,130 11	
Materials and tools for repair and harness shops.....	4,003 50	
Stationery blanks, blank books, &c.....	874 88	
Materials for repairs to houses.....	4,750 62	
Repairing and making cellars of Truck Co. No. 6 and Engine Co. No. 18 impervious to water.....	1,915 00	
Telegraph maintenance and repairs.....	1,813 51	
New hose and payments under former contracts.....	6,802 00	
Three new engine boilers.....	1,674 00	
One new Amoskeag steam fire engine.....	4,500 00	
One Hayes hook and ladder truck.....	3,150 00	
Contingent expenses not chargeable to special accounts.....	1,804 76	
Total expenditure to November 30th, 1883.....	\$362,537 02	
Balance.....	47,137 27	
	\$409,674 29	\$409,674 29
Unexpended balance.....		\$47,137 27
OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES ON CONTRACTS, &c.		
American Fire Hose Mfg. Co., third payment on 5,000 feet of hose, due November, 1884.....	\$930 00	
D. & M. May certified on feed and bedding con- tract.....	1,978 61	
Carried forward.....		

STATEMENT "C," (FINANCIAL)—Concluded.

Purpose.	Expended.	Appropriated.
Brought forward.....		
American Fire Hose Mfg. Co., second and third payment on 2,000 feet of hose, due April, 1884 and 1885.....	744 00	
Boston Woven Hose Co., second and third payment on 2,000 feet of hose, due April, 1884 and 1885.....	744 00	
John F. Schmudeke, Class "A," 97 tons of coal at \$4.99.....	484 00	
M. J. Gaffney, Class "B," 104 tons of coal at \$5.30.....	551 20	
Richard B. Leach, Class "C," 21 loads of wood at \$3.60.....	75 60	
Reserved on contract for building engine house No. 20.....	75 00	
The Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Co., 50 boxes at \$125 each.....	6,250 00	
Total amount certified on contract.....	\$11,832 44	
For salaries, new engine, horses, and supplies for December, and outstanding bills estimated....	\$35,304 83	
	\$47,137 27	\$47,137 27

FIRE DEPARTMENT,

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STATEMENT "D." Contracts made for account of the Fire Department during 1883.

With	For	Contract awarded.	Amount.
D. & M. May	Feed and bedding, hay, straw, oats, meal and fine feed.	January 16, 1883.	\$10,303 20
William Clyde	Leather, &c.	February 8, 1883.	179 16
Joseph Kessel	Miscellaneous supplies.	February 8, 1883.	1,210 90
H. E. Townsend	Telegraph supplies.	February 8, 1883.	1,189 00
Rowland A. Robbins.	Bedding, &c.	February 8, 1883.	439 73
S. A. Schoonmaker & Co.	Painters' supplies, &c.	February 8, 1883.	378 00
Alexander & Ellis	Material for wheelwright shop.	February 8, 1883.	264 00
H. T. Wakeman	Material for repair shop.	February 8, 1883.	1,203 00
H. E. Townsend	Rubber goods, &c.	February 8, 1883.	689 00
John M. Bulwinkle.	Stationery, blanks, &c.	February 8, 1883.	597 00
Manchester Locomotive Works.	One Amoskeag steam fire engine.	February 24, 1883.	4,500 00
American Fire Hose Mfg Co.	2,000 feet rubber and cotton hose.	February 24, 1883.	1,800 00
Boston Woven Hose Co.	"	February 24, 1883.	1,800 00
John F. Schmadeke	375 tons Lehigh hard coal at \$4.99 per gross ton.	March 17, 1883.	1,671 25
M. J. Gaffney.	" " \$5.30	March 17, 1883.	1,192 50
Richard B. Leech	80 loads of pine wood at \$3.60 per load.	March 17, 1883.	288 00
Alexander & Ellis	Lumber and timber.	March 28, 1883.	1,320 72
Joseph Kessel.	Brick, lime and lath.	March 28, 1883.	226 16
Manchester Locomotive Works.	Three new boilers.	May 8, 1883.	1,674 00
Gutta Percha & Rubber Mfg Co.	4,000 feet of carbolized rubber hose at 91 cts. per foot.	July 19, 1883.	3,640 00
La France Fire Engine Co.	One hook and ladder truck.	July 19, 1883.	3,150 00
Ganewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Co.	50 street fire alarm boxes at \$125 per box.	Nov. 13, 1883.	6,250 00
Total			\$44,285 62

STATEMENT "E."

The City Treasury in account with the Firemen's Insurance Fund.

Cr.

Dr.

1882.		1883.	
Dec. 1.	To balance, as per report, Dec. 1, 1882.....	Jan. 21.	By amount drawn from the City Treasury by the Trustees of the Firemen's Insurance Fund.....
			\$9,500 00
Dec. 1, 1882.	To fines and costs from Dec. 1, 1882, to Nov. 30, 1883.....	Sept. 28.	By amount drawn from the City Treasury by the Trustees of the Firemen's Insurance Fund.....
			8,000 00
Dec. 1, 1882.	To amount of fees for issuing licenses for the sale of kerosene oil from Dec. 1, 1882, to Nov. 30, 1883.....		Total amount withdrawn since last report.....
			\$17,500 00
			By balance in City Treasury, as per records of the Trustees of the Fund.....
			2,514 15
			<u>\$20,014 15</u>

STATEMENT "F."

Dr. *The Trustees of the Firemen's Insurance Fund in account with the Firemen's Insurance Fund* Cr.

1882.	1882.				
Dec. 1.	To Cash balance in the Brooklyn Trust Company, as per report November 30, 1882	\$37,435 64	Dec. 1, 1882, By amount of pension paid to Mary A. Geary	\$300 00	
January 24.	To amount drawn from the City Treasury and deposited in the Brooklyn Trust Company.	9,500 00	"	By amount of pension paid to Catharine E. Murray	300 00
January 31.	To amount of donation from Franklin Allen, Esq., deposited in the Brooklyn Trust Co.	150 00	"	By amount of pension paid to Margaret T. Ford.	300 00
March 1.	To amount of interest on bond of Jane Kassenbrock, for six months up to February 1, 1883, deposited in the Brooklyn Trust Co.	75 00	"	By amount of pension paid to Christina Murphy.	300 00
May 1.	To amt of interest on bond of Jeremiah Quaid, from April 25, to May 1, 1883, deposited in the Brooklyn Trust Co.	2 75	"	By amount of pension paid to Margaret Murphy.	300 00
May 29.	To amount of interest on deposits in the Brooklyn Trust Co., up to May 1, 1883.	523 85	"	By amount of pension paid to Isabella Gaffney.	300 00
June 7.	To amt of interest on bond of Charles Robbins up to May 1, 1883, deposited in the Brooklyn Trust Co.	156 25	"	By amount of pension paid to John Benham.	300 00
Sept. 7.	To amt of int. on bond of Jane Kassenbrock up to Aug. 1, 1883, deposited in the Brooklyn Trust Co.	75 00	"	By amount of pension paid to Margaret Farrell.	300 00
	Carried forward.	\$47,918 49	Dec. 1, 1882, By amount of pension paid to Catharine Baldwin.	300 00	
			to April 30, 1883.	300 00	
			Dec. 1, 1882, By amount of pension paid to Michael Oats	125 00	
			to Dec. 30, 1882.	25 00	
			Dec. 1, 1882, By amount of pension paid to Charlotte Moran	300 00	
			to Nov. 30, 1883.		
			Carried forward.	\$3,150 00	

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT "F."—CONTINUED.

Dr. *The Trustees of the Firemen's Insurance Fund in account with the Firemen's Insurance Fund.* Cr.

1883.		\$47,918 49	1892.		\$3,150 00
Sept. 28.	Brought forward.		Dec. 1, 1892,	Brought forward.	
	To amt't drawn from the City Treasury		to Nov. 30,	By amount of pension paid to Mrs.	300 00
	and deposited in the Brooklyn		1893.	A. E. Randolph.	
	Trust Company.	8,000 00	"	By amount of pension paid to Ber-	300 00
Oct. 3.	To amt't of interest on bond of Joseph		"	nard McLaughlin.	300 00
	W. Wilde up to Sept. 1, 1883, de-	60 00	"	By amount of pension paid to Eliz-	300 00
Nov. 1.	posited in the B'klyn Trust Co.		"	abeth Donnelly.	300 00
	To interest on bond of Jeremiah	100 00	"	By amount of pension paid to Mary	300 00
	Quaid up to Nov. 1, 1883, deposited		"	McQueeney.	300 00
Nov. 15.	in the Brooklyn Trust Company.		"	By amount of pension paid to Cath-	300 00
	To interest on bond of Chas. Robins	375 00	1893.	arine Fitzgerald.	50 00
	up to Nov. 1, 1883, deposited in		Dec. 1, 1892,	By pension paid Annie Feast.	
Nov. 20.	the Brooklyn Trust Company.	326 96	to Jan. 31,		300 00
	To interest on deposits in the Brook-		1893.		
	lyn Trust Company up to Nov. 1,		Dec. 1, 1892,	By pension paid John Bradley.	300 00
	1883.		to Nov. 30,		
			1893.		
			"	By pension paid Andrew McShane.	300 00
			"	By pension paid Michael Bennett.	300 00
			"	By pension paid Wm. Dowd.	300 00
			"	By pension paid Catharine Butler.	300 00
			"	By pension paid Mary Keegan.	300 00
			Jan. 1, 1893,	By pension paid Mary Oats.	275 00
			to Nov. 30,		
			1893.		
	Carried forward.	\$56,780 45		Carried forward.	\$6,775 00

STATEMENT "F."—CONCLUDED.

DR. *The Trustees of the Firemen's Insurance Fund in account with the Firemen's Insurance Fund.* Cr.

To amount brought forward.....	1883.		
	Aug. 1, 1883. By amount brought forward.....	\$6,775 00	
	to Nov. 30, 1883. By pension paid Patrick Murray.....	166 64	
	Amount paid pensioners from Dec. 1, 1882, to Nov. 30, 1883.....	\$6,941 64	
	1883.		
	Jan. 24..... By amount paid Franklin Allen, salary as Secretary for 1882. See cross-entry under date Jan'y 31.....	150 00	
	Feb. 14..... By amount paid Chas. Robins, loan on bond and mortgage on property, corner Fulton and Clermont avenue.....	15,000 00	
	April 25..... By amount of loan to Jeremiah Quid, on bond and mortgage on property, southwest corner 5th avenue and 6th street.....	4,000 00	
	May 2..... By amount of loan to Joseph W. Wilde, on bond and mortgage on property, north side of Bainbridge street, 225 feet west from Patchen avenue.....	3,000 00	
	Total disbursement.....	\$29,091 64	
	By cash balance in the Brooklyn Trust Co.....	27,688 81	
		\$56,780 45	

STATEMENT "G."

Amount of Securities and Money to the credit of the Fireman's Insurance Fund, November 30, 1883.

Bond and mortgage on house and lot known as 86 Carroll street, city of Brooklyn, property of Jane Kassenbrock, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent.	\$3,000 00
Bond and mortgage on buildings and land situated on the north-easterly corner of Clermont, Fulton and Gates avenues, city of Brooklyn, property of Chas. Robins, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent.	15,000 00
Bond and mortgage on house and lot southwest corner of Fifth avenue and Sixth street, city of Brooklyn, property of Jeremiah Quaid, and bearing interest at the rate of five per cent.	4,000 00
Bond and mortgage on house and lot north side of Bainbridge street, 225 feet west from Patchen avenue, city of Brooklyn, property James Given, (mortgage assigned by Jos. W. Wilde), bearing interest at the rate of six per cent.	3,000 00
Cash in the City Treasury, as per records of the Trustees of the Fund.	2,514 15
Cash in the Brooklyn Trust Company.	27,688 81
Total.	\$55,202 96

STATEMENT "H."

The following named persons have been placed on the Pension Roll of the Firemen's Insurance Fund since last report.

Mary Oats, widow of Michael Oats, bell ringer.	Jan. 1, 1883.
Patrick Murray, driver of Engine Co. No. 13.	Aug. 1, 1883.

Total number of pensioners on the roll twenty-three, twenty-two of whom receive an annual pension of \$300, and one a pension of \$500.

The following named persons have been taken off the pension roll of the Firemen's Insurance Fund since last report.

- Michael Oats, bell ringer, December, 1882, cause, death.
- Annie Feist, widow of Jacob Feist, January, 1883, cause, married.
- Mary E. Kane, widow of John Kane, April, 1883, cause, death.

STATEMENT "I."

The Trustees of the Brooklyn Fire Department Widows' and Orphans' Relief Fund, in account with the
Dr. Brooklyn Fire Department Widows' and Orphans' Relief Fund. Cr.

1883.

August 3..... To amount received from Comptrol-
 ler, deducted from members of
 Fire Dep't on pay rolls for months
 of June and July, 1883, and de-
 posited in the Brooklyn Trust Co.
 Sept. 2..... To amount received from Comptrol-
 ler, deducted from members of
 Fire Dep't on pay rolls for month
 of August, and deposited in the
 Brooklyn Trust Co.
 Sept. 30..... To amount received from Comptrol-
 ler, deducted from members of
 Fire Dep't on pay rolls for month
 of September, and deposited in
 the Brooklyn Trust Co.
 Oct. 31..... To amount received from Comptrol-
 ler, deducted from members of
 Fire Dep't on pay rolls for month
 of October, and deposited in the
 Brooklyn Trust Co.
 Nov. 8..... To amount of donation from Mr.
 John Mullins, deposited in the
 Brooklyn Trust Co.
 Nov. 20..... To amount of interest on deposits in
 the Brooklyn Trust Co. up to
 Nov. 1, 1883.

Carried forward.....

\$1,544 89

1883.

Sept. 21..... By amount paid to Heywood C.
 Brown for check book, ledger, &c.,
 for the use of the Fund.
 Sept. 21..... By amount paid George B. Abbott,
 Public Administrator of Kings Co.,
 for the late Robert McDougall, of
 Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3.
 Total amount disbursed.....
 By cash balance in the Brooklyn
 Trust Co.

\$521 00
 1,333 89

STATEMENT "I"—Concluded.

Dr.	Cr.	
1881.		
Nov. 30.....	Brought forward.....	Brought forward. \$1,854 59
	To amount received from Comptrol- ler, deducted from members of the Fire Dep't on pay rolls for month of November, and deposited in the Brooklyn Trust Co.	
	\$1,544 89	
	310 00	
	\$1,854 89	\$1,854 89

STATEMENT "J."

Fires and Alarms and amount of Losses since October 1, 1869.

1869.	49	fires and alarms (three months).....	Loss	\$113,320 00
1870.	254	"	"	882,300 00
1871.	272	"	"	757,875 00
1872.	320	"	"	1,728,070 00
1873.	289	"	"	699,185 00
1874.	298	"	"	636,385 00
1875.	353	"	"	909,352 00
1876.	385	"	"	712,490 00
1877.	371	"	"	1,125,656 00
1878.	382	"	"	304,814 00
1879.	404	"	"	608,243 00
1880.	407	"	"	1,682,540 00
1881.	518	"	"	825,947 00
1882.	595	"	"	1,338,272 00
1883.	622	" (eleven months).....	"	735,977 00

Of the alarms for 1883 (11 months) :

3	were received at Headquarters, 367 Jay St.
31	" received from Assistant Chief Engineer's office.
61	" " the bell towers.
3	" " old signal stations.
102	" " engine and truck houses.
191	" " street fire alarm boxes.
135	" still alarms.
3	" received from repair shop.
57	" " Police Headquarters.
36	" " telephone.

STATEMENT "K."

Kind and number of buildings, &c., taken fire from January 1, to November 30, 1882.

Marble front buildings, 4-story	1
Iron " " 4 "	1
Brownstone dwellings, 2-story	1
" " 3 "	17
" " 4 "	10
Brownstone stores and dwellings, 4-story	3
Brick dwellings, 1 story	3
" " 2 "	9
" " 3 "	47
" " 4 "	9
Brick tenements	9
Brick stores, 3-story	9
" " 4 "	2
Brick stores and dwellings, 2-story	9
" " 3 "	38
" " 4 "	19
" " 6 "	6
Frame dwellings, 1-story	22
" " 2 "	80
" " 3 "	48
" " 4 "	1
" stores, 1 "	13
" " and dwellings, 2-story	43
" " 3 "	27
" " 4 "	1
" tenements	5
Brick factories, 1-story	1
" " 2 "	8
" " 3 "	7
" " 4 "	8
" " 5 "	5
Frame " 1 "	3
" " 2 "	7
" " 3 "	2
" " 4 "	1
Blacksmith shops	4
Breweries	2
Boiler house	1
Churches	8

STATEMENT "K."—Concluded.

Canal boats and lighters.....	4
Carpenter and cooper shops.....	7
Chimneys.....	45
Coal and wood yard and buildings.....	7
City dock Department office.....	1
Foundries.....	5
Franklin avenue R. R. car house.....	1
Fence.....	1
Flag pole.....	1
Glass works.....	6
Hotels and public halls.....	3
Hay and rubbish in streets and lots.....	10
Laundry.....	1
Monlding mill.....	1
Oil refineries.....	22
Oil barrels on walk.....	2
School houses.....	4
Pottery.....	1
Stables, brick.....	8
Stables, frame.....	12
Storage houses.....	5
Ships.....	5
Saw mill.....	1
Sheds.....	8
Sloop.....	1
Sulphur works.....	2
Tug boats.....	5
Tannery.....	1
Tar pots on street.....	3
Volks Theatre.....	1
Varnish Works.....	2
Valve house at Gas works.....	1

OUT OF CITY LIMITS.

Daylight Oil Works, L. I. City.....	1
Eastern Distilling Co., L. I. City.....	1

STATEMENT "L."

Comparative Statement of Fires, Alarms, Losses, Apparatus, Force, &c., from January, 1872, to November 30, 1883, inclusive.

Year	Population	Value of real and personal property.	False alarms.	Sections fires, &c., requiring service of 2 engines or less.	Sections fires, &c., requiring more than 2 engines.	Total fires and alarms.	Percentage of serious fires.	Loss.	Average loss.	Average loss each fire for 10 years, \$2,344.	Steam Fire Engine Cos.	Truck Companies.	Firemen, including officers.	Street fire-alarm boxes.	Appropriations.
1872	429,421	\$207,952,332	No records.	246	74	320	23	\$1,798,070	\$5,400		14	6	183	None.	\$324,986
1873	447,058	216,282,870		228	61	289	21	699,185	2,419		16	5	196	"	328,000
1874	465,380	220,369,107		237	61	298	20	636,385	2,135		16	5	204	"	335,700
1875	484,616	225,191,875		288	65	353	18	909,352	2,576		16	5	206	"	339,500
1876	500,154	227,013,123		325	60	385	15†	712,499	1,850		17	5	214	"	372,900
1877	516,129	229,393,016		311	60	371	16	1,125,656	3,034		17	5	217	"	386,250
1878	532,553	233,312,004	12	324	46	382	12	301,814	798		18	5	225	"	351,330
1879	549,440	232,835,699	7	343	54	404	13†	698,243	1,505		18	5	230	"	340,800
1880	566,689	234,835,991	17	324	66	407	16†	1,682,540	4,134		19	5	235	"	355,550
1881	586,520	255,265,045	30	380	100	518	19†	825,947	1,594		19	5	244	59	357,165
1882	607,650	283,738,317	16	513	66	595	11	1,338,372	2,249		19	5	284	86	382,950
1883	628,296	298,936,506	*16	*512	*64	*622	*10†	*735,977	*1,183		20	5	293	86	393,950

* 11 months.

† 1875 and 1880 taken from census; other years estimated.

‡ From reports of Assessment Department.

STATEMENT "M."

Buildings occupied by or under control of the Fire Department.

Headquarters, office of Chief Engineer, Bureau of Combustibles, Telegraph
Central Office and Store room -Nos. 365 & 367 Jay street.

Old office of Assistant Chief Engineer—Fourth St., near North First St.

New " " South First St., cor. of Fifth St.

Engine Company No. 1—Fourth ave., cor. Nineteenth St.

" " 2—Van Brunt St., cor. Seabring St.

" " 3—Hicks St., near Sackett St.

" " 4—Degraw St., near Court St.

" " 5—Pierrepont St., near Fulton St.

" " 6—High St., near Fulton St.

" " 7—Pearl St., near Concord St.

" " 8—Front St., near Bridge St.

" " 9—Graham St., near Myrtle Av.

" " 10—Carlton Av., near Myrtle Av.

" " 11—Clymer St., near Bedford Av.

" " 12—Second St., near North Eighth St.

" " 13—Powers St., near Ewen St.

" " 14—Herkimer St., near New York Av.

" " 15—India St., near Franklin Av.

" " 16—Scholes St., near Union Av.

" " 17—De Kalb Av., near Lewis Av.

" " 18—Seigel St., near Graham Av.

" " 19—Denn St., near Underhill Av.

" " 20—Eleventh St., between Seventh and Eighth Avs.

Truck " 1—Van Brunt St., near Seabring St.

" " 2—Bedford Av., near Myrtle Av.

" " 3—Concord St., near Duffield St.

" " 4—South Third St., near Fifth St.

" " 6—Greenpoint Av., near Manhattan Av.

Coal Depot No. 1—Van Brunt St., Carroll St.

" and Alarm Station No. 2—Hicks St., near Joralemon St.

" No. 3—Kent Av., near Myrtle Av.

" and Alarm Station No. 4—796 Fulton St.

Bell Tower—City Hall.

" —Sixth Ward, Hicks St., near Sackett St.

" —Fourteenth Ward, Fourth St., near North First St.

" —Sixteenth Ward, Ten Eyck St., near Ewen St.

Repair Shop—North Elliott place, cor. Myrtle Av.

Hospital Stables and Harness Shop—Canton St., near Bolivar St.

Alarm Station, and Stable—De Kalb Av., near Fort Greene place.

Carpenter Shop—Gold St., near Concord St.

Old Hose Carriage House—Hicks St., near Degraw St.

“ — Jay St., near Tillary St.

STATEMENT “N.”

BUREAU OF COMBUSTIBLES.

Number of Kerosene Oil Licenses Granted and Amount Received therefor since 1874.

1874.	5 months.	Number of licenses granted,	297,	at \$5.	\$1,485 00
1875.		Number of licenses granted,	1,184,	“	5,920 00
1876.	“	“	1,522,	“	7,610 00
1877.	“	“	1,437,	“	7,185 00
1878.	“	“	1,787,	“	8,935 00
1879.	“	“	1,787,	“	8,935 00
1880.	“	“	1,736,	“	8,680 00
1881.	“	“	1,674,	“	8,370 00
1882.	“	“	2,127,	“	10,635 00
1883.	11 months.	Number of licenses granted,	2,058,	“	10,290 00

1875.	No. of samples tested.	619	No. of samples found below standard.	117
1876.	“	..2,228	“	.. 41
1877.	“	..1,258	“	.. 15
1878.	“	..1,474	“	.. 26
1879.	“	..1,743	“	.. None.
1880.	“	..1,020	“	.. 3
1881.	“	..1,499	“	.. 59
1882.	“	..1,878	“	.. 169
1883.	“	..1,311		

See page 17 of report.

STATEMENT "O."

SANITARY.

	1882.	1883.
Number of cases attended by surgeon, 10 months...	293	11 months... 482
Number of calls at office.....	" .. 599	" ...1,112
Number of calls at quarters or homes...	" .. 398	" ... 914
Total number of days lost.....	" ...1,235	" ...3,145

CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES.

Surgical cases,	10 months, 1882.....	98	11 months, 1883	195
Due to exposure	" "	64	" "	168
Miscellaneous	" "	131	" "	119

Deaths since January 1, 1883.

Name.	Rank, &c.	Appointed.	Died.	Cause of death.
Chas. E. Miles..	Supt. Bur. of Com.	March 1, 1882	July 21, 1883	Apoplexy.
Robt. McDougall	Fireman, Truck 3..	March 8, 1870	July 25, 1883	Burns and bruises re- ceived at fire at Harbeck's Pier, July 19, 1883.

REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH, }
BROOKLYN, January 1, 1884. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

SIR :

I have the honor to present the following statement in regard to the condition of the public health during the year 1883, together with an account of the principal sanitary operations during the same period.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of Brooklyn during the past year has been better than in any year since 1879, a conclusion reached chiefly by the study of the causes of death for the several years.

The total deaths in the city in the twelve months ending December 31, 1883, were 13,758, or 1,256 less than the actual mortality during the calendar year 1882. On the basis of this mortality of 1883, and estimating the population to have been 624,118, we fix the death rate at 22.04 in each thousand of persons living.

This rate is lower than that of 1882, when there died 24.84 in each thousand, the population at that time being held to be

604,356. In other words, there has been a saving of life this year, as compared with 1882, amounting to more than 1,700 lives.

No serious epidemic has visited us. The contagious diseases that are domiciled with us, such as scarlet fever and diphtheria, have made far less serious inroads than in most of the previous years of the past decade. Their prevalence has been less, and the gravity of their attack not so severe. This is a cheering indication; not so much because there is shown any great mastery over them by the work of this department—although it is fair to assume that our efforts have not been misdirected—as because it shows that the sum total of the conditions that affect the general health are on the mending hand, and that every effort to improve those conditions may be hopefully put forth.

In the past, many, and even thoughtful persons, have lost hope in sanitary undertakings, almost adopting the fatalist's view, that no efforts, however well directed, are competent to the task of curbing the onward course of contagious disease. We can fairly pluck up hope that the healthfulness of our surroundings may be improved, and the health of our citizens increased. We are not always to stagger under the heavy contagious mortality that has afflicted the city in so many of the years gone by. This is the feeling that grows out of a comparison of our mortality tables in recent years.

The accompanying table sets forth the most prominent elements that are to be compared together at the present time:

Comparative Table of Mortality by Prominent Causes of Death in recent years.

CAUSES	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Total from all	12,470	12,334	11,362	11,075	11,569	13,222	14,533	15,013	13,758
Zymotic class.	4,467	4,360	3,962	3,192	3,283	4,310	4,952	4,880	3,064
Smallpox	619	309	5	.....	.....	2	35	12	1
Measles.	8	159	10	67	38	156	56	168	69
Scarlet fever.	304	352	730	363	344	222	651	892	505
Diphtheria	965	812	778	544	689	1,118	1,169	632	409
Croup	440	412	325	317	250	420	438	334	318
Whooping cough.	181	190	118	195	204	111	118	248	132
Typhoid fever	111	97	85	59	59	71	99	83	92
Malarial fevers.	137	137	151	184	145	256	306	289	258
Cholera infantum.	1,008	1,013	953	666	680	975	1,028	1,007	791
Diarrhœal, dis., all ages.	1,395	1,546	1,461	1,165	1,238	1,602	1,707	1,893	1,397
Diarrhœal, dis., under 5 years.	1,262	1,367	1,300	1,011	1,073	1,407	1,493	1,600	1,310
Consumption	1,522	1,539	1,587	1,509	1,665	1,736	1,754	1,806	1,847
Bronchitis.	369	397	314	365	479	495	471	684	573
Violence	312	622	299	294	316	420	402	433	414
Under 5 years	6,387	6,242	5,560	5,294	5,201	6,215	6,865	7,136	5,838
Under 1 year	3,401	3,179	2,871	2,943	2,881	3,343	3,633	3,816	3,500
Death rate per 1,000.	25.84	24.76	22.10	20.85	21.08	23.33	24.83	24.84	22.04

In the above table let us compare the columns representing the chief figures for the present year and the last year.

The saving of life was most remarkable among children under 5 years of age, the decrease amounting to 1,298; the decline in deaths by zymotic diseases was 1,216, and is very significant of a better tone of the public health. Diseases of the zymotic class flourish when the community is broken down in its health, and they are expelled or reduced when the city's pulse and circulation come back to the normal.

In last year's report to your Honor, I referred to the exceptionally cleanly condition of our street sewers, and the probable good effect thereof upon the health rate. I have no reason to abate anything that I then said, but am impelled to state my conviction that the efficient operations of the Department of City Works have vastly improved our sewer system, and for some months, at least, have given us purer air to breathe by giving us relatively cleaner streets under the new contract, and have thus indirectly come to the aid of the sanitary authority in its fight against zymotic disease.

It will also be seen by the above table that only twice since 1875 has the zymotic mortality fallen below the total of last year—namely, in the years 1878 and 1879, while in 1881 it rose to nearly 5,000. This zymotic decline is extremely gratifying to all who watch the progress of the city's health; for there can scarcely be a question that our city is destined to make advance in this direction, and to make a name for herself as a wholesome home-city.

A further examination of the parallel columns in the table shows that the only diseases cited therein that had a higher total last year than in 1882 are consumption and typhoid fever, and in respect to both of these the increase is insignificant.

I have said nothing of the remarkably cool summer of 1883, and its influence over the public health—and it certainly had a most salutary one. This is shown pre-eminently by the reduction in the deaths by cholera infantum and affections of the bowels, under five years of age.

I cannot doubt that if we had experienced our customary "heated

term" or "hot wave," our summer quarter would have been much more sickly and destructive of infant life, and it would have prevented me from giving the very gratifying account that I have taken pleasure in drawing up of the condition of the city in 1883.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

It is very gratifying to be able to report a marked decrease in contagious disease. During the twelve months ending December 31, 1882, there were reported to this office 9,735 cases of contagious disease; during the corresponding period of the present year, but 6,312 cases. This decrease is observable in all diseases except typhoid fever.

It is the popular impression that this latter disease has been very fatal in Brooklyn during the year, but it will be seen by reference to the mortality table that this is erroneous, as the increase in the number of deaths is but eight.

The following table gives the reported cases of the various diseases as made to the Department of Health by the physicians of the city, as required by the Sanitary Code:

Reported Cases of Contagious Disease.

	1st Quarter.		2d Quarter.		3d Quarter.		4th Quarter.		Total for Year.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
Scarlet fever.....	968	1,096	1,528	1,056	380	397	723	618	4,599	3,167
Diphtheria.....	762	403	418	310	243	191	450	281	1,873	1,185
Measles.....	1,314	128	1,183	933	140	167	33	376	2,670	1,604
Smallpox.....	122	6	44	6	16	.....	3	.....	185	12
Typhoid fever.....	32	26	33	27	42	70	41	79	148	202
Typhus fever.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Whooping cough.....	32	35	71	31	118	40	37	36	258	142
Total.....	4,230	1,694	3,279	2,363	939	865	1,287	1,390	9,735	6,312

SMALL POX.

Since May 12th of this year there has been no case of small pox in this city.

During the year there were but 12 cases, as compared with 185 cases in 1882.

The vaccinating corps has been kept constantly at work, excepting during the hot months, when it was inadvisable to vaccinate. During their tours of duty the physicians have found 12,638 persons who have never been vaccinated; they have visited 13,012 houses, have offered vaccination to 33,836 families, and have vaccinated 6,375 persons.

The following table shows the number of reported cases of small pox by months:

Reported Cases of Small Pox.

	1881.	1883.		1882.	1883.
January.....	50	1	July.....	10	None.
February.....	45	2	August.....	5	None.
March.....	26	4	September.....	1	None.
April.....	24	3	October.....	None.	None.
May.....	15	2	November.....	None.	None.
June.....	5	None.	December.....	4	None.
Total.....				185	12

THE AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The ambulance service, organized in May, 1873, by resolution of the Common Council, and placed by that body for management in the Board of Health, was for the first time established on a permanent basis, by the charter amendment passed June 4th, 1880, Chap. 545, which reads: "Said Board of Health, as thus constituted, and its successors, shall have power to act as a legislative body in regard to, and shall have and exercise exclusive power in said city over all matters pertaining to public health, the removal

and burial of the dead, the maintenance and operating of an ambulance service, for the speedy removal of sick and injured persons," etc.

The ambulance districts are four in number, each under the charge of a surgeon and an assistant. The Station of the Western District is located at the Long Island College Hospital, corner Henry and Pacific streets; that of the Eastern District at the Eastern District Hospital, 108, to 112 South Third street, and that of the Central District at the Homeopathic Hospital on Cumberland street. This latter station is one which has been in existence since since January, 1881, and the ambulance used is the property of the hospital, although it is under the management and control of the Department of Health.

During the month of December an additional ambulance was provided by St. Mary's Hospital, on St. Mark's avenue, near Rochester avenue, and its services have been placed at the disposal of the city by the authorities of that institution, the expenses of its maintenance, however, being paid by them. The rooms of the surgeons are connected by telephone with Police Headquarters, and also with the stables where the ambulances are located, so that promptness characterizes this service equally with that of the Fire Department. The cost of maintaining this service is \$5,200 annually; \$1,200 of this amount is raised by the Board of Estimate specifically for the services of the ambulance of the Homeopathic Hospital. The city owns four ambulances, two of which are always on duty, the others acting as reserves.

It was deemed wise at the inception of this service in 1873 to make contracts with livery stable keepers to furnish horses and drivers, rather than for the city to assume the work; this plan has operated so satisfactorily that it has not been changed. The amount paid for each district is about \$1,000 annually, the city furnishing the ambulances and apparatus, and keeping the same in repair.

In order that this service may be of the greatest possible value the city is divided into districts, and the duties of the surgeons distinctly defined.

The following are the ordinance and regulations referring to the service :

SANTITARY ORDINANCE NO. 185.

§ 185. The ambulances of the Department of Health, while engaged in going for or in carrying sick or wounded persons to or from the hospitals, shall have the right of way in the streets of the city, as against any person, carriage or incumbrance put, driven or being in said streets, and no person shall obstruct said ambulances while so engaged if there shall be an opportunity to get out of the way of the same, under a penalty of ten dollars for each offence. It shall be the duty of the police to enforce the provisions of this section.

REGULATIONS OF THE AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The city is divided into four Ambulance Districts, as follows :

1. Western District, comprising the 1st, 2d, 3d, 8th, 8th-sub and 11th Police Precincts, bounded by East River, Navy Yard, Nevins street, Second avenue, Third street, and city line. Ambulance stationed at the Long Island College Hospital, corner Henry and Pacific streets.

2. Eastern District, comprising the 5th, 6th, 7th and 13th Police Precincts, bounded by Newtown Creek, East River, Wallabout Canal, Hewes street, Wythe avenue, Franklin avenue, Myrtle avenue and Jefferson street. Ambulance stationed at the Eastern District Hospital, on 108 South Third street, E. D.

3. Central District, comprising the 4th and 10th Police Precincts, bounded by East River, Navy street, Nevins street, city line, Franklin avenue, Wythe avenue, Hewes street and Wallabout Canal. Ambulance stationed at the Homeopathic Hospital, 109 Cumberland street.

4. Fourth District, comprising the 9th and 12th Police Precincts and the 9th sub-Precinct, bounded by Franklin avenue, Myrtle avenue, Jefferson street and city line. Ambulance stationed at St. Mary's Hospital.

5. The surgeon must be a qualified practitioner of medicine under the laws of the State.

The term of service of ambulance surgeon shall not exceed one year.

6. The surgeon shall be always on duty ; he may, however, be relieved by a substitute regularly appointed by the Board.

7. The ambulance shall never attend a call unless accompanied by the surgeon or by a regularly appointed substitute.

8. No expense either in purchase of material or in the repair of the ambulance, shall be incurred unless authorized by the Board.

9. The ambulance when on duty shall at all times be under the direction of the surgeon in charge.

10. The ambulance must under no circumstances be driven faster than is permitted by city ordinances—five miles an hour. The bell attached to the ambulance is only to be rung in crowded thoroughfares, and when it becomes necessary to clear the way.

11. The surgeons are to constantly bear in mind that the service is one of emergency, and that they are not to treat patients, except so far as the immediate necessity demands. Dislocations are not to be reduced, nor fractures permanently dressed.

12. When no emergency exists, the surgeon is neither to take the place of the police surgeon nor of the attending physician. His duty is simply to convey patients to their homes or to the hospitals as expeditiously and as comfortably as possible.

The following rules for removal of patients will be observed so far as practicable :

13. All calls for the use of the ambulance must be sent to the ambulance of the district in which the case occurs. If the ambulance is out the call must be sent to the ambulance station of the adjoining district nearest to the case requiring its use.

14. Patients will be taken home when they so request.

15. When not taken home they will be conveyed to hospitals, as follows :

From the Eastern District Station, to the E. D. Hospital, St.

Catharine's Hospital, or the City Hospital, according to the location of the case.

From the Western District, all cases easterly of Fulton street, to the City Hospital; westerly of Fulton street, alternately to the Long Island College Hospital and St. Peter's Hospital.

From the Central District, alternately to the Homeopathic Hospital and City Hospital.

From the Fourth District, to St. Mary's Hospital.

16. When patients request to be conveyed to hospitals otherwise than in accordance with the foregoing regulations, the request shall be observed if it can be done without detriment to the patient or the interests of the service.

The following tables have been prepared to show the great variety of accidents and causes of sudden sickness liable to occur in a great city. It represents the calls made upon the Brooklyn Ambulances during a single year:

Wounds.

	Contused.	Lacerated.	Punctured.	Gun Shot.	Nature not Described.
Head	82	59		5	170
Body	46	4	6	11	3
Extremities	56	37	8	4	2
Not stated	51				

Fractures.

	Simple.	Com- pound.	Com- minuted.	Compound Comminuted.
Clavicle.....	12			
Fibula.....	7			
Femur.....	26	1		
Femur and Humerus.....	1	2		
Humerus.....	12	3		
Maxilla.....	1			
Superior Maxilla and Malar.....	1	1		
Inferior ".....	1			
Metatarsus.....	3	1		
Nasal Bones.....	1	3		
Pelvis.....	8			
Patella.....	4	1		
Pott's.....	8			
Leg.....	2	7		2
Os Nasi.....	2			
Radius.....	4			
Ribs.....	16	1		
Scapula.....	1			
Skull.....	21	1		6
Spine.....	2			
Tibia and Fibula.....	43	6		
Tibia.....	9	3	1	
Tarsus.....	2	2	1	
Femur and Pelvis.....		1		
Bones of Foot.....		2		
Bones of Hand.....	3	2		2
Radius and Ulna.....				5

Diseases.

Alcoholism.....	41.	Hæmatemesis.....	1
Alcoholic coma.....	3	Hernia.....	9
" convulsions.....	2	Inanition.....	1
Abortion.....	9	Insolation.....	25
" threatened.....	3	Congestion of lungs.....	1
Apoplexy.....	10	Cancer of lip.....	1
Anasarca.....	1	Malaria.....	1
Asphyxia.....	2	Myelitis.....	1
Oedema of arm.....	1	Malarial fever.....	1
Compression of brain.....	1	Malingering.....	5
Convulsions.....	2	Acute mania.....	5
Catalepsy.....	1	Orchitis.....	1
Colic.....	17	Parturition.....	15
Cerebral hyperæmia.....	2	Pleurisy.....	2
" concussion.....	4	Phthisis pulmonalis.....	4
Defloration attempted.....	1	Paralysis.....	2
Dropsy.....	1	Pelvic cellulitis.....	1
Debility.....	10	Pulmonary oedema.....	1
Delirium tremens.....	10	Pleurisy with pneumonia.....	2
Dyspnoea.....	1	Puerperal mania.....	1
Delirium.....	1	Pleurodynia.....	2
Dysentery.....	1	Pneumonia.....	5
Diarrhœa.....	1	Poisoning by tinct. opie.....	1
Exhaustion.....	7	" bad milk.....	8
Epileptic coma.....	2	" arsenic.....	2
" convulsions.....	33	Paraplegia.....	1
Epilepsy.....	56	Prostration.....	1
Epistaxis.....	2	Prolapsus uteri.....	1
Intermittent fever.....	9	Rheumatism, acute.....	6
Hysteria.....	23	" chronic.....	1
Hæmorrhage.....	1	Syncope.....	6
" from ulcer.....	2	Retention of urine.....	4
" urethra.....	1	Uremic convulsions.....	1
" uterus.....	1	Uterine colic.....	1
Disease of heart.....	5	Rupture of varicose veins.....	2
Hæmoptysis.....	5	Vertigo from indigestion.....	1

Miscellaneous.

DISLOCATIONS.		CONCUSSIONS.	
Ankle	1		
Elbow	1	Brain	8
Femur	2	Spine	13
Humerus	3		
Radius and ulna	4		
Scapula	1		
Tibia	1		
Wrist	2		
BURNS.		SUICIDES.	
Body	28	Suicide	1
Body and face	1	" attempted	6
" arms	2	Drowning	4
Foot	1	Shock from lightning	1
Hands and feet	2		
Legs and arms	1		
Legs	4		
SPRAINS.		FROST BITE.	
Ankle	28	Fingers and ears	1
Back	1	Hands and feet	1
Knee	5		
Neck	1		
		COMPLICATED INJURIES.	
		Dog bites on arm	2

Since the organization of this service in August, 1873, there have been 16,014 calls for assistance answered by the ambulances, divided by years as follows :

1873	159
1874	601
1875	821
1876	911
1877	884
1878	1,340
1879	1,572
1880	2,014
1881	2,282
1882	2,498
1883	2,932

Total 16,014

The surgeons, serving as they do without compensation, deserve the hearty thanks of the people of the city, and I take great pleasure in testifying to your Honor of their uniform promptness in responding to calls, and the courtesy and kindness displayed by them towards those who, through misfortune, have been compelled to seek their aid.

NIGHT MEDICAL SERVICE.

In the year 1880, the Legislature of the State of New York passed an act, Chap. 588 of the Session Laws, entitled, "An Act to organize a night medical service in the City of New York, and to provide medical assistance in cases of sudden sickness or accident during the night time."

It was urged at the time this act was introduced, that there were many cases of sudden sickness occurring during the night, and that it was often very difficult to obtain the services of a physician. This measure was designed to overcome this difficulty.

In the following year a similar act was passed, Chap. 221 of the Laws of 1881, making the same provision for the City of Brooklyn. It is as follows :

AN ACT TO ORGANIZE THE NIGHT MEDICAL SERVICE.

CHAPTER 221.

AN ACT to Organize a Night Medical Service in the City of Brooklyn, and to provide medical assistance in cases of sudden sickness or accident during the night time.

Passed May 7, 1881; three-fifths being present.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly do enact as follows :

SECTION 1. On and after the passage of this act, and upon receipt of a copy thereof, duly signed and certified, it shall be the duty of the head of the Department of Police of the City of Brook-

lyn to direct the captain of each police precinct in said city to register in a book provided for that purpose the names and addresses of all physicians in good and regular standing within said precinct who shall make application for such registry, and shall thereby pledge themselves to respond to any call for medical attendance made as hereinafter described. Each name thus registered shall be submitted to the Registrar of Vital Statistics of the Board of Health of the city of Brooklyn, whose duty it shall be to ascertain and report whether said physician is in good and regular standing, and to transmit a certificate to such effect to the captain of said precinct, and only upon receipt of such certificate shall it be lawful for the captain of the said precinct to employ such physicians as hereinafter named. The names and addresses of such physicians as have been duly certified by the Registrar of Vital Statistics, shall be plainly and legibly written or printed upon a bulletin provided for that purpose, which bulletin shall be placed at a convenient point near the captain's desk and kept open to the inspection of all persons within the precinct desiring to see the same.

§ 2. Upon the application of any person residing within the said precinct, whose name and address, together with the name and address of the said person desiring and needing such attendance, and the date of the application, be duly registered in a book kept open for that purpose, it shall be the duty of the captain, or other officer at the desk, in the absence of any expressed preference by the applicant, to select from the list of physicians thus registered the name of the physician residing nearest to the residence of the said patient in whose behalf application is made, and to notify him without delay of the existence of such application.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the captain, sergeant or other officer at the desk in such police precinct, as before specified, upon registry of any application as described in the preceding section, immediately to detail an officer, whose duty it shall be to call upon such physician without delay, and to conduct him to the residence of the patient, also, to verify by personal inspection or inquiry the name and address of such patient as registered by his superior officer. Every officer thus detailed as messenger shall be furnished

with a blank certificate upon which the name and address of the physician responding to the call, the name and address of the patient attended, and the date and hour of the visit, shall be written by him after he has conducted the physician to the patient's residence and verified the genuineness of the application. Such certificate shall be signed by him and given to the physician, and shall specify upon its face that the physician therein named is entitled to the sum of three dollars from the public funds, upon presentation thereof to the proper officer, and indorsement thereof in writing with the name of the captain of the precinct. But it shall be the duty of the physician making such visit to present such certificate to the patient or his or her agent or attendant, and to request payment of the sum specified; and in case of such payment being made said physician shall surrender such certificate to the person or persons making it, and it shall cease to be a claim upon the public treasury. In default of the immediate payment of the said fee specified in the said certificate by the patient or his or her attendant, it shall be the duty of the captain of the police precinct in which the visit was made to indorse it with his name; and after having been indorsed by the head of the Department of Health or his deputy, it shall be the duty of the Comptroller of the said city to pay at sight the fee aforesaid, and to enter the payment in a book provided for that purpose and take up the certificate. And all certificates thus redeemed shall be valid debts to the amount therein named against the patients therein named or their guardians, which the said Board of Health of said city may order collected by due process of law; provided that no prosecution shall be instituted in cases where it is satisfactorily shown that the patient is without sufficient means for the payment thereof.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of every physician thus called to the medical assistance of any person within the police precinct in which he is registered, to transmit to the Registrar of the Board of Health of the City of Brooklyn, within twenty-four hours after the call shall have been answered, a full and accurate statistical exhibit of the case, specifying therein the age and sex, and the employment, profession or business of the patient, the nature of the disease, the

hour of the attack when practicable, the date and the police precinct and ward in which the case occurred; the same shall be signed with the full name and address of the physician rendering it, but the name and address of the patient shall always be omitted; and it shall be the duty of the Board of Health of the City of Brooklyn to provide all physicians thus registered for night medical service with appropriate blanks for the said purpose, upon their application therefor.

§ 5. Any policeman who shall be detailed as messenger according to the provisions hereinbefore specified shall, in the absence of preference expressed in the application, call the physician nearest and most convenient to the patient's residence, or, in the absence or refusal from any cause of the latter; the physician next nearest, and so on, and there shall be no delay or waiting for such physician to return; and any member of the force neglecting to comply with this provision shall be subject to trial and fine or dismissal from the service, by the head of the Police Department of the City of Brooklyn, in the same manner as for other offences cognizable by the said body; and any physician thus registered who shall twice refuse or neglect, without reasonable excuse, to answer a call made according to the provisions of this act shall be subject to have his name erased from the list, upon proper evidence thereof submitted to an executive officer who shall be appointed by the Registrar of Vital Statistics of the Board of Health, and shall be under his immediate supervision.

§ 6. The captains of the several precincts if, in their judgment, it shall be necessary to the public convenience, may cause the bulletins of physicians herein specified to be posted in any public place or store within their respective precincts, as they shall deem advisable, under the directions of the head of the Police Department; but any applicant desiring the service of any messenger other than a member of the police force detailed for the purpose, shall employ such messenger at his own expense, and shall be liable for any expenses incurred in communicating with the police precinct.

§ 7. The time during which the physicians registered under this

act shall be held to be subject to call shall be between the hours of ten in the evening and seven in the morning, from October first, to March thirty-first, inclusive, and between the hours of eleven in the evening and six in the morning from April first to September thirtieth, inclusive.

§ 8. The members of the Board of Estimate of the City of Brooklyn are hereby authorized and directed to apportion and insert in their estimate of the expenses of said city, in each year, an amount necessary for the support of the aforesaid night medical service, when its organization shall have been established by the Board of Health of said city; but in no case shall the sum so apportioned exceed three thousand dollars for any one year; and the amount so apportioned shall be inserted in the tax levy of said city.

§ 9. This act shall take effect immediately.

It will be seen by a perusal of Sec. 8 that it is mandatory upon the Board of Estimate to "apportion and insert in their estimate of the expense of said city in each year an amount necessary for the support of the aforesaid night medical service." The Board of Estimate of 1881 had adjourned *sine die* before the act was signed by the Governor, consequently no provision was made for the support of the service for the year 1882. In 1882, however, \$1,000 was appropriated for its maintenance during the year 1883. On the first of January, 1883, the service was organized and eighty-six physicians have registered their names for duty.

During the year 1883 there have been ninety-four calls, for which the city has paid at the rate of \$3 per call; in addition to this amount \$95 have been expended for the necessary forms and books of record. I am satisfied that in one instance, at least, a human life has been saved by a physician of the service, and that in many cases pain and suffering have been alleviated.

For the year 1884, \$600 have been appropriated, a sum which will undoubtedly be sufficiently large to meet all demands.

THE PLUMBING LAW.

This law, which practically went into effect May 10th, 1882, has

been enforced since that date, and has undoubtedly contributed a large share to the improvement noticeable in the public health.

During the past twelve months, 2,422 new houses have been plumbed in conformity with this law, which requires the work to be done under the supervision of this department, making in all 3,650 buildings in the city, which have the benefit of improved sanitary plumbing and are occupied probably by not less than 20,000 persons.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

This work has been continued with the zeal and vigor which its importance demands, and has resulted in giving to the citizens of Brooklyn a supply of meat and milk second to no city in the State. The respectable butchers and milk dealers have met our efforts with their co-operation and sympathy, while those who designedly prey upon the public have been mulcted in fines to the amount of \$2,093. The detailed report of the work done by this branch of the service shows that, during the period covered by it, there were 29,223 lbs. of meat condemned as unfit for food and sent to the offal dock; 30,254 quarts of milk have been tested, and of this amount 3,451 quarts were found watered and 420 quarts skimmed.

COWS AND COW STABLES.

As the inhabited part of a city in its growth gradually encroaches upon that portion which has the primitive character of the farm, so in the natural course of events must those things which are rural give way to the onward march of development.

The borders of Brooklyn have for many years been cultivated as gardens for supplying the two cities with vegetables, and otherwise unimproved property has been devoted to the grazing and stabling of cows for supplying milk to the same market. Now, however, much of this property is being improved by the erection of dwellings, and the longer existence of cow stables, with the accompanying nuisances, acts in a prejudicial manner to the future prosperity of the city. I hope the time will soon come when these structures

will no longer be found within the city limits, both for the sake of the city itself, and for the health of the animals therein confined.

It will be seen by the following rules that everything is done which is possible for the regulation of stables now existing, and that no new ones will be permitted in the future :

RULES FOR COW STABLES.

1. All stables, sheds or buildings in which cows are kept for the production of milk, shall be provided with a separate stall, not less than three feet in width, for each cow, and ventilators of such size and so located as to give through and through ventilation to the said stables or buildings.

2. When the said stables or buildings are located on a street where a public sewer exists, they shall be connected with the sewer. If there is no sewer in the street, they shall be connected with water-tight cesspools of proper size and construction, which shall at all times be kept in a cleanly and inoffensive condition. The flooring of the said stables shall be water-tight, and so laid that all liquids may run into the sewer connection or cesspool.

3. Distillery waste, commonly known as "distillery swill," shall not be used as food for cows ; nor shall brewery grains in a condition of fermentation be used as food for cows ; nor shall such brewery grains, whether in a condition of fermentation or otherwise, be the sole food of any cow whose milk is used for human food.

4. All cows that are being milked shall, in mild and pleasant weather, have at least four hours' exercise in the open air.

5. No permits will be granted for the establishment of new cow stables within the city limits, and all permits now in force will be revoked and annulled if the Rules and Regulations or the Ordinances of the City are violated by those to whom such permits have been granted.

PUMP WELLS.

The examination of pump water which was commenced in 1882

has been continued during the year 1883, and at the present time we have the result of the analysis of the water from every pump in the city. It will be seen by reference to the table hereto appended that when this work was begun there was 296 pumps; of these 230 have been condemned as furnishing water which was unfit for human consumption, and 17 were found to be so unobjectionable as not to warrant condemnation. The Common Council have given the necessary authority to close 172 and these have all been filled and are therefore no longer in existence. There still remains in the city 124, of which number 106 have been condemned, and 18 that have not been condemned.

The following wards have *no* pumps remaining, viz.: 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 12 and 22.

The following wards have *no condemned* pumps remaining, viz.: 4th and 20th.

The following wards have *condemned* pumps remaining to the extent indicated, viz.:

Third	1
Fifth	11
Seventh	25
Eighth	2
Eleventh	6
Thirteenth	2
Fourteenth	1
Fifteenth	1
Sixteenth	20
Seventeenth	1
Eighteenth	14
Nineteenth	1
Twenty-first	5
Twenty-third	4
Twenty-fourth	3
Twenty-fifth	9

Table of Pump Wells ; the Number Examined, Etc.

WARDS.	No. of pump-wells existing January 1st, 1882.	No. of wells condemned by Department of Health after analysis of water.	No. of wells not condemned after analysis of water.	No. of wells the water of which was not analyzed.	No. of wells closed since January 1st, 1882.	No. of condemned wells re- maining January 1, 1884.	No. of uncondemned wells remaining Jan. 1st, 1884.	Total No. of wells in the city, January 1, 1884.
1.....	2	2			2			
2.....	4	3		1	4			
3.....	11	11			10	1		1
4.....	12	11	1		11		1	1
5.....	14	14			3	11		11
6.....	9	7	1	1	9			
7.....	28	27		1	3	25		25
8.....	7	6	1		5	2		2
9.....	5	3		2	5			
10.....	9	7		2	9			
11.....	13	9	2	2	6	6	1	7
12.....	2	1		1	2			
13.....	5	3	1	1	2	2	1	3
14.....	20	13		7	19	1		1
15.....	23	17		6	22	1		1
16.....	30	23		7	10	20		20
17.....	1	1				1		1
18.....	23	17	5	1	4	14	5	19
19.....	6	5		1	4	1	1	2
20.....	16	9	1	6	14		2	2
21.....	17	14	1	2	10	5	2	7
22.....	2	1		1	2			
23.....	10	9	1		5	4	1	5
24.....	6	3	1	2	1	3	2	5
25.....	21	14	2	5	10	9	2	11
Total....	296	230	17	49	172	106	18	124

A Comparative Table of the Operations and Statistics of the Department of Health for the year 1883 by Quarterly Periods.

	1ST QUARTER.	2D QUARTER.	3D QUARTER.	4TH QUARTER.	TOTAL FOR YEAR.
I. NUISANCE PREVENTION.					
No. Citizens' complaints investigated.	597	1,246	1,159	1,252	4,254
" Nuisances abated without order of Department on personal request of Inspectors.	305	432	331	209	1,277
" Examinations of nuisances other than of meat and defective plumbing.	8,322	5,369	12,207	4,997	30,295
" Vessels whose cargoes were discharged under permit of Department.	744	1,262	1,163	792	3,961
" Privy vaults emptied.	429	1,348	1,113	473	3,361
" Cubic feet of night soil removed.	40,279	124,816½	98,106	42,556	305,757½
" Inspection by plumbers for abatement of nuisance.	483	540	910	622	2,555
" New buildings for which plans have been submitted.	354	580	795	693	2,422
" Inspection of new buildings under plumbing law of 1881.	2,525	2,297	3,078	2,875	10,775
II. FOOD SUPPLY, ETC.					
No. Inspections of butcher shops and packing houses.	4,423	4,560	4,570	3,588	17,141
" Inspections of slaughter houses, fish and vegetable stands and wagons.	4,027	5,926	5,298	3,054	18,305
" Inspections of cow stables.	384	766	697	568	2,415
" Cows inspected.	4,518	7,404	6,023	4,016	21,961
" Pigs.	2,980	594	1,484	790	6,848

Comparative Table—(Continued).

	1ST QUARTER.	2D QUARTER.	3D QUARTER.	4TH QUARTER.	TOTAL FOR YEAR.
No. lbs. bad meat condemned.....	1,268	6,181	10,962	10,812	29,243
" Animals slaughtered in the city.....	46,104	16,361	69,573	55,347	187,385
" Analyses of water and milk.....	65	178	69	10	322
" Quarts of milk examined.....			12,487	17,767	30,254
" " " found watered.....			2,119	1,832	3,451
" " " " skummed.....			416	14	430
" Wells condemned.....	36	126	38		200
Amount of fines imposed by Police- justices for violation of sanitary ordi- nances.....	\$1,055.00	\$58.00	\$435.00	\$545.00	\$2,093.00
Transcript money paid to City Treasurer.	\$248.00	\$262.00	\$224.00	\$221.00	\$953.00
" Ambulance calls.....	531	760	946	695	2,932
" Physicians registered under Night Medi- cal Service.....	74	9	3	None.	86
" Calls under Night Medical Service.....	18	17	45	14	94
III. CONTAGIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION.					
No. Inspections and reinspections where con- tagious disease existed.....	2,732	3,933	1,541	1,972	10,178
" Children excluded from school on ac- count of contagious disease.....	1,992	3,009	367	1,479	6,547
" Fumigations of houses by the Department.	353	375	213	299	1,230
" Inspections of defective plumbing in houses where contagious disease existed.	416	103	6	25	550
" Houses visited for vaccination.....	3,297	6,890		1,746	11,933
" Families " ".....	9,859	16,114		4,592	30,565
" Persons vaccinated.....	2,139	2,390		1,092	5,611
" " found unvaccinated.....	6,343	4,192		1,265	11,800

Comparative Table—(Concluded).

	1ST QUARTER.		2D QUARTER.		3D QUARTER.		4TH QUARTER.		TOTAL FOR YEAR.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
IV. CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.										
Measles.....	128	6	933	24	167	20	376	19	1,004	69
Small pox.....	6	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	12	1
Scarlet fever.....	1,096	194	1,056	169	397	61	618	81	3,167	505
Diphtheria.....	403	134	310	105	191	59	281	114	1,185	409
Typhoid fever.....	26	17	27	15	70	30	79	29	202	92
Whooping cough.....	35	33	31	29	40	38	36	29	142	132
	1,694	365	2,362	342	865	208	1,300	272	6,312	1,208

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Since the report of this department, made to your Honor one year ago, measures have been taken which will give the city the much-needed continuation of the Third avenue sewer to tide water.

It is hoped that the objections made to the bill for the extension of the Knickerbocker avenue sewer will be met, so that the legislature of 1884 will pass an act, the result of which will be to carry to the river the filth which is now deposited on flat and marshy ground.

A subject which is being constantly forced upon the attention of this department is the lack of sewerage in the out-lying wards, which are rapidly being built up. There are at present but two methods open to builders; one is to drain into the street gutter, the other into cesspools. The drainage into the gutter causes pools of offensive and stagnant water, which soon becomes such nuisances as to demand the interference of this department. If the waste pipes are connected with cesspools, these are soon filled, as the Sanitary Code requires all cesspools to be water tight, and a large expense must be incurred in their periodical and frequent emptying. An additional nuisance is also created by the construction of yard privy-vaults, which are required in all cases where sewers do not exist in the street; nothing but the construction of sewers will remedy these evils, which if uncorrected will seriously imperil the public health.

Another matter of sufficient importance to require the attention of the municipal authorities is the location of slaughter houses in sections of the city which are either densely populated or are rapidly becoming so. The necessity for the discontinuance of some of the present slaughtering places has been long felt by this department, and in past years many fruitless efforts have been made to accomplish their removal to the water front. The nuisances incidental to their very existence, such as the driving of animals through the streets, endangering human life and defiling the roadway and oftentimes the sidewalk, together with their bellowing

and bleating, when they have reached the place of destination and are herded preparatory to slaughter, render it essential for the welfare and comfort of the community, that the present methods should be discontinued at the earliest practicable date. Some faint idea of the evils possible under the present arrangement may be obtained by remembering that the number of animals slaughtered in the city during the twelve months was 187,385, most of which had been driven through the streets of the city. It is with this object in view, that a public market with an abattoir attached, meets with the hearty endorsement of this department.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. RAYMOND, M.D.,

Commissioner of Health.

REPORT

OF THE

Department of Buildings.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,
Office of Commissioner,
Room No. 5 (Basement), City Hall,
BROOKLYN, December 1, 1883.

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

DEAR SIR:

In response to your communication of the 20th ult., I herewith submit a report of the business transacted in this Department from December 1, 1882, to date.

The following table shows the increase in number and cost of new buildings of the past twelve months over that of the twelve months previous :

Period.	Number of Buildings.	Estimated Cost.
From December 1, 1882, to December 1, 1883.....	2,692	\$12,093,452
From December 1, 1881, to December 1, 1882.....	2,376	10,386,263
Increase over last year.....	316	\$1,707,189

Estimated Cost of the Buildings.

1882. December.....	\$571,841
1883. January.....	446,590
“ February.....	675,481
“ March.....	1,032,852
“ April.....	1,025,662
“ May.....	1,507,870
“ June.....	1,427,430
“ July.....	1,243,520
“ August.....	1,084,375
“ September.....	1,238,841
“ October.....	1,087,250
“ November.....	751,740
Total.....	\$12,093,452

Character of the Buildings.

Private dwellings.....	1,253
Dwellings containing from two to four families.....	499
Stores and dwellings.....	240
Tenement houses.....	252
Storage sheds.....	62
Carpenter and workshops.....	102
Stables.....	130
Factories.....	46
Foundries.....	5
Office buildings.....	13
Store-houses.....	24
Churches.....	4
Asylums.....	2
Mills.....	4
School-houses.....	7
Engine rooms.....	2
Stores.....	13
Hotels.....	2
Buildings for the manufacture of gas.....	2
Pump-room.....	1
Boiler-houses.....	2
Lodging-house.....	1
Homes.....	2
Railroad depots.....	2
Green-houses.....	5
Halls.....	3
Engine-house.....	1

Rope-walk	1
Coal-pocket	1
Band	1
Chapels	2
Hospital	1
Armory	1
Smoke-house	1
Institute	1
Drying-rooms	3
Brewery	1

New Buildings by Wards.

WARDS.	IRON.	BRICK.	FRAME.	TOTAL.
First		20	5	25
Second	1	13	2	16
Third		12		12
Fourth		14		14
Fifth		3		3
Sixth		31		31
Seventh		74	26	100
Eighth		18	137	155
Ninth		34	31	65
Tenth		49	9	58
Eleventh		14		14
Twelfth		22	22	44
Thirteenth		17		17
Fourteenth		22	26	48
Fifteenth		8	45	53
Sixteenth		19	25	44
Seventeenth		21	103	124
Eighteenth		22	394	416
Nineteenth		76	59	135
Twentieth		20		20
Twenty-first		127	206	333
Twenty-second		216	72	288
Twenty-third		273		273
Twenty-fourth		18	38	56
Twenty-fifth		129	219	348
Total	1	1,272	1,419	2,692

Table showing the number of stories in height of the dwelling houses.

How CLASSIFIED.	One story.		Two stories.		Two stories and basement.		Three stories.		Three stories and basement.		Four stories.		Four stories and basement.		Five stories.		Seven stories.	
Dwellings	45	457	707	181	273	11	21											
Stores and dwellings	7	18		133		38												
Tenement houses				199		38					1							
Flats		1		10	2	59											1	
Stores and flats				16		27												

Of the above number of buildings 631 are to have brown stone fronts.

Application has been made and permission granted, for the use of 208 party-walls.

The following table shows the character of the buildings in the wards in which the largest number of buildings are to be erected.

CHARACTER.	Eighth.	Seventeenth.	Eighteenth.	Nineteenth.	Twenty-first.	Twenty-second.	Twenty-third.	Twenty-fifth.
Private dwellings	43	7	104	55	175	197	215	266
Dwellings 2 to 4 families	52	38	130	25	40	51	16	36
Stores and dwellings	15	19	46	6	35	11	33	14
Tenement houses	25	22	65	21	45	4	4	2
Stables	4	6	24	9	16	3	4	11
Workshops	5	3	21	11	13	7	1	8
Storage sheds	5	11	7	1	1	6		5
School-houses		2	2			1		
Office buildings	1	4	1		1			
Pump room		1						
Boiler house		1						
Factories	2	4	7	2	4	3		
Foundries		4						
Railroad depot	1							
Greenhouse	1							
Hotel			1					
Coal pocket			1					
Churches			1	1				1

Table showing the wards in which the largest number of buildings are to be erected.

CHARACTER.	Eighth.	Seventeenth.	Eighteenth.	Nineteenth.	Twenty-first.	Twenty-second.	Twenty-third.	Twenty-fifth.
Mills.....			1	1	1	1		
Halls.....			1			1		
Storehouses.....		1	1	1		1		1
Smokehouse.....			1					
Lodging house.....				1				
Armory.....				1				
Stores.....	1	1			1	1		1
Institute.....					1			
Engine house.....						1		
Rope-walk.....								1
Asylum.....								1
Chapels.....			1					1
Brewery.....			1					

Table showing the number of buildings for which permits were granted for their erection during the years 1880, 1881, 1882, and for eleven (11) months of 1883 : also, see table following, which will give the estimated cost of these buildings.

MONTHS.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
January.....	79	23	77	148
February.....	59	72	122	140
March.....	116	231	196	239
April.....	178	261	257	213
May.....	165	210	206	265
June.....	141	213	206	284
July.....	166	174	252	256
August.....	152	179	188	276
September.....	166	202	278	265
October.....	294	165	280	279
November.....	117	137	176	190
December.....	72	138	117	.....
Total.....	1,705	2,005	2,375	2,555

Table giving Cost.

YEARS.	ESTIMATED COST.
1880.....	\$6,798,919 00
1881.....	9,686,567 00
1882.....	10,386,769 00
1883, up to December 1.....	11,521,611 00

Number of permits granted to move buildings, 94.

The number of permits granted for the alteration of buildings and the estimated cost of the same, is as follows:

MONTHS.		BUILDINGS ALTERED.	ESTIMATED COST.
1882.	December.....	22	\$15,290 00
1883.	January.....	38	27,075 00
"	February.....	38	33,315 00
"	March.....	87	92,595 00
"	April.....	109	88,005 00
"	May.....	92	94,707 00
"	June.....	71	73,885 00
"	July.....	58	84,373 00
"	August.....	69	58,150 00
"	September.....	77	58,310 00
"	October.....	92	90,690 00
"	November.....	35	24,050 00
Total.....		788	\$740,445 00

Nature of the alterations:

Brick additions.....	164	Foundation walls built.....	35
Frame additions.....	164	Bay windows built.....	3
Front alterations.....	73	Window openings.....	8
Roofs altered.....	89	Iron extension.....	1
Raised.....	67	Door openings.....	1
Repaired.....	44	Ovens built.....	2
Altered internally.....	45	Chimney built.....	1
Add one or more stories.....	91		

Number of buildings altered in each ward:

First Ward.....	35	Fourteenth Ward.....	29
Second Ward.....	18	Fifteenth Ward.....	31
Third Ward.....	24	Sixteenth Ward.....	47
Fourth Ward.....	22	Seventeenth Ward.....	47
Fifth Ward.....	17	Eighteenth Ward.....	63
Sixth Ward.....	22	Nineteenth Ward.....	29
Seventh Ward.....	46	Twentieth Ward.....	23
Eighth Ward.....	46	Twenty-first Ward.....	53
Ninth Ward.....	17	Twenty-second Ward.....	37
Tenth Ward.....	32	Twenty-third Ward.....	16
Eleventh Ward.....	19	Twenty-fourth Ward.....	10
Twelfth Ward.....	26	Twenty-fifth Ward.....	49
Thirteenth Ward.....	30		

Number of violations reported, 647.

Nature of the violations :

Buildings not provided with fire escapes.....	284
Erecting buildings without a permit.....	8
Frame sheds, &c., erected in the fire limits.....	25
Upper walls not the thickness required.....	9
Chimneys not carried a proper height.....	4
Defective flues.....	6
No trimmer arches turned at fire-places.....	3
Chimneys built in an unsafe manner.....	2
Means of egress not sufficient.....	98
Using inferior material.....	105
Erecting buildings in an unsafe manner.....	2
Woodwork not a proper distance from flues.....	3
No access to roof.....	8
No base course under foundation walls.....	5
Foundation walls not the thickness required.....	3
Unsafe buildings.....	50
" chimneys.....	21
" stairs.....	1
" extensions.....	3
" stoops.....	2
" area wall.....	1
" fire escapes.....	3
" furnace.....	1

Number of notices, issued, 528.

Number of violations removed, 210.

Number of violations given to counsel, 91.

Number of unsafe buildings taken down, 9.

Number of unsafe buildings repaired and made safe, 35.

Number of buildings which have been provided with fire escapes, 278.

742 buildings have been altered during the present year, and the estimated cost of said alterations is \$659,972.

The number of alterations now in progress is 68.

The number of new buildings in course of erection, 531.

The following table shows the number of new buildings completed by wards, from January 1, 1883, to date :

Wards.	Iron.	Brick.	Frame.	Total.	Estimated cost.
First.....		24	4	28	\$462,500
Second.....	1	16	3	20	206,550
Third.....		11		11	83,100
Fourth.....		9		9	64,500
Fifth.....		4		4	24,000
Sixth.....		14		14	62,800
Seventh.....		69	24	93	604,330
Eighth.....		27	128	155	433,845
Ninth.....		26	27	53	210,795
Tenth.....		65	10	75	444,250
Eleventh.....		17		17	147,200
Twelfth.....		20	20	40	169,420
Thirteenth.....		26		26	428,000
Fourteenth.....	1	23	22	46	182,443
Fifteenth.....		8	49	57	190,115
Sixteenth.....		19	20	39	195,660
Seventeenth.....		21	112	133	553,588
Eighteenth.....		40	373	413	1,167,175
Nineteenth.....		51	55	106	452,565
Twentieth.....		25		25	255,100
Twenty-first.....		86	175	261	982,770
Twenty-second.....		216	35	251	1,541,546
Twenty-third.....		303		303	1,956,200
Twenty-fourth.....		28	37	65	293,650
Twenty-fifth.....		131	180	311	848,225
Total.....	2	1,279	1,274	2,555	\$11,960,327

During the year 1882 the number of buildings completed was 1,934, and the estimated cost was \$8,590,506.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. GAYLOR,

Commissioner.

REPORT

OF THE

Department of Education.

BOARD OF EDUCATION, }
BROOKLYN, December 10, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

SIR :

In accordance with your request I present herewith a summary of the business transacted by this Board during the year ending with this date, with such comments, comparisons and suggestions as occur to me in relation to the condition and needs of the Public Schools of Brooklyn.

AS TO THE FINANCES OF THE BOARD.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

Balance on hand December 1st, 1882.....	\$231,047 46
Amount received from the City, January 2d, 1883..	977,925 10
“ “ “ “ State, July 18, 1883....	288,196 17
“ “ “ “ sale of books, &c.....	60,797 87
“ “ “ “ all other sources.....	14,826 03
	\$1,572,792 63

The amount expended:		
Of General Fund account.....	\$1,126,178	57
“ Special Fund “	287,052	13
“ Revenue account.....	10,318	00
Balance on hand Dec. 1, 1883.	149,243	93
	<hr/>	\$1,572,792 63

The following table will exhibit the receipts and expenditures more in detail:

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I feel confident that our present system of accounting is clear and easily comprehended, and that the general management of the monetary affairs of the Board is careful and satisfactory. My personal knowledge and conviction on this point are happily fortified by the result of the examination made in April last by the very efficient accountant appointed by your Honor, Mr. B. H. Huntington.

The Board having confidence in its present system and management of finances, is pleased to have them fully investigated at any time, and in order that confidence may not beget carelessness the Board has incorporated into its revised By-Laws the following section :

SECTION 12. The Board shall, in the month of January in each year, request the Mayor, or in case of his neglect or refusal, the President of the Board, to appoint a competent expert, in no way connected with the Board, whose duty it shall be to examine all the books, vouchers, etc., connected with the finances of the Board of the preceding year, and report in writing the result of the same on or before the regular March meeting in each and every year.

I believe that I am justified in saying that the moneys appropriated for Public Schools were not only carefully guarded but economically expended, and that the results produced in Brooklyn for the money expended will challenge comparison with those of any other large city on the Continent.

The educational force of a dollar is greater in Brooklyn than in any other large city.

I do not speak of this altogether boastingly, for I believe economy here is carried often far beyond the point of wisdom, and to the great sacrifice of the health and energy of teacher and pupils. Of this I will say more under another head.

Some comparisons of expenditures may help to a correct understanding of our position, and for that purpose the following table has been prepared from the report of 1882:

	New York.	Boston.	Brooklyn.
Average attendance*.....	121,784	48,557	54,894
Number of Teachers employed*.....	3,114	1,248	1,208
Total Expenditures.....	\$3,558,304 33	\$1,710,105 95	\$1,148,387 27
For Teachers' salaries*.....	2,542,842 01	1,109,635 88	778,654 83
For Janitors' salaries*.....	97,219 49	79,791 50	38,535 00
For Officers -including Truant Of- ficers.....	84,949 03	55,993 38	36,255 28
For Fuel and Gas.....	109,754 40	57,593 17	25,739 78
For delivering Books and Supplies.....		12,000 00	1,000 00
For cost of Books and Supplies.....	135,642 51	68,362 68	70,296 34

* Does not include Evening Schools.

NEW BUILDINGS.

The following table will show the School Buildings erected during the year; the appropriations made for the same; the dates of contracts awarded; the date when completed and occupied; the detailed cost, the number of Class Rooms and the sitting capacity of each building:

No. 7.	Primary of No. 13.	Primary of No. 24.	Primary of No. 26.	Wings of No. 30.	No. 40.	Colored No. 1.
1840.....						
Sale of old building.....	25,000	20,000	31,500	18,000	41,000	15,000
1841.....	25,573	18,150	3,300	Transfer. 2,500	other accts. (40	13,800
1842.....	135 30					85
Paid from other accts.....	\$50,718 30	\$38,150	\$33,100	\$30,500	\$41,040	\$28,635
Class rooms.....	14	14	14	4	16	10
Sittings.....	676	676	676	412	786	404
When occupied.....	Oct. 15, '83.	Dec. 4, '83.	Nov. —, '83.	Sep. 3, '83.	Nov. 8, '83.	Nov. 19, '83.
Items of Cost.						
Site.....	16,277	3,250	3,200			
Carpenter.....	1882	1883	1883	1883	1883	3,750
Mason.....	July 17.	Nov. 17.	12,424	11,559	Mch. 17.	8,535
Pumbing.....	do	do	15,897	do	do	11,473
Furniture.....	1883.	1883.	1,024	347 43	do	750
Heating.....	Jan. 12.	July 12.	1,643	1,646	do	1,120
Searching Titles.....	1883.	1883.	2,047	2,970	do	3,062 65
Survey.....	July 12	June 13.	177 30	July 10.	1883.	1,120
Tagging.....	do	do	40	40	June 13.	377 25
Extra Mason Work.....	516 20	1,982 46	1,718 20	1,718 20	40	35
	\$51,985 20	\$50,417 85	\$28,256 19	\$3,460 18	1,707 40	1,393 07
				\$18,070		\$38,928 32

The buildings here represented, with the exception of No. 7, have been erected in pursuance of a policy urged by your Honor in a special message to this Board under date of January 10th, 1882, and in the following language :

* * * * "It does seem to me, however, to indicate the way in which new development would most wisely take place: A large grammar school for a neighborhood dotted around at easy distances with small schools for primary children."

All the buildings erected have been for the accommodation of primary pupils.

I believe the principle as expressed in your message to be an excellent one, and I wish that it could be carried out to its full extent ; but you will observe that it is an exceedingly costly principle, and since only a portion of the money necessary can be provided for new buildings, it seems most wise to use that portion for the accommodation of the greatest number. This, it is clear, has not been done. Not a building erected this year, except No. 7, is large enough for the accommodation of the primary pupils of its immediate district, but on the contrary, each new building as soon as opened has been filled to overflowing, and many children are still unable to gain admittance, notwithstanding the fact that in many classes single desks are made to do duty for two, and double desks for three pupils.

The demand for admission has been so pressing that from the opening day the plans of the class rooms and many proper sanitary provisions have been ignored, each class room being made to do a duty never contemplated in the construction of the building. The buildings in nearly every case should have been one-half larger, costing proportionately less, and reaching nearer to the demands of the primary pupils of the neighborhood. The comparative cost of large or small buildings will be traced in the following figures showing the per capita cost of our new buildings :

SCHOOL.	Rooms.	Sittings.	Cost.	Per Capita Cost.
No. 7.....	24	1,167	\$51,885 20	\$44 46
" 13, Branch.....	14	676	50,417 85	74 58
" 24, ".....	14	676	38,256 19	56 59
" 26, ".....	14	676	38,969 18	57 65
" 40, ".....	16	786	39,729 05	50 54
" 1, Colored.....	10	404	28,928 32	71 60

No. 7 being the largest, has a per capita cost of 18 per cent. less than any of the others, and more than 40 per cent. less than the smallest building, viz.: Colored No. 1, while the new Primary of No. 13 has a per capita cost nearly equal to the most costly school building in Brooklyn. The conclusion is unavoidable; we can make the money appropriated for new buildings do a much greater service by the erection of larger buildings, when the neighborhood requires it.

The school building reaching the highest cost in Brooklyn, was Public School No. 9, erected in 1867-8, at a time when land, material and labor were most expensive.

This building cost \$110,882.40. It has a seating capacity for 1 428 pupils, Grammar and Primary, making the per capita cost \$77.65. The most recently erected school buildings in Boston are the following:

Year.	School.	Rooms.	Cost.	Grade.
1876.	Andrew School.....	16	\$108,478	Grammar.
"	Dorchester—Everett.....	10	42,863	"
"	Prince.....	12	54,185	"
1877.	Charles Sumner.....	10	50,552	"
"	Weston Street.....	8	39,912	Primary.
"	High and Latin School.....		750,800	
1878.	Allston.....	10	50,186	Grammar.
1880.	Cyrus Alger.....	8	50,000	Primary.
"	George Putnam.....	7	50,000	Grammar.
1882.	Howard Avenue.....	6	41,000	Primary.
"	Kenilworth.....	12	79,500	Grammar.

The following will show the new school buildings recently erected in New York, with cost, location, etc. :

Grammar Schools.	Location.	Height.	Wings.	Cost.	Average Attendance.
No. 71. . . .	7th Street, near Ave. B. .	4 Stories.	4	\$92,000	1,364
" 72. . . .	Lexington Avenue, 105th and 106th Streets. . . .	4 "	2	125,000	1,901
" 73. . . .	46th St., near Third Ave. .	4 "	4	86,000	1,339
" 74. . . .	63rd St., near Third Ave. .	4 "	4	128,000	2,201
" 75. . . .	Norfolk St., near Hester. .	4 "	4	100,000	1,298

The total cost of all Public School buildings in Boston is given at \$6,588,400. The entire cost of the School Buildings in Brooklyn has been less than \$3,000,000.

In Brooklyn and Boston all recent School Buildings have been two story buildings, while in New York each new building is four stories high.

Boston and New York build for Grammar and High Schools almost exclusively, while Brooklyn builds now for Primary pupils only.

I am pleased to be able to say that the work of erecting our new buildings has been well done, and has been carried forward with greater expedition than has ever before been known in the experience of this Board.

Five buildings have been planned, erected, finished and fully occupied within eight months time; and in the year just ending three additional school-houses have been opened for pupils.

The Board feels bound to make use of the money appropriated for buildings just as soon as it comes into the Treasury. The city can afford no more delays in erecting school-houses. It is not the fault of the present Board that even more school-houses have not been built in the last eight months, for all the money the Board has had for that purpose has been used with speed.

GENERAL ACCOMMODATIONS.

Notwithstanding the number of new buildings erected and occupied during the year, I am unable to report any relief from the general crowded condition that existed at the time of my last report. The children come faster than we can make room for them, and in some localities for nearly every seat provided there are two applicants. As evidence of the demand made upon our new schools at their opening by primary pupils, I cite the following:

"The new primary building to relieve No. 24 was opened on the 4th instant, this being the last of the new buildings. The crowd of children with their parents seeking admission was so great, and the excitement so intense, that for two days two policemen were required to preserve order at the doors. In a building seating 676 pupils 899 were registered. The average age of these was 8 years."

Only the 5th and 6th primary grades are admitted to this building. It is not pleasant for me to state that many of these children, nine and ten years old, have never before had a day's schooling, because there was no Public School into which they could gain admittance. From the first day the class rooms have been devoted to half-day classes.

The registry of attendance in October of this year numbered 67,314 pupils. Our regular seating capacity is but 64,200, or 3,114 less than the actual attendance.

We have 76 classes numbering over 90 pupils each, and of this number 16 classes have over 140 each, the largest class having 218 pupils. A large proportion of these crowded classes are, from necessity, divided into half-day sessions.

This is our condition after redistricting the city and reorganizing several schools, thereby decreasing the number of grammar classes and increasing the number of primary classes by eighteen; and after building eight new school buildings. We have been compelled to crowd and pack our school rooms without due regard to the convenience, comfort and health of the pupils, and to the proper facilities and conditions for imparting instruction.

This, in my judgment, is stretching economy far beyond its proper limits. In the matter of public education, even for primary pupils, I am forced to confess that Brooklyn has been parsimonious.

We have exhausted every means at our disposal to utilize space save one. It is now the purpose of the Committee on Studies to so revise the course of study that all grammar class rooms will be full.

When this has been done we shall have no resource left by which to gain space but to build new buildings. But perhaps one other resource may be left to us.

If the appropriation for school-houses should not be increased to a large extent in the future to meet the rapidly growing demands of the public, as a *dernier resort* it might be advisable to provide only half-day sessions for each class. As a matter of fact during the past year from 25 to 30 class rooms have been used for half-day classes only.

The Chairman of the Heating and Ventilating Committee, Mr. Hayden W. Wheeler, has given much time and study to the special subject committed to his Committee, and from a great volume of information which he has procured, I here submit tables showing the comparative amount of floor space and air space allowed to each pupil in the public schools of different cities.

LOCATION.	Square feet of Floor space.	Cubic feet of Air Space.
Boston, Mass.....	14	175
Lowell.....	16	200
Cambridge.....	18	224
Worcester.....	18	212
Bridgeport, Ct.....	20	240
Providence, R. I.....	20	266
New York City.....	25	300
Troy, N. Y.....	5, 6, 7 and 9	70, 80, 90 and 100
Elmira, N. Y.....	15	182
Syracuse, N. Y.....	14	200
Oswego, N. Y.....	18	300
Rochester, N. Y.....	12	150
Newark, N. J.....	16	250
Erie, Pa.....	13	147
Toledo, O.....	15 to 18	200 to 300
Ann Arbor, Mich.....	8	115
Chicago, Ill.....	13 to 20	156 to 240
Indianapolis, Ind.....	16 to 18	200 to 250
Kansas City, Mo.....	18 to 15	170 to 200
Washington, D. C.....	14	225
Baltimore, Md.....	20	250
Philadelphia, Pa.....	10 to 15	150 to 250
Switzerland.....	18	260
Paris, France.....	12	175
London, England.....		66 to 272
Glasgow, Scotland.....		Aver. 143
Germany.....	13½ to 17	160 to 190
Brooklyn, N. Y., (average).....	11	108 to 155
	10	150
	8 to 10	170
	6½	70
	5.57	89.7

The present condition of our schools may be best understood by a study of the following carefully prepared tables made September, 1883, from actual measurement, and by count of seats then in position in the school rooms. (The Central School is not included.)

No. of Rooms.	Square Feet of Floor Space per Pupil.	No. of Rooms.	Cubic Feet of Air Space per Pupil.
1	With 2*	7	With 24 to 30
67	" 3	17	" 31 39
177	" 4	64	" 40 49
289	" 5	106	" 50 59
228	" 6	198	" 60 69
126	" 7	145	" 70 79
104	" 8	202	" 80 89
88	" 9	94	" 90 99
68	" 10	61	" 100 109
63	" 11	83	" 110 119
16	" 12	73	" 120 129
8	" 13	70	" 130 139
7	" 14	31	" 140 149
2	" 15	34	" 150 159
2	" 16	23	" 160 169
2	" 17	15	" 170 179
1	" 19*	9	" 180 199
		10	" 200 & above.

* In the same building.

To fairly appreciate the showing made in the above table, it must be borne in mind that the proper allowance to each pupil should be not less than from 15 to 18 square feet of floor space, and 250 to 300 cubic feet of air space.

I clip the following comments from Mr. Wheeler's report:

"We have schoolrooms in Brooklyn with less than 25 cubic feet of air space per pupil, and practically no ventilation except by windows and doors, a source which is of little use in cold weather.

"How long would any member of this Board continue in health if compelled to work five hours daily on an allowance of less than a cubic yard of air to breathe, with 50 to 100 other occupants in the same room on the same allowance?

"It is little less than a crime to permit it, and so far as my efforts or vote can go, either as a citizen or member of this Board, the city of Brooklyn shall be the criminal if the means to improve the sanitary condition of our schools is withheld. If life and health are blessings, I believe there are thousands of children in the Public Schools to-day who would be blessed by being turned into the

streets (bad as is the remedy) rather than by being crowded together in poorly ventilated class rooms for five hours a day.

"Again and again are complaints made of headaches, lassitude, nervousness and all the ills attendant on bad air by patrons and teachers, and also by members of this Board concerning their own children.

"Corporate or manufacturing enterprises could not for any length of time endure the enhanced cost of their products that a like overcrowding and consequent ill health of employes would entail. Competition under such circumstances would drive them from the market; and many a manufacturer has been obliged to yield to this law of necessity and incur the necessary expenditure to remedy in his business what this report seeks to remedy in our Public Schools.

"If this is true of manufactories, how much greater the necessity when the materials to be wrought upon are children and their intellectual faculties!"

As a result of Mr. Wheeler's study and investigation he recommends the adoption of a rule providing that no new building or school room shall be so seated that does not allow, at least, 14 square feet of floor space and 200 cubic feet of air space for each primary pupil, 16 square feet and 225 cubic feet for each grammar grade pupil below the third grade, and 18 square feet and 250 cubic feet for each grammar grade pupil above the fourth grade.

That no new school building shall be erected that does not provide out-go and in-come air flues of sufficient size, and so planned as to insure a change of the whole air of each school room, in said building, from three to six times per hour.

That no room in any school building to be erected shall be seated with other than single desks and seats, and no principal shall, under any circumstances permit such desk and seat to be occupied by more than one pupil at the same time.

That the maximum number of sittings placed in a primary class room shall be 56; in class rooms below the third grammar grade, 48; and in class rooms above the fourth grammar grade, 40.

His recommendations pertain only to new buildings to be erected. He would leave the present buildings to such relief as time and experience may suggest.

If such a rule as Mr. Wheeler suggests should be enforced in regard to our present school buildings, it is estimated that more than 2,000 pupils would be excluded from our schools. To accommodate these with suitable school houses would require an expenditure of \$750,000.

To build and furnish school houses for at least \$5,000 pupils who are now waiting for admission into our public schools would cost \$350,000.

To build and furnish school houses each year to meet the requirements of the annual increase in our school population would cost at least \$150,000.

These items represent the sum needed to make our school accommodation equal to the requirements, and to put the school buildings in a fair condition.

I venture to say that if the Board should exclude from the schools *at the present time* all those pupils from whom proper sittings have not been furnished, and only the same appropriation as that for the year 1884 should be allowed us for the school houses the following year, the indignant sentiment of the people would be apt to be expressed in a speedy and practical way.

I attribute our present insufficient accommodations largely to the fact that the officials of the city and the general public have not in the past years been kept fully informed in regard to the absolute need of the schools.

The demand for parks and boulevards, the need of sewers and clean streets, the demands for the East River Bridge, have ever been presented with such force and pertinacity that the expenditures for these purposes have rolled up the debt of the city, but the great needs of public education in Brooklyn have been allowed to languish in the minds of the officials and the people.

There is no other large city in this country so poorly provided with school accommodations as Brooklyn, and no other city giving so little consideration to High Schools and higher education. We

have one High School, in a rented building, and thirty-one Grammar Schools, while Boston, a smaller city, has one Normal School, ten High Schools and fifty-one Grammar Schools.

Our Superintendent of Public Institutions has stated publicly that we need twenty new Primary School buildings. This Board asked the city for money sufficient to build eight, and we have been allowed money sufficient for four buildings.

Misfortunes and mistakes occurring under a differently constituted Board, with entirely different methods of doing business, have had the effect of handing down to this Board a degree of censure and criticism not at all justified by the facts, but we are confident that the public are in sympathy with our demand for sufficient school accommodation.

When Boston proposed a new High School building to cost three-quarters of a million, the Mayor was its foremost advocate, and when completed and dedicated, he alluded to the general approval as follows:

"I am happy to know that our fellow-citizens fully realize the importance of popular education, and that they willingly tax themselves most liberally for its support. They are proud, as well they may be, of our school system, of our accomplished teachers, of our convenient and beautiful school houses. They are proud, also, of their reputation in the country for all these things, and I trust there will be no abatement of this interest in the schools in the future."

SCHOOL SITES.

The committee having charge of the matter of locating new schools have already reported the selection of suitable property for the buildings to be erected during 1884, and the Board has authorized the committee to complete the purchases. The selection of suitable sites from vacant property in desirable neighborhoods is yearly becoming more difficult, and the tendency of the Board, because of insufficient appropriations, has been to cut down the dimensions to the lowest point, thus preventing the enlargement of buildings by the addition of wings in the future. The ground for school

buildings should not be stinted. Property will not be more easily or more cheaply obtained in the future.

Five years ago the Central Grammar School was established, and temporarily located in rented property. The school has done excellent work, and is yearly developing its strength and influence, but its temporary quarters have been continued, although every way unsuited and insufficient.

The city seems unwilling to appropriate money for a new building, but this must soon be done or the school must be abandoned.

The city now owns some excellent property adjoining Prospect Park, from which should be selected and reserved a suitable plot for a building to accommodate this excellent school.

RENTED PROPERTY.

Upon the completion of our new school buildings this Board vacated two buildings in Strong place, two in Grove street and one building in Dikeman street, all dwelling houses, at a combined rental of \$4,020, the only schools now being conducted in rented buildings being the Central Grammar School and Attendance School No. 1.

It is my hope that this Board will never again consent to rent dwelling-house property for school purposes. There is not a feature in the plan or construction of a dwelling, either as to convenience or safety, or as to sanitary appointments that is at all suitable for public school purposes. It is simply a miserable makeshift to use a dwelling house for such purposes, and as a means of providing school accommodation it is as costly as it is every other way bad, the Board being put to the cost of fitting up the property in the first place, paying an extra rent for its use as a public school, and finally restoring the property to its former condition when vacated by the school.

I believe I voice the sentiment of this Board when I say that no more dwelling houses will be rented to provide school accommodation.

SALARIES.

The maximum salary for a Principal of a full grade Grammar school is \$2,700 ; for Intermediate schools from \$1,500 to \$2,250 ; for Branch Primaries, \$1,500 ; for heads of departments not teaching a class, \$930 ; for class teachers of grammar classes, from \$800 for graduating class, down to \$487 for 6th grade girls' class ; and for primary classes, from \$482 down to \$300 for the new, inexperienced teacher.

During the past year the Board has revised the salary list for class teachers and arranged the salaries to take effect from January 1, 1884, as represented in the following schedule :

PLAN FOR RE-ADJUSTMENT OF SALARIES.

YEARS.	PRIMARY GRADES.						GRAMMAR GRADES.							
	6th.	5th.	4th.	3d.	2d.	1st.	6th.	5th.	4th.	3d.	B2.	A2.	B1.	AG.
First Year... { Girls. Boys.		\$300 315	\$300 315	\$300 315	\$300 315	\$300 315								
Second Year... { Girls. Boys.		350 365	350 365	350 365	350 365	350 365								
Third Year... { Girls. Boys.		400 415	400 415	400 415	400 415	400 415								
Fourth Year... { Girls. Boys.	\$450 465	450 465	450 465	450 465	450 465	450 465	\$450 475							
Fifth Year... { Girls. Boys.	475 490	450 465	450 465	450 465	450 465	475 490	475 500	\$475 500						
Sixth Year... { Girls. Boys.	500 515	450 465	450 465	450 465	450 465	475 490	500 525	525 550	\$550 585	\$600 625				
Ninth Year... { Girls. Boys.											\$650 675	\$700 725	\$800 825	\$900 900

The improvement hoped for in this arrangement is :

First, To secure experienced teachers and those having special aptness for instructing little children to take charge of the introductory or lowest classes.

Second, To have the first increase of salary governed by experience, to be followed by promotion to higher grades as the teacher develops qualities necessary to the work required. By our present system promotions occur as some teacher in the higher grades retires from service, when all the teachers below are advanced one class and the new appointee takes her place at the bottom. By this means promotion is a matter of chance only, and teachers, irrespective of their abilities, drift into higher positions and higher pay.

The question of how to make advancement contingent upon merit only has received much consideration during the past two years and it is still in a large degree an unsolved problem.

Principals of Grammar Schools have petitioned and urged with much force that their salaries should be restored to the former maximum of \$3,000. The Board is unwilling to do this until it may be done as a recognition of merit, and all principals are not alike in this regard. The work of redistricting the city made the reorganizing of several schools necessary. To accomplish this a resolution was passed that no principal or teacher should suffer in salary. Grammarschools were reduced to primary and intermediate schools, but the salaries remained as before, consequently salaries are unequal and this is now becoming a subject of complaint and will eventually lead to some means of readjustment.

The salaries of our teachers in some grades are too low. They compare but poorly with those paid in other cities where the work is less exacting. The lowest salary in New York is \$400 ; in Boston \$456 ; in Brooklyn, \$300.

It is far more difficult for teachers to obtain certificates from the superintendent and appointments in the public schools at the present time that it has been in the past. The examinations are strict and impartial and the certificate of the superintendent is now

an infallible witness of scholarship amply sufficient for the work required.

In this particular a steady progress has been made during the past two years and the benefits derived are of a substantial and permanent character.

PENSION.

The Schools of Brooklyn suffer from old age. There should be a limit of age fixed by law, arriving at which, teachers and officers should be retired from service.

A sympathetic sentiment prevents this from being done by the Board when no law requires it. The fact that teachers have been thirty or forty years in service is urged in their favor and as a reason why they should be continued, when it is more often a reason why they should be retired. They cannot be expected to retire voluntarily when they have sufficient strength to continue. The Board will not do that which seems so harsh, yet the interests of the schools require that something should be done. Some means might be provided by which superannuated teachers and officers could be retired on a pension.

EVENING SCHOOLS.

During the year a new course of study has been provided for Evening Schools, and more than usual care taken to bring these schools to a higher standard of excellence. The rules of the Board provide for sixteen weeks of Evening Schools, but the appropriation being cut down to \$25,000, the schools this year can only be held for ten weeks, and will be closed for the winter on the Friday preceding Christmas day.

One of two things should be done, either the schools should be cut down in number or the appropriation made large enough to continue the schools for the full term of sixteen weeks. Under the most favorable circumstances it costs much more in Evening Schools for the results produced than by any other course of instruction, and the shorter the term the greater the *per capita* cost.

It would be well, I think, to keep open less than one-half of the present number of Evening Schools and make them as permanent as possible. I would have them continued for twenty-eight weeks, and thus bring them within the general school law, which would make them participants in the State school moneys.

FREE BOOKS.

Active preparations are being made to put into successful operation the system for furnishing books free of cost to the pupils, from the first day of January next, the city having allowed funds for that purpose.

No effort will be spared to make the system of free books successful. The members of the committee having it in charge are in full accord with the measure, and have from the first been its earnest advocates.

A careful estimate of the cost of the present equipment of the schools has placed the sum at from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

It has been found that forty per cent. of the supplies furnished pupils have been of a character perishable in the hands of each pupil, such as copy books, drawing books, slates and blanks of various kinds. Careful inquiry has developed the fact that pupils have been in the habit of selling their old books to other pupils and to an extent not anticipated.

Great diversity of opinion has prevailed as to the sufficiency of the appropriation, and some members of the Board believe that there should be established a uniform system of text books for all the schools, and simultaneously with the introduction of free books. Recent inquiries on this point have thrown much new light upon the entire question, and has clearly demonstrated the fact that, were a Committee clothed with sufficient power to act upon both questions the desired object could be obtained, and at a great saving to the Board.

THE TRUANT HOME.

The work of carrying out the provisions of the Compulsory Education Act has been performed by the Superintendent of Attend-

ance and the Agents, with much zeal and discretion. The system adopted by the Board, of providing Attendance Schools or classes, where refractory and truant boys are sent for instruction under special teachers, for the time required by law, of visiting all factories and stores where children under fourteen years of age may be employed, of aiding the regular schools in keeping delinquent pupils in attendance, and of rescuing idle and vagrant boys from the streets, has been frequently approved and adopted by other cities.

But the great defect of our system is the lack of a proper place where idle and vagrant boys may be sent who cannot be induced to stay in the Attendance schools. The only place we have for that purpose is The Truant Home. This institution is not under the control of this Board, and the Board is not responsible for its condition. It is too often used by magistrates as a place where boys who have been guilty of crimes or misdemeanors may be incarcerated. At the present time there are in the Home about fifty boys who have been sentenced by magistrates for various offences, and but twelve or fourteen boys who have been placed there by our agents. It is a pity that boys who need only a course of instruction and discipline should be associated with those who have been guilty of more serious offences, under a system that partakes more largely of prison life than of strict school instruction. As a consequence, the practice of the Board has been to hesitate to send boys to the Truant Home, and then only as a last resource.

I think it would be wise to have The Truant Home placed altogether under the control of the Board, so that its general management might be put on a healthier basis, and the stigma of prison—so odious to parents and so often injurious to the boys—might be removed from an institution which, in reality, ought to be only a compulsory boarding school, as well managed as any other school.

In conclusion, I may add that during the past two years this Board has instituted a complete and thorough change in its methods of conducting its business and supervising its school work. A change nearly as complete has taken place in the personnel of the Board itself, only one-third of the members continuing, who com-

posed the Board in 1881. Such changes, rapid and radical as they have been, in a department of the greatest importance, full of intricate work and of infinite detail, naturally caused some disturbance, provoked discussion and called forth no little criticism. A lack of experience with a majority of members has occasioned a little embarrassment at times, but upon the whole the changes have been steps of progress that are fast developing the wisdom that first determined them, and then gave them direction.

The Board now feels the force of new life, more system and better organized work.

It is no idle task to direct the intellectual progress of 100,000 children, and determine the annual expenditure of \$1,500,000, so that it should produce the best possible results. The duties of members become more exacting as the schools increase, and I am pleased to testify to the general fidelity and zeal of the members of the Board, as the Board is at present constituted.

TUNIS G. BERGEN,
President.

REPORT
OF THE
BROOKLYN PARK COMMISSIONERS.

OFFICE OF THE
BROOKLYN PARK COMMISSIONERS,
City Hall, Brooklyn, January 1st, 1884. }

*To the Honorable the Mayor and Common Council of the City of
Brooklyn:*

GENTLEMEN :

The Brooklyn Park Commissioners, complying with the statute, present their report for the year ending December 31st, 1883.

There will be found appended statements showing in detail the amount of moneys received, with the sources whence they were derived, together with a full exhibit of the expenditures for the year.

For the details of the work we refer you to the accompanying report of the Chief Engineer and Superintendent.

Respectfully,

WM. B. KENDALL,
President.

Revenue Derived from the Public Parks of the City of Brooklyn.

Balance brought forward from December 31, 1882...		\$492 27
Rentals	\$7,084 00	
Water sales	914 83	
Old buildings sold	927 00	
Old material sold	12 10	
Sheep sold	226 35	
Wool sold	63 75	
Bull sold	45 00	
Care of broken carriages, runaway horses, etc	42 25	
Impounded animals— fees and sales	52 29	
		<u>9,867 57</u>
		<u>\$9,860 94</u>
Paid into the City Treasury	9,621 82	
Balance to January 1, 1884	239 12	
		<u>\$9,860 94</u>

Financial Statement for the Year 1883.
CITY.

BROOKLYN PARK COMMISSIONERS.

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MAINTENANCE OF PARKS.

<i>Certified to City Auditor:</i>			
Expenditure for labor.....	\$66,257 99	Appropriated by the Common Council.....	\$100,000 00
supplies.....	39,621 67	Derived from Park revenue, and paid into the	
gas.....	1,098 19	City Treasury.....	9,621 82
music.....	2,400 00		
insurance.....	243 97		
	\$109,621 82		\$109,621 82

MAINTENANCE OF EASTERN PARKWAY.

<i>Certified to City Auditor:</i>		Appropriated by the Common Council.....	\$5,000 00
Expenditure for labor, teams, su- perintendence.....	\$5,000 00		

MAINTENANCE OF OCEAN PARKWAY.

<i>Certified to City Auditor:</i>		Appropriated by the Common Council.....	\$12,500 00
Expenditure for labor, superinten- dence, teams.....	\$10,342 24		
Expenditure for supplies.....	2,157 76		
	\$12,500 00		

Financial Statement for the Year 1883—Continued.

BEDFORD AVENUE—REPAIRS AND CLEANING.

<i>Certified to City Auditor:</i>			
Expenditure Expenditure for labor.....	\$1,269 25	Appropriated by the Common Council.....	\$5,000 00
“ supplies.....	3 00		
“ repairs, 10 per cent.			
“ reserve on contract.....	351 67		
Transfer to Dept. of City Works.....	3,376 08		
	\$5,000 00		

CONSTRUCTION OF ERECTIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS IN PROSPECT PARK.

<i>Certified to City Auditor:</i>			
Expenditure for labor.....	\$7,726 96	Appropriated by the Legislature.....	\$10,000 00
“ supplies.....	2,273 04		
	\$10,000 00		

COUNTY.

MAINTENANCE OF CONCOURSE—CONEY ISLAND.

Expenditure for labor.....	\$1,968 67	Appropriated by the Board of Supervisors of Kings Co., and rec'd from the County Treasurer.....	\$5,000 00
“ supplies.....	3,181 33	Received for privilege.....	150 00
			\$5,150 00

Financial Statement for the Year 1883—Concluded.

PARADE GROUND.

Expenditure for labor.....	\$2,460 00		Appropriated by the Board of Supervisors of Kings Co., and rec'd from the County Treasurer	\$2,500 00
“ supplies.....	40 00	\$2,500 00		

STATEMENT of Accounts certified to Auditor during the year 1883.

Date.	Name.	For.	Amount.
Jan'y 6	Pay Roll.....	Laborers, etc.....	\$6,051 58
"	".....	".....	61 25
"	".....	".....	117 88
"	".....	".....	42 95
	John Y. Culyer.....	Incidental expenses.....	40 65
	".....	".....	59 31
10	Bloor & Tuckhorn.....	Repairing sash.....	9 00
	A. V. Benoit.....	Drawing materials.....	7 90
	C. & R. Poillon.....	Reeving balyards.....	8 00
	Brooklyn Eagle.....	Printing.....	3 00
	Edward R. Shipman.....	Oats.....	120 00
	Watson & Pittinger.....	Lumber.....	8 00
	Brooklyn Gas Light Company.....	Gas.....	18 84
	Hosford & Sons.....	Stationery.....	25 90
	C. W. Keenan.....	Supplies.....	40 42
	E. & F. Conklin.....	Stone base.....	9 37
	W. B. Dayton & Son.....	Supplies.....	48 15
	A. W. Shadbolt & Son.....	Wagon supplies.....	71 10
	W. H. Murtha & Son.....	Coal.....	46 00
	John Gallagher & Bro.....	Carriage hire.....	4 00
	Brooklyn Gas Light Company.....	Gas.....	24 24
	William Bergen, Agent.....	Coal.....	184 00
	Charles Pratt & Co.....	Naphtha.....	51 29
	Williamsburgh City Fire Ins. Co.....	Insurance.....	37 50
	Coney Island Fuel Gas & L. Co.....	Lamps on Concourse.....	15 00
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.....	Gas.....	42 70
10	Isaac Kneec, Jr.....	Harness.....	49 75
	Paul C. Coffin.....	Hardware.....	52 88
	W. H. Murtha & Son.....	Coal.....	63 25
	Andrew A. Smith.....	Office expenses.....	15 39
22	Pay Roll.....	Officers and clerks.....	742 50
Feb'y 2	".....	Laborers, etc.....	6,507 30
"	".....	".....	36 70
"	".....	".....	103 75
"	".....	".....	27 80
6	John Y. Culyer.....	Incidental expenses.....	50 65
9	William Bergen, Agent.....	Coal.....	264 50
12	John Lee.....	Erecting stable.....	4,960 00
	Brooklyn Gaslight Co.....	Gas.....	33 12
	".....	Gas.....	33 36
	Edward A. Fordham.....	Attending sick horses.....	30 00
	W. B. Dayton & Son.....	Supplies.....	58 03
	Frank J. Cole.....	Keepers supplies.....	79 50
	Bulch, Price & Co.....	Cups and Havelocks.....	120 25
	Rubber Clothing Co.....	Boots.....	34 39
	Chas. Pratt & Co.....	Naphtha.....	51 08
	A. W. Shadbolt & Son.....	Wagon supplies, etc.....	106 57
	William Porter's Sons.....	Lamps.....	359 20
	Automatic Globe Gas Light Co.....	Burners.....	12 00
	Edward R. Shipman.....	Oats.....	247 90
	Henry Werner.....	Lumber.....	208 96

Statement of Accounts certified to Auditor, 1883.—Continued.

Date.	Name.	For.	Amount.
Feb'y 12	Peter B. Bracken	Carrots	15 00
	"	Supplies and repairs	98 75
	"	Shoeing horses	108 00
	Stephen Stevenson	Soap	18 75
	A. V. Benoit	Supplies	3 50
	Watson & Pittinger	Lumber	163 65
	P. C. Coffin	Hardware	160 59
	C. W. Keenan	Supplies	100 30
	Frederick Loeser & Co.	"	12 64
	John Morton & Son	Cement	27 42
	W. H. Murtha & Son	Coal	115 00
	Chas. E. Teale & Co.	Uniforms for keepers	25 52
	W. B. Dayton & Son	Supplies	3 50
	Hosford & Sons	Stationery	1 75
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.	Gas	50 75
	National Metre Co.	Water glass	50
	Charles Pratt & Co.	Naphtha	51 14
	Hosford & Sons	Stationery	208 27
	Brooklyn Gas Light Co.	Gas	41 64
	The Argus Company	Daily Argus of Albany	40 00
19	Town of Gravesend	Taxes on gravel pit	2 79
20	Anthony Waterer	Plants	91 12
	Pay Roll	Officers and clerks	757 50
March 1	"	Laborers, etc	5,470 44
	"	"	52 35
	"	"	107 86
	"	"	37 75
7	George G. Martin	Printing annual reports	77 60
	John Y. Cuyler	Incidental expenses	52 83
27	Pay Roll	Officers and clerks	757 50
	Williamsburgh City Fire Ins. Co.	Insurance on stable	10 88
31	L. Brandeis & Son	Machinery supplies	2 75
	"	"	8 75
	National Metre Co.	Repairing metre	1 15
	Henry Werner	Lumber	91 00
	"	Hickory handles	4 20
	"	"	15 00
	Whitlock, Slover & Co.	Marline	7 05
	"	"	3 78
	Edward R. Shipman	Corn and Oats	195 00
	"	Feed and corn	28 35
	W. Bergen, Agent	Coal	120 50
	"	"	195 50
	"	"	23 00
	Charles Pratt & Co.	Naphtha	50 72
	"	"	50 24
	Hosford & Sons	Stationery	5 90
	"	"	51 01
	"	"	12 10
	Vanderbilt Bros.	Agricultural implements	38 25
	C. W. Keenan	Supplies	89 80

STATEMENT of Accounts, &c.—Continued.

Date.	Name.	For	Amount.
March 31	William Porter's Sons	Lamp supplies.	\$4 30
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.	Gas.	21 70
	Jacob G. Miner	Lamp supplies.	1 32
	Paul C. Coffin	Hardware	87 99
March 31	Beers & Resseque	Lumber.	89 50
	Jos. G. Pollard	Repairing tools.	9 00
	The Brooklyn Eagle	Printing	6 25
	Henry Montanus	Tobacco stems	1 00
	Stephen Stevenson	Soap	24 25
	Josiah Partridge	Chairs.	38 25
	A. V. Benoit	Drawing materials	44 12
	Henry R. Worthington	Machinery supplies	14 64
April 5	Pay roll.	Laborers, &c.	7,154 00
	"	"	72 60
	"	"	360 56
	"	"	234 00
6	John Y. Culyer	Incidental expenses	62 65
	Brooklyn Daily Eagle	Advertising.	49 65
	Brooklyn Union Publishing Co.	"	32 20
20	Pay Roll.	Officers and clerks.	757 50
	Brooklyn Frie Presse	Advertising.	49 00
	"	"	22 20
	Brooklyn Daily Times	"	33 00
May 4	Pay Roll.	Laborers, &c.	8,145 49
	"	"	301 95
	"	"	371 62
	"	"	114 85
	"	"	1,087 92
5	John Y. Culyer	Incidental expenses	72 00
	W. B. Dayton & Son	Tin roofing, &c.	253 48
	John Gallagher & Bro	Carriage hire.	18 00
	Henry Werner	Lumber.	23 05
8	Louis D. Beck	Gravel	1,528 50
	Paul C. Coffin	Hardware.	647 03
	"	"	3 00
	Wm. Bergen, agent.	Coal.	166 00
	"	Coal.	27 50
	Isaac Knee, Jr.	Repairing harness, &c.	67 25
	Vanderbilt Bros.	Agricultural implements	307 50
11	Edward R. Shipman	Oats, &c.	231 50
12	William H. Murtha & Son	Coal.	187 00
	Beers & Resseque	Lumber.	199 70
	"	"	206 72
	A. W. Shadbolt & Son	Repairing wagons, &c.	227 50
14	Brooklyn Union Publishing Co.	Advertising ordinances	45 00
16	Isaac H. Dahلمان	Horses	1,512 50
	"	"	1,512 50
	Brooklyn Daily Eagle	Advertising ordinances	63 00
	H. Hawkes	Plumbing	12 00
	Buckley & Merritt	Hose, &c.	63 50
	Kenyon & Newton	Doors and sashes.	45 00

STATEMENT of Accounts, &c.—Continued, .

Date.	Name.	For	Amount.
May 16	Kenyon & Newton.	Doors and sashes.	\$40 50
	C. M. Moseman & Bro.	Harness, &c.	442 50
	L. Brandeis & Son.	Plumbing materials.	66 28
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.	Gas.	27 30
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.	Gas.	33 60
	Wm. Porter's Sons.	Lamp wicks.	1 20
	C. W. Keenan.	Paints, oils, &c.	143 73
	Hosford & Sons.	Stationery.	41 85
	Brooklyn Frei Presse.	Advertising.	14 40
	J. M. Quimby & Co.	Buggy.	300 00
	Coney Island Fuel and Gas Co.	Gas.	45 00
	Hosford & Sons.	Stationery.	16 62
	C. W. Keenan.	Paints, oils, &c.	130 33
	Charles Pratt & Co.	Naptha.	52 08
	Stephen Stevenson.	Soap.	6 25
18	J. P. Cranford.	Repairing walks.	5,553 36
22	Pay Roll.	Officers and clerks.	757 50
June 2	"	Laborers, &c.	9,611 51
	"	"	260 20
	"	"	1,065 63
	"	"	134 25
	"	"	2,537 78
4	John Y. Culyer.	Incidental expenses.	88 33
19	L. Kleinfelder.	Brooms.	7 00
	Paul C. Coffin.	Hardware.	304 96
	"	"	52 30
	Williamsburgh City Fire Ins. Co.	Insurance.	11 85
	Frank J. Cole.	Keepers' supplies.	42 38
	A. W. Shadbolt & Son.	Wagons.	210 00
	"	"	210 00
	Edward R. Shipman.	Oats, feed, &c.	263 85
	"	"	272 10
	H. Hawkes.	Iron basins, &c.	51 00
18	Watson & Pettinger.	Lumber.	5 25
	"	"	401 60
	"	"	257 45
	"	"	21 90
	"	"	81 35
20	Boston Machine Co.	Supplies.	33 60
	Frederick Loeser & Co.	"	13 68
	Automatic Globe Gas Light Co.	Lamp supplies.	9 00
	Hibbler & Ransch.	Automatic Globes.	36 00
	A. H. Hews & Co.	Flower pots.	71 25
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.	Gas.	28 35
	Jacob G. Miner.	Lamps.	14 00
	Wm. Porter's Sons.	Chimneys.	2 00
	L. H. Smith.	Moving safe.	10 00
	Henry R. Worthington.	Machinery supplies.	24 15
	Chas. Pratt & Co.	Naptha.	52 08
	Brooklyn Daily Times.	Advertising ordinances.	43 00
	Vanderbilt Bros.	Agricultural implements.	57 50

STATEMENT of Accounts, &c.—Continued.

Date.	Name.	For.	Amount.
June 20	Hosford & Sons.	Stationery.	\$44 59
	C. M. Moseman & Bro.	Harness.	2 00
	"	Whips.	8 75
	"	Horse Equipments.	12 50
	Miller, Morrison & Co.	Brass spurs.	4 00
	"	Horse equipments.	55 00
	Whitlock, Slover & Co.	Supplies.	17 70
	Kenyon & Newton.	Door.	2 75
	Union Steam Printing Est.	Printing.	20 00
	"	"	3 50
	Henry Werner.	Repairing chairs.	32 00
	Coney Island Fuel Gas & L. Co.	Gas.	45 00
	C. W. Keenan.	Paints, oils, &c.	153 27
	Hosford & Sons.	Stationery.	4 89
	The Brooklyn Imp't Co.	Dockage.	40 00
	E. I. Horsman.	Court marker.	4 00
	Wm. H. Murtha & Sons.	Coal.	52 50
	Wm. Wall's Sons.	Awning.	38 50
	Pratt Manufacturing Co.	Naptha.	52 60
	Wm. Wall's Sons.	Awning canvas, &c.	6 50
	John Morton & Sons.	Cement and brick.	51 00
	National Meter Co.	Supplies.	2 25
	Baleh, Price & Co.	Police hat.	4 00
	"	"	4 00
	Mrs. E. M. Chisholm.	Trees.	78 25
	Stephen Stevenson.	Soup, &c.	10 10
	Peter Bracken.	Horse shoeing.	66 00
	Henry Werner.	Lumber.	22 25
	"	"	100 40
	"	"	35 84
	"	"	12 74
	"	"	2 10
	Pratt Manufacturing Co.	Naptha.	52 29
	Miller, Morrison & Co.	Horse equipments.	64 00
	Wm. Wall's Sons.	Ensigns, bunting, &c.	160 43
	C. M. Moseman & Brother.	Supplies.	5 00
	"	"	13 00
	"	"	1 75
	Henry Werner.	Lumber.	13 16
	"	"	45 50
	Union Steam Printing Est.	Printing.	3 00
	L. Brandeis & Son.	Supplies.	12 43
	Baleh, Price & Co.	Keepers' supplies.	12 52
	Josiah Partridge.	Chairs.	52 50
	Beers & Resseguie.	Lumber.	326 62
	C. W. Keenan.	Supplies.	210 01
	"	"	120 07
	Smith & Gates.	Rubber tubing.	40
	"	Keepers' supplies.	22 10
	Whitlock, Slover & Co.	Canvas, &c.	13 00
	"	Rope.	9 74

STATEMENT of Accounts, &c.—Continued.

Date.	Name.	For.	Amount.
June 20	Whitlock, Slover & Co.	Supplies.	\$28 00
	"	Rope.	61 60
21	William Bergen, agt.	Coal.	277 00
	"	"	236 25
	Janes & Kirkland.	Roller.	365 00
22	Pay Roll.	Officers and clerks.	874 16
July 1	"	Laborers, &c.	7,356 33
	"	"	224 14
	Pay Roll.	"	760 53
	"	"	677 65
	"	"	150 00
	Felix I. Eben.	Music.	640 00
	Andrew A. Smith.	Office expenses.	13 15
	Hosford & Sons.	Stationery.	6 75
19	John Y. Culyer.	Incidental expenses.	67 42
21	Pay Roll.	Officers and clerks.	874 16
25	Frederick W. Starr.	Lumber.	57 50
30	J. P. Cranford.	Balance on contract.	351 67
Aug. 2	Pay Roll.	Laborers, &c.	7,161 03
	"	"	215 90
	"	"	585 00
	"	"	65 00
	John Y. Culyer.	Incidental expenses.	57 65
3	Frederick W. Starr.	Lumber.	5 00
	Brooklyn Gas Light Co.	Gas.	21 12
	"	"	9 60
	Frederick Stone & Co.	Supplies.	2 10
	Doane & Wellington Mfg Co.	Lamp supplies.	60 00
	A. W. Shadbolt & Son.	Carts, wagon supplies.	315 10
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.	Gas.	30 97
	Hosford & Sons.	Stationery.	19 80
	Union Steam Printing Co.	Printing.	9 25
	Brooklyn Gas Light Co.	Gas.	154 32
	Felix I. Eben.	Music.	480 00
	Brooklyn Gas Light Co.	Gas.	138 12
	Henry Werner.	Oak stakes.	360 00
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.	Gas.	27 82
	Stephen Stevenson.	Mustard.	11 25
	W. B. Dayton.	Supplies.	14 85
	Balch, Price & Co.	Hats for police.	120 00
	Charles E. Teale & Co.	Uniforms for keepers.	593 52
	Rubber Clothing Co.	Hose.	50 00
	E. & F. Conklin.	Stone steps.	12 75
	Edward R. Shipman.	Oats.	215 00
	C. W. Keenan.	Paints, oils, &c.	83 57
	W. Bergen, agt.	Coal.	231 00
	"	"	31 50
	Paul C. Coffin.	Hardware.	206 00
	"	"	308 52
	"	"	320 29
	C. M. Moseman & Brother.	Harness.	52 00

Statement of Accounts certified to Auditor, 1883.—Continued.

Date.	Name.	For.	Amount.
Aug. 3	Beers & Resseguie.....	Lumber.....	\$238 28
	Pratt Manufacturing Co.....	Naptha.....	52 71
	Baker, Voorhis & Co.....	Session laws of 1883.....	3 00
	Hosford & Sons.....	Stationery.....	80
	Pay Roll.....	Officers and clerks.....	874 16
Sept. 3	Felix I. Eben.....	Musie.....	480 00
	".....	".....	480 00
4	Pay Roll.....	Laborers, &c.....	5,649 21
	".....	".....	146 80
	".....	".....	467 67
	".....	".....	350 00
10	Dr. Jerome Walker.....	Medical services.....	95 00
Sept. 11	John Y. Culyer.....	Incidental expenses.....	56 14
	Louis D. Beck.....	Gravel.....	462 00
	Wm. Bergen, agt.....	Coal.....	141 75
	".....	".....	42 00
19	Paul C. Coffin.....	Hardware.....	21 96
	".....	".....	38 16
	Hosford & Sons.....	Stationery.....	3 00
	".....	".....	50
	".....	".....	3 25
	".....	".....	5 05
	".....	".....	18 72
	Edward R. Shipman.....	Oats, &c.....	131 00
	".....	".....	130 40
	National Meter Co.....	Repairing meter.....	75
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.....	Gas.....	29 57
	".....	".....	35 52
	Henry Werner.....	Oak stakes, &c.....	47 00
	".....	Lumber.....	20 00
	".....	Pine pickets.....	30 00
	C. W. Keenan.....	Paints, oils, &c.....	79 59
	".....	Oil.....	7 63
	".....	Paris white.....	11 30
	".....	Supplies.....	12 68
	Pratt Manufacturing Co.....	Naptha.....	47 88
	".....	".....	48 12
	Peter B. Bracken.....	Carrots.....	80 00
	".....	Supplies.....	44 95
	W. B. Dayton & Son.....	Store supplies.....	11 10
	Boston Machine Co.....	Brass nuts for hydrants.....	1 50
	William Walls' Sons.....	Supplies.....	1 50
	Beers & Resseguie.....	Lumber.....	66 00
	Miller, Morrison & Co.....	Harness.....	1 37
	A. V. Benoit.....	Tracing cloth.....	19 00
	Wm. Porter's Sons.....	Lamp supplies.....	1 15
	The Brooklyn Eagle.....	Printing.....	6 00
	Philip Strobel & Son.....	Walnut tables.....	90 00
	E. H. Wells.....	Supplies.....	1 15
	John Davis.....	Repairing shelter roof.....	24 00
	A. W. Shadbolt & Son.....	Wagon supplies.....	2 60

Statement of Accounts certified to Auditor, 1883.—Continued.

Date.	Name.	For.	Amount.
Sept. 19.	Brooklyn Impt. Co.	Dockage	40 50
	L. H. Smith	Hauling fountain	20 00
	Steven Stevenson	Soap	6 25
	John Morton & Sons	Brick, Cement, &c.	34 30
	" " "	" " "	130 77
	National Meter Co.	Repairs to meter	4 85
21	Pay Roll	Officers and clerks	874 16
	Felix I. Eben	Music	320 00
Oct. 5.	Pay Roll	Laborers, &c.	1,739 61
	" " "	" " "	1,400 00
	" " "	" " "	1,800 00
	" " "	" " "	1,500 00
	John Y. Culyer	Incidental expenses	48 96
6	Wm. Bergen, agent	Coal	189 25
	" " "	Coal	36 75
8	Brooklyn Gas Light Co.	Gas	57 12
	" " "	" " "	67 44
	Paul C. Coffin	Hardware	8 50
	Edward R. Shipman	Oats, &c.	153 35
	" " "	Corn	28 00
	Hosford & Sons	Stationery	1 50
	C. W. Keenan	Home Light oil	8 82
	" " "	Supplies	14 66
	" " "	Home Light oil	9 01
	" " "	Supplies	6 20
	Pratt Manufacturing Co.	Naptha	48 07
	Henry R. Worthington	Rubber packing	3 50
	C. W. Keenan	Supplies	10 50
	Hosford & Sons	Stationery	7 50
	Union Steam Printing Est.	Printing	9 00
	Paul C. Coffin	Hardware	7 15
	John Gallagher & Bro.	Carriage hire	28 00
20	Pay Roll	Officers and clerks	874 16
29	Williamsburgh City Fire Ins. Co.	Insurance	113 00
Nov. 2.	Pay Roll	Laborers, &c.	982 74
	" " "	" " "	1,525 11
	" " "	" " "	1,808 84
	" " "	" " "	1,026 15
	3 Wm. Bergen, agent	Coal	194 25
	John Y. Culyer	Incidental expenses	58 11
7	Brooklyn Gas Light Co.	Gas	30 00
	" " "	" " "	15 84
	Hosford & Sons	Stationery	5 00
	" " "	" " "	1 50
	" " "	" " "	2 10
	Henry Werner	Repairing chairs	1 25
	Bloor & Tuckhorn	Repairing windows	20 35
	Edward R. Shipman	Meal	6 75
	" " "	Corn	40 50
	" " "	Feed & Meal	23 40
	" " "	Oats	205 00

Statement of Accounts certified to Auditor, 1883—Continued.

Date.	Name.	For.	Amount.
Nov. 7.	Stephen Stevenson	Soap	6 25
	Henry R. Worthington	Machinery supplies	1 75
	" " "	Glass tubes	90
	National Meter Co.	Repairing meter	2 00
	C. W. Keenan	Supplies	15 02
	" " "	"	40 83
	" " "	Twine	50
	" " "	Glass	26 81
	" " "	Whiting	11 36
	Wm. Porter's Sons	Wicking	3 60
	Hibbler & Rausch	Automatic Globes	24 00
	C. M. Morrison & Bro.	Saddle pads	13 00
	Isaac Knee, Jr.	Repairing Harness, &c.	56 50
	E. Waters	Treatment of horses	16 50
	Paul C. Coffin	Hardware	69 30
	" " "	"	3 25
	7 The Brooklyn Eagle	Printing	16 25
	Cowperthwait Co.	Cushions	7 00
	Automatic Globe Gas Light Co.	Gas lamp burners	30 00
	Watson & Pittinger	Lumber	90 00
	Pratt Manufacturing Co.	Naptha	48 54
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.	Gas	35 35
	C. M. Moseman & Bro.	Horse blankets	105 00
	Davis & Fitzgerald	Paper	12 50
19	Pay roll	Officers and clerks	874 16
Dec. 3	" " "	Laborers, &c.	428 75
	" " "	"	703 00
	" " "	"	2,793 90
	" " "	"	1,010 11
	8 John Y. Culyer	Incidental expenses	47 94
	Wm. Bergen, Agent	Coal	221 75
	Williamsburgh City Fire Ins. Co.	Insurance	70 74
10	Paul C. Coffin	Hardware	3 42
	" " "	"	11 46
	C. M. Moseman & Bro.	Horse equipment	15 00
	" " "	Chamois	1 50
	L. Brandeis & Son	Supplies	2 00
	Frank J. Cole	Gloves for keepers	46 00
	Hosford & Sons	Stationery	4 30
	" " "	"	4 65
	Pratt Manufacturing Co.	Naptha	49 12
	" " "	"	48 07
	Union Steam Printing Est.	Printing	2 50
	C. W. Keenan	Supplies	20 36
	" " "	"	3 15
	Harris & Stilwell	Ambulance calls	84 00
	Fredk. Loeser & Co.	Supplies	2 00
	Union Steam Printing Est.	Printing	2 50
	C. W. Keenan	Glass	8 10
	C. & R. Poillon	Reeving halyards	3 00
	" " "	Taking down flag pole	35 00

STATEMENT of Accounts certified to Auditor, 1883.—Concluded.

Date.	Name.	For	Amount.
Dec. 10	Brooklyn Gas Light Co.....	Gas.....	25 56
	“ “ “.....	“.....	27 84
	Metropolitan Gas Light Co.....	“.....	36 40
	C. W. Keenan.....	Horse medicine.....	6 50
	William Wall's Sons.....	Rope.....	2 24
	Pay roll.....	Officers and clerks.....	874 16

REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER AND SUPERINTENDENT.

BROOKLYN, January 1st, 1884.

To the Brooklyn Park Commissioners :

GENTLEMEN :

In summing up the results of the work for the past year, the features that most prominently present themselves for detailed report, are the repairs to the roads and walks, and the partial re-adjustment of the more crowded plantations by thinning out and pruning.

It is necessary only to advert incidentally to the condition to which the Park drives had been generally brought by continuous use during the past 15 years, and the very superficial maintenance which it was possible to give to them. The original covering of gravel, some 8 to 10 inches deep, had been gradually worn away by the attrition of wheels and the action of the elements, with the result of exposing everywhere the broken stone of the substructure. The state of these impaired drives and their daily use by a large number of our citizens very naturally resulted in calling attention to the necessity of re-covering them and thus restore them to a serviceable and proper condition. In accordance with your instructions, that part of the East drive from the Plaza entrance through Valley Grove to Eastwood Arch, was worked over, the large loose stones at the surface were removed, and the road-bed was picked up and loosened preparatory to covering it with gravel. The length worked over was about 3,000 lineal feet. Some 1,300 cubic yards of North River gravel, the cost of which delivered upon the park was \$2.25 per cubic yard, was spread over the roadway

referred to, to an average depth of 2½ inches, the surface brought to a suitable grade and rolled, and the whole put in good condition without any serious interference with the travel upon it. The gravel used for this purpose is the best material at present available in this section of the country for roads of this character, and although its first cost is double that of so-called gravel to be found in the neighborhood it is unquestionably far superior to the other in producing a better and more durable road, and is more economical in the end. Owing to the very limited amount of money which the Commissioners were enabled to set apart for this work, the quantity of gravel used for the purpose was necessarily small, and the work superficial in character, not affording that satisfaction which would be secured at an increased expenditure, and it may be, with greater economy.

In the repairs of park roads the labor of preparation is the same, whether the amount of covering is to be two inches or six inches, while the use of the larger quantity will insure good roads with but ordinary maintenance during a long period of years. The portion of the drive which was repaired in the spring remains in a good condition and has greatly added to the comfort and enjoyment of those who have used it, some of whom have expressed a hearty appreciation of the restoration. Of some 4 or 5 miles of drive that are worn away it is desirable to put a large portion of them in a condition similar to that part of the roadway already improved. This work can be most favorably taken up in the spring. It is believed that a satisfactory result may be obtained by the use of about 5,000 cubic yards of North River gravel, the cost of which will be about \$11,000. The labor will be about \$6,000.

At several points on the line of the west drive, the marked depression in the roadway, resulting from the shrinkage of underlying peat deposits, will require of necessity considerable re-grading and consequent repair to the water and drainage pipes in those localities. This, however, will not involve much additional expenditure.

The construction of the park roadways make them expensive

luxuries. The cost of those in Central Park range from \$60,000 to \$100,000 per mile, while the average cost of those upon Prospect Park was considerably under the lesser figures above given. The maintenance of such roads is, of course, greatly in excess of the cost of keeping in repair, more commonly constructed throughfares used for business purposes.

The funds generally available for all our work are too meagre for the exacting demands of a great park, where are provided and maintained for public use, luxuries in roads, lawns, landscape gardening and manifold other attractions that are not accessible through any other source, except to the few who possess fortunes, and not to all of these even. Public parks are vast co-operative resorts for the health and pleasure of the whole community, and incidentally foster and encourage some of the best elements of social life. The money expended upon them is an investment whose dividends are returned to the visitors in a thousand channels, and with as many different profits as there are visitors. The numerous and varied uses of Prospect Park naturally result in the steady deterioration of its various constructions, which requires an equally steady restoration by maintenance, to prevent this gradual but certain decay. A lack of means to sustain this work at all points renders it impossible to meet promptly every contingency that may arise. The severity of criticism sometimes heard, is seldom tempered with any consideration of the circumstances under which the work is performed; but a little reflection on the part of our citizens will lead, I think, to the conclusion that we are securing fair results in view of the resources at our disposal.

Many of the walks, whose surfaces were made of bituminous concrete some years ago, are out of repair, as referred to elsewhere in this report. Much of this work was done when this industry was in a tentative and evolutionary state, and by a number of competitive companies; and while a large portion of it was of comparatively ephemeral benefit, the result, as a whole, has not been unsatisfactory. A considerable portion, amounting to 36,223 square feet of walk, was re-surfaced at a cost of \$3,622.30, by Mr. J. P. Cranford, of this city. The work is in good condition at the

close of the year, and has been accepted with much satisfaction by the public.

During the coming season this work may be continued with advantage on the line of the principal thoroughfare walks. The estimated cost of such repairs is from \$6,000 to \$10,000, according to the amount of work which the Commissioners may determine to have done.

BRIDLE ROADS.

The condition of the Bridle Roads during the past year, has been a subject of more or less comment by equestrians, of whom there are a large number in Brooklyn who use them. The proper construction of a suitable road for riding, involves some difficulties not met with in ordinary driving roads. The surfaces should not be stony nor easily affected by moisture, so as to make it heavy or muddy, while for comfortable riding it should be soft and yielding to a fixed degree. An ideal road of this description would be a turfed surface, which it would not be possible to maintain upon a public park, but our present bridle roads may be very much improved in the spring by such expenditure as seems to be desirable, and which we have not been able to make for this work in previous years.

Of other interior work, that of thinning out and pruning the more extensive plantations of the Park, during the winter and spring months, was the most important. A very large quantity of deciduous and evergreen material was cut out and removed.

Great care was taken to observe the plan adopted in the original scheme of planting. In many sections that had become overgrown, a choice was made in favor of those plants that were most likely to contribute permanent value to the plantations, and while much desirable material was necessarily destroyed, it was with decided advantage to the general results. All broad schemes of planting are based upon orderly, seasonable adjustment, involving careful observation of the growth and development of the varied material that composes the plantations from year to year, the selection and retention of the

choicest and more vigorous plants, and the removal from time to time, of material planted for temporary purposes.

Frequent communication with Mr. Frederick Law Olmstead on this important subject, has greatly supplemented my own experience, whatever its value may be; and an intimate knowledge of the purposes and scope of park planting has further enabled me to resume, with some confidence, this work that has been held in abeyance by our necessities, and with the expectation of reasonably satisfactory results. As a whole, the Park is fortunate in containing within its borders, large wooded areas that comprise many varieties and types of our native trees, affording the young an excellent opportunity for the very useful study of forestry. Our collection of evergreens is one of the largest in variety, and its present condition make it one of the choicest and most interesting to be found in the public parks in the country.

In the earlier years of construction on our Park, the design and details of this branch of the work, as arranged and perfected by Mr. Olmsted, were supervised by men, many of whom brought to it an exceptional and valuable experience. Among these were the late Ignaz Pilat, formerly of the Central Park, H. W. Cleveland, now or lately connected with the public gardens of Cincinnati; D. & W. McMillan, the former now dead, and the latter Superintendent of Parks at Buffalo; Mr. George Stockford, an experienced English gardener, and Mr. O. C. Bullard.

The Park still retains in its service as gardeners Mr. W. R. Dickinson, John Hamilton, Philip Rosemarin and D. Thompson, who have been identified with it for a number of years, giving excellent satisfaction in this particular department of work.

During the coming season the work of thinning out, etc., will be resumed. Some new planting will be undertaken, particularly along the southwesterly border of the Park. This improvement, however, cannot be effected to completion until the walks and surfaces which were left in their present unfinished state at the close of construction ten years ago, can be provided for by suitable appropriations.

The new stable building which was described in a previous re-

port, was finished by the contractor, Mr. John Lee, in February last, and was immediately occupied for Park purposes. Accommodations of a temporary character were provided for in connection with this building for the offices necessary to the work, and they were occupied in May last.

The old buildings at Fifteenth street and Eleventh avenue were advertised for sale, and were purchased for the sum of \$927 by Mr. Michael J. Dady, of this city, who caused them to be torn down or otherwise removed in the month of May last. The disappearance of these unsightly structures is cause for satisfaction. The grading and opening of a branch drive to the entrance at this point, and the adjustment of the planting on the contiguous surfaces has been commenced, and it is expected to put the neighborhood in a presentable condition during the early part of the coming season. This work must of necessity be superficial in character for want of larger means available for construction purposes.

The road entrances at the junction of Ninth avenue and Fifteenth street was opened to the public in the month of June. Though little use has been made of it for driving purposes, it has entailed upon us some additional expense for police surveillance. The opening of this entrance has been regarded favorably, however, as a concession to a large and rapidly developing neighborhood and those property owners whose interests are conserved.

LAKES, WATER COURSES AND WATER SUPPLY.

The condition of the lakes and water courses is generally satisfactory. The prevalence of frequent rain-storms during the summer was favorable to the maintenance of a higher level of water than had been known during several previous seasons. The presence of a vegetable growth on the waters, that makes its appearance in July and continues through August and September, is made the subject of some comment as being deleterious to the health of visitors. This material complained of is a species of vegetation generated in and common to the purest water, whose depth and source of supply is not sufficient to preserve a temperature under 70° in summer, and this vegetation, except that it is

unsightly to the eye, is practically harmless. It does not materially affect any considerable part of our lake, nor can it cause any injury to the health of visitors more than is caused by other bodies of water that are the wet nurses of mists and atmosphere surcharged with chilling moisture. Impairment of health, frequently attributed to the physical condition of bodies of water like the lake, is often due to carelessness and exposure at night, when the great differences in temperature are not properly taken into account and guarded against, and to other violations of the laws of health. The fresh-water bass, brought from Rochester about twelve years ago and placed in the lake, have thriven and have greatly increased in numbers. The fact is an attestation of the general purity of the water in the lake. Large numbers of these bass have reached such size and sportiveness of character as to have attracted the attention of some of our most expert citizen fishermen, whose interest in the Park lakes has greatly increased during the past few years.

WATER SUPPLY.

The structure forming the cover to the well and boiler house will require a considerable repair at an early day. The present boiler, after service of nearly 15 years, will need to be replaced by a new one in view of next summer's duty. Our water supply has been ample for the current uses of the park and for purposes of sprinkling, &c., on the Parkway, to such extent as we were enabled to avail ourselves of it. The construction of the water works at Sheeps Head Bay has relieved us largely of a self-imposed responsibility of supplying good potable water to Coney Island, and which in the past added greatly to the comfort of thousands of visitors to the Island. The consumption of water has averaged about 300,000 gallons per day throughout the year.

DRAINAGE SYSTEM.

Portions of our drainage system, the ramifications of which are extensive, will require some repairs at important points, and a thorough cleaning.

STRUCTURES.

Some needed repairs were made to the permanent buildings and shelters during the year, the Pedestrian Concourse and open shelter were painted during the summer. Other buildings and structures will need to be repaired during the coming season.

Extensive repairs were also made to the enclosing wooden fence of the park, unfinished parts of which will be continued.

LITCHFIELD MANSION.

The lease of this building, which expires in the early part of January, will terminate its use for private purposes and will cut off a revenue of several thousand dollars that has been serviceable in the past. The location of this building is a desirable one for communication with the public, and the use of the building for administration offices and for a Headquarters for the Commissioners themselves seems to be the most practicable, under all circumstances, that now presents itself. There is not now, nor has there ever been, any building on the park other than this that was at all serviceable for such needed public use, and notwithstanding it will be necessary to expend several thousand dollars for the repair and alteration of the building, no better means of providing such accommodations offer themselves that do not involve an expenditure of a great deal more money than the Commissioners have at their disposal for the purpose.

I have heretofore expressed the opinion that the building could not be successfully devoted to use as a Museum or Art Gallery without special endowment; the two institutions in Brooklyn, viz.: The Art Association and the Historical Society, being more than sufficient to satisfy the demands of those to whom these subjects are of special interest.

Without a very large outlay at the beginning for the furnishing and equipment of such an institution and liberal provisions for its maintenance a weak competition with those of New York City would be the unfortunate result. The building can be made very

serviceable for park purposes, and will be very useful to the public generally.

GENERAL USES OF THE PARK.

The public use of the Park varies in its character necessarily, with the season of the year, but it may be said to be an orderly succession, in that it commences with skating, the season for which opened in the middle of December, and continued through January and part of February.

In some particulars, as in the breadth of ice area, our facilities for winter enjoyments are exceptional, but the building accommodation for skaters and visitors is insufficient; and an insufficient force, to remove promptly, the snow from the ice after a storm, is often embarrassing to us. As a whole, the lakes as a resort for skaters, particularly for young people, has an increasing popularity. Great care has been taken to guard against accidents of all kinds. We have been so fortunate in this regard, that no very serious casualty has occurred nor has there been a life lost during the winter use of the lake. The keepers are painstaking and vigilant in the work of general supervision, and it seldom happens that there is any occasion for any unusual exercise of authority. The large areas of the Lake were frequently used in winter for foot ball and base ball, the players being, principally, pupils of the Polytechnic, Adelphi and other educational institutions of the city. Other portions of the Lake were set apart for ice boat sailing, and during suitable weather these added materially to the pleasure, not only of those who participated, but to that of many visitors, who entered with spirit into the enthusiasm created, or found an added interest in the novel feature of the wintry landscape.

The Lake in summer attracts many visitors who take pleasure in rowing upon its waters. The lessee, Mr. O'Brien, supplied a sufficient number of comfortably equipped boats to meet the current demand. The patronage of the boats would probably be greatly increased, if the lessee could considerably reduce the charge for their use, and the result at the end of the season would, in my

judgment, be favorable to his interests. The present scale of charges is similar to that established in Central Park.

During the fine weather in spring and throughout the remainder of the year, driving and horse-back riding formed apparently a part of the customary routine of the daily life of many citizens who seek rest and health in this delightful recreation. A great increase in the number of vehicles for pleasure riding upon the park is noticeable, as is also the growing popularity of horse-back riding.

The picnic season opened with the anniversary of the Brooklyn Sunday Schools, occurring May 23d, and continued throughout the months of June, July, August and September.

The Park was never before so extensively resorted to for this purpose, and the accommodations provided by the Commissioners were availed of by Sunday Schools, Church and other organizations and family parties. The expense of keeping these extensive grounds in order, with their necessary accompaniments of police supervision, the supply of tables, seats, swings, water, etc., without charge, is considerable; but, while it virtually withdraws a large sum of money applicable for serviceable and necessary work of repair, etc., there can be no doubt that the benefit, as a whole to our people, is many times in excess of the money expended. Among the field sports practised upon the park, the devotees of croquet remain faithful, and many parties resort to the park solely for the facilities which its broad turfed spaces afford for this pastime.

Lawn Tennis, a game entailing skill, practice and vigorous exercise, first introduced on the park, two years ago, was very extensively indulged in upon the long meadow all through the fine season of the year. With the approval of the Commissioners, an extraordinary demand for accommodation for this game was provided for, over 125 organized clubs, whose membership was of both sexes, were assigned courts. The turf was kept in excellent condition and was laid out in courts and maintained throughout the season by the park employees, without cost to the players.

The extent to which the use of the turf for this purpose reached, may be inferred from the fact that an ordinary tennis court, when

defined within proper boundaries, contains 3,808 square feet, which, together with the margin for overthrown balls and convenient access, covers about one-thirteenth of an acre. Of these, there were at times no less than 80 marked out upon the Long Meadow of the Park, and for which nearly 20 acres of turf was frequently in use for this purpose. Dressing closets and lockers were also provided, free of charge, for the convenience of the players. Two tournaments, participated in by members of organizations playing at the Park, were held during the months of October and November, and attracted specially a great many visitors to witness the somewhat novel and exciting sport.

Some additional accommodation for dressing rooms and for the storage of the equipments of the game would seem to be proper and desirable to be provided for during the coming season, as the facilities thus afforded would contribute directly to the encouragement of healthful out-door exercise among the young, under the most favorable circumstances.

BICYCLE RIDING.

The policy of the Commissioners has been to permit bicycle riding upon the walks of the Park under well-established regulations, and upon the Parkways with more freedom. There are about one thousand expert bicycle riders in Brooklyn, many of whom visit the Park more or less frequently. As a rule, they are careful and discriminating in the use of the walks of the Park, and the occurrence of any serious accident has been rare.

Tricycle riding, which recently came into vogue for long distance riding abroad, has been accorded the same privileges as pertain to bicycle riding.

The Park carriage and pony service, goat carriages, the carrousel, have been operated by their respective lessees in a manner to afford to the public the desired accommodation in these particulars.

The purveying of refreshments in the public buildings of the Park has continued under Mr. George Miller. The scale of prices

for ordinary supplies, while not excessive, is made the subject of comment on the part of visitors occasionally.

It must be borne in mind that the demand for supplies is of such a nature as to involve the use of many perishable articles, and that the business is virtually confined to but few months in the year. The present prices having been established with the tacit approval of the Commissioners, and any serious modification of them would manifestly alter the basis of the present agreement; but I would recommend that in renewing the leases generally upon the Park, propositions for them shall be based upon a schedule of prices or tariff furnished for their guidance. A change in the method of letting the Park privileges, through the medium of public advertisement and competition, resulted in a largely increased revenue. From these sources in 1882, the Commissioners received \$5,462.39, while for the same privileges in 1883 an income of \$7,084.00 will have been received at the close of the year.

FORCE.

The organization of the working force is comprised as follows:

One general foreman.

Three office assistants.

One draughtsman.

Two foremen of laborers, teamsters, &c.

One foreman of carpenters.

One mechanical engineer and one fireman.

One blacksmith and helper.

One tinsmith.

Four gardeners, together with a force of laborers for miscellaneous work, including teamsters, &c., of sixty men. This constitutes our ordinary working force for the year. Mechanics and other skilled and unskilled laborers, with hired teams and carts, were temporarily added to this force at special periods of urgency, when the necessities of the work required.

These were employed as needed, and were discharged as soon as their services could be profitably dispensed with.

What is understood as constituting our regular working force is made up of men of all grades who have been in the employment of the Commissioners, as will be seen by reference to the schedule of employees accompanying this report, for a number of years, and who have commended themselves by faithful service, during which they have acquired experience which has greatly added to the value of their labor and their availability for all classes of work.

KEEPERS.

The present organization of this force comprises :

One head-keeper,
Two sergeants,
Two acting sergeants,
Two station officers,
Thirty keepers.

Included in the latter are four mounted men who were employed and equipped for service upon the roads during the past summer. The mounted keepers have been very useful in this particular, and to a great extent have added to the general efficiency of the force in regulating the use of the drives and in caring for persons injured by accidents which occasionally occur upon the drives.

An addition of two men to this branch of the force, for duty upon the Parkway, would provide in the most serviceable and economical way for needed police supervision upon that thoroughfare.

Inasmuch as the Commissioners are required to furnish police supervision throughout the day and night upon Prospect Park, Fort Greene, Tompkins Park, Carroll Park, City Park, Ocean Parkway, the Concourse and Parade Ground, the needs of which are at times very exacting, this force is inadequate to meet all the requirements which a larger, properly distributed force would do. The widely separated localities under our care and the necessities which frequently occur for meeting special emergencies, and the variability of this service, adds greatly to the burden of fulfilling the expectations of the public. A force of fifty men would be a moderate one for our purposes, but I do not see how the expenses of a

force thus increased could be met out of our present appropriations and at the same time fulfill other pressing obligations. Owing to our necessities in this particular, the force has been maintained by reductions and temporary suspensions within the limits of an expenditure available for this branch of the service. As a whole, the efficiency of the keeper force during the past year has been increased by these changes.

The changes in the force during the years has been as follows :

Two appointments of mounted keepers were made in the month of April,

Two in the month of May.

Two keepers have died.

Three keepers have resigned.

Twelve men were discharged.

Sixteen men were disciplined during the year. Six of these were discharged and the remainder suspended for various periods, ranging from one to thirty days.

There were 86 accidents on the drives due to runaways and collisions, 2 of which ultimately resulted in the death of individuals connected with them.

Fourteen accidents occurred to equestrians,

Two accidents to skaters upon the lake, in Winter,

Four accidents from collision with bicycle riders,

Eighteen were of a miscellaneous nature.

There were two suicides (one by hanging, one by drowning).

One attempted suicide by shooting. This person, a young German, has since recovered from his wounds, and taken to the Lunatic Asylum.

Three abandoned babies were found, one of which was dead. A number of sick and unfortunate persons were found on the park, these were cared for as their necessities required, and some were taken to their homes. A number of visitors were ejected for disorderly conduct, and 150 arrests were made for various reasons :

such as drunkenness, disorderly conduct, reckless driving, injuring trees and shrubs, vagrancy, safe keeping, and minor offences against the park ordinances.

The annoyances from vagrants and improper persons, upon the smaller parks particularly, has been greatly reduced during the year by reason of the more efficient co-operations of the Police justices. 80 animals, including horses, cows, sheep, goats and pigs, have been impounded during the year. Some of these have been released on the promise of the exercise of greater care over them on the part of the owners. Fees have been demanded and paid in the case of others, and in some instances, the animals have been sold. We are greatly annoyed by goats which are allowed to run at large within the city limits bordering upon the park, but little attempt, apparently, being made to enforce the city ordinances intended to abate this nuisance; many valuable plants have been destroyed by these animals. If the restrictions upon animals running at large are not to be imposed with more rigor than has prevailed during the last year in the vicinity of the park, experience teaches us so far as goats are concerned, that the best goat for park purposes is a dead goat.

The skating season of 1882 and 1883 was a short one owing to the absence of any continued period of cold weather. There were 17 days from December 18, 1882, to February 10, 1883.

There were 16 concerts on the park, commencing with that of May 24, and ending Saturday September 1, a special concert on Bridge day having been provided for out of the appropriation made by the Common Council for celebration purposes.

The usual provisions were made at the plaza and at Fort Greene, in connection with decoration day ceremonies. The annual celebration day of Tom Moore took place on the 28th day of May, under the auspices of St. Patrick's Society of this city.

There were 200 pic-nics of Sunday schools of all denominations, and other organized bodies, for which permits were issued, and special provision made. 500 family parties, 800 swing permits for

children's parties, 1,000 permits for base ball clubs, 30 for cricket clubs, 8 for La Crosse, and 75 foot-ball games.

It is estimated that about 5,000,000 persons visited the park during the year, and availed themselves of the privileges which the parks and parade ground afforded them in accordance with their own inclination, for pic-nicing and other general recreations, croquet playing, tennising, boating and base ball, cricketing, La Crosse, and foot ball playing, skating, and other games upon the ice.

No serious accidents have occurred, nor has there been any serious conflict of authority, as between the public and the keepers. There have been several periods during the year when exceptionally large numbers of visitors have assembled upon the parks, &c., as on the occasion of the Sunday school anniversary, bridge opening, and throughout the concert, base ball playing, and skating seasons. A few casualties occurred that were of a minor character. Every effort has been made to further such free and untrammelled use of the parks, by the public, as was consistent with their proper use, and the aim has been constantly kept in view on the part of employes of all grades to faithfully serve the public.

The annoyance due to the misdeeds of the thoughtless and vicious few have not been many, while it is believed that our citizens have derived every advantage in the free use of the park, which it is in the power of the Commission to furnish, so long as our means are limited to the present fixed appropriations for the maintenance of the parks.

STOCK AND EQUIPMENTS.

An inventory of stock and equipments accompanies this report. In the month of May the efficiency of the working force was greatly increased by the purchase of 11 horses and equipments, two trucks, two carts, one two horse roller.

The many details of work constantly requiring prompt attention at all hours of the day and often at night makes it desirable that

we should own our horses. For sprinkling purposes alone it is often necessary to employ 18 to 24 horses at particular periods of the day, while to keep the roads in proper order it will be necessary to employ no less a force daily through long continued periods of the summer and fall.

SMALL PARKS.

FORT GREENE.

During the year a material and beneficial modification of the plantations of the park were made by thinning out and pruning. Preparations are being made to resume this work with further anticipated satisfactory results.

The regulation of the surfaces near the Canton street entrance and contiguous to the jail, have been delayed principally that the jurisdiction over a portion of the ground now included within the park limits, but probably belonging to the county, may be satisfactorily arranged between the county authorities and the Park Commissioners.

Should it be decided to do this work in the spring, it will be very desirable to perfect to some extent the planting of the slopes of the Battery and also the slope on the DeKalb avenue side. A portion of the bituminous walks were satisfactorily repaired by Mr. J. P. Cranford; 25,481 square feet were repaired and re-surfaced at the rate of 10 cents per foot, amounting to \$2,548.10. The remaining portions of walks out of order can be renewed at a cost estimated at about the same amount as that expended this year. This work can be most favorably done in the spring, not earlier than the month of May. The wooden shelter which surmounts the high ground and which is a much used resort for visitors in fine weather, will need considerable repairs, the structure generally being in a dilapidated condition. The keeper force upon this park was materially augmented during the summer season with

good results, the annoyance to visitors from vagrants and disorderly characters being less than during the preceding season.

CITY PARK.

City Park is most serviceable as a thoroughfare during the busy portions of the day and the evening. Beyond this, and as affording means of recreation to a large number of children who are pupils of the public school in the neighborhood, its use is limited. If continued as a public park, the planting should be re-modelled to a considerable extent, its paths concreted, and the surrounding sidewalk put in order. Fort Greene, for its accessibility and the facilities which it affords for recreation, would appear to be sufficiently ample for the neighborhood, in the matter of park accommodations.

TOMPKINS AND CARROLL PARKS.

The maintenance of Tompkins and Carroll Parks has been simple and orderly, and has served to provide needed facilities for their respective neighborhoods.

The care of the small triangular area at the junction of Atlantic, Washington and Underhill avenues was assumed by the Commissioners this year, and such supervision was given to it as was found to be necessary. Some repairs will be necessary during the coming season.

EASTERN PARKWAY.

The increasing use of this roadway as a means of communication between the Eastern district of the city, the Park, and its adjacent thoroughfares, renders it desirable that the carriage road should be substantially repaired during the coming season. It will be necessary to add broken stone to portions of the substructure and to resurface it with gravel for a considerable portion of its length.

For this purpose the North River gravel, similar to that used on the park drives is urgently recommended. A number of trees

have been destroyed which will also have to be replaced. The enforcement of the ordinance as to animals running at large will materially lessen a destruction of trees planted for ornamental purposes on this parkway. The police supervision over this parkway properly belongs to the city authorities.

OCEAN PARKWAY.

The appropriations available for this thoroughfare renders it difficult to keep the roadways in a satisfactory condition throughout all seasons of the year. The material which forms the surface of the road is worn out, the grade of the road surface has been materially altered by the wear of vehicles and the effect of storms, and the only proper remedy is to remove the present covering which has been ground to powder resulting in an annoying dusty track in dry weather, and an equally uncomfortable one in wet weather, and replace it with gravel not less than two inches thick. This would cost, for labor and material, at least \$15,000, while the improvement of the sidewalk, which has become necessary in part, would cost \$5,000 more. As the provision for ordinary maintenance was much less than this sum, no extensive and material improvement of the Parkway can be accomplished without a further appropriation of money for the purpose.

The ultimate satisfactory drainage of this road must depend upon the co-ordinate improvement of the roadways and the carrying out of a system of drainage for the contiguous property to which the varying grades of the Parkway is intended to conform. In the meantime, we are compelled to resort to the use of cesspools and such other temporary expedients for carrying off the water that the immediate neighborhood affords. A number of trees which have died during the year will need to be replaced in the spring.

CONCOURSE.

The Concourse during the year has continued to be the most extensively used thoroughfare on the island. The condition of the

bituminous concrete was not favorable for comfort, but the irregular and broken surfaces of the roadway were ameliorated to some extent by repair in July last. With the appropriations at the command of the Commissioners for the ensuing year, it will be possible to restore the road and walk surfaces to a condition corresponding to their original construction.

The effects of the storms and the action of the water on the shore line in front of the road embankment, has been to add to our territory during the year. This is due partly to the sheltered position of our property and to some extent to the form of the embankment, which while affording us all necessary protection against the inroads of the water, has not invited its force in the violent form that results ordinarily, from the interposition of rectangular structures of piling or stone.

The Concourse continues to be a resort for visitors, to whom the ocean and the beach, unobstructed by incongruous structures, is a relief and pleasure. Already, this principal charm and purpose of Coney Island as a popular summer resort is being gradually destroyed, for the want of a proper appreciation of a most important feature. It is not too late, with organized intelligent effort on the part of the representatives of the best interests of the island, to reclaim and restore these beauties, but it is doubtful whether, with the greed of gain and the opposition of competing interests, this could be done without legislation.

PARADE GROUND.

During the year the Parade Ground has been used on several occasions only by military organizations of this city and New York. Such limited use alone would scarcely justify the maintenance of these beautifully located grounds for military purposes solely. The want of such facilities for the military of New York is

a source of constant irritation and criticism, and applications for the Kings County Parade Ground are more numerous from organizations of the First Division in New York than they are from the second in this city. The Commissioners have been enabled to grant the use of these grounds for military purposes to our neighbors of New York, without detriment to its interests, and it has afforded them pleasure to do so. These grounds are highly commended by military authorities for the exceptional facilities they afford for the manœuvres of moderate bodies of troops, while for batallion and regimental movements they are exceptionally favorable. A more frequent use of these grounds for drill and inspections, would result in a marked improvement in tactical executions and in marching, for which purposes the several armories are unfitted.

BEDFORD AVENUE.

The care of this avenue, which formerly devolved upon the Commissioners, was transferred to the Department of City Works in accordance with the provisions of an act of the Legislature passed last winter. The transfer took place in the month of June, 1883, together with an unexpended balance of \$3,376.08, the Commissioners being thus relieved of exacting responsibilities, for which no adequate provision had been made.

THE LIGHTING OF THE PARK-WAYS AND THE APPROACHES TO THE PARK.

It has been found desirable to light a portion of the Eastern Parkway, the increase of travel at night upon this road, between Bedford avenue and the park, rendering it necessary as a safeguard against accident. An increase in the number of lamps between these two points ought to be provided for next year. A like provision would be serviceable on the Ocean parkway, between the park and Parkville.

The lighting of Vanderbilt avenue and Flatbush avenue through the plaza is and has been done at the expense of the Commissioners. These thoroughfares, including the Eastern Parkway, are essentially public streets of the city; the lighting of them should be provided for in the general contract by the city for lighting street lamps. It was not contemplated that this expense should be incurred by the Commissioners out of their Park maintenance fund. A gas main should be laid along the line of the Eastern Parkway as far as Brooklyn avenue during the coming season, and a sufficient number of street lamps erected for lighting the parkway; the lamps at present in use are similar in character to those on the Park.

Accompanying this report will be furnished the usual Inventory, Stock Account, Schedule of Employees and the Meteorological Record for the year. That portion of our working material, including horses, wagons, harness, carts, etc., purchased this year, are in excellent condition.

Our herd of deer numbers 12 head. Their natural increase is very small; a number of deaths occurred during the year, several of these occasioned by attacks of dogs, some from natural causes, and several were killed in conflicts among themselves.

Our flock of sheep is in good condition; some mortalities occurred, principally among young lambs, and noted in the report. Sixty-four sheep and one Alderney bull were sold. The number of our water fowl, consisting of swan, geese and ducks, is not large, but add a pleasant feature to the waters of the lake in summer time.

The meteorological records, while limited in their range by our apparatus, have been carefully kept, and furnish reliable statistics of the meteorology of the neighborhood. These statistics have been furnished weekly to the Board of Health of the city; they have been serviceable to this important department, and have been made the basis of exchange for similar information with the Health Departments of all the large cities of the country.

I desire to commend for faithful devotion to the interests of the

Commission, my assistants in their respective departments, Mr. John Maguire, general foreman; Mr. William H. Spear, in charge of office at the Park, and Mr. Harvey T. Davis, head keeper.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. Y. CULYER,
Chief Engineer and Superintendent.

The following statement shows the names of persons who have been regularly or temporarily employed during the year by the Brooklyn Park Commissioners on the several works under their charge:

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	WARD.	TIME EMPLOYED.	RATE OF PAY.	LENGTH OF SERVICE.
John Maguire	Underhill avenue	9	2,955 hours.	45 cents per hour	17 years
Harvey T. Davis	483 Flatbush avenue	9	3,045 "	40 "	17 "
Patrick Conway	Sixteenth street and Eleventh avenue	22	350 days.	\$17 per week	17 "
Michael McLachlan	241 Tenth street	22	3,154 hours.	25 and 30 cents per hour.	16 "
John E. Curtin	810 Classon avenue	9	1,966 "	40 and 45 "	16 "
John E. Curtin	810 Classon avenue	9	1,087 "	45 cents per hour	16 "
Joseph Quevedo	Flatbush		2,760 "	20 "	16 "
Thomas Brady	331 Nevins street	10	3,156 "	20 "	16 "
John Grumly	Prospect place	9	3,334 "	17½ cts. pr hr. & \$15 pr wk.	16 "
James M. Tobin	617 Carlton avenue	9	3,012 "	17½ cents per hour	16 "
John McGraw	Flatbush		3,535 "	\$12 pr wk. & 20 cts. pr hr.	16 "
William Moran	658 Grand avenue	9	3,855 "	\$12 "	16 "
Patrick Walsh	Washington avenue	9	3,789 "	\$11 "	16 "
Charles E. Hunt	Flatbush		426 "	17½ cents per hour	16 "
Valentine Cox	Underhill avenue	9	3,080 "	15 cents per hour	16 "
William Flaherty	491 Warren street	10	3,538 "	15 "	16 "
Thomas Finsley	424 Warren street	10	3,461 "	15 "	16 "
Michael Kenniff	54 Underhill avenue	9	3,770 "	15 "	16 "
Frank Follard	17 Steuben street	7	18 "	15 "	16 "
James Finsley	424 Warren street	10	2,701 "	15 "	16 "
Michael Moran	133 North Oxford street	20	3,175 "	35 and 37½ cents per hour	16 "
Samuel A. Dunn	301 Fifteenth street	22	2,720 "	\$18 per week, 6 days	16 "
David W. Thompson	Bergen street	9	3,650 "	17½ cents per hour	16 "
James Faye	819 Dean street	9	3,383 "	25 and 30 cents per hour	16 "
Michael Monohan	614 Grand avenue	9	3,150 "	15 cents per hour	16 "
George Weigner	558 Sixth avenue	22	2,784 "	15 "	16 "

Statement showing names, &c., employees of the Brooklyn Park Commissioners—Continued.

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	WARD.	TIME EMPLOYED.	RATE OF PAY.	LENGTH OF SERVICE.
William Edwards	405 Fourteenth street.	22	359 days.	\$17 per week.	16 years
Herman Schmidt	98 Hall street.	7	362 "	15 "	16 "
Benjamin F. Powell	8 Tenth avenue	22	239 ³ "	15 "	16 "
John O'Reilly	553 Vanderbilt avenue.	9	304 ³ "	15 "	16 "
Michael McLaughlin	Bedford avenue & Warren street.	9	289 "	15 "	16 "
Lawrence Hayes	346 Twenty-second street.	8	285 "	15 "	16 "
August Clotry	735 Bergen street.	9	217 "	15 "	16 "
George Byrne	Prospect place.	9	3,235 hours.	20 and 22 ¹ cents per hour.	15 "
William Moscrop	Carroll street.	9	3,473 "	\$12 pr wk. & 20 cts. pr hr.	15 "
Philip McManus	200 Butler street.	10	3,585 "	12 "	15 "
Samuel Rogers	357 Dekalb avenue.	21	2,302 "	15 cents per hour.	15 "
James Furey	Boliver street.	11	2,221 "	15 "	15 "
Miles Sweeney	211 Livingston street.	3	3,336 "	25 and 27 ¹ cents per hour.	15 "
Robert Ayres	507 Fifth avenue	22	2,720 "	\$18 per week of 6 days.	15 "
John Hamilton	98 Hall street.	7	3,619 "	25 cents per hour.	15 "
William T. Travis	Flatbush.		3,589 "	25 and 30 cents per hour.	15 "
William Watson	639 Bergen street.	9	2,756 "	15 cents per hour.	15 "
Michael Donnelly	275 Myrtle avenue.	11	296 ³ days.	\$15 per week.	15 "
Charles Rogers	357 Dekalb avenue.	21	297 "	15 "	15 "
Hugh Kelly	90 North Sixth street, E. D.	14	273 "	15 "	15 "
John Brusch	403 Prospect avenue.	22	364 "	17 "	15 "
Peter Brackin	556 Fifteenth street.	22	2,016 hours.	40 and 45 cents per hour.	14 "
Peter Brackin	556 Fifteenth street.	22	1,503 "	40 and 45 "	14 "
Peter Brackin	556 Fifteenth street.	22	702 "	45 cents per hour.	14 "
Richard Kirtwell	Flatbush.		294 ³ days.	\$15 per week.	14 "
George Kerwell	140 Second street.	10	134 "	15 "	14 "
Daniel Hynes	96 Hudson avenue.	5	179 ³ "	15 "	14 "
John Goodwin	383 Thirtieth street.	22	286 "	15 "	14 "

Address	Days	Hours	Per Week
Sixteenth street & Eleventh avenue...	22	308 days.	\$15 per week
300 Eleventh street.	22	2,805 hours.	20 cents per hour.
390 Carlton avenue.	20	836 "	15 "
Classon avenue.	9	1,673 "	15 "
Braxton street.	22	2,677 "	15 "
1,48 Park place.	24	2,497 "	15 "
530 Fifteenth street.	22	1,634 "	15 "
600 Vanderbilt avenue.	9	157 days.	\$15 per week
1054 Roger avenue.	24	352 "	\$17 "
576 Sixth avenue.	23	307 "	\$15 "
887 Pacific street.	9	180 "	\$15 "
232 Sixteenth street.	22	298 "	\$15 "
123 Eagle street.	17	297 "	\$15 "
290 Tompkins avenue.	23	140 "	\$15 "
357 Prospect avenue.	22	280 "	\$15 "
181 Jay street.	4	2,020 hours.	15 cents per hour.
Underhill avenue.	9	3,340 "	15 "
690 Atlantic avenue.	9	2,850 "	15 "
Flatbush.	9	2,375 "	15 "
7 Dennett place.	12	1,802 "	15 "
255 Seventeenth street.	8	2,710 "	20 "
Fifteenth street.	22	360 "	20 "
528 Fifteenth street.	22	141 ³ days.	\$15 per week
664 Douglass street.	9	286 ³ "	\$15 "
Underhill avenue.	9	130 "	\$15 "
280 Sixteenth street.	22	195 "	\$15 "
216 Sixteenth street.	22	365 "	\$15 "
Flatbush avenue.	9	2,136 hours.	40 and 45 cents per hour.
Flatbush avenue.	9	1,314 "	45 cents per hour.
Flatbush avenue.	9	676 "	45 "
Flatbush avenue.	9	563 "	45 "
167 Concord street.	4	278 days.	\$15 per week
681 Bergen street.	9	287 ³ "	\$15 "
232 Sixteenth street.	22	1,700 hours.	25 and 30 cents per hour.
3 Weirfield street.	18	3,022 "	25 and 27 ¹ / ₂ "
57 St. John place.	22	3,130 "	25 cents per hour.

Statement showing names, &c., employees of the Brooklyn Park Commissioners.—Continued.

NAME	RESIDENCE	WARD	TIME EMPLOYED.	RATE OF PAY.	LENGTH OF SERVICE.
James Pinkerton.	753 Washington avenue.	9	3,130 "	\$11 per week.	9 years.
John Kildea.	676 Bergen street.	9	3,480 "	15 cents per hour.	9 "
William Nolan.	493 Warren street.	10	882 "	15 "	9 "
Peter Brackin.	556 Fifteenth street.	22	660 "	10 "	8 "
Peter Brackin.	556 Fifteenth street.	22	65 "	25 "	8 "
Ann Hosey.	Franklin avenue.	9	1,983 "	10 "	8 "
Henry J. Farquhar.	387 Monroe street.	23	2,860 "	40 "	8 "
Charles Clampt.	Underhill avenue.	9	650 "	20 "	8 "
John D. Lloyd.	Underhill avenue.	9	2840 days.	\$15 per week.	8 "
Samuel S. Myres.	537 Gates avenue.	23	163 "	\$15 "	8 "
John A. Ward.	Ninth street.	22	102 "	\$15 "	8 "
Christopher Weldon.	Union street.	6	239 hours.	27½ cents per hour.	7 "
Seth Kenney.	22 Clermont avenue.	20	1,053 "	45 "	6 "
Adolph Silbie.	217 Fourteenth street.	22	2,945 "	25 and 30 cents per hour.	6 "
Theodore Greene.	First street.	22	1,222 "	25 cents per hour.	6 "
John Cusserly.	228 Park place.	9	3,279 "	\$12 pr. w.k and 20c. pr. hour	6 "
James Jennings.	552 Fifteenth street.	22	3,737 "	15 cents per hour.	6 "
George H. Hilton.	Carroll street.	9	3,204 "	15 "	6 "
Thomas Kelley.	601 Washington avenue.	9	2,955 "	15 "	6 "
James Cloonan.	290 Eleventh street.	22	3,268 "	15 "	6 "
Robert Flemming.	Flatbush.	9	2,538 "	15 "	6 "
Thomas Hartigan.	657 Douglas street.	9	2,806 "	15 "	6 "
Thomas Miller.	Flatbush.	9	1,503 "	15 "	6 "
Paul Bessenger.	Flatbush.	9	1,141 "	15 "	6 "
John Gill.	670 Douglas street.	9	2,892 "	15 "	6 "
Patrick Kelley.	100 Prince street.	11	1,559 "	15 "	6 "
James Keegan.	Coney Island.	3	3 "	15 "	6 "
Edward Horan.	Herkimer street.	23	2,079 "	15 "	6 "

		8	500 hours.	15 cents per hour.	6 years.
Moses Somers.	313 Twenty-third street.	12	489	15 "	6 "
Patrick Gaffney.	Court street.		569	15 "	6 "
John O'Neil.	Flatbush.		2,927	25 and 27¢ cents per hour.	5 "
Philip Rosenmarin.	Flatbush.		2,614	15 cents per hour.	5 "
John Quinn.	307 Hudson avenue.	5	2,614	15 "	5 "
Thomas O'Hara.	603 Sixteenth street.	22	3,867	15 "	5 "
James Ogalvie.	Sixteenth street and Eleventh avenue.	22	2,981	15 "	5 "
Patrick Phillips.	380 Seventeenth street.	8	1,364	15 "	5 "
George Greene.	198 Ross street.	19	1,893	25 "	5 "
John Coburn.	Monroe street.	23	360	30 "	5 "
Ellen Condon.	Underhill avenue.	9	3,650	10 cents per hour.	5 "
Lizzie Pallin.	530 Fifteenth street.	22	3,650	10 "	5 "
John Kennington.	505 Prospect avenue.	8	661	30 "	4 "
Charles Bulot.	68 West Third street, N. Y.		1,994	20 "	4 "
William Taylor.	Degraw street.	6	3,129	17½ "	4 "
Frank Druher.	390 Fourteenth street.	22	3,662	15 "	4 "
Dennis Murphy.	603 Sixteenth street.	22	1,630	15 "	4 "
Patrick Moran.	710 Washington avenue.	9	1,064	15 "	4 "
Frank Fox.	897 Pacific street.	9	521	15 "	4 "
James Dolan.	191 Huntington street.	12	217	15 "	4 "
James McIntosh.	Fifteenth street.	22	120	20 "	4 "
Patrick Fitzgerald.	Bergen street.	9	365 days.	\$3.50 per week.	4 "
John Brackin.	533 Fifteenth street.	22	3,660 hours.	20 cents per hour.	4 "
George Mason.	Sixth avenue.	22	530	25 cts. and 30 cts. per hour.	4 "
Jane Mannay.	45 Lawrence street.	11	3,650	10 cents per hour.	4 "
Joseph Siddens.	570 Myrtle avenue.	7	920	15 "	3 "
Samuel P. Peterson.	Seventeenth street.	8	930	15 "	3 "
Thomas Maher.	Flatbush.		201	15 "	3 "
James Ennis.	19 Fifth street.	10	272 days.	\$15 per week.	3 "
Michael Morrisey.	259 Twentieth street.	8	247	15 "	3 "
Patrick C. Boyle.	669 Dean street.	9	135	15 "	3 "
William H. Wilson.	151 Twenty-first street.	8	261	15 "	3 "
Henry Gerodette.	405 Fourteenth street.	22	184	15 "	3 "
Hugh Harrington.	291 St. Marks avenue.	9	148	15 "	3 "
Charles T. Monk.	592 Graham avenue.	17	272	15 "	3 "
Michael Gregory.	97 Douglas street.	10	274	15 "	3 "

Statement showing names, &c., employes of the Brooklyn Park Commissioners.—Continued.

NAME	RESIDENCE	WARD.	TIME EMPLOYED.	RATE OF PAY.	LENGTH OF SERVICE.
John Kessler	405 Fourteenth street.	22	277 days.	\$15 per week.	3 years.
William H. C. Brown	242 South Third street.	13	275 "	15 "	3 "
Patrick Kenna	847 Pacific street.	9	247 ³ "	15 "	3 "
Michael J. Boyle	55 Underhill avenue.	9	152 ³ "	15 "	3 "
James Sweeney	676 Dean street.	9	175 "	15 "	3 "
William Quinn	Fifteenth street.	22	356 hours.	15 cents per hour.	2 "
Thomas Quinn	Fifteenth street.	22	204 "	15 "	2 "
Peter Powell	Fifteenth street.	22	1,014 "	15 "	2 "
Patrick Doyle	Flatbush.	22	1,075 "	15 "	2 "
James Byrne	Prospect place.	9	580 "	15 "	2 "
John Halloran	President street.	9	978 "	15 "	2 "
Henry Gordon	619 Classon avenue.	9	14 "	15 "	1 "
Peter Brackin	556 Fifteenth street.	22	312 "	45 "	1 "
Peter Brackin	556 Fifteenth street.	22	221 "	45 "	1 "
Peter Brackin	556 Fifteenth street.	22	184 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush avenue.	9	485 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush avenue.	9	414 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush avenue.	9	394 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush.	9	325 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush.	9	154 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush.	9	107 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush.	9	92 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush.	9	75 "	45 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush.	9	558 "	80 "	1 "
John E. Curtin	810 Classon avenue.	9	95 "	80 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush.	9	879 "	80 "	1 "
Isaac Harris	Flatbush.	6	814 "	25 and 80 "	1 "
William Le Count	Sixth avenue and Prospect.	22	915 "	80 "	1 "
Charles Kinsey	621 Fifth avenue.	22			

		23	501 hours.	30 cents per hour.	1 year.
Charles Fowler	Lexington av. near Bedford av.	23	187	30	1
Owen Quigley	942 Pacific street.	9	85	20	1
Adolph Jost	New York		890	25	1
George Ayres	507 Fifth avenue	22	760	35	1
Fred. Fredericksen	94 Butler street.	10	604	20	1
Thomas Almyer	Flatbush		698	20	1
John Almyer	Flatbush		1,899	20	1
Donald Dickson	Flatbush		2,182	20	1
John Corcoran	59 Sackett street	6	989	17 1/2	1
John O'Keefe	Adelphi street	20	225	10	1
James Finnigan	183 Skillman street	15	2,240	15	1
Charles Trimmel	890 Atlantic avenue	9	2,732	15	1
Peter Dugan	Sixteenth street and Eleventh avenue	22	527	15	1
John Dugan	Sixteenth street and Eleventh avenue	22	658	15	1
Edward Shanahan	7 Denott place	12	926	15	1
Patrick Burke	255 Navy street	5	543	15	1
James Peacock	13 Denott place	12	533	15	1
Joseph Gill	57 Underhill avenue	9	1,049	15 and 20 cents per hour	1
Patrick Rock	72 Hicks street	1	2,020	15 cents per hour	1
James Riley	715 Prospect place	9	524	15	1
John Delehanty	253 Hamilton avenue	12	2,193	15	1
James Callahan	Flatbush		325	15	1
Dennis Murray	299 Eleventh street	22	324	15	1
Albert G. Moore	912 Dean street	9	509	15	1
Patrick Keenan	871 Pacific street	9	713	15	1
William Hanlon	439 Third avenue	22	330	15	1
Edward Gilcan	410 Rapelyea street	6	711	15	1
Daniel Duryea	436 Carlton avenue	9	129	15	1
Joseph Shannon	35 Sixth street, E. D.	13	283	15	1
John Murphy	Sixteenth street and Eleventh avenue	22	395	15 and 20 cents per hour	1
George W. Price	160 Skillman street	7	1,225	15 cents per hour	1
Frank McGovern	140 Flatbush avenue	23	359	15	1
James Finsley	372 Hudson avenue	10	25	15	1
Joseph Carboneau	18 Myrtle avenue	13	338	15	1
Joseph Noiley	587 Underhill avenue	9	125	15	1
Timothy Feeney	350 Seventeenth street	8		15	1

Statement showing names, &c., employees of the Brooklyn Park Commissioners.—Concluded.

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	WHEEL.	TIME EMPLOYED.	RATE OF PAY.	LENGTH OF SERVICE.
Michael Moran.....	968 Pacific street.....	9	309	15 cents per hour.....	1 year.
Peter Bennett.....	Douglas, near Fourth avenue.....	22	5	15	1
James Hennessey.....	29 Second street.....	6	908	15	1
Timothy Deer.....	686 Butler street.....	9	205	15	1
Peter Dunn.....	117 Underhill avenue.....	9	335	15	1
Patrick Coyle.....	225 Johnson street.....	5	230	15	1
Thomas Langun.....	605 Sixteenth street.....	22	368	15	1
John Keating.....	Pacific street.....	9	360	15	1
James Ricard.....	608 Douglas street.....	9	1,067	15	1
Michael Kelly.....	701 Atlantic avenue.....	20	340	15	1
Bartley Coughlin.....	1,043 Pacific street.....	9	760	15	1
John Leonard.....	11 Dennett street.....	12	369	15	1
Thomas Ryan.....	956 Pacific street.....	9	337	15	1
Michael Bairne.....	380 St. Marks avenue.....	9	439	15	1
John Timoney.....	1,023 Union street.....	10	210	15	1
Thomas Conoughton.....	279 St. Marks avenue.....	9	336	15	1
James Hanbury.....	23 Laqueer street.....	12	324	15	1
Thomas Crowley.....	Pacific street.....	10	200	15	1
Michael Caveney.....	684 Dean street.....	9	200	15	1
James Moran.....	247 State street.....	3	212	15	1
Joseph Mahon.....	242 Navy street.....	11	202	15	1
James Whalen.....	127 Third avenue.....	22	297	15	1
James Ellis.....	514 Court street.....	6	190	15	1
William Bryson.....	Sixteenth street and Eleventh avenue.....	22	284	15	1
John Crowley.....	136 Wyckoff street.....	10	724	15	1
Thomas O'Neill.....	628 Clason avenue.....	7	135	15	1
Henry Von Drayton.....	318 Navy street.....	11	331	15	1
Jeremiah Creamer.....	248 Twentieth street.....	9	286	15	1

			185 hours.	15 cents per hour.	1 year.
James Blake	588 Sackett street.	10	160	15	1
John Conway	499 Baltic street.	10	140	15	1
Nail Kelley	89 Douglas street.	10	431	15	1
Patrick McGuire	270 Wyckoff street.	10	1,251	15	1
Walter McGee	240 North Second street, E. D.	14	324	15	1
Michael Flanagan	76 Douglas street.	10	110	15	1
James Foster	110 Prospect place.	5	332	15	1
Patrick Dowd	410 Kosciuszko street.	21	80	15	1
David Storms	1,154 Park place.	24	81	15	1
Joseph Daley	119 Wyckoff street.	10	628	15	1
John Dempsey	954 Atlantic avenue.	10	196	15	1
James Farley	522 Grand avenue.	9	125	15	1
Edward Thunney	North Seventh and First street.	14	335	15	1
John Moran	1,638 Bergen street.	9	100	15	1
Christopher Schroder	235 Fleet avenue.	21	60	15	1
Jacob Klemm	1,548 Bergen street.	9	10	15	1
Michael Kelly	258 Hoyt street.	10	25	15	1
John Farrell	10 Navy street.	5	890	20	1
Bernard Mathews	50 Underhill avenue.	9	40	20	1
Mathew Nash	Fourth avenue, near Union street.	22	744	30	1
William H. Bowne	Luqueer street.	6	60	20	1
Lizzie Gallagher	109½ Tenth street.	23	128	\$15 per week	1
Samuel Osborn	791 Third avenue.	8	235	\$15	1
William Pratt	28 Fourth street.	10	233	\$15	1
James W. Buckley	218 Sixteenth street.	22	198	\$15	1
Jessie K. Hatfield	124½ Third avenue.	22	8,390	05 cents per hour.	1
Mary Murray	Sackett street.	10	154	\$15 per week	1
Charles B. Westman	554 Marcy avenue.	23			

RECAPITULATION.

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEN, 274.

Ninth Ward, 86 men.		Twenty-second Ward, 65 men.	
Twenty-fourth Ward, 10 men.		Eighth " 11 "	
Twelfth " 8 "		Sixth " 7 "	
Twenty-third " 7 "		Eleventh " 7 "	
Fifth " 6 "		Seventh " 6 "	
Twentieth " 5 "		Twenty-first " 4 "	
Fourteenth " 3 "		Twenty-fourth " 3 "	
Thirteenth " 3 "		Third " 2 "	
Seventeenth " 2 "		Fourth " 2 "	
Eighteenth " 1 man.		Nineteenth " 1 man.	
Fifteenth " 1 "		First " 1 "	

Flatbush, 16. New York, 2. Coney Island, 1.

LENGTH OF SERVICE.

3 men, 17 years.		30 men, 16 years.	
14 " 15 "		8 " 14 "	
7 " 13 "		7 " 12 "	
12 " 11 "		4 " 10 "	
8 " 9 "		8 " 8 "	
1 man 7 "		19 " 6 "	
9 men 5 "		13 " 4 "	
16 " 3 "		7 " 2 "	

Balance under 1 year.

FORCE EMPLOYED DURING THE MONTHS AS NOTED.

	No. working days.	Average attendance.	Highest No.	Lowest No.
January,	27	98	120	80
February,	24	102	126	87
March,	27	126	147	89
April,	25	168	211	143
May,	27	211	239	180
June,	26	152	179	103
July,	26	138	158	80
August,	27	111	124	103
September,	25	116	123	110
October,	27	110	121	94
November,	26	98	119	88
December (estimated),	26	107	115	103

Inventory of Property belonging to the Brooklyn Park Commissioners :

This inventory includes live stock, such as horses, cattle, sheep, deer, water fowl.

Furniture, such as office and restaurant equipments, tables, chairs, etc.

Tools and Supplies, which includes the stock of tools, building materials, road, ice and mowing equipments and machinery, and miscellaneous supplies and a statistical report generally.

STOCK.

Horses on hand January 1, 1883	11	Total on hand December 15, 1883	92
Purchased horses during the year	11	Deer, January 1, 1883	18
Died during the year	1	Birth and presentations	5
Number on hand December 15, 1883	21	Deaths	11
Alderney bull, January 1, 1883	1	On hand December 15, 1883	12
Sale, during the year, Alderney bull	1	Pea fowl, January 1, 1883	9
Number of sheep on hand January 1, 1883	105	Deaths	3
Births	81	Births	5
Sales and deaths	94	On hand December 15, 1883	11
		Swans	3
		Death	1
		On hand December 15, 1883	2
		Geese and Ducks	142

FURNITURE.

Tables	70	Desks	10
Chairs	322	Counters	3
Wooden settees	16	Carpets	2
Camp stools	14	Safe	1
Clocks	5	Sewing machine	1
Looking glasses	9	Stoves	15

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES.

Tool carts	2	Scuffle hoes	9
Canal barrows	8	Garden hoes	4
Garden barrows	2	Hay rakes	22
Short hand shovels	43	Crow Bars	35
" spades	12	Hay Forks	21
Picks with handles	55	Carpenter Hammers	6
Pick mattocks	21	Sledges	13
Grub " "	23	Scythes and snaths	10

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES.—CONTINUED.

Axes.....	8	Garden sieve.....	1
Monkey wrenches.....	12	Wooden snow shovels.....	8
Umbrellas for sprinkling trucks.....	12	Furnaces (for green-houses).....	8
Sickles.....	6	Glass-cutter.....	1
Hand saws.....	1	Hay knife.....	1
Buck ".....	2	Dust brushes.....	1
Galvanized pails.....	42	Hand lanterns.....	29
Rope.....	500 lbs.	" signals.....	8
Squirt cans.....	12	Blackening brushes.....	5
Sand screens.....	8	Hand towels.....	24
Ladders.....	6	Street-washer keys.....	4
Brooms.....	15	Padlocks.....	7
Mauls.....	1	Hand-cart.....	1
Oil coats.....	18	Combs and brushes.....	3
Mats.....	11	Hat and coat racks.....	2
Oil squirt cans.....	16	Sod-cutters.....	2
Pruning shears.....	15	Edging shears.....	1
" saws.....	8	Pruning knives.....	8
Reducers.....	1	Hay-cutters.....	2
Carpenters' planes.....	1	Curry-combs.....	12
Horse-mowing machines.....	7	Horse brushes.....	11
Hand " ".....	8	Dandruff brushes.....	4
Buckeye " ".....	1	Nose bags.....	14
Advance " ".....	1	Sets double harness.....	5
Coal hods.....	7	" single ".....	5
Cross-cut saws.....	2	" cart ".....	8
Leaf baskets.....	3	Dirt carts.....	4
Rubber boots, pair.....	8	Horse dirt trucks.....	5
Edging knife.....	2	Lamp wagon.....	1
Pipe rod sets.....	2	Business wagon.....	1
Hydrant keys.....	15	Buggies.....	2
" wrenches.....	12	Horse blankets.....	22
Wagon jacks.....	2	Sleighs.....	2
Long-handle shovels.....	13	Water coolers.....	2
Garden rakes.....	18	Andirons.....	6
Manure forks.....	19	American flags.....	28
Hatchets.....	1	Canvass bases (boys).....	12
Mops.....	5	Tinners' tools, set.....	1
Block and fall.....	3	Pipe-cutting machine.....	1
S. Wrenches.....	12	Dies.....	7
Rammers.....	3	Taps.....	1
Stove shovels.....	6	Stone chisel.....	15
Scrubbing brushes.....	1	Breast drill.....	1
Garden trowels.....	8	Adjustable pipe tongs.....	1
Sheep shears.....	2	Air pump.....	1
Water pots.....	36	Blocks.....	8
Bracket lamps.....	39	Lumber rule.....	1
Road Picks.....	55	Mast plane.....	2
Tile ".....	2	Sash ".....	1
Scoop shovels.....	36	Numbers (set 1).....	1
Station lamps.....	162	Boring machines.....	2
Basin scoops.....	5	Augers.....	17
Long-handle pruning saws.....	2	Rip saw machine.....	1
Garden syringe.....	1	Mortice ".....	1
Thermometers.....	6	Tenon ".....	1
		Ship clamp.....	1

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES—CONTINUED.

Vises	2	Rubber coats	10
Grindstones	2	Whistles	72
Glue pot	1	Leaf crates	3
Benches carps	2	Hay rack	1
Machine saws	1	Horse hay rakes	2
Set letter dies	1	Snow ploughs	5
Stone trough	3	Ice planes	3
Stone boat	2	“ scrapers	3
Iron wheelbarrows	2	Road “	6
Lamp shears, pair	1	“ rollers	5
Pipe tongs	3	Sprinkling trucks	12
Feed bags	12	Iron back settees	642
Platform scales	2	Music-stand seats	328
Hay hooks	1	Rustic settees	31
Dust pans	9	Picnic tables and trestles	100
Kalsomine brushes	5	Level	1
Bit and braces	2	Transit	2
Steam pumps	2	Steel chain	1
Climbing spurs, pair	1	Plumb bobs	2
Hand trucks	2	Rods	2
Small scales	1	Corn, shelled	4,600 lbs.
Hydraulic jacks	2	Oats	5,600 “
Screw “	1	Fine feed	2660 lbs.
Cleats	5	Kegs of Nails	6
Goose neck	3	Pennants	458
Signal lamps	3	Fence wire, small coil	1
Brass faucets	7	Tin skating balls	8
Washer cutter	2	Small supply of assorted paints, oils, stationery and hardware	
Putty knife	1	Gas lamps on plaza	30
Weed fork	4	Naphtha Gas Lamps	64
Long handle pruning shears	6	Glass Hemispheres	192
Hose cart	1	Iron drinking hydrants	16
Overcoats	46	Stone breaker and Engine	1
Dress coats	49	Keeper saddles, complete	4
Spring and winter pants	84	“ bridles	4
Spring and summer coats	91	“ spurs	4 pair
Hats and caps	50	“ ponchos	4
Shields	63	Chamois skins	5
Clubs	45	Dirt scraper	1
Small assortment of vitrified pipe connections		Road gratings (except what are in use)	4
Tailor goose	1	Basin heads (except what are in use)	86
Gas plyers	1	Small assortment of $\frac{1}{2}$ " and 2" Tiles	1
Hat and coat numbers (keepers)	90	Naphtha gas tank on wheels	1
Leather hose	150 ft.		
Hose nozzles	2		
Streamers, for flag poles	3		

PRESENTATIONS.

Gazelle, from Mr. W. A. Hall	1	Ducks, from Mrs. E. Ridley	2
Deer, from Mr. G. D. Mackie	1	Ducks, from Mr. Isaac	4
Pea Fowl, from Mr. R. B. Constantine	1		

METEROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Latitude, 40° 41 North ; Longitude, 73° 57 West from Greenwich.

Height of Instrument above the sea, 185 feet.

METEROLOGICAL TABLE No. 1.

Table showing the observed height of the Barometer, monthly, for the year ending December 31, 1883.

Month.	Mean at 7 a. m.	Mean at 2 p. m.	Mean at 9 p. m.	Monthly mean.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Range.
January	30.164	30.111	30.189	30.154	30.508	29.530	.978
February	30.155	30.170	30.210	30.178	30.517	29.615	.902
March	29.977	29.222	29.977	29.725	30.384	29.255	1.129
April	29.792	29.791	29.838	29.870	30.184	29.455	.729
May	29.757	29.777	29.816	29.783	30.127	29.348	.779
June	29.866	29.864	29.884	29.871	30.291	29.436	.855
July	29.975	29.762	29.982	29.916	30.040	29.586	.454
August	29.604	29.999	29.903	29.835	30.015	29.476	.539
September	29.899	29.860	29.877	29.878	30.178	29.428	.750
October	29.973	29.921	29.919	29.973	30.414	29.363	1.051
November	29.963	29.891	29.966	29.400	30.310	29.335	.975
December	29.899	29.801	29.901	30.200	30.332	29.229	1.103

Annual mean at 7 A. M.	29.918
Annual mean at 2 P. M.	29.844
Annual mean at 9 P. M.	29.928
Annual mean of 1,095 observations.	29.940
Maximum February 2d, 2 P. M.	30.607
Minimum March 10, 2 P. M.	29.255
Range	1.352

METEROLOGICAL TABLE No. 2.

DRY.

Table showing the state of Thermometer, monthly, for the year ending December 31, 1883.

Months.	Mean at 7 a. m.	Mean at 2 p. m.	Mean at 9 p. m.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Range.
January.....	26.80	31.40	28.90	45.00	4.00	42.00
February.....	29.90	38.80	31.70	56.00	14.00	42.00
March.....	31.20	38.70	38.10	59.00	8.00	51.00
April.....	43.80	52.40	46.10	71.00	25.00	46.00
May.....	53.60	67.00	57.70	81.50	33.00	48.50
June.....	64.10	76.60	68.60	88.00	52.00	36.00
July.....	67.60	80.00	71.90	93.00	55.00	38.00
August.....	65.60	77.30	70.50	89.00	49.00	40.00
September.....	62.90	70.40	61.90	81.50	33.00	48.50
October.....	49.70	58.90	53.20	79.00	33.00	46.00
November.....	41.90	49.00	44.60	69.00	20.00	49.00
December.....	31.30	38.30	35.30	54.00	3.00	51.00

Annual mean, dry, at 7 A. M.47.45

Annual mean, dry, at 2 P. M.56.65

Annual mean, dry, at 9 P. M.51.00

Annual mean, dry, at 1.095 observations.....51.70

Maximum, dry, July 4th, 2 P. M.93.00

Minimum, dry, December 23d, 7 A. M. 3.00

Range.....90.00

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE No. 3.

WET.

Table showing the state of the Thermometer monthly for the year ending December 31, 1883.

Months.	Mean at 7 a. m.	Mean at 2 p. m.	Mean at 9 p. m.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Range.
January.....	25.60	27.70	27.80	39.00	2.50	36.50
February.....	26.60	32.00	28.10	51.50	14.00	37.50
March.....	27.50	35.20	30.10	52.00	9.00	43.00
April.....	40.30	47.20	42.00	61.00	29.00	32.00
May.....	49.50	59.30	51.70	68.00	35.50	22.50
June.....	60.40	68.80	62.70	78.00	47.00	31.00
July.....	63.50	72.20	65.70	82.00	53.50	28.50
August.....	60.30	68.70	62.90	78.00	51.00	27.00
September.....	56.90	59.20	59.00	68.60	35.50	32.50
October.....	50.50	52.50	48.30	72.50	32.50	40.00
November.....	38.50	44.70	41.30	63.00	20.00	43.00
December.....	28.80	33.60	35.00	51.00	4.00	47.00

Annual mean, wet, at 7 A. M.....	44.30
Annual mean, wet, at 2 P. M.....	50.04
Annual mean, wet, at 9 P. M.....	46.21
Annual mean, wet, of 1,095 observations.....	46.85
Maximum, wet, July 4, 2 P. M.....	82.00
Minimum, wet, January 23, 7 A. M.....	2.50
Range.....	79.50

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE No. 4.

*Table showing the force of Vapor, monthly, for the year ending
December 31, 1883.*

Months.	Mean at 7 a. m.	Mean at 2 p. m.	Mean at 9 p. m.	Monthly Mean.
January .....	.138	.144	.136	.139
February .....	.173	.169	.169	.170
March .....	.185	.200	.190	.192
April .....	.203	.250	.224	.225
May .....	.324	.449	.377	.383
June .....	.494	.609	.498	.533
July .....	.595	.697	.610	.634
August .....	.570	.627	.572	.589
September .....	.518	.570	.526	.538
October .....	.390	.420	.372	.393
November .....	.205	.215	.179	.199
December .....	.143	.154	.141	.146

Force of vapor, maximum, July 14, at 2 P. M.977

Force of vapor, minimum, December 22, at 7 A. M.022

Range

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE No. 5.

*Table showing the relative humidity (saturation being 100) monthly,
for the year ending December 31, 1883.*

Months.	Mean at 7 a. m.	Mean at 2 p. m.	Mean at 9 p. m.	Monthly Mean.
January.....	.83	.81	.85	.82
February.....	.87	.87	.80	.85
March.....	.78	.83	.69	.76
April.....	.85	.73	.82	.80
May.....	.81	.67	.83	.83
June.....	.81	.70	.79	.76
July.....	.86	.72	.77	.78
August.....	.79	.73	.71	.74
September.....	.65	.59	.68	.64
October.....	.89	.73	.74	.78
November.....	.81	.78	.81	.74
December.....	.70	.74	.68	.70

Maximum, November 27, at 2 P. M.....	.100
Minimum, December 22, at 7 A. M.....	.18
Range.....	.82

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE No. 6.

Table showing the duration and depth of rain, snow and prevailing winds, monthly, during the year ending December 31, 1883.

MONTHS.	Number of days on which rain or snow fell.	RAIN. DURATION.			Depth in inches.	Total depth in inches.	FALL OF SNOW.		
		Days.	Hours.	Minutes.			In inches.	Reduced to water in inches.	Prevailing winds.
January.....	17	5	22	05	2.640	3.980	14	1.340	N.
February.....	18	7	19	40	4.138	9.048	11	.930	N.
March.....	4	1	16	25	.450	10.378	7.75	.880	S.
April.....	10	5	16	35	3.715	14.093			N.
May.....	9	4	07	50	1.359	15.452			S.
June.....	14	2	18	39	3.785	19.237			S.
July.....	16	2	03	44	2.800	22.037			N.
August.....	7		15	50	2.470	24.507			S. E.
September.....	7	2	22	00	3.170	27.677			N. E.
October.....	9	5	01	00	4.795	32.472			N. E.
November.....	7	2	14	55	.870	33.342			N. W.
December.....	11	3	17	14	1.240	37.322	26.250	2.740	N. W.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

NEW YORK AND BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

Hon. SETH LOW,
Mayor.

In response to your request of the 7th inst., I herewith present a statement of the business of the New York and Brooklyn Bridge since it was formally presented to the two cities by the Board of Trustees on May 24th, 1883. The ceremonies of that day have been so fully described elsewhere, that no account of them is necessary in this report. During the opening day none were admitted to the bridge except those holding tickets of invitation, but on the night of that day, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the roadways and promenade were thrown open to the public, and since that time have been in continual use.

The Bridge Railway was opened to public travel on September 24th, 1883, and with the exception of two days, has been in use continuously since. The rope driving machinery, the engine and the cable grip, were all especially designed for the bridge railway, and like all other new and heavy machinery, required adjustment and trial. This was to have been expected and could not have been avoided, but notwithstanding all this, within six weeks of the time the railway was opened the machinery was all adjusted and adapted, so that since that time every person who has applied for passage on the cars has been accommodated.

The car service at the present time is fully adequate to the demands, and all comers are carried without delay. The trains are being run from six o'clock A. M. until one o'clock A. M., or nineteen hours per day, and the interval of time between trains is never more than five minutes, and when the requirements of travel demand it, the trains are run on from two to two and a half minutes headway.

The organization of the maintenance force on the bridge is as follows :

One Chief Engineer and Superintendent.

One Assistant Engineer.

POLICE.

One Captain.

One Sergeant.

One Property Clerk.

Three Roundsmen.

Ninety-two Patrolmen.

The patrolmen are divided into three platoons, each under command of a roundsman, and each is on duty eight hours per day. The men have been selected solely on account of the fitness for the position, and they have discharged their duties with marked efficiency.

TRANSPORTATION.

The transportation department is constituted as follows :

One Superintendent of Transportation.

One Train Master.

Three Train Dispatchers.

Six Locomotive Engineers.

Conductors, Yardmen, Couplers, &c.

One Superintendent of Repairs with Helpers.

The collection department is under the superintendent of tolls, who receives the money taken for fares by the collectors, counts

and deposits it in the bank, and makes a daily return of the amounts to the secretary of the Board of Trustees.

The machinery for the railway is under the charge of one chief engineer and three assistants, with the necessary firemen and oilers.

The amount of business done by the several departments is shown by the following tabular statement.

Promenade.

	No. of passengers per month.	Total No. of passengers.	Amount per month.	Total Amount.
May 25th to 31st.....	668,456	668,456	\$6,684 56	\$6,684 56
June.....	909,100	1,577,556	9,091 00	15,775 56
July.....	630,144	2,207,700	6,301 44	22,077 00
August.....	599,200	2,806,900	5,992 00	28,069 00
September.....	578,500	3,385,400	5,785 00	33,854 00
October.....	460,756	3,846,156	4,607 56	38,461 56
November.....	403,844	4,250,000	4,038 44	42,500 00

Vehicles.

	Amount per month.	Total Amount.
May 25.....	\$3,376 02	\$3,376 02
June.....	8,882 00	12,258 02
July.....	6,293 98	18,551 00
August.....	6,038 00	24,590 00
September.....	6,136 00	30,726 00
October.....	5,886 44	36,612 44
November.....	5,545 56	42,158 00

Railway.

	No. of passengers per month.	Total No. of passengers.	Amount per month.	Total Amount.
September 24 to 30 inclusive.....	43,080	43,080	\$2,154 00	\$2,154 00
October.....	477,700	520,780	23,885 00	26,039 00
November.....	561,520	1,082,300	28,076 00	54,115 00

Very respectfully submitted,

WM. C. KINGSLEY,

President.

BROOKLYN, December 26, 1883.

REPORT
OF THE
CITY CLERK.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, }
BROOKLYN, January 15, 1884, {

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor*.

SIR :

I have the honor to transmit the following statement of licenses issued and fees received for and during the year ending December 31, 1883 :

Billiard Tables.....	799	@	\$3 00	\$2,397 00
Bowling Alleys.....	71	"	5 00	355 00
Junk Dealers.....	478	"	3 00	1,434 00
Pedlers or Hawkers.....	1,577	"	3 00	4,731 00
Drivers of Hacks, Cabs, Omnibuses	68	"	1 00	68 00
Cabs.....	39	"	1 50	58 50
Hacks.....	72	"	3 00	216 00
Express.....	458	"	3 00	1,374 00
Carts.....	382	"	1 50	573 00
Trucks.....	831	"	2 00	1,662 00
Dirt Carts.....	233	"	50	116 50
Dogs.....	6,306	"	2 00	12,612 00
Fire Works, retail.....	577	"	2 00	1,154 00
" wholesale.....	5	"	10 00	50 00
Intelligence Office.....	29	"	25 00	725 00
	(9	"	150 00)	
Theatres.....	(4	"	75 00)	1,650 00
Ticket Speculators.....	10	"	100 00	1,000 00
Slaughter Houses.....	13	"	25 00	325 00
	(13	"	500 00)	
Pawn Brokers.....	(9	"	100 00)	7,400 00
Stages.....	25	"	15 00	375 00
Shooting Gallery.....	13	"	5 00	65 00
Railroad Cars.....	725	"	20 00	14,500 00
Circus.....	1	"	500 00	500 00
Circus and Menagerie.....	1	"	750 00	750 00
Common Shows.....				
Auctioneers.....	12	"	100 00	1,200 00
Badges.....	772	"	30	231 80
Plates.....	25	"	25	6 25
Dog Tags.....	6,306	"	10	330 60
Dog Fines.....				83 50
Interest on Pawnbrokers' Licenses.....				16 67
				\$56,259 62

The total amount of fees received during the year 1883, amounting to the sum of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty-nine ⁶²/₁₀₀ (\$56,259.62) dollars have been paid into the city treasury.

The total amount of fees received during the year 1882, for the same class of licenses was fifty-one thousand nine hundred and fourteen ⁴⁰/₁₀₀ (\$51,914.40) dollars, showing an increase of receipts during the year 1883, of four thousand three hundred and forty-five ²²/₁₀₀ (\$4,345.22) dollars, during the early part of 1882, from January 1 to April 1, \$1,744 was received for licenses for occupations which, under the Revised Ordinances adopted April 5, 1882, did

not require license, deducting this amount from the increase of fees for 1883, will leave the net increase \$2,571.22.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM J. TATE,
City Clerk.

OFFICE OF THE CITY TREASURER, }
BROOKLYN, January 15, 1884. }

I do hereby certify that the amount of fifty-six thousand two hundred and fifty-nine $\frac{62}{100}$ (56,259.62) dollars, has been deposited in the City Treasury by William J. Tate, City Clerk, as certified to by him, as license fees and dog fines collected during the year 1883.

W. H. FLEEMAN,
City Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF AUDIT, }
BROOKLYN, January 15, 1884. }

I have compared the returns from the City Clerk's Office with the applications made to the License Bureau, from January 1, 1883 to December 31, 1883, and find the same correct, the amount \$56,176.13, has been deposited in the City Treasury and returns made to the Comptroller therefor. There has also been received \$83.50 for dog fines, which amount has also been deposited in the City Treasury, also \$4.92 costs in civil actions.

WM. A. BROWN,
Accountant.

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDENT OF TRUANT HOME.

TRUANT HOME, NEW LOTS, }
KINGS Co., November 30, 1883. }

Hon. SETH Low, *Mayor of the City of Brooklyn:*

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th inst., requesting the annual report of this Institution, and in reply thereto, beg leave to present the following:

Number of Inmates in Home, January 1, 1883.....	52
“ “ since admitted.....	148
“ “ discharged	138
“ “ remaining	62

Number of Days' Board, from January 1 to November 30,
1883:

In January, 1,484—Average Number of Inmates.....	48
“ February, 1,271— “ “	46
“ March, 1,467— “ “	48
“ April, 1,786— “ “	60
“ May, 2,210— “ “	72

In June,	2,336—Average Number of Inmates.....	78
“ July,	2,163—“ “.....	70
“ August,	1,652—“ “.....	54
“ Sept’ber,	1,248—“ “.....	42
“ October,	1,532—“ “.....	50
“ Nov’ber,	1,776—“ “.....	59
<hr/> Total... 18,925 Daily average		57

Dec. 31, 1882.	By balance.....	\$671 24
	Unpaid bills of 1882.....	747 96
	Leaving a deficiency for 1882, of.....	\$76 72
Jan. 22, 1883.	Appropriation for maintenance, supplies and repairs by Board of Estimate.....	\$5,000 00
June 30, “	By resolution of Common Council, from contingencies.....	150 00
Sept. 20, “	“ “ “ “ “ “.....	600 00
		\$5,750 00
Jan. 22, 1883.	Appropriation for salaries, by Board of Estimate.....	4,500 00
Jan. 25, “	By resolution of Common Council, from contingencies.....	1,00 00
	Total	\$11,250 00
	Sold under resolution of Common Council, one calf (\$6.00), paid to Comptroler and placed to credit of Home.....	6 00
		\$11,256 00
	Total appropriation, by Board of Estimate, for 1882...	\$11,522 00
	Sold cow and calf, which was placed to credit of Home.....	40 00
	Total	\$11,562 00
	Making the appropriation for 1883, \$306.00 less than for 1882.....	

Money expended up to November 30, 1883 :

For Maintenance and Supplies.....	\$5,181 01
Salaries of Employees for eleven months.....	4,995 00
<hr/>	
Making in the aggregate, to date.....	\$10,176 01

On account of furnishing milk to the boys (to the total exclusion of coffee), the expenses are comparatively larger than last year, but our Physician and Committee are of opinion that the change from coffee to milk has been a decided improvement in the health and general appearance of the boys, but even with the additional expense for milk, new stoves, furnaces, new stove pipe, new zincs, etc., the expenditure up to this date is not so large by \$739.15, as it was last year.

The yield from Farm is as follows:

Potatoes	325 bushels.
Cabbage	700 heads.
Beans	30 bushels.
Peas.....	20 “
Lettuce.....	200 heads.
Radishes.....	250 bunches
Carrots	270 bushels.
Cucumbers	1,200
Beets.....	65 bunches
Sweet Corn.....	11,500 ears.
Field “	10,500 “
Turnips.....	45 bushels.
Tomatoes	40 “
Quinces.....	3 “
Parsley	50 bunches
Onions.....	3 “

Products sold, and money received for same:

Sweet Corn, 6,500 ears with stalks.....	\$65 00
Field Corn Stalks.....	10 00
7 Bushels Tomatoes, @ 25c.....	1 75
50 Barrels Carrots, @ 65c.....	32 50
	<hr/>
	\$109 25

Materials and supplies, etc., purchased:

To Veterinary Surgeon, attending horse for six weeks; medicine, &c.....	\$15 00
Kerosene oil.....	6 20
Crockery, etc.....	11 00
Drugs, prescriptions.....	12 00
Repairs to pipe on range.....	1 50
3 loads of manure.....	15 00
3 barrels seed potatoes.....	10 50
Seeds of various kinds.....	4 25
Shoe strings.....	2 50
Nails, screws, etc.....	4 80
Glass, putty, etc.....	5 20
Alcohol, for cleaning purposes.....	4 50
Repairs to harness.....	3 60
1 whip, \$1.50; 1 fly net, \$2.25.....	3 75
1 Dutch collar and boot.....	4 25
Bought in the spring of the year, 3 barrels of potatoes for use of house and boys.....	9 00
Postage stamps.....	90
	<hr/>
	\$114 45

TIME TABLE.

Rising Bell.....	6.00 A. M.
Lavatory.....	6.15 "
Breakfast.....	7.00 "
School room, for study, until.....	8.00 "
Recreation. until.....	9.00 "
School room, morning session, until.....	12.00 M.
Dinner.....	12.00 M.
Recreation, until.....	1.00 P. M.
School room, afternoon session, until.....	3.00 "
Recreation, until.....	4.30 "
Supper, Summer.....	5.00 "
" Winter.....	4.30 "
Recreation, Summer, until.....	7.30 "

Recreation Winter, until.....	6.00 P. M.
Dormitory, Summer.....	8.00 “
“ Winter.....	7.00 “

The teachers are ever present with children, whether in the school rooms, play ground or dormitories, a constant supervision is kept over them.

Of the inmates I can speak favorably. Their conduct and morals have been as good as could be expected from the sort of boys we have to deal with, a majority of whom have been taken from the poorest class of society. Brought up in ignorance and vice, and allowed to have their own way in everything, it is but natural that they should eventually find their way out “to the Home.”

The time for which children are committed here (14 weeks), I consider too short to make much impression on them. I would recommend that no boy be released until he has served at least six months in the Institution, and then only on the recommendation of the Superintendent and teachers, as they, having constant watch over him, are able to see any reform that may have taken place during his stay in the Institution, and would be able to judge whether the child would be benefitted by the release or not.

The health of the children has been excellent, not a single case of any contagious disease occurring during the year. No sore eyes, or skin diseases (so very prevalent in other institutions) can be seen at the Home.

I desire to commend the teachers, Mr. Martyn and Mr. Tassie, for their zealous attention to the children's studies and deportment. Their School report accompanies this one.

The necessary repairs, such as to doors, putting in glass, repairing pumps, removing the fallen walls of area-ways (which gives more light and air to the basement), filling in of old cistern (for which the Common Council appropriated \$25) have all been done without any expense whatever to the city.

New stoves and furnaces, at an expense of \$347, have been furnished during the year, so that the Institution, at present, is in a far more comfortable condition than it has been for some time, and

makes a most desirable home for the little erring ones who *may* be committed to our care.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH WAGNER, JR.,

Superintendent.

To the Superintendent of the Brooklyn Truant Home:

SIR:

In pursuance of the usual custom, we present herewith **our** Annual Report:

Under instruction from December 1, 1882 to November 30,

1883	196
Average daily attendance.....	43

Of 155 boys received during the year:

Did not know the Alphabet	13
Could read in First Reader and Primer.....	85
" Second " 	30
" Third " 	27

155

Had never studied Arithmetic.....	14
" some knowledge of same.....	115
Commenced at Long Division, or Fractions.....	26

155

Could not write with pen or pencil.....	23
" write a little with pencil on slate.....	37
" " with pen in Copy-book No. 1.....	69
" " " " No. 2, 3.....	26

155

SUPERINTENDENT OF TRUANT HOME. 341

Did not learn Geography.....	110
Were learning “.....	45
	<hr/>
	155
	<hr/>

Attainments of 148 boys who have left the Institution from December 1, 1882, to November 30, 1883.

IN READING.

Read in Primer.....	24
“ First Reader.....	48
“ Second “.....	28
“ Third “.....	34
“ History of United States.....	14
	<hr/>
	148
	<hr/>

IN ARITHMETIC.

Addition to Long Division.....	72
Fractions.....	34
Decimals, Federal Money, &c.....	28
Per Centage, Interest, &c.....	14
	<hr/>
	148
	<hr/>

IN GEOGRAPHY.

Did not study Geography.....	72
Learning Primary Geography.....	62
“ Intermediate Geography.....	14
	<hr/>
	148
	<hr/>

IN WRITING.

Wrote on slates.....	24
“ in copy books, 1, 2.....	76
“ “ 3, 6, 8.....	48
	<hr/>
	148
	<hr/>

PRESENT STANDING OF THE SCHOOLS.

Whole number in attendance.....	48
---------------------------------	----

IN READING.

Learning Alphabet.....	1
Read in Primer.....	6
“ First Reader.....	13
“ Second “.....	10
“ Third “.....	18
	<hr/>
	48
	<hr/>

IN ARITHMETIC.

Learning tables, Mental Arithmetic.....	all
“ Addition to Long Division.....	30
“ Vulgar Fractions.....	16
“ Decimal “.....	2
	<hr/>
	48
	<hr/>

IN GEOGRAPHY.

Do not study Geography.....	30
Monteith's, First lessons in.....	10
“ Manual of.....	8
	<hr/>
	48
	<hr/>

IN WRITING.

Write on slates.....	1
“ in copy books, 1, 2.....	29
“ “ 4 to 8.....	18
	<hr/>
	48
	<hr/>

School exercises are as follows :

Monday—Spelling, Reading, Arithmetic, Writing and Dictation exercises.

Tuesday—Spelling, Reading, Intellectual and Written Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, and Writing.

Wednesday—As on Monday.

Thursday—As on Tuesday.

Friday—Spelling, Reading, Dictation, as review lessons, with first lessons in Composition.

Saturday—is taken up with house cleaning, bathing, inspection and changing of clothing, &c.

Sunday—Religious exercises—Protestant, from 9 A. M. to 10½ A. M. Catholic, from 10½ A. M. to 11½ A. M.

Respectfully submitted,

EUGENE MARTYN,

THOMAS TASSIE,

Teachers.

TRUANT HOME, November 30, 1883.

REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT OF
INEBRIATES' HOME.

INEBRIATES' HOME FOR KINGS COUNTY, }
FORT HAMILTON, Dec. 1, 1883. }

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor of the City of Brooklyn*:

SIR:

In compliance with your communication of the 20th of November, requesting details of the operations of the Inebriates' Home for Kings County for the year ending October 31, 1883, I would respectfully submit the following:

During the year ending October 31, 1883, the Home has received from the Comptroller of the city of Brooklyn the sum of \$33,727.50, and from the County towns, \$2,332.52, making a total of \$36,060.02, being the percentage of excise moneys appropriated for this institution by the Legislature.

The total number of cases treated during the year was 481.

This amount received from excise moneys, unless largely augmented by receipts for board, would not have permitted us to have received and taken care of the large number of people that we have. This latter amounted during the last twelve months to the sum of \$32,138.77.

Of the moneys received from all sources, \$9,650.45 has been expended for permanent improvements on buildings and grounds, and \$3,965.66 for furnishings, making a total of \$13,616.11, which was for more or less permanent improvements, and which must be deducted from the total receipts in order to show the actual cost of maintenance.

The following statistics will indicate the movements and conditions of the patients in the Home during the past year:

There were remaining in the Home November 1, 1882, 133 patients—Males, 118; females, 15.

There were admitted during the year 348, making a total of 481. Males, 417; females, 64.

The number discharged during this time was.....	347
The number died during this time was.....	1
The number transferred to other institutions was.....	12
Total.....	360

There were remaining on November 1st, 1883—Males, 104; females, 17.....	121
Total.....	481

The social conditions of the 481 patients were as follows:

MALES.

Married.....	209
Single.....	173
Widowers.....	35

FEMALES.

Married.....	47
Single.....	6
Widows.....	11

Grand total of patients during the year..... 481

The oldest patient was 69 years.

The youngest patient was 18 years.

Nativity of patients under treatment :

United States.....	345
England.....	24
Ireland.....	82
Scotland.....	6
France.....	3
Germany.....	14
British Provinces.....	6
Spain.....	1
Total.....	481

During the greater portion of the year the institution has been full to overflowing, thereby obliging us to refuse many worthy applicants for admission.

I have still to complain of the want of accommodation for the better class of female patients, applications for which are being constantly made, and as far as I am able to learn there is no institution for the accommodation of such patients in the whole United States where they can be properly and judiciously treated, a need which in my judgment is very pressing.

In conclusion, allow me to thank you for the interest which you have in our institution, and to re-assure you of my constant effort to maintain its reputation and increase its usefulness.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

JAMES A. BLANCHARD, M. D.,

Medical Superintendent.

INEBRIATES' HOME FOR KINGS COUNTY, }
FORT HAMILTON, December 11, 1883. }

HON. SETH LOW, *Mayor of the City of Brooklyn* :

SIR :

In reply to the inquiries contained in your favor of the 7th instant, I beg leave to submit the following :

Of the 481 cases treated during the year ending October 30, 1883; 298 were charity patients and 183 were boarding patients.

Thirty of the boarding patients were from the city of Brooklyn.

All of the 298 charity patients were from the City of Brooklyn and Kings County, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as we are not legally allowed to take any others.

The total number of days care given to charity patients was 30,195.

The total number of days care given to boarding patients was 16,329.

The total number of days care given to employees was 10,173.

The total number of days care for all together was 56,697.

As requested, I enclose printed copy of our last report.

Our Treasurer's report not being printed, I enclose copy of the same.

I am, sir, very respectfully yours,

JAMES A. BLANCHARD, M. D.,

Medical Superintendent.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The following is the report of the Treasurer of the Inebriates' Home for Kings County for the year ending December 31, 1882.

RECEIPTS.		
From board money.....	\$34,865 31	
From Comptroller of the City of Brooklyn..	32,762 50	
From County Towns, per Excise Commissioners.....	1,553 58	
		\$69,181 39
DISBURSEMENTS.		
<i>Maintenance.</i>		
Paid for groceries and provisions.....	\$33,340 08	
“ coal, wood, Astral oil and gasoline..	4,890 81	
“ medicines, medical attendance, nurses in hospital, &c.....	2,462 07	
“ clothing	1,434 15	
“ express and other wagons, farm, &c.	1,117 67	
“ help and labor.....	1,626 36	
“ advertising, printing and stationery	1,249 13	
“ newspapers and periodicals	153 44	
“ incidental expenses.....	306 79	
“ salaries of officers	3,508 46	
“ rent of office in Brooklyn.....	480 00	
“ insurance.....	368 02	
	\$50,936 91	
<i>Building and Improvements.</i>		
Paid for moving and building houses, grading grounds for same, pointing and painting main building and barns, building wall and paving gutters.....	\$10,984 56	
Paid for furnishing, furniture, &c.....	4,824 72	
<i>Balance, January 1, 1883.</i>		
Paid on account of indebtedness.....	2,435 20	
		\$69,181 39

(Signed)

WM. M. THOMAS,

Treasurer.

Examined the above account of the Treasurer and found the same to be correct.

(Signed)

J. W. RICHARDSON,

Auditor.

Brooklyn, Jan. 25th, 1883.

FORT HAMILTON, December 15, 1883.

Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor of the City of Brooklyn* :

SIR:

In my communication of the 11th instant the answers to two of your questions were omitted, by mistake in copying, and were as follows : The total number of days for the 30 boarding patients from Brooklyn was 2,335. Of the 298 charity patients, 3 were from the County Towns and 295 were from the city of Brooklyn. The total number of days' care for the 3 patients from the County Towns was 106 days. Hoping you will overlook the omission, I am, sir,

Very respectfully yours,

JAMES A. BLANCHARD,

Med. Supt.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
POLICE JUSTICES
OF BROOKLYN
FOR
1883.

ANDREW WALSH, City Hall Police Court,

GARRETT BERGEN, First District Police Court, cor. Court and
Butler Streets.

FREDERICK S. MASSEY, Second District Police Court, cor. Gates
and Reid Avenues.

CHARLES NAEHER, Third District Police Court, cor. Montrose
Avenue and Humboldt Street.

CITY HALL POLICE COURT.

To the Honorable SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

DEAR SIR :

The enclosed is a statement of the business transacted in the City Hall Police Court from January 1st, 1883, to December 31st, 1883, inclusive :

Respectfully yours,

ANDREW WALSH,
Police Justice.

January 9th, 1884.

TABLE A.

Showing the whole number of persons arraigned in the City Hall Police Court according to the months, and the offenses charged for the year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Abduction.....							1						1
Aiding persons to escape.....			1		1		2	1		1			6
Affrays.....	6	12	8	16	16	2	20	10	2	5	7	12	116
Arson.....	1	1										1	3
Assault, 1st degree.....	2	2				4	3	3	1		4	2	21
" 2d degree.....	1	2		1	3	4	2	7	2	2	1		25
" 3d degree.....	40	75	80	40	85	96	79	99	80	68	60	70	872
Assault with intent to steal.....						2							2
Attempted larceny.....					1					1	3		5
Attempted suicide.....	1	1			1								3
Bastardy.....	6	2	3	2	4	1	5	1	5	1	8	4	42
Blackmail.....	1												1
Breach of the peace.....								1					1
Burglary, 1st degree.....	4	2	8	1		1		4	1	1	4		26
" 2d degree.....				7		1	1	1		1	1	1	13
" 3d degree.....				4	5	3		1			2	4	19
Carrying concealed weapons.....							1						1
Complaints from Law Dept.....													139
Cruelty to animals.....	3	2	3	4	6	4	4	5	13	4	1	2	51
" children.....	1	1									3		5
Disorderly children.....	1		3	3	2	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	21
" conduct.....	5	4	2	5	6	5	12	3	8	4	2		56
" houses.....		1						1				1	3
" persons.....	5	11	6	10	12	6	6	8	4	4	6	4	82
False pretenses.....	1		1					1					3
Forgery.....	1				1			1					3
Fugitive from justice.....		2				1							3
Grand larceny, 1st degree.....	1	4	4	2	3		1	4	3	7	2	2	33
" 2d.....	5	6	2	3	10	4	6	3	10	4	8	6	67
Habitual drunkards.....	8	10	6	4	3	3	4	2	3	4	1	4	52
Indecent exposure.....	1		1	2				2	1		1		8
Intoxication.....	332	304	468	678	422	288	268	294	220	319	328	361	4,101
Lottery policy.....			2						2	4	1		9
Malicious mischief.....	7	3	8	14	4	2	1	1	6	5	10	2	63
" annoyance.....					1								1
Marriages.....		1	1						1				3
Mayhem.....					2								2
Misdemeanors, miscel.....	30	6	4	19	18	6	7	5	6	23	6	32	162

TABLE A.—(Continued.)

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Murder.....						1							1
Perjury.....		1		2		1							4
Petit larceny.....	32	31	25	30	25	33	22	21	22	23	34	30	328
Rape.....					1				2			1	4
Receiving stolen goods.....		1	1								1	2	5
Robbery, 1st degree.....	2		2	3		1	2	8	3	2	3		26
" 2d degree.....						2		1					3
Search warrant.....	1						1	1		1	2	2	8
Seduction.....	1										1	2	4
Threats.....	5	6	6	2	6	8	7	10	8	6	3	6	73
Truancy.....	3	4	4	5	8	4	1	2	6	4	4	4	49
Usury.....					1								1
Vagrancy.....	57	35	43	35	53	46	43	59	29	24	39	50	513
Violation Excise law.....	6	2	6	4	3	3	5	2	1	5	1	2	40
" Health law.....	6	5	6	7	8	7	4	4	6	4	2	4	63
" Ordinances.....	36	38	75	78	56	49	46	52	28	56	44	51	609
Total.....	614	573	779	781	766	594	556	619	493	584	594	663	7,755
Landlord and tenant cases.....													630
Total.....													8,385

TABLE B.

Showing the disposition of persons arraigned in the City Hall Police Court, for the year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Penitentiary	38	27	28	38	27	35	31	44	11	13	43	39	374
Jail	274	278	358	371	374	267	213	247	187	260	237	279	3,345
Grand Jury	8	10	16	19	26	13	6	14	14	6	23	17	172
Bonds	3	4	6	7	5	3	6		2		3	4	43
Almshouse	5	7	5	4	8	4	6	8	3	3	4	2	59
Inebriate's Home	4	5	4	1	2		2	3	1	3	1	3	29
House of Good Shepherd	6	4	5	4	4	5		6		2	4	6	46
House of Refuge	2	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6		3		31
Truant Home	3	4	7	3	2		3	1	6	4	3	1	43
Comr's of Char. and Cor.	1				1			1	1		3	2	9
Dominican Sisters						5							5
St. John's Home		5	4	3	5	2			1		1		21
St. Malachys		1						1					2
Married		1	1					1					3
Sentence suspended	3	5	16	10	9	9	47	17	19	5	7	4	141
Dismissed	103	93	123	120	141	162	131	144	141	175	130	141	1,004
Compromised			1				1			1	1	1	5
Fined	164	127	202	200	154	86	106	127	111	112	131	164	1,684
Total	614	573	779	781	760	594	556	619	493	584	594	666	7,755

TABLE C.
*Showing the amount of Fines and Fees collected in the City Hall Police Court, for the year ending
 December 31, 1883.*

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Criminal Cases.....	\$359 25	\$291 00	\$581 75	\$520 75	\$366 50	\$268 50	\$233 00	\$428 75	\$294 50	\$337 75	\$272 25	\$341 75	\$4,275 75
Collected by Corporation Counsel....													67 50
Total.....													\$4,343 25

FIRST DISTRICT POLICE COURT.

To the Hon. SETH LOW, *Mayor* :

DEAR SIR :

I have the honor to submit herewith the statements of the business transacted in the First District Police Court from January 1, 1883, until December 31, 1883, inclusive,

Very respectfully,

GARRET BERGEN,

Police Justice.

January 7, 1884.

TABLE A.

Showing the whole number of persons arraigned in the First District Police Court, according to the months and the offenses charged, for the year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Abandonment.....	4	2	3	2	3	9	2	9	8	4	8	5	50
Arson.....								1			2		3
Affrays.....	17	11	12	12	12	23	22	14	27		6	13	169
Annoying letters.....					1								1
Assault, second degree.....	2			4		2			3		2		13
" third degree.....	35	42	62	52	59	85	103	87	88	79	61	46	799
Attempted suicide.....		2	1	1			1	1					6
Bastardy.....				2			1		1	2		1	7
Breach of peace.....		4											5
Burglary.....		4	4	2	8	2		3	3	1	2	5	34
Cruelty to animals.....	2	6				1				2		6	17
" to children.....	1												1
Disorderly house.....					1								1
" persons.....										1			1
Disturbing public meetings.....		3											3
Embezzlement.....	1		4		1								6
False pretences.....		1											1
Forgery.....					2								2
Grand larceny.....	2		4	6	10	5	5	3	2	4	2	7	50
Habitual drunkards.....	2	1	4	6	6	2	2	2	1	3	1	3	33
Indecent exposure.....		1							2				3
Interfering with officer.....		1		1	2	1	1		1	1			8
Intoxication.....	152	114	151	490	556	430	479	434	490	536	398	434	5,567
Larceny from person.....	2												2
Libel.....				1									1
Malicious mischief.....	9	6	9	3	12	4	6	11	6	8	11	4	89
Mayhem.....								1					1
Murder.....												1	1
Obscene literature.....			1										1
Petit Larceny.....	20	23	26	21	36	20	33	42	25	25	30	20	321
Public nuisance.....							2						2
Rape.....		1							1				2
Receiving stolen goods.....			1						1				2
Seduction.....			1								3		4
Threats.....	1	2	2	6	6	8	8	7	6	8	4	8	66
Truancy.....	7	4	3	9	8	7	1		5	7	3	2	56
Vagrancy.....	58	36	51	36	42	58	57	57	38	48	40	49	570
Violation, Excise Law.....		1	2	2	1	2	6	2	1	2			19

TABLE A.—(CONTINUED.)

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Violation Health Law.....			3			3	1	3					10
“ ordinances.....	36	42	59	88	48	74	93	65	32	31	37	45	650
“ R. R. Act.....	1			2									3
“ Sunday Law.....	3		7	2	14	1	3	3	3	2			38
Witnesses.....					1					1	1		3
Total.....	655	607	713	748	829	737	826	745	742	767	611	650	8,630
Landlord and tenant cases.....													354
Total.....													8,984

TABLE B.

Showing the Disposition of Persons arraigned in the First District Police Court for the Year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Penitentiary or fine.....	37	29	32	30	37	35	55	39	45	32	41	40	452
Jail or fine.....	385	433	473	498	558	446	444	449	508	529	256	316	5,305
Grand Jury.....	3	4	10	12	5	6	5	9	8	3	5	7	77
Bonds.....	2	5	3	5	7	15	11	10	6	6	4		74
Inebriate's Home.....	2	1	4	5	5	2	2		11	3		3	30
House of the Good Shepherd	5			2		2	1	2	2	2	1		15
House of Refuge.....	9	3	1	1	2	4	6	6	6	2	6	3	49
Truant Home.....	4	4	3	9	7	7			5	5	2	2	50
Sentence Suspended.....	166	72	112	132	120	157	214	118	81	91	228	214	1,705
Dismissed.....	42	46	75	54	88	63	88	112	80	92	68	65	873
Total.....	655	607	713	748	829	737	826	745	742	767	611	650	8,630

TABLE C.
*Showing the Amount of Fines and Fees Collected in the First District Police Court for the Year ending
 December 31, 1883:*

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Criminal Cases.....	\$210 75	\$370 00	\$433 25	\$380 75	\$319 50	\$352 25	\$371 00	\$342 75	\$323 25	\$367 25	\$218 50	\$344 75	\$4,015 00
Landlord and Tenant cases.	23 00	26 00	36 00	61 00	47 00	35 00	28 00	17 00	30 00	23 00	18 00	10 00	354 00
Total.....	\$233 75	\$396 00	\$469 25	\$441 75	\$366 50	\$387 25	\$399 00	\$360 75	\$353 25	\$390 25	\$236 50	\$354 75	\$4,369 00

SECOND DISTRICT POLICE COURT.

To the Honorable SETH Low,
Mayor :

DEAR SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement of the business transacted in the Second District Police Court, from the twelfth day of February, 1883, to the thirty-first day of December, 1883, inclusive.

Respectfully yours,

F. S. MASSEY,

Police Justice.

January 7th, 1884.

TABLE A.

Showing the whole Number of Persons Arraigned in the Second District Police Court, according to the Offenses charged, for the year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Abandonment.....			1	2	4	6	4	1	4	3	2	8	35
Abortion.....						1			1				2
Arson.....			1										1
Affrays.....		1	7	2	14	11	12	7	6	4	4		68
Assault, first degree.....							1	1	3				5
" second degree.....			5			4	5	1	4	4	1	9	33
" third degree.....		11	21	40	35	56	60	90	76	69	24	57	539
Assaults.....				2	3	3	17	12	1	5	1		44
Attempted rape.....				1			1		3				5
" suicide.....							1			2		2	5
Bastardy.....			1									2	3
Bigamy.....					1							1	2
Burglary.....			1	6	4		3	2	2	2	4	4	28
Crime against nature.....								1					1
Cruelty to animals.....		1	2	2	2	3	4	2	5			5	20
Disorderly house.....						1		1					2
" person.....			1			4		1	5	4		2	17
Disturbing the peace.....						2			8	3	1	5	19
" relig. meeting.....					1								1
Embezzlement.....					1								1
Escaped prisoner.....								1					1
False pretenses.....		1				4							5
Felonies, miscellaneous.....							2	4					6
Felonious assault.....				1				1					2
Gambling.....				6									6
Grand larceny.....			1	1	3	3	1	6	1	1		4	21
Habitual drunkards.....				2	1	2	4	2	2	4	2	1	20
Illegal voting.....									1	1			2
Indecent exposure.....				2	2			3	3				10
Interfering with officer.....					1				2		2	1	6
Intoxication.....		33	107	113	80	166	161	183	208	202	129	133	1515
Malicious mischief.....			4	9	7	6	4	8	3	10	5	9	65
Misdemeanors, miscellaneous.....								1	1	2			4
Murder.....						2					1		8
Personating an officer.....							1						1
Petit larceny.....		5	20	10	11	25	29	16	26	13	8	21	184
Rape.....								3	1	1	1		6
Receiving stolen goods.....										1			1
Reckless driving.....		1	1			2	2	1	2	1			10
Robbery.....			2	2				2	4	2			12
Seduction.....			1			2		1				2	6

TABLE A.—Continued.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Truancy.....			2	1	3	5			5	1	1		18
Vagrancy.....		5	25	20	16	48	46	44	21	23	12	24	284
Violation Excise Law.....			1	2	1	10	2		1	3	3	1	24
“ Health “.....				1	42	11	47	45	34	55	47	49	331
“ City Ordinances.....		16	34	37	35	34	44	39	25	47	13	28	352
“ Sunday Law.....			21	5	2				1		1		30
“ Insurance Law.....											1		1
Total.....		73	250	273	267	406	450	488	457	464	263	372	4,109

TABLE B.

Showing the Disposition of Persons Arraigned in the Second District Police Court for the Year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Penitentiary or fine.....	2	18	21	18	44	63	60	48	48	35	41	404	
Jail or fine.....	24	65	89	69	158	136	128	114	128	84	96	1,096	
Grand Jury.....		3	9	14	3	12	25	8	5	5	5	89	
Bonds.....		2	1	1	1	12	5	8	7	7	1	45	
Alms-house.....					1	4		2	1	1		7	16
Inebriate's Home.....				1	1	2		1			1		6
House of the Good Shepherd.....						4	2	1				1	8
House of Refuge.....		1				2	1	3	2	1			10
Truant Home.....		2	2	3	5				4	1	1		18
Wayside Home.....								1					1
Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.....						8			5	6			19
Forfeited pistols.....		1				2	1						4
Married.....			1									1	2
Sentence suspended.....		3	17	31	22	3	12	15	13	24	21	28	189
Dismissed.....		30	78	57	90	96	111	139	124	141	42	108	1,018
Total.....	59	188	211	199	332	352	386	327	362	196	288	2,925	
Fines paid.....	14	62	62	48	71	102	100	125	108	67	85	844	
Total.....	73	250	273	267	403	454	486	454	468	263	373	3,769	
Complaints pending.....													162
Complaints withdrawn.....													183
Total complaints.....													4,104

TABLE C.
*Showing the Amount of Fines and Fees Collected in the Second District Police Court for the Year
 ending December 31, 1883.*

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Criminal Cases.....	\$29 00	\$186 00	\$153 00	\$123 00	\$199 50	\$372 25	\$380 25	\$489 00	\$389 00	\$414 75	\$428 75	\$3,164 50	
Landlord & Tenant Cases.....			44 00	26 00	24 00	32 00	29 00	29 00	24 00	8 00	12 00	238 00	
Total.....	\$29 00	\$186 00	\$197 00	\$149 00	\$223 50	\$404 25	\$409 25	\$518 00	\$413 00	\$422 75	\$440 75	\$3,392 50	

THIRD DISTRICT POLICE COURT.

To the Honorable SETH Low, *Mayor* :

DEAR SIR:

The enclosed is a statement of the business transacted in the Third District Police Court from January 1, 1883, until December 31, 1883, inclusive.

Very respectfully,

CHARLES NAEHER,

Police Justice.

January 7, 1884.

TABLE A.

Showing the whole number of persons arraigned in the Third District Police Court, according to the months and the offenses charged, for the year ending December 31, 1883:

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Abortion									1				1
Aiding prisoner to escape.									1				1
Arson			1				1						2
Affrays	7	5	8	16	0	12	21	27	9	17	11	4	148
Assault, first degree		5		3	1	3			2	1			15
“ second degree	5	5	1		2	1	6	6	2	5	7	2	42
“ third degree	42	53	45	46	84	80	86	120	66	75	46	56	799
“ on officer	1			1	1	4							7
Attempted rape		1	1		1		1			1			5
“ suicide		1			1		2	2	1		1	2	10
“ burglary					1							1	2
Bastardy	4	3	1	1		1	1	4	2		1	3	21
Bigamy									1	1			2
Breach of peace									1			1	2
Burglary	14	6	6		5	8	11	7	2	10	5	3	77
Carrying burglars tools											1		1
“ concealed weapons						1	1						2
Contempt of court		2	1										3
Cruelty to animals	15	3	3	1	3	2	3	5	14	11	2		62
“ children								1					1
Culpable negligence							3						3
Disorderly children	1	1		2	3		4	5	2	1	3	2	24
“ conduct	1						4	2				1	8
“ house							3				2		5
“ person	8	18	13	9	12	16	16	14	18	9	11	14	158
Disturbing religious meetings		2	2	2	2		1			1			10
Escaped prisoner	1						1			1			3
Forgery											2		2
Grand larceny	13	7	11	5	10	5	4	8	12		6	5	86
Habitual drunkards	2	1	4	1	2	2	3	3	2	4	2	1	27
Highway robbery		1	1		1	2	5	5		1	1	1	18
Idle and destitute children	2		3					3	3	3			14
Incest	1												1
Indecent exposure			1		1		3	1					6
Interfering with officer					1				1	1	1		4
Intoxication	170	153	158	178	157	126	162	194	188	162	139	124	1,911
Kidnapping								1					1
Lottery policy		12	5					4					23
Maiming												1	1
Malicious mischief	6	13	1	5	22	7	7	14	13	8	14	13	121
Misdemeanors, miscellaneous	2	1		1	4		1		2	2		2	15

TABLE A.—Continued.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Murder			1	1	1		2		1	1			7
Perjury											1		1
Petit larceny	52	31	30	28	23	13	30	20	21	27	38	21	334
Public boxing			2										2
“ nuisance							3						3
Rape					7	3	5	2		8			20
Receiving stolen goods		1							1	5			7
Search warrant	2						2						4
Seduction	2	1						1		1	1		6
Threats	3	6	2	5	3	9	12	4	5	5	1		55
Truancy			1	2	6				2				11
Vagrancy	28	15	39	29	45	36	56	24	24	12	21	20	349
Violation excise law				1	6	3	3	7	3		1		24
“ health “	66	120	89	4	1								280
“ ordinances	44	32	37	73	57	36	47	36	50	32	34	25	503
“ public decency	3	5	4	4									16
“ railroad act	2											2	4
“ sunday law	10	23	18	5	4			2	1				63
Total	507	527	489	423	473	375	507	521	451	399	352	304	5,328
Landlord and tenant cases													8
Total													5,331

TABLE B.

Showing the disposition of persons arraigned in the Third District Police Court for the year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Penitentiary.....	31	22	39	27	38	26	34	37	31	29	46	28	394
Jail.....	161	159	134	177	174	127	155	172	167	114	102	98	1,740
Grand Jury.....	19	15	11	5	20	15	23	17	15	26	11	8	187
Fined.....	112	108	117	97	79	68	93	91	90	83	47	53	1,038
Bonds.....	2	6	7	2	5	7	10	9	7	2	1	5	63
Almshouse.....	7	3	9	11	6	1	4	4	4	6	4	4	63
Inebriate's Home.....			2	1	1	1	1	1		1		1	9
House of Good Shepherd.....						1	2						3
House of Refuge.....	8	1	1	3	5		6	2	2	1	1	2	32
Truant Home.....			1	3	5		1		2	1			12
E. D. Industrial School.....									3				3
Married.....	3	1						1			1	1	7
Sentence suspended.....	44	77	46	11	10	5	20	22	28	23	28	21	335
Dismissed.....	103	124	97	84	122	115	148	155	84	97	102	75	1,307
Compromised.....	15	9	24	2	5	9	10	10	14	16	9	8	131
Total.....	507	527	489	423	473	375	507	521	451	399	352	304	5,328

TABLE C.
*Showing the amount of Fines and Fees collected in the Third District Police Court for the year ending
 December 31, 1883.*

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Criminal cases.....	\$637 75	\$4702 00	\$4593 00	\$426 75	\$314 25	\$289 25	\$336 75	\$364 00	\$405 60	\$375 00	\$256 25	\$248 75	\$4,949 00

RECAPITULATION—TABLE A.

Showing the whole number of persons arraigned in the District Police Courts of the City of Brooklyn according to the months and the offences charged, for the year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Abandonment.....	4	2	4	4	7	15	6	10	12	7	10	13	94
Abduction.....							1						1
Abortion.....													3
Adultery.....	30	28	29	51	36	51	74	63	45	28	28	33	496
Aiding prisoners to escape.....	1					1		2		2			6
Arson.....	1	1	2				1	1			2	1	9
Annoying letters.....													1
Assault, 1st degree.....	2	7		3	1	7	3	4	4	4	4	2	41
“ 2d “.....	8	7	6	5	5	11	13	14	11	11	11	11	113
“ 3d “.....	117	181	208	178	263	317	328	396	310	291	191	229	3,006
“ on officer.....			1	1	4	3	17	12	1	5	1		44
“ with intent to steal.....	1					2							7
Attempted burglary.....												1	2
“ larceny.....					1	1				1	3		5
“ rape.....		1	1	1	1		2		3				10
“ suicide.....	1	4	1	1	2	2	4	3	1	2		4	24
Bastardy.....	10	5	5	5	4	2	7	5	8	3	9	10	73
Bigamy.....					1				1	1		1	4
Blackmail.....	1												1
Breach of the Peace.....		4											4
Burglary, 1st degree.....	4	2	8	1		1		1	1	1	4	2	26

TABLE A,—Continued.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Burglary, 2d degree				7		1	1	1		1	1	1	13
" " 3d "				4	5	3		1			2	4	19
" "	14	10	11	8	17	10	14	12	7	13	9	12	130
Carrying burglars' tools,						1					1		1
" concealed weapons.							2						3
Complaints from Law Department													130
Contempt of Court		2	1										3
Crime against nature								1					1
Cruelty to animals.	20	12	8	7	11	10	11	12	32	17	3	13	156
" children	2	1						1			3		7
Culpable negligence							3						3
Disorderly children.	2	1	3	5	5	5	5	6	3	2	4	3	45
" conduct.	6	4	2	5	6	9	14	3	8	4	2	1	64
" houses			1		1	1	3	2			2	1	11
" persons.	13	30	19	19	28	22	23	27	26	14	17	20	258
Disturbing the peace						2			8	3	1	5	19
" public meeting.		3											3
" religious meeting		2	2	2	3		1			1			11
Embezzlement	1		4		2								7
False pretenses	1	2	1		4			1			9		9
Felonies, miscellaneous.							2	4					6
Felonious assault.				1				1					2
Forgery	1				3	1		1			2		2
Fugitive from justice		2				1							3
Gambling				6									6
Grand larceny, 1st degree	1	4	4	4	3		1	4	3	7	2	2	33

TABLE A—Continued.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Grand larceny, 2d degree.....	5	6	2	3	10	4	6	3	10	4	8	6	67
".....	15	7	16	12	23	13	10	17	15	5	8	16	147
Habitual drunkards.....	12	12	14	13	12	9	13	9	8	15	6	4	147
Highway robbery.....		1	1		1	2	5	5		1	1	1	18
Idle and destitute children.....	2		3					3	3	3			14
Infest.....	1												1
Illegal voting.....									1	1			2
Indecent exposure.....	1	1	2	4	3		3	6	6		1		27
Interfering with officer.....		1		1	4	1	1	1	3	2	3	1	18
Intoxication.....	954	904	1,193	1,453	1,215	1,010	1,070	1,105	1,125	1,219	994	1,052	13,094
Kidnapping.....								1					1
Larceny from the person.....	2												2
Label.....				1									1
Lottery policy.....		12	7					4	2	4	1		30
Maiming.....													1
Malicious mischief.....	22	22	16	31	45	19	18	34	28	31	40	28	340
" annoyance.....					1						1		1
Marriages.....		1	1						1				3
Mayhem.....					2	2		1					3
Misdemeanors, miscellaneous.....	32	7	4	20	22	6	8	6	9	27	6	34	181
Murder.....			1	1	1	3	2		1	1	1	1	12
Obscene literature.....			1										1
Perjury.....		1		2		1					1		5
Personating officer.....													1
Petit larceny.....	104	90	101	89	95	91	114	99	94	88	110	92	1,267
Public boxing.....			2										2

TABLE A—Concluded.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Public nuisances.....							5	5					5
Rape.....		1			8	8	5	5	3	5	5	1	32
Receiving stolen goods.....		2	2						1	7	1	2	15
Reckless driving.....			1	1			2		1	1			10
Robbery, 1st degree.....	2		2	3			2	8	3	2	3		27
" 2d.....								1					3
".....				2	2		2	2	4	2			12
Search warrant.....	3							1		1	2	2	12
Seduction.....	3	1	2			2	3	1		1	1		12
Threats.....	9	14	10	12	15	25	27	21	19	19	5	4	20
Truancy.....	10	8	10	17	25	16	2	2	18	12	8	14	191
Usury.....					1							6	131
Vagrancy.....	141	91	158	120	156	188	202	186	112	107	112	143	1,716
Violation excise law.....	6	3	9	9	11	18	16	11	6	10	5	3	107
Violation health ".....	72	125	98	12	51	21	52	52	40	59	49	53	681
" inspection law.....											1		1
" ordinances.....	116	128	205	276	196	193	230	192	155	166	128	149	2,114
" public decency.....		3	4	4									16
" railroad act.....	3	5		2								2	7
" Sunday law.....	13	23	46	12	20	1	3	5	5	2	1		131
Witnesses.....					1					1	1		3
Totals.....	1,776	1,780	2,210	2,225	2,135	2,112	2,329	2,373	2,143	2,214	1,770	1,980	25,832
Landlord and tenant cases.....													987
Grand total.....													26,809
City Hall Police Court.....			8,385										4,100
First District Police Court.....			8,984										5,331—26,809

TABLE B.

Showing the disposition of Persons Arraigned in the District Police Courts of the City of Brooklyn, for the year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Penitentiary.....	100	80	117	116	130	140	183	186	138	122	165	148	1,024
Jail.....	826	904	1,030	1,135	1,175	998	948	996	976	1,031	679	789	11,486
Grand Jury.....	30	31	40	45	65	37	46	65	45	40	44	37	525
Fined.....	276	235	319	297	230	154	199	218	201	195	178	217	2,722
Bonds.....	7	15	18	15	18	26	39	24	23	15	15	10	225
Alms-house.....	12	10	14	15	15	9	10	14	8	10	8	13	138
Inebriate's Home.....	6	6	10	8	9	5	5	7	2	7	2	7	64
House of Good Shepherd.....	11	4	5	6	4	12	5	7	2	4	5	7	72
House of Refuge.....	19	6	6	5	9	9	17	16	16	4	10	5	123
Truant Home.....	7	8	13	16	23	12	4	1	17	13	6	3	123
E. D. Industrial School.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	3
Wayside Home.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Com'rs of Char. and Corrections.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	3	2	9
Dominican Sisters.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
St. John's Home.....	.....	5	4	3	5	2	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	21
St. Malachy's Home.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Society Prev. Cruelty to Children.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	5	.....	6	.....	19
Married.....	3	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	2	12
Forfeited pistol.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4

TABLE B.—Continued.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Sentence suspended.....	213	157	171	184	161	174	293	172	141	143	281	267	2,370
Dismissed.....	247	293	873	815	441	436	480	559	429	505	842	389	4,802
Compromised.....	15	9	25	2	5	9	11	10	14	17	10	9	136
	1,776	1,766	2,103	2,225	2,335	2,038	2,241	2,271	2,013	2,112	1,753	1,908	24,638
City Hall Police Court.....													7,753
First District Police Court.....													8,630
Second District Police Court.....													2,925
Third District Police Court.....													5,928—24,638

TABLE C.

Showing the Amount of Fines and Fees Collected in the District Police Courts of the City of Brooklyn, for the year ending December 31, 1883.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Criminal Cases.....	\$1,207 75	\$1,312 00	\$1,501 00	\$1,481 25	\$1,113 25	\$1,080 50	\$1,313 00	\$1,515 75	\$1,511 25	\$1,450 25	\$1,161 75	\$1,351 00	\$16,335 25
Landlord and Tenant Cases.....	23 00	36 00	35 00	105 00	73 00	59 00	60 00	46 00	59 00	47 00	36 00	32 00	582 00
Total.....	\$1,230 75	\$1,348 00	\$1,536 00	\$1,586 25	\$1,186 25	\$1,139 50	\$1,373 00	\$1,561 75	\$1,570 25	\$1,496 25	\$1,197 75	\$1,383 00	\$17,497 25
Corporation Counsel.....													67 50
Grand Total.....													\$17,564 75
City Hall Police Court.....													\$13,73 25
First District Police Court.....													4,389 00
Second District Police Court.....													8,372 50
Third District Police Court.....													4,940 00—\$17,044 75



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