

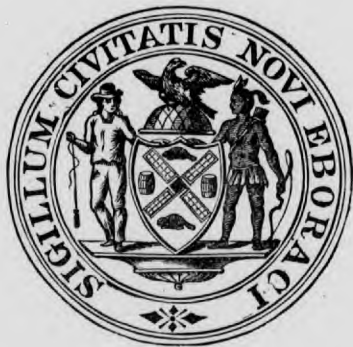
THE CITY RECORD.

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COMMISSIONERS OF THE SINKING FUND.

Proceedings of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund at the Meeting held March 19th, 1885.

Present—Frederick Smyth, Recorder; Edward V. Loew, Comptroller; Henry B. Laidlaw, Chamberlain; and Charles H. Reilly, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen.

In the absence of the Mayor, on motion, the Recorder was appointed Chairman pro tem.

The minutes of the meeting held February 25th, 1885, were approved.

The Comptroller submitted the following reports, viz.:

I.

CITY OF NEW YORK—FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
March 19th, 1885.

To the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund:

GENTLEMEN—In pursuance of the provisions of section 146 of the New York City Consolidation Act of 1882, proposals were invited by public advertisement, for \$1,500,000 "Additional Water Stock of the City of New York," authorized by chapter 490, Laws of 1883, and issued as Registered Stock, payable October 1st, 1904, bearing interest at the rate of three and one-half per centum per annum, payable on the first day of April and November in each year, free from city and county taxation, as provided by section 137 of the Consolidation Act, and an ordinance of the Common Council, approved by the Mayor October 2d, 1880. Proposals for said stock were publicly opened by the Comptroller, in his office, at 2 o'clock P. M., February 26th, 1885, in the presence of Henry B. Laidlaw, Chamberlain, and Charles H. Reilly, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen, as follows, to wit:

Names of Bidders.	Amount of Bids.	Rate of Bid.
J. Jay Nestell	\$100,000 00	\$101 75
"	100,000 00	101 87½
"	100,000 00	102 00
"	100,000 00	102 12½
"	100,000 00	102 25
"	100,000 00	102 37½
"	100,000 00	102 50
"	100,000 00	102 62½
"	100,000 00	102 75
"	100,000 00	102 87½
W. H. Hoople	50,000 00	100 00
Manhattan Savings Institution	500,000 00	102 00
Comptroller of the State of New York	500,000 00	107 35
Peter Cooper Fire Insurance Co.	50,000 00	103 50
"	50,000 00	103 75
"	50,000 00	104 00
Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank	100,000 00	104 05
"	100,000 00	103 95
"	100,000 00	103 85
"	100,000 00	103 75
"	100,000 00	103 65
Metropolitan Trust Co.	50,000 00	100 62½
Dime Savings Bank, Brooklyn	200,000 00	102 52
"	200,000 00	102 76
"	100,000 00	103 53
"	100,000 00	103 76
"	100,000 00	104 02
"	100,000 00	104 51
J. F. Mahoney & Co.	50,000 00	102 65
"	50,000 00	102 75
"	50,000 00	102 85
"	50,000 00	102 95
Robert Winthrop & Co.	500,000 00	103 55
"	500,000 00	103 05
"	500,000 00	102 55
Higgins & Cox, attorneys	50,000 00	102 00
"	50,000 00	102 12½
"	50,000 00	102 25
Kuhn, Loeb & Co.	250,000 00	102 52
"	250,000 00	102 63
"	250,000 00	102 76
"	250,000 00	102 88
"	250,000 00	103 02
"	250,000 00	103 12
"	250,000 00	102 91
or for all		
Daniel A. Moran	250,000 00	105 10
"	250,000 00	105 16
"	250,000 00	105 26
"	250,000 00	105 39

Names of Bidders.	Amount of Bids.	Rate of Bid.
Daniel A. Moran	\$250,000 00	\$105 54
"	150,000 00	106 13
"	100,000 00	107 02
Moller & Co.	100,000 00	103 00
"	100,000 00	103 12
"	100,000 00	103 25
"	100,000 00	103 50
"	100,000 00	103 60
"	100,000 00	103 75
"	100,000 00	103 90
"	100,000 00	104 12
"	100,000 00	104 19
"	100,000 00	104 23
"	100,000 00	104 25
"	100,000 00	104 27
"	100,000 00	104 29
"	100,000 00	104 31
"	100,000 00	104 33
Vermilye & Co., Blake Bros. & Co., George K. Sistare's Sons	1,500,000 00	104 17
Total	\$11,400,000 00	

The said stock was awarded to the highest bidders with the approval of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund present at the opening of the proposals, as follows:

Names of Bidders.	Amount of Stock Awarded.	Rate of Bid.
Comptroller of the State of New York	\$500,000 00	\$107 35
Daniel A. Moran	100,000 00	107 02
"	150,000 00	106 13
"	250,000 00	105 54
"	250,000 00	105 39
"	250,000 00	105 26
Total	\$1,500,000 00	

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD V. LOEW, Comptroller.

The report was accepted, and ordered on file.

II.

CITY OF NEW YORK—FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
March 19th, 1885.

To the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund:

GENTLEMEN—Herewith I present a communication from the Commissioner of Public Works, requesting the modification of a resolution adopted February 5th, authorizing a lease of premises for the use of that Department, between Thirty-second and Thirty-third streets, First avenue and East river, and I submit a resolution for that purpose.

Respectfully,

EDWARD V. LOEW, Comptroller.

Resolved, That the Counsel to the Corporation be and is hereby requested to prepare a lease of a yard having a dock frontage of fifty feet and extending back sixty feet, situated between Thirty-second and Thirty-third streets, First avenue and East river, to be used for the storage of sand and other materials required for pavement repairs, by and for the use of the Department of Public Works for the term of six months, from May 15th, 1885, to November 15th, 1885, at a rental of three hundred dollars (\$300), payable monthly; and the Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to execute such lease when prepared by the Counsel to the Corporation, pursuant to sections 123 and 181 of the New York City Consolidation Act of 1882; and the resolution authorizing a lease of the same premises, adopted February 6th, 1885, is hereby rescinded.

The report was accepted, and, on motion, the resolution was unanimously adopted, all the Commissioners present voting in the affirmative.

[Application submitted with the report.]

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS—COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
No. 31 CHAMBERS STREET,
NEW YORK, March 14th, 1885.

Hon. WM. R. GRACE, Mayor, and Chairman Commissioners of the Sinking Fund:

SIR—On the application of this Department the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund authorized the lease of a "yard between Thirty-second and Thirty-third streets, First avenue and East river, to be used for the storage of sand and other material required for pavement repairs, from May 15th to November 15th, 1885. Joseph Dawes, No. 370 East Thirty-third street, lessor; rental, \$300, for six months, payable monthly."

The space required by the Department, and which can be had from the lessor at the rental named, is not the entire yard, but a space having a dock frontage of fifty feet, and extending back sixty feet; and I would ask that the resolution giving authority to make the lease be modified so as to apply to the space so described.

Very respectfully,

D. LOWBER SMITH, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works.

III.

CITY OF NEW YORK—FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
March 19th, 1885.

To the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund:

GENTLEMEN—I present herewith an application of the Board of Police, requesting the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to authorize a lease of the premises No. 34 East Twenty-ninth street, for use as a station-house, lodging-house and prison for the Twenty-fifth Police Precinct, for one year from May 1st, 1885, at the yearly rent of \$1,500 and taxes, assessments and Croton water rents, with the covenants and conditions of a lease of the premises which expires May 1st, 1885, and the privilege of renewing the lease for one year from May 1st, 1886, at the annual rent of \$2,000 on the same conditions.

The rent of the lease for one year from May 1st, 1885, is the same as that under an old lease of the premises from May 1st, 1870, to May 1st, 1885, which I consider fair and reasonable.

A resolution is submitted to authorize a lease of the premises accordingly.

Respectfully,

EDWARD V. LOEW, Comptroller.

Resolved, That the Counsel to the Corporation be requested to prepare a lease to the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New York of the premises No. 34 East Twenty-ninth street, for the use of the Police Department as a station-house, lodging-house and prison for the Twenty-fifth Police Precinct, for the term of one year from the first day of May, 1885, at the yearly rent of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) and taxes, assessments and Croton water rents, with the covenants and conditions of the old lease of said premises (the said rental being deemed fair and reasonable; also that it would be for the interests of the city that such lease of said premises should be made), with the privilege and option of the lessee to renew and further extend the said lease for a further term of one year from the first day of May, 1886, at the annual rent of two thousand dollars (\$2,000), with the same covenants and conditions; provided that notice be given to the lessor by the Board of Police on or before February 1st, 1886, of their intention to renew and further extend said lease for one year at such increased rental of two thousand dollars (\$2,000); and the Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to execute such lease when the same is prepared and approved by the Counsel to the Corporation, as provided by sections 123 and 181 of the New York City Consolidation Act of 1882.

The report was accepted, and, on motion, the resolution was unanimously adopted, all the Commissioners present voting in the affirmative.

[Application submitted with the report.]

POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK,
No. 300 MULBERRY STREET,
NEW YORK, March 17th, 1885.

The Honorable Commissioners of the Sinking Fund:

GENTLEMEN—At a meeting of the Board of Police held this day, the resolution adopted and forwarded to your office March 6th, 1885, is amended to read as follows:

Resolved, That in pursuance of section 181 of the Laws of 1882, application is hereby made to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to authorize the lease of premises No. 34 East Twenty-ninth street, for the purposes of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New York (for the Board of Police of the Police Department of the City of New York), as a station-house, lodging-house and prison, for the Twenty-fifth Police Precinct, for one year, from May 1st, 1885, at the yearly rent of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500), and taxes, assessments and Croton water rents, with the covenants and conditions of the old lease of said premises, and the privilege of renewing the said lease for a further term of one year from the first day of May, 1886, at the annual rent of two thousand dollars (\$2,000), and taxes, assessments and Croton water rents, and the same covenants and conditions; provided, that notice be given to the lessor by the Board of Police on or before February 1st, 1886, of their intention to renew and further extend said lease for one year at such increased rental of two thousand dollars (\$2,000).

Very respectfully,

WM. H. KIPP, Chief Clerk.

IV.

CITY OF NEW YORK—FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
March 19th, 1885.

To the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund:

GENTLEMEN—The block of land between Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth streets and the Third and Lexington avenues belongs to the city, and certain portions or plots have been set apart for public purposes to the Board of Education and the Fire and the Police Departments, as shown by a diagram herewith submitted.

Other portions of this block are unappropriated and vacant, and on the Third avenue a poor class of buildings have been erected by lessees of the land without authority under their leases. All of them came into possession of the city a few years ago by the ejection of the lessee from the premises, excepting two houses on the corner of Sixty-eighth street, which were built by the present tenant, and must be removed on the termination of his lease or be forfeited to the city.

The buildings, excepting those referred to on the corner of Sixty-eighth street, are only one-story brick buildings, and are inferior in character and mean in appearance. All the leases from the city of these buildings to separate tenants will expire on the first of May next.

The total amount of rent received by the city is \$4,770, which is a very small revenue considering the value of the land and the city's loss of taxes, from which the premises are exempt as city property. Expenses for repairs of drains, pavements, etc., are also incurred by the city, and the collection of the rents is troublesome and somewhat precarious.

Besides these drawbacks upon this property as now occupied and leased by the city, it is said that the inferior character of the buildings and shops has a prejudicial influence upon the property in that vicinity, depreciating its value and preventing valuable improvements. Not only private owners are damaged, but the city is deprived of taxes which would be largely increased upon enhanced values, if the whole neighborhood were improved by the erection of good buildings for stores and dwellings.

There is a vacant plot of land fronting seventy feet on Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth streets, between the rear line of the lots on Third avenue and the plot of land appropriated to the Fire Department.

The question now presented for the consideration of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund is, what shall be done with the land and buildings fronting on Third avenue, including the vacant plot in the rear, to promote and secure the best interests of the city?

1. Shall the buildings on Third avenue be leased again for a short term to the same or other tenants as shops?

2. Shall the property be sold with or without the vacant land in the rear of the lots on the Third avenue.

3. Or shall the land be leased on ground rent, either in single lots or in plots, for as long a term as the law permits, with covenants for renewals at the termination of the lease, at rents to be then fixed by appraisement?

It seems to me unadvisable to continue the leasing of the buildings on Third avenue to separate tenants to be occupied as shops, and that it would be better for the interests of the city as well as the owners of private property in the vicinity, to sell the land, or to lease it, if possible, in such manner that it would be properly improved and pay the city an adequate ground rent for the value of the land, and taxes, assessments and water rents.

I have conferred with a number of disinterested persons competent to judge of the best course to pursue in the interest of the city, and, after giving the subject careful consideration, I have concluded that the best course is to lease the land in one or more parcels under conditions that the lessor or lessors shall improve the property by the erection of suitable buildings thereon.

With this view a resolution is now submitted for the consideration and action of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, to authorize the leasing of the lots fronting on Third avenue, with the vacant plot of land in their rear fronting on Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth streets.

Respectfully,

EDWARD V. LOEW, Comptroller.

Resolved, That pursuant to the provisions of section 170 of the New York City Consolidation Act of 1882, the Comptroller be and is hereby authorized and directed to lease by sealed bids, upon terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned, after public advertisement and appraisal, all that certain real estate belonging to the Corporation of the City of New York, situated on Block 359½ in the Nineteenth Ward of said city, and designated on a map drawn by Eugene McLean, City Surveyor, as follows:

Plot A.—Eight lots of land fronting on Third avenue, designated by the numbers 1 to 8, inclusive. Lot number 1, on the northwest corner of Third avenue and Sixty-seventh street, and lot

number 8, on the southwest corner and Sixty-eighth street, are each 25 feet 5 inches front and rear and 100 feet deep; and lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 are each 25 feet front and rear and 100 feet deep.

Plot B.—Three vacant lots of land fronting on East Sixty-eighth street, designated by the numbers 9, 10 and 11. Lot number 9 is 20 feet front and rear and 100 feet 5 inches deep; and lots numbers 10 and 11 are each 25 feet front and rear and 100 feet 5 inches deep.

Plot C.—Three vacant lots fronting on East Sixty-seventh street, designated by the numbers 12, 13 and 14. Lots numbers 12 and 13 are each 25 feet front and rear and 100 feet 5 inches deep; and lot number 14 is 20 feet front and rear and 100 feet 5 inches deep.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE.

By sealed bids or proposals for the payment of a yearly ground rent for single lots or either of the plots of land above designated and described. Leases are to be awarded to the highest responsible bidders, for the term of ten years from the first day of May, 1885, with covenants for renewal at their termination, for a further period of ten years, at a rent to be then fixed by appraisement. The buildings now erected upon the lots fronting on Third avenue shall be removed by the lessees, who shall improve the premises leased to them respectively, within one year from the date of the lease, by the erection thereon of suitable buildings for purposes to be approved by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, the plans and specifications to be submitted to them before the commencement of the work of erection.

In addition to the ground rent the lessees shall also pay taxes, assessments and water rents. A form of lease containing all the covenants and conditions shall be filed in the Comptroller's office.

The successful bidder will be required to pay twenty-five (25) per cent. of the amount of yearly rent bid by him when the award is made, and at the same time an obligation shall be executed by two sureties, to be approved by the Comptroller, for carrying into effect the terms of the sale.

The amount so paid will be credited on the first quarter's rent, or will be forfeited if the lessee and his sureties do not execute the lease and bond for the faithful performance of its covenants, within fifteen days after the date of the award of the lease to him; and the Comptroller shall be authorized at his option to lease the premises awarded to the bidders so failing to comply with the terms of sale, in the same manner and upon the same conditions, and the party so failing to comply shall be liable for any deficiency that may result from such resale of a lease of the said premises.

No bid shall be accepted from, nor shall a lease be awarded to, any person who is in arrears to the Corporation, upon debt or contract, or who is a defaulter as surety or otherwise upon any obligation to the Corporation, nor shall such person be received as surety on the lease.

The lessees will be required to give a bond for double the amount of the annual rent, with two sureties, to be approved by the Comptroller, conditioned for the payment of the rent quarter-yearly, and the fulfillment on their part of the covenants of the lease.

The right is reserved to reject any bid and to award a lease for single lots or for a plot of the land, as may be deemed by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund most advantageous for the interests of the city.

The report was accepted, and, on motion, the resolution was unanimously adopted, all the Commissioners present voting in the affirmative.

The Comptroller submitted the following applications, duly approved by the Commissioner of Public Works and the Receiver of Taxes, made for the refunding of Croton water rent paid in error, viz:

The Commissioner of Public Works—

Cornelius O'Reilly, agent.....	\$5 00
L. Diem.....	5 00
H. A. Dubois.....	8 00
William H. Allec, agent.....	16 00
William I. Preston.....	263 20

The Receiver of Taxes—

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Merrill.....	14 35
Total.....	\$311 55

Whereupon the following resolution, submitted by the Comptroller, was, on motion, unanimously adopted, all the Commissioners present voting in the affirmative:

Resolved, That a warrant for three hundred and eleven dollars and fifty-five cents (\$311.55), payable from the "Sinking Fund for the Payment of Interest on the City Debt," be drawn in favor of the Chamberlain for deposit in the City Treasury to credit of "Croton Water Rent—Refunding Account," for refunding Croton water rents paid in error, as per statement herewith.

The petition of "Benjamin A. Hegeman, executor and trustee, etc., for release from the City of New York of land between high and low water in the City of Brooklyn," was received, and, on motion, referred to the Comptroller.

An application of F. Fröhlich, for permission "to make an experiment with a fire-extinguishing powder, invented by him, on the ungraded plot of land adjoining Gansevoort Market," was received, and, on motion, was referred to the Comptroller with power.

The Recorder submitted the following presentment of the Grand Jury for February, 1885, to whom was referred the presentment of the Grand Jury made at the Term of 1882:

To the Honorable FREDERICK SMYTH, Recorder, etc.:

The Grand Jury for February Term, 1885, to whom your Honor referred the presentment of the Grand Jury made at the May Term, 1882, with the accompanying testimony, which had been taken at that time as to the deplorable and unsafe condition of the "Hall of Records," and as to its being also an inconvenient depository of the records of the real estate titles in the City of New York, and of bonds, mortgages, assignments, leases, chattel mortgages, powers of attorney, etc.

This Grand Jury has made a personal inspection of the "Hall of Records" and find the building to be wholly inadequate, unsafe and inconvenient for the purposes of the Register. That it is ill lighted and ventilated and badly calculated for the proper transaction of business.

HISTORY OF THE BUILDING.

The building was erected in 1756, as a Debtors' Prison, from the proceeds of a lottery, and was used as such until 1830, when the prisoners were transferred to Bridewell, then standing between the City Hall and Broadway, and this building was ordered to be prepared for a "Hall of Records." Its first use after the alterations were made was a Cholera Hospital, in the year 1832, and afterwards as a "Hall of Records." It afforded protection, under command of Baron Steuben, to the doctors in the celebrated "Doctors' Riot."

THE RECORDS AND THE VALUES REPRESENTED.

The assessed valuation of the taxable real estate in the City and County of New York is nearly \$1,120,000,000, about two-thirds of its market value. In the language of the former presentment, this does not include the parks, the public buildings and the piers and wharves belonging to the corporation, nor the market-houses, school-houses, engine-houses, asylums, hospitals, prisons, etc. It is estimated that there are mortgages upon real estate recorded to the extent of \$500,000,000, and chattel mortgages, assignments, leases, powers of attorney, releases and other valuable papers representing fully \$500,000,000 more, making a total in valuation of say (\$3,000,000,000) three thousand million dollars.

These records and files are of the most valuable character. Their mutilation or destruction in whole or in part would entail a loss upon the city and individual citizens, corporations and moneyed institutions of an incalculable amount.

We find therefore, and present it as for the best interests of the city and every citizen, that those records and papers shall be placed in an absolutely fire-proof building, built of granite and iron, in the most substantial manner, on the most approved plan, with all modern improvements, safeguards and conveniences for those who have the custody or charge of, or have occasion to examine, the records.

UNSAFE AND INADEQUATE.

The old Hall of Records, besides being unsafe and inadequate in size and inconvenient as to arrangements, stands directly opposite the entrance to the Brooklyn Bridge.

For that reason alone it should be removed, and the angle of the street there might be cut off and widened about thirty feet and allow a straight and wide foot-path to be made from Broadway to the Bridge, passing between the City Hall and the New Court-house.

THE FUNDS FOR A NEW BUILDING.

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund are the official representatives and custodians of the property of the Corporation of the City and County of New York, and it is one of their duties to provide adequately, not only for its safety and protection, but, among other things, to provide suitable buildings and accommodations for the several courts authorized by law, and the means whereby their records may be securely and conveniently kept; to provide offices, buildings or quarters for all the public officers of the several Departments of the City and County of New York, and for their records, and to provide for the keeping of all the public records of the City and County of New York.

In the exercise of these functions from time to time, the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have rented from private parties, and repaired and fitted-up for temporary use, old buildings or quarters in different parts of the city for several of the departments, instead of capitalizing such rentals, and with the proceeds build a new building or buildings in the City Hall Park suitable for the purpose desired.

In 1882 the city was paying \$40,750 to private parties for offices illy adapted to the wants of the several departments, viz.:

Department of Public Works, No. 31 Chambers street	\$12,500 00
Counsel to Corporation, Staats Zeitung Building.....	7,500 00
Department Taxes and Assessments, Staats Zeitung Building.....	8,000 00
Department Taxes and Assessments, No. 27 Chambers street.....	850 00
Department of Public Works, No. 30 Union Square.....	2,500 00
Department of Docks, Nos. 117 and 119 Duane street.....	6,000 00
Board of Excise, No. 330 Bowery.....	2,100 00
Department of Street Cleaning.....	1,300 00
Total	\$40,750 00

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have acted upon the theory that they had not the power to erect a new building to meet even the actual wants and necessities of the city, and, therefore, have rented or leased private property and fitted it up at considerable expense for the purpose required.

The Grand Jury of May Term, 1882, found and presented that the amount then paid for the outside rentals above named, if capitalized at four per cent. would be \$1,000,000, a sum estimated by Mr. Comptroller Campbell to be sufficient to construct a municipal fire-proof building of granite and iron, on the south side of Chambers street, between the New Court-house and Centre street, two hundred feet long by one hundred and fifty feet wide, four stories high, with a basement and cellar, which would not only furnish ample quarters for those several Departments then accommodated in private buildings, but would have given free of additional cost, commodious accommodations for the Register's office, and all branches of the Finance Department of the City and County of New York then occupying a considerable portion of the New Court-house, and depriving some of the courts of their necessary quarters and excluding the County Clerk from rooms and offices on the first floor of the building so necessary to him for the safe and convenient keeping of the early and current records and files of the court.

That the jury also found and presented that the Surrogate's office was too cramped for room for its valuable records, and that it could only be relieved from its pressure when the Comptroller should vacate the rooms in the New Court-house then occupied by him, but which were originally intended for the Surrogate's records and offices.

The Comptroller's offices, in part, have been removed to the "Stewart Building," corner of Broadway and Chambers street, where a rental of from \$35,000 to \$40,000 per annum is paid for the second floor alone.

This rental capitalized at four per cent. would be \$1,000,000.

For the Aqueduct Commissioners, the Commissioner of Jurors and the Commissioners of Accounts, the city is paying large amounts as rentals for offices. Altogether, the city is paying well on to \$100,000 in outside rentals of offices for departments and commissioners that ought to be in a municipal building or buildings in the City Hall Park, where the city owns the ground, upon which it would be great economy and benefit to the city to have commodious municipal buildings erected.

THE TAX RECEIVER'S OFFICE.

This office should at the earliest possible moment be removed from its present locality, as a matter of safety to citizens and convenience to the criminal courts and the District Attorney. The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund should provide offices where the taxpayers, many of them ladies, in going to pay their taxes would not be compelled to enter the same doors, side by side with gangs of criminals who are brought to the courts for trial in the very same building. The courts and District Attorney need the room now occupied by the Receiver of Taxes for the proper administration of justice, and the Receiver of Taxes needs other quarters for safety and protection. This is another crying need for a municipal building—and we so present.

"MUNICIPAL BUILDING."

We find and present that the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund do capitalize the said outside rentals paid for offices occupied by departments, commissioners, and others into bonds of the City and County of New York bearing interest not exceeding four per cent. per annum, and from the proceeds thereof erect a thoroughly fire-proof building or buildings of stone and iron in "City Hall Park" on the southerly side of Chambers street, to be known as "Municipal Buildings," which will, when completed, properly accommodate the Register and all his offices and officers for the safe protection and careful and convenient use of the public having business there. The building at the same time shall give space for all the bureaus or branches of the Finance Department and the several public offices now accommodated by rentals of private property elsewhere; and we recommend and present that its extreme cost shall be limited to the proceeds of the bonds or the amount of taxation capitalizing said rentals at four per cent. or less. We are confident that this capitalization would be under \$2,500,000, exclusive of the ground, which is now owned by the city and is well adapted for the purposes named. Two buildings, one at each end of the New Court-house, could be erected for that amount of money, well adapted to the wants of this great and growing city, if honestly expended.

As the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have doubted their authority to designate sites on which to erect and to proceed to erect such buildings as here contemplated—this Grand Jury has drafted a bill to be sent to the Legislature for enactment, giving the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund the power and authority to act in the premises as therein provided.

The Grand Jury for the May Term of 1882 called twenty-six witnesses, whose testimony was reduced to writing, a copy of which is appended to and made part of this presentment and we recommend that permission be given for its publication.

The names of the witnesses are, Charles Donohue, Judge of the Supreme Court; W. R. Grace, Mayor of New York; Allan Campbell, Comptroller of New York; H. O. Thompson, Commissioner of Public Works; Augustus T. Docharty, Register; William A. Butler, County Clerk; George H. Sheldon, Fire Marshal; William P. Esterbrook, Inspector of Buildings; Thomas H. McAvoy, Superintendent Repairs and Supplies; John McClave, Chairman Finance Committee Board of Aldermen; John J. Gorman, President Fire Department; M. B. Wilson, Superintendent Fire Insurance Patrol; James Harrison, Superintendent Surveys Board of Underwriters; W. G. Steinmetz, Architect and Engineer; R. G. Rolston, President Farmers' Loan and Trust Company; William H. Beers, Vice-President New York Life Insurance Company; H. B. Hyde, President Equitable Life Insurance Company; O. H. Palmer, Law Officer Mutual Life Insurance Company; Henry Parish, President New York Life Insurance and Trust Company; Edward Wood, President Bowery Savings Bank; J. Nelson Tappan, City Chamberlain; D. G. Rollins, Surrogate; John A. Stewart, President United States Trust Company; Frederick Smyth, Recorder of the City of New York; R. B. Cowing, City Judge; Henry A. Gildersleeve, Judge of the Court of General Sessions.

With thanks to the District Attorney for his attention, and the Court for its indulgence, respectfully presented.

NEW YORK, February 28, 1885.

J. LAWRENCE MCKEEVER, Secretary.

OLIVER K. KING, Foreman.

AN ACT to provide for the erection or purchase of a municipal building, or buildings, in the City of New York, and to provide for the removal of public buildings therein rendered unnecessary by such erection or purchase.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The commissioners of the sinking fund of the City of New York are hereby authorized and empowered to select and locate a site or sites in the City Hall Park upon which to erect a building or buildings for municipal purposes, which building or buildings shall include suitable space for the register's office of the said City and County of New York, and also suitable space for such departments and officers of the City Government as said commissioners may deem requisite, necessary and convenient for the transaction of the official business of said city and county, and may employ an architect and clerks, whose compensation shall be fixed by said commissioners, to make or cause plans and specifications for such building or buildings to be prepared and submitted to said commissioners of the sinking fund for approval. When said commissioners or a

majority of them shall have approved said plan or plans and the specifications thereof, and shall decide to proceed with the work, or any part thereof, they may direct that said work shall be executed. They shall publicly advertise for proposals for the erection, in whole or in part, of such building or buildings, and for the doing of all work and the supply of all materials necessary for the completion of the same for use and occupation. The forms of all contracts for which proposals are so invited shall first be approved by said commissioners of the sinking fund or a majority of them before advertisement thereof, and the work of erecting and completing for occupancy said building or buildings may be distributed into as many different contracts as in the opinion of said commissioners will best promote the public interests. Such advertisements shall be inserted in the CITY RECORD, and in at least three of the public newspapers in the City of New York, to be selected by said commissioners, and shall be continued therein for at least ten consecutive days. All bids or proposals received in response to such advertisement shall be publicly opened by and in the presence of the commissioners of the sinking fund or a majority of them and they may select the bid or proposal, the acceptance of which will, in their judgment, best secure the efficient performance of the work, or they may reject any or all of such bids. The general provisions of law as to public contracts in the City of New York contained in sections fifty-nine, sixty-four, and sixty-five of chapter four hundred and ten of the laws of eighteen hundred and eighty-two, entitled "An act to consolidate into one act and to declare the special and local laws affecting public interests in the City of New York," shall apply to all contracts for the erection of said buildings, and the completion thereof for occupation, except as otherwise in this act provided. Said contracts when awarded shall be executed under the direction of the commissioners of the sinking fund, on behalf of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New York.

Sec. 2. The said contracts when executed shall be carried out according to their terms under the direction and supervision of the architect in the employ of the commissioners of the sinking fund. In case any work shall be abandoned by any contractor, and the said architect shall so certify in writing to the commissioners of the sinking fund, notice shall be given by said last-named commissioners to his sureties, and if the sureties fail to continue the performance of the work according to said contract, it shall be readvertised and relet by the said commissioners of the sinking fund in the same manner as hereinbefore designated, and the said contractor and his sureties so failing to perform said contract or contracts, shall be jointly and severally liable for any and all loss or damage caused by their failure to complete the contract entered into by them as contractor or surety.

Sec. 3. The said commissioners of the sinking fund, or a majority of them may, in their discretion, purchase, in the manner and for the purposes heretofore in the first section of this act designated, a building or buildings actually erected at the date of purchase and the land on which the same may stand. In case such building or buildings shall, in the opinion of said commissioners, or a majority of them, need any alterations or additions to adapt it or them to such purposes, the work of making such alterations or additions shall be done by contract in the manner prescribed by sections two and three of this act.

Sec. 4. The commissioners of the sinking fund, or a majority of them, are hereby authorized to direct the comptroller of the City of New York to issue bonds or stocks of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New York from time to time, to be known as "Municipal Building Bonds," redeemable in not less than ten or more than twenty years from the date of issue, in such amounts as shall be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. And the mayor and comptroller of said City of New York are hereby authorized and directed to sign said bonds, which shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding four per cent. per annum, and shall not be disposed of at less than the par value thereof; and it shall be the duty of the clerk of the common council of said city to countersign the same and affix the seal of the city thereto, and the proper authorities of the City and County of New York are hereby authorized and directed to cause to be raised from time to time upon the estate, real and personal, subject to taxation in the City and County of New York, the sum of money which may be required to pay the interest on said bonds and redeem them at maturity (or the board of estimate and apportionment may, in its discretion, cause the cost of the said building or buildings, and of the alterations thereof and additions thereto, or any part thereof, to be inserted in the annual tax levies).

Sec. 5. Whenever by reason of the removal of any public officer or officers, department or departments to quarters assigned to him, them or it, to any building or buildings erected or purchased under this act, any building now standing on land the property of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City and County of New York shall become vacant, and its further continuance in the opinion of the said commissioners of the sinking fund unnecessary, said commissioners of the sinking fund or a majority of them may direct the commissioner of public works to remove the same either by contract, by sale thereof, or in any other way, as in the opinion of said commissioners of the sinking fund may be for the best interests of the city. Nothing herein contained, however, shall be construed to authorize the removal of the buildings now standing in the City Hall Park, and known as the "City Hall" and the "New Court-house."

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

[Presentment of the Grand Jury made at the May Term, 1882, submitted with the foregoing.]

Presentment of the Grand Jury at the Close of May Term, 1882.

To the Honorable FREDERICK SMYTH, Recorder:

* * * * *

HALL OF RECORDS.

The Grand Jury had its attention called to the unsafe condition of the Hall of Records, and as an inconvenient depository of the records of real estate titles in the City and County of New York, and of bonds, mortgages, assignments, leases, chattel mortgages, powers of attorney, etc., etc., etc., etc.

We made a personal inspection of the building, accompanied by the District Attorney, the Mayor, the Recorder, Mr. Justice Donohue, the Register, and other officials. We found the building to be wholly inadequate, unsafe and inconvenient for the purposes of a "Hall of Records," is illy lighted and ventilated, and is badly calculated for the proper transaction of business.

The building was erected in 1756, as a Debtors' Prison, from the proceeds of a lottery, and was used as such until 1830, when the prisoners were transferred to Bridewell, then standing between the City Hall and Broadway, and this building was ordered to be prepared for a "Hall of Records." Its first use after the alterations were made was a Cholera Hospital, in the year 1832, and afterwards as a "Hall of Records." It afforded protection, under command of Baron Steuben, to the doctors in the celebrated "Doctors' Riot."

The assessed valuation of the taxable real estate in the City and County of New York is \$976,000,000, probably about two-thirds of its average market value. This does not include the parks, the public buildings and the piers and wharves belonging to the corporation, nor the market-houses, school-houses, engine-houses, asylums, hospitals, prisons, and so forth. It is estimated that there are mortgages upon real estate recorded to the extent of \$500,000,000, and chattel mortgages, assignments, leases, powers of attorney, releases and other valuable papers representing fully \$500,000,000 more, making a total in valuation of say (\$3,000,000,000) three thousand million dollars.

These records and files are of the most valuable character. Their mutilation or destruction in whole or in part would entail a loss upon the city and individual citizens, corporations and moneyed institutions of an incalculable amount; we find therefore, and present it as for the best interests of the city and every citizen, that these records and papers shall be placed in an absolute fire-proof building, built of granite and iron, in the most substantial manner, on the most approved plan with all modern improvements, safeguards and conveniences for those who have the custody or charge of, or have occasion to examine, the records.

The old Hall of Records, besides being unsafe and inadequate in size and inconvenient as to arrangements, stands directly opposite the entrance to the Brooklyn Bridge—for that reason alone it should be removed, and the angle of the street there might be cut off and widened about thirty feet, and allow a straight and wide foot-path to be made from Broadway to the Bridge, passing between the City Hall and the New Court-house.

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund are the official representatives and custodians of the property of the Corporation of the City and County of New York, and it is one of their duties to provide adequately, not only for its safety and protection, but among other things to provide suitable buildings and accommodations for the several courts authorized by law, and the means whereby their records may be securely and conveniently kept; to provide offices, buildings or quarters for all the public officers of the several Departments of the City and County of New York and for their records; and to provide for the keeping of all the public records of the City and County of New York.

In the exercise of these functions from time to time, the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have rented from private parties and repaired and fitted-up for temporary use old buildings or quarters in different parts of the city for several of the departments, instead of capitalizing such rentals and with the proceeds build a new building in City Hall Park, suitable for the purposes desired. At the present time the Comptroller is paying \$40,750 to private parties for offices illy adapted to the wants of the several departments, as follows, viz.:

For—1st. Department of Public Works, No. 31 Chambers street.....	\$12,500 00
2d. Counsel to the Corporation, Staats Zeitung Building.....	7,500 00
3d. Department of Taxes and Assessments, Staats Zeitung Building.....	8,000 00
4th. Department of Taxes and Assessments, No. 27 Chambers street.....	850 00
5th. Department of Public Parks, No. 36 Union Square.....	2,500 00
6th. Department of Docks, Nos. 117 and 119 Duane street.....	6,000 00
7th. Board of Excise, No. 330 Bowery.....	2,100 00
8th. Department of Street Cleaning.....	1,300 00
Total.....	\$40,750 00

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have acted upon the theory that they have not the power to erect a new building to meet even the actual wants and necessities of the city, and therefore have rented or leased private property and fitted it up at considerable expense for the purposes required. This theory is wrong in fact and in economy. We find and present, that the amount now paid for outside rentals above named, if capitalized at four per cent., would be \$1,000,000, a sum estimated by Mr. Comptroller Campbell to be sufficient to construct a municipal fire-proof building of granite and iron, on the south side of Chambers street, between the New Court-house and Centre street, 200 feet long by 150 feet wide, four stories high, with a basement and cellar, which would not only furnish ample quarters for those several departments now accommodated in private buildings, but would give, free from additional cost, commodious accommodations for the Hall of Records, and all branches of the Finance Department of the City and County of New York now occupying a considerable portion of the New Court-house and depriving some of the Courts of necessary quarters, and excluding the County Clerk from rooms and offices on the first floor of the building, so necessary to him for the safe and convenient keeping of the early and current records and files of the Courts.

The Surrogate's office is also too cramped for its valuable records, and can only be relieved when the Comptroller vacates the rooms now occupied by him, which were originally intended for such records and offices. The same may be said of the unsafe condition of the records of the General Sessions, the old Mayor's Court and the Recorder's office.

We find and present, that the Sinking Fund Commissioners do capitalize the said outside rentals heretofore specified, viz.: \$40,750 into four per cent. bonds of the City and County of New York, and from the proceeds thereof cause to be constructed forthwith a fire-proof building, to be built of iron and granite, four stories high, with a basement and cellar 200 feet long by a 150 feet wide, on the south side of Chambers, between the new Court-house and Centre street, to be known as "Municipal Hall," which shall properly accommodate the Hall of Records, the Finance Department and all its branches, and the several public offices now accommodated by rentals of private property, and we recommend that its extreme cost shall be limited to the proceeds of the sale of said bonds, exclusive of the ground, as that already belongs to the city, and when said "Municipal Hall" shall be completed, the Comptroller shall withdraw from the New Court-house, and the rooms and offices now occupied by the Finance Department shall be refitted for the Courts as originally intended, and the Clerk of the County, the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, the Recorder's, City Judge's, and the Judge of the Court and General Sessions Chambers, and the District Attorney's office.

The following-named witnesses were called before the Grand Jury, their testimony as to the unsafe condition of the Hall of Records and its inadequacy for the prompt transaction of business, and as to the unsafe condition of the records and files in the County Clerk's, Surrogate's, and the Court of General Sessions offices, has been reduced to writing, and is herewith submitted and forms a part of this presentation and we recommend that permission be given for its publication:

Charles Donohue, Judge of the Supreme Court; W. R. Grace, Mayor of New York; Allan Campbell, Comptroller of New York; H. O. Thompson, Commissioner of Public Works; Augustus T. Docharty, Register; Wm. A. Butler, County Clerk; Geo. H. Sheldon, Fire Marshal; Wm. P. Esterbrook, Inspector of Buildings; Thos. H. McAvoy, Superintendent Repairs and Supplies; John McClave, Chairman Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen; John J. Gorman, President Fire Department; M. B. Wilson, Superintendent Fire Insurance Patrol; Jas. Harrison, Superintendent of Surveys, Board of Underwriters; W. G. Steinmetz, Architect and Engineer; R. G. Rolston, President Farmers' Loan and Trust Company; Wm. H. Beers, Vice-President New York Life Insurance Company; H. B. Hyde, President Equitable Life Insurance Company; O. H. Palmer, Law Officer of Mutual Life Insurance Company; Henry Parish, President New York Life Insurance and Trust Company; Edward Wood, President Bowery Savings Bank; J. Nelson Tappan, City Chamberlain; D. G. Rollins, Surrogate; John A. Stewart, President United States Trust Company; Frederick Smyth, Recorder of the City of New York; R. B. Cowing, City Judge; Henry A. Gildersleeve, Judge of the Court of General Sessions.

With thanks to the District Attorney for his attention, and the Court for its indulgences,

Respectfully presented,

SIMON STEVENS, Foreman.

NEW YORK, June 1st, 1882.

Charles Donohue, being duly sworn and asked as to the condition of the Hall of Records, and the necessity of any provision for the records or their present safety, says:

The building now used is wholly inadequate for that purpose. The records are no way safe against fire; the walls of the building are strong and fire-proof, but the rooms are badly calculated for the proper transaction of business; being ill ventilated and lighted, making it necessary to use artificial light, and the cases in which the records are placed being wooden and easily combustible, and the room for the records giving no means of examination to the lawyers or protection in their use against mutilation or destruction.

A building calculated for that purpose should be large, well ventilated and well lighted, so that all books when in use, either by employees or those examining the records, should be under proper surveillance of persons who should see that they are not tampered with, there being neither room nor the character of the rooms in the present building sufficient for that purpose.

The building was originally erected as a debtor's prison, about 1756, on the proceeds of a lottery, and was used as a debtor's prison until about 1830, when prisoners were transferred to the Bridewell, then standing between the City Hall and Broadway, and this building ordered to be prepared for a Hall of Records. Its first use in 1832 after such a change was as a cholera hospital, and then as a Hall of Records. Its history may be found in the Manual of the Corporation for 1855, pages 434 and 473; in Booth's History of New York, pages 425 and 624; Stone's History of New York, page 468 and appendix; also, Blunt's Strangers' Guide, 1817, page 119; Hardy's Description of New York, 1827, page 189, and Goodrich's Picture of New York, page 451. It also afforded protection, under the command of Baron Steuben, to the doctors in the celebrated Doctors' Riot.

In regard to the County Clerk's office, there is no room now at the command of the County Clerk for the proper preservation of the records of that office. For the want of such room records have to be placed in ill-lighted and ill-ventilated rooms where artificial light has to be used that brings it within a few inches of the papers. Almost all of the records are within the reach of fire and in combustible cases. It is important both with regard to this and the Register's office that ample room for the keeping and safe use of the records should be provided. The entire titles of all the real estate in the City and County of New York, and much of the personal property, indeed a large part of it, depends on the safety and security of these two offices.

It is impossible to estimate the damage that the loss and destruction of the whole or any considerable of these records would occasion. It would leave parties whose titles are dependent on these offices at the mercy of any one who fraudulently desired to injure or destroy such title.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, NEW YORK, May 22d, 1882.

SIMON STEVENS, Esq., Foreman of the Grand Jury:

SIR—Having been subpoenaed by the Grand Jury to testify relative to the Hall of Records or Register's office in this city and having been requested by you to reduce to writing the substance of the testimony which I then gave, I herewith comply with your request.

In company with the Grand Jury I made a personal inspection of the Register's office and am satisfied that the old Hall of Records is neither sufficiently safe for the purpose for which it is used nor adequate in point of size. This has for a long time been my opinion, such opinion having been formed, however, by consultation with various persons, city officers and others, who had made an examination of the building and were better qualified than I to judge of its safety. In 1881 the estimated valuation of the real estate in this city was over \$975,000,000, and in the present Hall of Records there is kept a complete register of the titles and transfers of this vast amount of realty. The papers are of the most valuable character and their destruction in whole or in part would entail a loss upon the city and the citizens which would be simply incalculable. It is for the best interests of every citizen that these papers should be placed absolutely beyond danger from fire or otherwise, and that the building in which they are kept should be one of the most substantial which can be constructed. I regard the present building as seriously unfit for its purpose, and am in favor of a new one in its stead. In addition to this the Hall of Records stands directly opposite the approach to the Brooklyn Bridge and occupies land which can be devoted, in my opinion, to better uses. The brown-stone building now occupied as the First Judicial District Court-house, and for the accommodation of Fire Engine Company No. 7, upon the corner of Chambers and Centre streets, could be removed to advantage and in its place a structure erected which should finally accommodate not only the records of real estate transfer and other papers in the custody of the Register, but supply offices for several of the city departments which are now dependent for office room upon leased apartments scattered about the city. It would be advisable to erect so much of this building as should be occupied by these records at once, and the remainder when it was thought to be for the best financial interests of the city. I am opposed to the expenditure unnecessarily of any of the city's money in new structures, but believe the matter concerning which you interrogated me to be one of pressing importance, and that a structure of the kind described is absolutely necessary if our records are to be placed beyond risk. The removal of the old building and the utilization of a part of its room as an approach to the Bridge I should also regard as a substantial benefit. In undertaking the work of building, however, great care should be had in reducing the cost to a minimum figure. These matters are now before our Legislature, and one House has passed a bill for the safe keeping of our records. If such a building is constructed it will remove all danger of harm to these valuable papers and will save the city a large annual expenditure for rents for several of the departments, and will clear space for the accommodation of travel over the Bridge. I am therefore heartily in favor of it, provided the work be done economically and well.

Yours respectfully,

W. R. GRACE, Mayor.

CITY OF NEW YORK—FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
May 22d, 1882.

SIMON STEVENS, Esq., Foreman of Grand Jury:

DEAR SIR—I gave a day or two since to the Grand Jury my views in reference to the matter of a new building for the Register's office and the preservation of the valuable records under charge of the Register, and now, according to your request, present a written statement on the subject.

My opinion is that the new Hall of Records may be advantageously located at the corner of Centre and Chambers streets, on the present site of the fire-engine house; some other place for the engine-house can be selected, which will answer the purpose quite as well.

Some time since I caused a sketch to be made of a public building to accommodate the Register's office and other departments of the City Government. This plan contemplates the removal of the brown-stone court-house and engine-house, and the occupancy of the space thus vacated by a building about 200 feet by 150 feet (at a cost not exceeding \$1,000,000), constructed of granite and made fire-proof.

As there is objection to increase of debt or taxation for buildings not absolutely and immediately necessary, it might be deemed expedient at present to build only the eastern portion of the proposed large building for a Hall of Records, leaving the remainder of the plan to be carried out at some future time. But the first part erected should be built with a view to the completion of the whole according to the general design.

The old Hall of Records, besides being unsafe and inadequate in size, stands directly opposite the entrance to the Brooklyn Bridge. It should be removed so that the angle of the street may be cut off about thirty feet, thus widening the street in front of the bridge entrance, it being now quite narrow at that point. This increased width will be necessary to accommodate the traffic to and from the Bridge. The removal of the Hall of Records would also leave open a straight and wide walk between the City Hall and New Court-house, from the Bridge to Broadway. This should not be used for vehicles, but for pedestrians only.

In every view of the case, therefore, it seems advisable to erect a new building for a Hall of Records, and to remove the present one.

A bill has just passed one branch of the Legislature, and will probably become a law, which constitutes a Commission to erect a new Hall of Records. This Commission is empowered to select a site, and to erect the building. I propose to present my views to them as above set forth.

I present herewith a plan and estimate of the Municipal Building to which I have referred. The estimated cost is \$750,000, but I would enlarge it somewhat, and making allowance for such increased size, as well as for some advance in cost of labor and materials, I would make the estimate \$1,000,000. After consulting the architect, Mr. Smyth, who was employed by me in the Public Works Department, and who has so well and economically constructed the new Fulton Market, I think that \$1,000,000, with skillful and honest management, would complete the building. That part to be used for the Register's office only may be built for \$200,000. The building in appearance should be in keeping with the City Hall and New Court-house, and being built of granite, would be even more durable. A cheaper structure of brick might be put up, but I think all the buildings within the Park should be made to conform in appearance and character.

The city now pays rent for several departments. Some of these would be accommodated in the proposed new building, and probably, even financially considered, not much, if any, extra cost would be imposed upon the city.

The following statement shows the rents now paid by the city for premises occupied by several departments and offices:

	Annual Rent.
Department of Public Works, No. 31 Chambers street.....	\$12,500 00
Counsel to the Corporation, Staats Zeitung Building, Tryon Row.....	7,500 00
Department of Taxes and Assessments, Staats Zeitung Building, Tryon Row.....	8,000 00
Department of Taxes and Assessments, No. 27 Chambers street.....	850 00
Department of Public Parks, No. 36 Union Square.....	2,500 00
Department of Docks, Nos. 117 and 119 Duane street.....	6,000 00
Board of Excise, No. 330 Bowery.....	2,100 00
Street Cleaning Department, No. 51 Chambers street.....	1,300 00
Total.....	\$40,750 00

The Register's office, County Clerk's office and the Finance Department, all of which contain records of great value, might, on the score of safety and convenience, be located in the new building. Other Departments could also be accommodated therein, while the rooms vacated in the new Court-house by the County Clerk and Finance Department could be used for Court purposes and by other departments. The city has suffered so much in past years by fraud and extravagance in the erection of some of its public buildings, that I have not felt disposed to recommend any considerable outlay for additional buildings, until our large debt and high rate of taxation should be reduced. At the call of the Grand Jury, however, I have presented the facts in relation to an additional building for municipal purposes, which would certainly afford increased accommodation and secure safety to the public records, at a cost which would in great measure be reimbursed in the saving of rents paid for private buildings. My estimates are, of course, based upon faithful, economical and honest administration, by those who should be charged with the erection of the building.

Yours respectfully,

ALLAN CAMPBELL, Comptroller.

It must be understood that the plan of a building herewith presented, would be subject to improvement and alterations in the arrangement of rooms and offices, and other matters of detail; but these would not affect the estimated cost.

A. C.

DECEMBER 27th, 1881.

Estimate for a Proposed Public Building.

The building sketched is to be of fire-proof construction, faced with stone. It is four stories high, 200 x 135 feet, with two wings, each 40 x 54. The total area of each floor is about 30,000 square feet. The office room on each floor, after deducting court and halls, is about 22,000 square feet. The total cost is estimated at \$750,000. The Department of Public Works occupies about 22,000 square feet over all, or about 19,000 square feet after deducting halls and well.

Approximate Estimate.

Doors, windows and joiner work.....	\$55,000	Plastering.....	\$18,000
Glass and iron sky-lights.....	5,000	Roofing and leaders.....	5,000
Stairs.....	6,000	Concrete and drains.....	7,000
Fire-proof partitions.....	10,000	Painting.....	15,000
Gas and fixtures.....	10,000	Plumbing.....	15,000
Mantels and grates.....	6,000	Tiling, paving.....	8,000
Ventilation.....	5,000	Vaults.....	10,000
Heating.....	22,000	Electric bells.....	4,000
Elevators.....	20,000	Shutters and guards.....	10,000
Brick.....	100,000	Enamelled brick.....	10,000
Stone.....	250,000	Contingencies.....	54,000
Foundations.....	15,000		
Floors and roof.....	75,000	Total.....	\$750,000
Flooring.....	15,000		

DOUGLAS SMYTH.

48 EXCHANGE PLACE, NEW YORK, May 17th, 1882.

Dear Mr. CAMPBELL:

Since leaving you it occurred to me that if the project of a building such as you proposed could not be carried through immediately, a portion might be done; that is, that the Hall of Records might be taken down, and a new Hall built as a wing or portion of the proposed main building, making the same fire-proof, but not stone-faced on the sides where it would adjoin the main building. To do this it might be necessary to condemn the engine-house, but perhaps it could be contrived even without this—probable expense, \$200,000.

Yours sincerely,

DOUGLAS SMYTH.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, NO. 31 CHAMBERS STREET,
NEW YORK, May 25th, 1882.

SIMON STEVENS, Esq., Foreman of the Grand Jury:

SIR—Agreeable to your request that I should put in writing my testimony in regard to your recent investigation of the Hall of Records and the County Clerk's office, I have the honor to say: That in my judgment the Hall of Records, now occupied by the Register, who is personally responsible for the very valuable records therein, the building being under my charge, is an improper and unsafe place for the purposes for which it is used. During several years' connection with this

Department, formerly as a subordinate, afterwards as Deputy Commissioner, and more recently as Commissioner of Public Works, my experience has led me to believe that it is very important that a new fire-proof building should be constructed, in which all valuable records of the city which are in the custody of the Register and the County Clerk could be safely cared for. Having served for a portion of a year as County Clerk, I naturally have still more intimate knowledge in connection with that office, and I do not hesitate to state most emphatically that there is inadequate accommodation for lawyers and searchers and other employees in both the County Clerk's office and the Hall of Records occupied by the Register. In both offices valuable records, which it would be impossible to replace, are kept on wooden shelves, without the slightest protection from fire or theft. I have carefully considered all methods, as suggested by one or two members of your Honorable Body, for improving the safety and convenience of both these offices, without going to the extreme of erecting a new building, and I regard any such action as being merely a false economy and one that would fail to result in anything satisfactory to those having the best interests of the city at heart. The matter, so earnestly considered by yourself and your colleagues on the Grand Jury, has been heretofore a source of much discussion between the present and previous Mayors, the Comptroller and other prominent city officials and myself; and as Custodian of the Public Buildings, I earnestly urge such action on your part as may tend to assist in causing the erection of an absolutely new building. In addition to the custody of public buildings, the repairs of these buildings come under my charge; and in due accordance with law, in the fall of every year I make an estimate to the Board of Apportionment, stating the amount which, in my best judgment, would be required for the various expenditures in my Department for the ensuing year. This estimate, after full discussion, is finally passed on at the end of the year, and I have no power (except so far as persuasion may be) to increase or decrease the amount given me. Inasmuch as the Board of Estimate and Apportionment is always anxious to reduce the expenses of the city to the lowest possible amount, it has not been my habit to ask from them larger amounts for the various requirements of the Department than I felt were absolutely necessary, and even then I frequently failed to obtain what, in the judgment of my engineers, bureau officers, and myself, is absolutely required. For this reason I have not heretofore asked for anything to make any very considerable repairs to the Hall of Records, as I did not consider that anything short of such extensive repairs as would amount to a virtual rebuilding of the Hall of Records would be a real economy, and I have not asked for an appropriation for the rebuilding of the Hall, as that could not be allowed me according to law—repairs to buildings only being within my jurisdiction. It seems to me that all such valuable records as are in the custody of the Register and the County Clerk cannot be too safely guarded, and should be kept in iron safes or closets, with iron doors protected by lock and key; and, as I have already said, the space in both offices is entirely inadequate for the proper transaction of business, in this, our immensely enlarged city. With great respect, I have the honor to remain,

Your obedient servant,

HUBERT O. THOMPSON, Commissioner of Public Works.

HALL OF RECORDS, REGISTER'S OFFICE, }
Friday, May 19th, 1882.

To the Honorable the Grand Jury of the City of New York:

GENTLEMEN—Agreeably to your request the undersigned, Register of the City and County of New York, respectfully submits to your Honorable Body written replies to the questions orally asked and answered on the occasion of his examination.

"Do you consider the records, as now deposited in the Hall of Records, safe?"

"In my opinion the records of the city in that building are as safe now as they have at any time been in the history of the city."

"What precautions have you taken to avoid fire?"

"I employ watchmen by day and night, thus providing an uninterrupted guard over the building; also communication with the fire-engine in City Hall Park, by means of a fire alarm, and, in addition, several of Babcock's fire-extinguishers are in the building."

"In what part of the building is the greatest danger to be apprehended of a fire?"

"The south end of the building is built of wood, in the upper part of which the book-binders are located; for that reason I consider that part of the building more liable to risks from fire than any other portion of the Hall of Records."

"Is it absolutely necessary to have the book-binders in your building?"

"It is; the Libers cannot be taken out of the building, except in answer to a subpoena—duces tecum—to produce them before the Court, and then to be returned in the shortest possible time."

"The roof of the Hall of Records is wood; if it were replaced by an iron one would it, in your judgment, render the building fire-proof?"

"I consider the building, as it now stands, practically fire-proof; the addition of an iron roof would make it more secure."

"Are you in favor of the city building a new Hall of Records?"

"I am."

The foregoing are, as near as I can now remember, the principal questions asked me by your Honorable Chairman, and with the answers as above, I subscribe myself,

Yours, very respectfully,

AUGUSTUS T. DOCHARTY.

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE—NEW COUNTY COURT-HOUSE, }
NEW YORK, May 24th, 1882.

Mr. SIMON STEVENS, Foreman Grand Jury:

DEAR SIR—In connection with the question of providing a suitable building for keeping public records, which the Grand Jury have under consideration, I beg leave to state that the County Clerk's office is located on the ground floor and part of the basement of the New Court-house, and contains many valuable records, involving the title to real property in the County of New York, and records of historical value, which, if destroyed, could not be replaced.

Among the different kinds might be mentioned the Records of the Old Mayor's Court, which passed out of existence some years since; the Chancellor's and Vice-Chancellor's judgments and records; proceedings to acquire lands for streets and public uses; Supreme Court and County Records.

The records are for the most part in constant use, conveyancers examining them upon every transfer of real property in this county. Without such examination, titles would be in doubt.

Many of the important records have become partly obliterated and torn from constant use, and no provision is made by law for the substitution of copies in their place, though an act has been introduced in the present Legislature to remedy this defect.

Although the rooms are considered as partly fire-proof, a fire once started therein would possibly destroy the records and papers, which are kept in wooden cases and, being dry and inflammable, require but a spark to ignite them.

So far as the Register's Office is concerned, a visit is sufficient to convince one of the necessity of precautions being taken to prevent the destruction of the valuable records therein stored, commencing with the Grants of Kings down to the present day.

The present Hall of Records was, as I am informed, constructed and used as a jail from about the year 1758 until about the year 1830.

Alterations have been made in the building from time to time, the last about 1870, when an additional story, constructed almost entirely of wood, was added.

The Records or Libers of Conveyances and mortgages are kept in wooden shelving without doors; a narrow stairway connects the first and second floors, and being frequented alike by attaches and others, is oftentimes crowded, rendering it very uncomfortable and even dangerous.

The building is unfit for a public office and should be replaced by one more suitable for the purposes intended.

It may not be inappropriate to add a few words respecting the Comptroller's office, where many valuable papers and accounts are stored whose destruction by fire would entail endless litigation upon the city, and in that connection suggest, that in all the public offices where public records are kept, that fire-extinguishers be supplied in sufficient number to provide for ordinary emergencies.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM A. BUTLER.

OFFICE OF FIRE MARSHAL, No. 155 MERCER STREET, }
NEW YORK, May 22d, 1882.

To the Honorable the Grand Jury of the Court of General Sessions:

GENTLEMEN—In accordance with your request I have made an examination of the building known as the Hall of Records. I consider it utterly unfit for the purposes for which it is used. Such a building should be as nearly fire-proof as it is possible to make it. I find that a large part of the floors are of wood, the roof is of wood, the frames and pigeon-holes containing valuable papers are of wood, old and very dry; almost all the book-racks are of wood. Wooden stairways, wooden closets for clothing, and a book-binders in the building, all tend to increase the danger from fire. In the cellar is a large quantity of wood and an accumulation of rubbish about the windows. It is but a few years since some rubbish about one of these cellar windows ignited and set fire to one of the wooden air-boxes; the fire was fortunately discovered in time to prevent any damage being done. There are five Babcock fire-extinguishers kept in the building, and I am informed that smoking is not allowed and that a watchman is on duty day and night.

GEO. H. SHELDON, Fire Marshal.

Subscribed and sworn before me, }
this 22d May, 1882,

WM. P. ALLEN,
Notary Public, N. Y. Co.

To the Hon. Members of the Grand Jury in and for the City of New York:

GENTLEMEN—At your request I herein respectfully give you my opinion of the condition and fitness of the building known as the "Hall of Records," for the safe keeping and preservation of the public records.

The outside walls of the building proper, to the top of the second story, are safe and sound, and although the material and workmanship is not first class, will last many years. Above this part there has been an additional story erected, with iron truss rafters, covered with pine plank and tin. One end of the upper story is cut off by a lath and plaster partition, and which is much dilapidated; the floor is wood, laid on iron beams and brick arches; the ceiling of the first story is groined arches.

The southerly end is constructed of wood between the columns; all the sash and window-frames are of wood, portions of the floor of the first story are of wood, laid on the tiling, and there are partitions of wood enclosing desks of the Register and clerks; nearly all the pigeon-holes and book-racks are of wood, and a large number of them are in the most dilapidated condition, and are so constructed as to facilitate their destruction by fire.

The plan of the building is bad, as the centre part is badly lighted and cannot well be utilized. Should fire occur, there is so much wood-work that great damage would be done to the books and papers, both by the fire, smoke and water. From the construction, condition and arrangement of the work on the southerly and upper part of the building and the fixtures, it could be readily set on fire by an evil-disposed person.

Besides this the windows are fitted with inside iron shutters, closed at night, and which would not only prevent for some time the discovery of a fire, but also prevent the firemen from gaining access thereto until great damage was done. Experience has shown that iron shutters have caused greater losses by fire than they have ever prevented. The only proper use of iron shutters is to prevent fire from entering a building, not to keep it from coming out.

The above, I believe, answer the questions which you put to me.

Very respectfully,

WM. P. ESTERBROOK, Inspector of Buildings.

NEW YORK, May 18th, 1882.

A General Description of Materials used, etc., in the construction of building known as the "Hall of Records," in City Hall Park, New York City.

The dimensions of building are as follows, viz.: 60 feet by 100 feet on plan including the north and south porches. There is a cellar used for storing fuel, and where is also located two hot-air furnaces. In first and second story the records are kept; the attic is not used.

The general construction is of brick and plaster.

The roof cornices and gables are built of wood.

The extension on south end of building, enclosing the porch and two stories in height, is built of wood.

Roof is of wood, on iron rafters, and covered with tin.

The third (or attic) floor is constructed with wooden beams and flooring.

The book shelves throughout are of wood.

The furniture, including all desks, is of wood.

Stairways up to the second floor are of iron, and from second to third floor are of wood.

The building is heated by the hot-air system.

The book-shelves now in building are almost entirely filled, and there now remains no unoccupied floor space on which to put up cases for new records.

THOMAS H. MCAVOY,

Superintendent Repairs and Supplies, Department Public Works, New York City.
May 24th, 1882.

To the Grand Jury:

GENTLEMEN—As requested by you, I have made a personal examination of the building in the City Hall Park, known as the "Hall of Records," with a view of ascertaining if it is a proper and safe place of deposit for the invaluable records it now contains, and I have no hesitation in saying that, in my opinion, a more insecure receptacle cannot well be imagined; the accommodations are also insufficient, by reason of its overcrowded condition, and I am clearly of opinion that a new, safe and commodious building should be erected without delay, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Register, and that in its construction ample space should be afforded, every precaution should be taken, and every appliance that modern science has invented should be used to render safe from destruction by fire, or from any other cause, the records of the office, which contain copies of the conveyances, mortgages, etc., of all the property within the corporate limits of this city.

The present building I find, much to my surprise, to be not only not fire-proof, but that it is peculiarly liable to damage from fire, by reason of the highly inflammable nature of the shelves, book-cases, stairways, floorings, etc. It is an undeniable fact, that these invaluable records in which every owner of property in this city has a direct and personal interest, amounting in the aggregate to hundreds of millions of dollars are kept in a building liable at any time to destruction by fire, and one in which no merchant of ordinary prudence would keep his books or accounts with any certainty of exemption from destruction from day to day. This should not be; and I am clearly of opinion that it is the imperative duty of those in authority to provide a place of deposit for these real estate records, that will be absolutely safe, so far as it is possible for human skill to render it so, from destruction by fire or from other causes. Did our citizens generally know the present unsafe condition of the Hall of Records, and the liability to destruction that daily threatens the valuable documents it contains, the apathy of our government in permitting this condition of things to exist would be universally condemned, and it would be forced to correct or remedy the evil.

In my judgment the proposed new building should contain ample rooms in which to store such records of the Common Council and the Departments as are not in daily or ordinary use. Our citizens would then have an assurance that not only their records of real estate transactions, but of the transactions of the municipal government would be safely stored and preserved. The building should be constructed with a view to enlargement from time to time, as the necessities of public service may require.

The proposed building, in my judgment, should be located on the east side of the City Hall Park, between the present Hall of Records and the building on the corner of Chambers and Centre streets.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN McCLAVE, Chairman Finance Committee, Board of Aldermen.

HEADQUARTERS FIRE DEPARTMENT, }
NEW YORK, May 20th, 1882.

To the Grand Jury:

GENTLEMEN—At your request I visited building occupied by the Register of this County, with a view to learn and report to you its condition and the security of its valuable contents from loss or damage by fire.

I examined the building on the 19th instant, from cellar to roof, and am of opinion that the building and contents are liable to, and in great danger of, destruction by fire.

The roof is wood, covered with tin; in the upper story I found one of the sashes open by reason of the sash-cord being broken, a pane of glass broken out of another sash and several windows slightly down from the top, so that if a large fire should occur in the vicinity the burning embers could enter the windows and fire the building. I found on upper floor rosin and charcoal, no doubt left by persons who had been repairing the tin roof; I also found a lot of old papers and other combustible material. The book-binders employed in the building heat glue, and have scrap paper lying about. It is possible for the building to be fired from within and from without. If fire had occurred in said building on any of the following dates, the Fire Department being fully occupied elsewhere, the contents of the building might have been destroyed.

Very respectfully,

JOHN J. GORMAN, President Fire Department, City of New York.

July 30th, 1873—Fire Nos. 115 to 123 Greenwich street. All the companies located south of Delancey and Spring streets on duty at this fire.

December 9th, 1873—Fire No. 132 Church street. All the companies located between Stone and Spring streets on duty at this fire.

October 7th, 1884—Fire No. 214 Washington street. All the companies located south of Spring street on duty at this fire.

April 11th, 1875—Fire Nos. 57 and 59 Worth street. All the companies located between Stone and Spring streets on duty at this fire.

April 21st, 1875—Fire Nos. 18 and 20 Worth street. All the companies located between Stone and Spring streets on duty at this fire.

December 9th, 1875—Fire Nos. 3, 4 and 5 Mission place. All the companies located between Stone and Spring streets on duty at this fire.

February 8th, 1876—Fire Nos. 444 to 452 Broadway. All the companies (except two) located south of Twenty-third street on duty at this fire.

May 2d, 1876—Fire Nos. 178 and 180 Pearl street. All the companies located south of Spring street on duty at this fire.

July 9th, 1876—Fire in Castle Garden. All the companies located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

March 13th, 1877—Fire Nos. 90 to 94 Franklin street. All the companies located between Stone and Delancey streets on duty at this fire.

November 21st, 1877—Fire Nos. 76 and 78 Leonard street. All the companies located between Stone and Broome streets on duty at this fire.

December 20th, 1877—Fire Nos. 55 to 69 Barclay street and No. 1 College place. All the companies (except two) located south of Eighteenth street on duty at this fire.

March 12th, 1878—Fire No. 174 Fulton street. All the companies (but one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

March 26th, 1878—Fire Nos. 261 to 267 Canal street. All the companies (except one) located south of Twenty-fifth street on duty at this fire.

January 7th, 1879—Fire No. 75 Vesey street. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

January 14th, 1879—Fire No. 462 to 468 Broadway. All the companies (except one) located south of Fourteenth street on duty at this fire.

January 17th, 1879—Fire Nos. 58 to 66 Worth street. All the companies (except one) located south of Fourteenth street on duty at this fire.

March 7th, 1879—Fire No. 33 Pearl street. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

May 26th, 1879—Fire No. 15 State street. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

February 15th, 1880—Fire No. 115 Maiden Lane. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

February 20th, 1880—Fire Nos. 384 and 386 Broadway. All the companies (except two) located south of Fourteenth street on duty at this fire.

February 25th, 1880—Fire No. 436 Pearl street. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

April 18th, 1880—Fire Nos. 132 and 134 William street. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

July 28th, 1880—Fire Nos. 48 Water and 58 Barclay streets, two fires burning at the same time. All the companies (except two) located south of Spring street on duty at these fires.

September 3d, 1880—Fire Nos. 9 to 11 Hague street. All the companies (except one) south of Spring street on duty at this fire.

February 9th, 1881—Fire Nos. 62 to 68 Church street. All the companies (except one) south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

February 25th, 1881—Fire No. 13 Front street. All the companies (except one) south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

August 1st, 1881—Fire Nos. 13 and 14 West street. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

November 13th, 1881—Fire Nos. 56 and 58 Murray street. All the companies (except one) located south of Broome street on duty at this fire.

November 26th, 1881—Fire Nos. 228 and 230 Front street. All the companies (except one) located south of Broome street on duty at this fire.

December 17th, 1881—Fire Nos. 14 to 18 Crosby street and No. 452 Broadway. All the companies (except one) located south of Houston street on duty at this fire.

December 24th, 1881—Fires No. 359 Broadway and Nos. 71 to 74 South street, two fires burning at the same time. All companies located south of Eighteenth street on duty at this fire.

December 27th, 1881—Fire No. 47 Barclay street. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

January 7th, 1882—Fire No. 370 Broadway. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

January 31st, 1882—Fire Nassau and Beekman streets and Park Row. All the companies located south of Fifth street on duty at this fire.

February 18th, 1882—Fire Nos. 1 to 9 Hague street. All the companies (except one) located south of Spring street on duty at this fire.

April 2d, 1882—Fire No. 156 William street. All the companies (except one) located south of Grand street on duty at this fire.

City and County of New York, ss.:

Monmouth B. Wilson, being duly sworn, deposes and says: that he is the Superintendent of the Fire Insurance Patrol of the City of New York, and has been so for more than eleven (11) years, and that by the direction of the Grand Jury of said city he made a careful examination of the building known as the "Hall of Records," situated in the City Hall Park, and occupied by the Register of the said city, and finds the danger to the records in said premises by fire is very great, for the reason that a part of the flooring is of wood, and most of the cases where the books are kept are of the same material, and a slight fire would do the books an irreparable injury.

M. B. WILSON.

Sworn to before me, this 22d day of June, 1882.

A. G. QUACKENBUSH, Notary Public,
City and Co. N. Y.

I, James Harrison, Superintendent of Surveys of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, being duly sworn, do depose and say: that I have examined the building situate in the City Park, on City Hall place, in this city, and known as the "Hall of Records."

The building is of brick and stone, three stories in height, with frame roof covered with metal. The first and second stories are brick arched. The building has heavy wood cornices entirely surrounding it. The northern porch is partly enclosed with wood. The southern porch is enclosed with wood to the second story, and occupied in part as a bindery, with the use of one gas stove. There are eighteen windows on each side east and west, and twelve on the southerly end. The windows and doors of the building proper, on the first story, have inside iron shutters, but the remaining openings are entirely unprotected. In my judgment, the building, crowded and dirty, with its frame cornices and enclosures and interior fittings of wood, in a dilapidated condition; also referring to the unsafe condition of the furnaces and stoves, as per Inspector Gim's Report, together with the exposure on the south, if a fire should occur at French's Hotel or the surrounding buildings, render the said building unfit for use as a repository of valuable records.

JAS. HARRISON,

Supt. of Surveys of N. Y. Board of Fire Underwriters.

Sworn before me, this 23d May, 1882.

CHARLES NETTLETON,
Notary Public for N. Y. County.

W. G. STEINMETZ, ARCHITECT AND ENGINEER,
No. 61 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, May 22, 1882.

To the Honorable Body, the Grand Jury of the County of New York:

GENTLEMEN—In accordance with your instructions to examine carefully into the matter concerning the Hall of Records of this city—

- 1st. Its present condition.
- 2d. The possibility to extend the same, and
- 3d. The necessity for a larger building with the requirements—

I most respectfully submit the following report:

1st. Present conditions:

The building originally consisted of a cellar, first and second story, which, when built, may have been termed fire-proof. The foundations and outer walls are of solid masonry, four large interior piers with the outer wall piers carry the heavy groin arches of the first and second floors; an open portico was erected at the north and south end, constructed of stone pillars and columns, set in courses. The heavy groin arches have caused a settlement in the wall piers, which is visible on the outside face of the same; stone partitions, unnecessarily heavy, have been erected between the piers, thus completely cutting up the floor space on the first story into small compartments, leaving little or no room for clerical work or record cases.

The second story consists of one large and some small rooms, arranged for record and file cases, clerks and searchers. Almost every available space in the building has been utilized as far as practicable.

"Modern improvements" have been made on the building, rendering it totally unfit for the purpose it is now used.

A wooden enclosure has been put on the south portico extending to the second story, forming a vestibule and small offices and record rooms; an iron staircase leading from first to second floor has been encased with wood on its landing, and an attic was added to the building which has been crowned with a roof constructed of wooden planks; the access to this floor consists of a very narrow stairs or rather ladder, making it altogether useless. Taking the combustible material, such as old desks, chairs, record cases, wooden enclosures, roof planks and the great quantity of paper into consideration, there is no telling when a conflagration may occur with the present habit of smoking inside the building, burning of gas-light during the office hours, or any other danger of fire which is liable to happen to the building under the present circumstances.

The building in the whole is on the brink of decay, not adequate for the purpose it is used, poorly ventilated and lighted, and not safe against danger of fire.

2d. Extension of the present building:

The outer walls will not admit the additional weight of more stories, neither will the iron columns in the second story. An extension outside the building will require the cutting through the main walls, to connect the old building with the extensions, which will not now be safe, and the cost of such alterations, with the necessary construction to make it safe, will amount to more than the erection of a new building.

Other alterations, such as changing the roof, constructing new stairs, substituting a fire-proof enclosure on south portico for the wooden one, a better provision of light and ventilation, and many more improvements, will be required; which will not give the satisfaction looked for.

3d. The necessity for a new building of sufficient size to accommodate the Department of Records for a long series of years:

In this connection I desire to state that, a new building being required, it would be desirable to make it large enough for the Register's office, Department of Finance, Auditor's office, Tax Department, Assessor's Department and other offices now occupying rooms in hired buildings. A building of about 150 x 200 feet should be erected on some convenient, available place in City Hall Park. The architectural appearance to conform in a suitable manner to the character of the present City Hall, built of granite or marble, lined with brick, the inside walls and floors to be also of brick (burnt clay and no patent article), the roof to be of iron, covered with slate, which should also be underlined with fire-proof material. The main rooms should be as large as they could be obtained, not subdivided into smaller "cells" with partitions, and the necessary special office arrangements should be obtained with the aid of counters, screens and pigeon-hole cases, thus supplying the furniture on the one side and providing for ample light and ventilation on the other.

The whole structure to be four stories with cellar, and perhaps basement. The cellar to be used for the proper machinery required, and heating apparatus and storing of fuel, etc., etc.

The entrance, second and third stories to be used by the Department of Finance, Taxes, Assessors, Auditor, District Attorney and other various offices. The fourth story to be used by the Register's Department only. This floor can be arranged in a most suitable manner for that purpose, in leaving out some of the main partition walls, and providing thus for a large room to place the records in a most convenient manner, easy, accessible and convenient for the searchers and professional men.

A building of the above description with a cellar, say twelve feet, entrance story twenty feet, second and third stories respectively fifteen feet, all from floor to floor; and fourth story eighteen feet from floor to ceiling, having a suitable sized court-yard in the centre, ornamental exterior, with suitable approaches, good heating and ventilation, not less than four spacious elevators properly located in the building, and the whole to be thoroughly fire-proof, will cost about \$1,250,000.

Very respectfully,

WM. G. STEINMETZ, Architect and Engineer.

OFFICE OF THE FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY,
No. 26 EXCHANGE PLACE, CORNER WILLIAM STREET,
NEW YORK, May 22d, 1882.

SIMON STEVENS, Esq., Foreman Grand Jury:

DEAR SIR—In appearing before your Honorable Body on Friday I was, as I then stated, greatly astonished at the suggestion that the records of the real estate of this city were so kept as to be insecure against fire or damage incident thereto. After leaving the Grand Jury room, I, in company with Mr. Henry Parish, President of the New York Life and Trust Company, visited the premises. Our visit resulted in the conclusion that the books and papers of the Register's office were very insecurely kept. A fire would result in the destruction or injury of the valuable contents of that building. The upper story of the building is in a very dilapidated condition, and in places exposed to the action of the weather. The books of record should be kept in iron compartments and the building should be fire-proof. Fire-proof safes should also be furnished for keeping original deeds and mortgages during the process of record.

The present accommodations are not only insecure, but inadequate.

With great respect, I am yours, very truly,

R. G. ROLSTON.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,
Nos. 346 AND 348 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK, May 24th, 1882.

DEAR SIR—An examination of and inquiry concerning the Hall of Records of this city, at the instance of the Grand Jury, of which you are foreman, in the interest of the New York Life Insurance Company, which has some sixteen millions of dollars loaned upon the security of real estate, the records of which are kept in this building—as to the adaptability of the building for the purposes for which it was built and is used, lead us to the following conclusions:

1st. That the building, while nominally fire-proof, is apparently much safer by its isolation than by any security from its methods of construction. The book-racks and all the interior fittings of the building, with slight exceptions, are made of wood, so that a fire started by accident or through malice, unless quickly discovered and extinguished, would not be likely to die out from lack of combustible material.

2d. That the capacity of the building is grossly inadequate now, not only for any such arrangement of the records as will give reasonable facility of access to them, but also for the comfortable accommodation of the Register and his employees; and that consequently, from the large volume of transfers constantly being made, more room will be an imperative necessity soon. As the third story of the building seems to be practically useless from lack of convenient access, there appears no way in which this room can be arranged for in this building.

As the loss by the destruction of the records would be clearly irreparable, it follows as a natural consequence from these conclusions that the magnitude of the interests involved would seem to imperatively require that immediate steps should be taken for the erection of a building, not only fire-proof in itself and its interior fittings so far as the latest appliances can make them, but also of sufficient capacity to meet future as well as present requirements.

Yours truly,

WM. H. BEERS, Vice-President and Actuary.

SIMON STEVENS, Esq., Foreman of the Grand Jury.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,
No. 120 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK, May 23d, 1882.

State of New York, City and County of New York, ss.:

I, George D. Morgan, of Irvington, Westchester County, New York, under oath do state that I am not engaged in any business pursuits; and that I am a member of the Finance Committee of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, and at present its Chairman.

The said society has interests in real estate in the City and County of New York to the amount of some eleven and a half millions of dollars, in mortgages and conveyances, which are recorded in the Hall of Records, near the City Hall. The accommodations of that building are not, in my opinion, adequate to the present and prospective wants of the city and county, nor its security against fire sufficient.

GEORGE D. MORGAN.

Sworn to before me, this 23d day of May, 1882.

ABRAM T. HILLYN, Notary Public,
For the City and County of New York (No. 153).

I concur in the above.

H. B. HYDE.

Statement of O. H. Palmer, in respect to the Hall of Records, before the Grand Jury, May 19th, 1882, in answer to questions asked him.

I am a lawyer by profession, and reside in the City of New York, and have resided in such City for over fifteen years last past.

I am the law officer of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, and have charge of its legal business, including the examination of titles to real estate on which investments are made.

We are constantly investing large amounts on bond and mortgage in the City of New York. I think the existing investments of the company on bond and mortgage in said city are at least \$25,000,000.

I am somewhat familiar with the Hall of Records of the City of New York, which is the depository of the records of titles to real estate in said city of the value of several thousands of millions of dollars. The importance of a convenient and safe place for the keeping and preservation of the records representing such immense values, is too evident to need discussion. The present building where such records are kept is not, and never was, adapted for the purpose for which it is used; although it might have been sufficient in the early days of the city, it has outlived its usefulness. It has become entirely inadequate for the purpose. Every real estate owner in the City of New York is deeply interested in the preservation of the records of his titles, and in case he desires to purchase or convey real estate, in having the proper facilities for a reliable and speedy examination of such titles. The present building is not only too small and totally inadequate, but is not convenient or safe. The record books and maps, which are invaluable, are in wooden cases, and do not have the protection required for their safety. The rooms are ill adjusted, the ventilation bad and the heating defective. The arrangement for the books is seriously inconvenienced, and without a better building and better rooms it seem to me impossible to remedy the difficulty.

If a person wishes to examine a title now, he will find a portion of the records are in one room on one floor, and another portion in another room on another floor, and in different parts of the building. Even the indices are in different rooms. As it is now, the indices, when in use by index clerks or searchers, instead of being in a single room and accessible, are in different rooms and on different floors, up-stairs and down-stairs, whereas they ought to be in a single apartment. The records of mortgages and discharges should be in one room and on one floor instead of being, as at present, scattered in different rooms and on different floors.

Copyists should have a room to themselves instead of being scattered through the record rooms. I never go into the Hall, and examine the arrangements for keeping these invaluable records and maps, and the miserably cramped and cluttered condition of the rooms where they are kept,

without amazement that the City of New York, with all its ability and wealth, should permit treasures so important and of such immense value to be thus kept. It seems like a temptation of Providence to challenge destruction. There should be a building built for and adapted to the preservation and use of these records, and so constructed as to be as absolutely fire-proof as science can make it.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE AND TRUST COMPANY,
No. 52 WALL STREET,
NEW YORK, May 22d, 1882.

SIMON STEVENS, Esq., *Foreman of Grand Jury, New York City:*

DEAR SIR—As requested by you I have visited the Register's office in this city, and find the same, in my judgment, very ill-adapted for the preservation of the valuable papers that are kept there, from its insufficient size, and its liability to damage by either fire or water, especially in the upper portion, immediately under the roof. In regard to the loss and inconvenience which, in my opinion, would ensue from any damage to the records, I beg leave to refer you to the testimony given by me on the 19th instant.

Respectfully yours,
HENRY PARISH, President.

BOWERY SAVINGS BANK,
NEW YORK, May 24th, 1882.

To the Foreman of the Grand Jury:

DEAR SIR—I called at and examined the Hall of Records, as you requested yesterday, and may report, as the result, that it does not appear to be well calculated for the uses it is intended for, and it seems to me that the City and County of New York should have a Hall of Records in every way adapted to its needs, and not used for any other purpose. It should be positively fire-proof, well lighted and ventilated, and instead of a number of small rooms there should be one large hall, so that all parts would be in view of those having charge of the building.

Smoking or the use of matches should be prohibited. I would suggest that our counsel, Messrs. Norwood & Coggeshall, of No. 140 Nassau street, may be able to make more practical suggestions than I can; and remain,

Very respectfully,
EDWARD WOOD, President.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CHAMBERLAIN,
NEW YORK COUNTY COURT-HOUSE,
NEW YORK, May 25th, 1882.

To the Honorable the Grand Jury of the City and County of New York:

GENTLEMEN—In compliance with a request of your foreman, desiring my opinion in regard to the Hall of Records, I have the pleasure to state that I am satisfied that the present building has become, by natural increase in the business therein conducted, insufficient in size and by age unsafe for the custody and care of the records and valuable papers therein deposited.

In my opinion, it would be judicious, and in the end economical, to remove the old building, now occupied by the Department of Taxes and Assessments, and the engine-house, at the corner of Chambers and Centre streets, and to erect on its site a substantial structure, to contain the Hall of Records and also to accommodate more than one department of the City Government, such as the Finance Department and the County Clerk's Department, where valuable and important papers are likewise in jeopardy; the part occupied by the Register's office to be so thoroughly fire-proof that owners of valuable records and papers there held would feel perfect assurance of safety in the event of a sweeping conflagration.

Yours respectfully,
J. NELSON TAPPAN, Chamberlain.

SURROGATE'S OFFICE, May 27, 1882.

SIMON STEVENS, Esq., *Foreman of the Grand Jury:*

SIR—It goes without saying that the destruction by fire of the valuable books and papers which are contained in the Hall of Records of this city would be a great public and private misfortune. In all literalness the damage would be simply beyond calculation.

In view of this indisputable fact, it seems little short of scandalous that the records now stored in that building are scarcely more secure than they would be in any private dwelling-house in the city. The building which holds them is largely built of wood, a portion even of its outside being of that material. Its roof is wooden, so are its floors, its staircases, its book-racks, its shelves, its pigeon-holes. An industrious and persevering fire might easily consume the contents of the whole building, except such as were destroyed by water in the efforts to subdue the flames.

And besides the building is badly lighted, badly ventilated and badly arranged. It seems to me that there can be but one intelligent opinion as to the propriety of constructing another safe and convenient structure large enough to contain all the valuable public records of the city.

Yours truly,
DANIEL G. ROLLINS, Surrogate.

I concur fully in what Mr. Rollins says in reference to the need of constructing a new and proper building for the Hall of Records. The old building, in my judgment, is in no sense sufficient.

RUFUS B. COWING, City Judge.

CITY OF NEW YORK—RECORDER'S CHAMBERS,
NEW YORK, May 31st, 1882.

S. STEVENS, Esq., *Foreman, etc.:*

DEAR SIR—The Grand Jury of which you are foreman having requested me to answer certain questions, in writing, which were put to me on the occasion of my appearing as a witness before that body, in the matter of the investigation into the condition of the Hall of Records, the County Clerk's office, and the building occupied in part by the Court of General Sessions—I respectfully submit the following as my answers:

1st. As to the "Hall of Records,"

It is generally conceded that this building is wholly unfitted for the purposes for which it is used.

There is not sufficient space for the safe and convenient keeping of the large and constantly increasing number of the public records, which the laws of this State require to be kept in this office.

It is unsafe as a place of deposit for records involving the title of all the *Real* property within this county. The shelves, desks and furniture of the office being of wood, the roof and a large portion of the floor, and additions to the building being of the same material, in the event of a fire occurring in the building or in its immediate neighborhood, the records therein contained would necessarily be rendered useless, if they were not wholly destroyed.

The Grand Jury are in the possession of information showing the large number of conveyances and mortgages which are recorded, and which are being daily recorded by the Register of this county.

These instruments are deemed by law to be recorded from the moment they are received by the Register for that purpose; but it is nevertheless a fact that they are not written into the "Liber" or books kept for that purpose for weeks and sometimes for months after they are received by the Register, and in the meantime they are kept in the office at very great risk of fire.

It is impossible to give an adequate idea of the danger, trouble and inconvenience to which the owners of real property may be put, resulting from the effects of fire in this building. It may be safely said that the title of many persons to the real property owned by them would at least be seriously jeopardized, and that the holders of mortgages would, in many instances, be unable to enforce their lien upon the property mortgaged to them as security for debts justly due by the mortgagors.

The condition of the building renders it almost impossible for lawyers and conveyancers to perform their duties to their clients in making their necessary examination of the records of this office to enable them to certify as to the title of those who desire to convey their property, or mortgage it as security for loans to be made to them.

The building does not furnish sufficient room for the members of the Bar or the employees of the Register. In my opinion it is absolutely essential to the safety of the records of this office that another building should be erected for the purpose of preserving them, and I fully concur with the Comptroller in his views upon this subject.

2d. As to the County Clerk's office.

The County Clerk as Clerk of the Supreme Court is the legal custodian of all the records of that Court, many of which affect the title to real property situated within this county, among which it may be stated:

Judgments recovered in this and other counties of the State in the Supreme and other Courts, which by docketing in his office become liens upon real property situated in this county.

Notices of the pendency affecting real property.

Certificates of Sheriff's sales of real property.

Decrees and judgments in foreclosure, partition and ejectment.

The law also requires that the bonds of guardians of minors, of receivers, of sheriffs and other public officers, shall be filed in his office.

Election returns, oaths of office, and a number of other equally important papers and documents, are required by law to be filed in this office.

He is also the custodian of a part of the records of the late Court of Chancery and of other Courts which have either been abolished by the Legislature of this State or which have ceased to exist.

He is also the custodian of certificates of incorporation of various corporations, and of other papers and documents of great value to the community.

At the request of the Grand Jury, I accompanied them on the occasion of their visit to this office. From the inspection then made, it was very evident that the records of this office were in a perilous condition from the danger of fire, and that it was absolutely necessary that prompt and efficient means should be taken to protect them.

The same objection also applies to this office, as then, does to the Register's, viz.: want of room for the proper preservation and protection of the public records, and accommodation of lawyers and conveyancers who are constantly engaged in the examination of the records, etc.

3d. As to the building which is partially occupied by the Court of General Sessions.

The basement and the westerly side of this building is occupied by the Department of Taxes and the Receiver of Taxes, and, until very recently, by the Board of Assessors.

The easterly side of the first, second and third floors is occupied by the District Attorney.

The westerly side of the second floor is occupied by Part One of the Court of General Sessions and by the office of the Clerk of that Court.

The third floor is occupied by Part Two of the Court of General Sessions, the Grand Jury, a room for witnesses attending the Grand Jury, and the Chambers of the Recorder, City Judge and Judge of the Court of General Sessions.

It is only necessary to invite the attention of the Grand Jury to a few of the many objections which might be urged against this building being used for the present purposes to which it is applied.

1st. The court-rooms are located upon the second and third floors of the building, thus rendering it necessary to convey all persons charged with crime for arraignment and trial, up three flights of stairs.

Hundreds of the very worst and most dangerous criminals are brought in contact monthly with the taxpayers of this city, who are compelled to attend in large numbers, at certain periods, at the offices of the Commissioner and Receiver of Taxes, which are located upon the lower floors of the building.

Until very recently the Grand and Petit Jurors, witnesses, the Judges and the District Attorney and his assistants, and the clerks and attendants upon the Courts, and all other persons having business in the building were compelled to use the same stairway as that which was used to convey prisoners to and from the two branches of the Court.

The danger of escape was thereby incurred, and the attempt to escape rendered it extremely probable that innocent persons would sustain injuries in the efforts of the officers to prevent prisoners escaping.

The law requires that there shall be twelve Grand Juries empaneled every year, and that there shall be two branches of the Court held every month, excepting the months of July and August, and that in July and August one branch of the Court shall be held.

The room set apart for the use of the Grand Jury, it is useless to say, is wholly unfit for that purpose. It is on the third floor, and until recently it was almost inaccessible. The various Grand Juries who have been compelled to use it have complained of the unfitness of the room, and most justly so, in my judgment. It is a disgrace to this city that a body of citizens of the character and standing of the persons who compose that body should be compelled to transact the important business imposed upon them in such a room.

The Judge's chambers are upon the same floor as the Grand Jury room, and are of the same character as the accommodations furnished by this county to the Grand Jury. They are wholly unfit for the purposes for which they are intended, and all of the Courts of Record in this county are at least furnished with decent accommodation for their Judges; this Court has not been furnished with either suitable or even ordinarily decent accommodation for its Judges.

The court-rooms, in addition to their being improperly located are badly ventilated, the principal means of ventilation being a hole cut in the roof of the building.

The prisoners awaiting trial are confined in pens in each of the court-rooms, as many as fifteen to thirty being shut up in these pens daily, during the session of the Court.

These pens are not only a nuisance, but the prisoners who are there confined, by their talking together, interrupt the business of the Court. These pens are simply a disgrace to a civilized community.

The records of this, one of the oldest Courts in this State, are kept in the same way that the records of the County Clerk and Register are kept.

In addition to the criminal records, there are others, valuable in a historical view, and some of them affecting the title to real property. All these are kept in wooden cases, with few exceptions, and are all liable to destruction by fire.

Many of the Departments of the City Government occupy premises which have been leased from private persons for the use of these Departments, and the Departments, although in constant need of communication, are located in different streets. In the City of Brooklyn, I am informed that all the Departments of the City Government are in a building erected for that purpose by the city, and it has frequently occurred to me, as a member of "The Sinking Fund Commission," that the land owned by the City of New York should be used for the purpose of supplying its Departments with the necessary accommodations for the performance of the public business, instead of hiring premises for that purpose from private persons. The land belonging to the city upon which the Court of Sessions building and the engine-house now stands should be used for the purpose of supplying a place to erect a building for the Register's office, the Sheriff's office, the Comptroller's Department and as many of the other Departments as it will contain, which are now occupying premises leased by the city for their accommodation. It may, however be urged in opposition to these views that the expense of erecting suitable buildings will increase the burden of taxation. A careful examination of the Comptroller's communication to you, in which I concur, has led me to believe that the taxpayers of this city will save money by the adoption of his views.

I am, very respectfully,

F. SMYTH, Recorder.

UNITED STATES TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK,
May 22d, 1882.

The undersigned having, in compliance with the request of the Grand Jury, visited and examined the Hall of Records in this city, respectfully begs leave to state that in his opinion the principal portions of that building are as nearly fire-proof as most of the buildings so considered, but that the wooden counters and shelves ought to be forthwith removed and iron or other incombustible material substituted, if the present use of the building is to be continued, for which it is illy adapted.

Having been informed that the city now pays about forty thousand dollars annually for rent of premises occupied by the Department of Public Works, the Dock Department and other public offices, and that a suitable fire-proof building to accommodate all these Departments, together with the Register's office and the Finance Department, can be erected for one million dollars, on the south side of Chambers street, corner of Centre street, the undersigned is of the opinion that provided that can be accomplished by the present Comptroller, it ought to be done.

JOHN A. STEWART.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS OF THE PEACE,
CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK,
JUDGE'S CHAMBERS, No. 32 CHAMBERS STREET,
NEW YORK, May 29th, 1882.

SIMON STEVENS, Esq., *Foreman of the Grand Jury:*

SIR—Replying to your request asking me to reduce to writing my evidence before the Grand Jury, given on the 22d instant, I beg to submit the following as the substance of my testimony:

I have been in the habit of visiting the Hall of Records more or less since 1866, and very frequently until within the last six years, and have a fair knowledge of the character of the structure and its condition. I do not consider it a suitable or safe building for the keeping of the deeds, mortgages and other instruments that the law requires to be recorded there. I regard the titles to real estate there recorded as of great importance, and of a value to the property-owners of this city not easily estimated. The records of real estate transactions, liens of all kinds, and matters of record now on file in the office of the County Clerk, should, in my judgment, be kept in one building, in separate departments, accessible to each other. *This building should be constructed in the best manner that money and modern science could secure.* I have cursorily examined the plan for the construction of a large building where the brown-stone Court-house now stands, intended for the occupation of our Court, the District Attorney's office, and other departments of the City Government, and without speaking definitely of the particular merits of the plan submitted, I think it would be to the interests of the city to construct a building of the character proposed. Our own Court is not accommodated as it should be, considering the importance and the amount of business transacted in it. In my judgment the location of the proposed building should be on the site of the present brown-stone Court-house.

I do not think it would be well to have a Hall of Records far removed from the City Hall Park. The Hall of Records, the Surrogate's office, and the County Clerk's office are visited principally by lawyers. Their business is in or about the City Hall Park, and the records can be most conveniently consulted in a building located there.

Yours respectfully,
H. A. GILDERSLEEVE, Judge General Sessions.

The Recorder referred to the importance of the subject presented for the consideration of this Board, in the documents submitted, and suggested that an early day be fixed for their consideration.

On motion of the Comptroller, adjourned to meet Tuesday next, March 24th, 1885, at 1 o'clock P. M.

W. H. DIKEMAN, Secretary.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Abstract of the transactions of the Bureau of the City Chamberlain for the week ending March 7, 1885.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CHAMBERLAIN,
NEW YORK, March 14, 1885.

Hon. WM. R. GRACE, Mayor:

SIR—In pursuance of section 165 of the Consolidation Act of 1882, I have the honor to transmit herewith a report to March 7 of all moneys received by me and the amount of all warrants paid by me since my last report, February 28, and the amount remaining to the credit of the City of New York on the 7th inst.

Very respectfully,
T. S. RUMNEY, Deputy Chamberlain.

DR. THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COMMONALTY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, in account with HENRY B. LAIDLAW, Chamberlain, during the week ending March 7, 1885. CR.

1885. Mar. 7			1885. Feb. 28 Mar. 7				
	To Additional Water Fund.....	\$4,333 08		By Balance.....			\$3,317,679 76
	Assessment Commission Awards.....	4,077 96		Arrears of Taxes.....	Cady.....	\$29,471 90	
	Assessment Commission—Expenses.....	388 50		Interest on Taxes.....	".....	4,823 45	
	Commissioners of Excise Fund.....	5,793 51		Assessment Fund.....	".....	466 94	
	Construction of Bridge over Harlem River.....	780 00		Street Improvement Fund.....	".....	6,869 48	
	Croton Water Fund.....	6,517 30		Interest on Assessments.....	".....	5,904 56	
	Croton Water Rent—Refunding Account.....	115 25		Charges on Arrears of Taxes.....	".....	76 00	
	Dock Fund.....	24,839 78		Charges on Arrears of Assessments.....	".....	96 25	
	Excise Licenses.....	1,789 71		Gansevoort Market.....	".....	1,227 00	
	Morningside Park Improvement Fund.....	66 62		Land Drainage Fund.....	".....	23 00	
	New York Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children.....	160 00		Taxes.....	McMahon.....	63,421 20	
	Refunding Assessments Paid in Error.....	3 35		Interest on Taxes.....	".....	1,873 30	
	Refunding Taxes Paid in Error.....	304 14		Water Meter Fund No. 2.....	".....	28 40	
	Restoring and Repaving—Department of Public Works.....	1,378 00		Licenses.....	Byrnes.....	227 75	
	Street Improvement Fund—June 9, 1880.....	14,668 95		Permits.....	Woltman.....	262 00	
			\$65,516 55	Dog License Fund.....	".....	4 00	
	Advertising.....	1885. \$202 75		Tapping Pipes.....	Chambers.....	110 00	
	Association for Befriending Children and Young Girls.....	" 1,034 57		Water Meter Fund No. 2.....	".....	122 30	
	Armories and Drill Rooms—Rents.....	" 3,750 00		Restoring and Repaving.....	Department of Public Works	1,468 00	
	Aqueduct—Repairs, Maintenance and Strengthening.....	1884. 327 46		Restoring and Repaving.....	Department of Public Parks	14 00	
	Aqueduct—Repairs, Maintenance and Strengthening.....	1885. 9,403 74		Dock Fund.....	Voorhis.....	358 42	
	Bureau of Permits.....	" 883 31		Excise Licenses.....	Clarke.....	27,585 00	
	Board of Estimate and Apportionment, Expenses of.....	" 250 00		Commissions—Public Administrator.....	Sullivan.....	439 58	
	Bronx River Bridges—Repairs and Maintenance.....	" 5 75		Intestate Estates.....	".....	5,800 56	
	Boulevards, Roads and Avenues, Maintenance of.....	1884. 30 80		Croton Water Rent—Refunding Account.....	Commissioners Sinking Fund.	103 90	
	Boulevards, Roads and Avenues, Maintenance of.....	1885. 1,453 28		General Fund.....	Comptroller.....	43	
	Contingencies—Comptroller's Office.....	1884. 80 03			Beardsley.....	124 25	
	Contingencies—Comptroller's Office.....	1885. 428 05			Abell.....	106 75	
	Contingencies—District Attorney's Office.....	" 35 40			Golderman.....	184 40	
	Contingencies—Department of Public Works.....	1884. 72 99			Coleman.....	240 00	
	Contingencies—Department of Public Works.....	1885. 98 31			Britton.....	215 50	
	Contingencies—Law Department.....	" 956 97			Wales.....	634 45	
	Contingencies—Mayor's Office.....	" 31 75			Squire.....	372 50	
	Contingencies—Public Administrator's Office.....	" 58 75			Tomes.....	164 32	
	College of the City of New York.....	1884. 8,869 58		3 1/2 per cent. Additional Water Stock.....	State Comptroller.....	500,000 00	
	College of the City of New York.....	1885. 167 75		Additional Water Fund.....	Premium.....	36,750 00	
	Cleaning Streets—Department of Street Cleaning.....	1884. 3,061 17		3 per cent. Additional Croton Water Stock.....	Commissioners Sinking Fund	50,000 00	
	Cleaning Streets—Department of Street Cleaning.....	1885. 10,975 01					739,629 59
	Cleaning Markets.....	" 2,068 87					
	CITY RECORD—Salaries and Contingencies.....	" 583 33					
	Coroners—Salaries and Expenses.....	" 3,958 35					
	Civil Service of the City of New York.....	1884. 46 00					
	Civil Service of the City of New York.....	1885. 799 99					
	Expenses of Detectives, etc.....	" 1,041 06					
	Election Expenses.....	" 583 33					
	Free Floating Baths.....	1884. 34 20					
	Free Floating Baths.....	1885. 511 50					
	For amount to pay costs, etc., Commissioners Department Public Parks.....	" 4,000 00					
	For Building and Furnishing a Steamboat—Health Department.....	1883. 144 95					
	For Repairs, etc., Essex Market Building.....	1884. 402 24					
	For Burial of Honorably Discharged Soldiers, Sailors and Marines.....	1885. 140 00					
	For claim of I. L. Burns, etc.....	" 2,003 16					
	For claims of Janitors, etc.....	" 2,725 80					
	For Removal of Night-soil, etc.....	" 3,000 00					
	For Redemption of Debt of the Annexed Territory.....	" 9,500 00					
	For the Preservation of Public Records.....	" 5,034 14					
	Fire Department Fund—Apparatus.....	1884. 649 30					
	Fire Department Fund—Apparatus.....	1885. 5,594 15					
	Fire Department Fund—Salaries.....	" 104,021 21					
	Health Fund.....	" 15,567 44					
	Hospital for the Care of Contagious Diseases.....	1884. 7 08					
	Hospital for the Care of Contagious Diseases.....	1885. 144 20					
	Hospital Fund.....	1883. 2,260 00					
	Hospital Fund.....	1884. 3,304 26					
	Hospital Fund—North Brother Island.....	" 252 34					
	Hospital Fund.....	1885. 423 40					
	Harlem River Bridges—Repairs, Improvements and Maintenance.....	1884. 141 50					
	Harlem River Bridges—Repairs, Improvements and Maintenance.....	1885. 710 59					
	Interest on the City Debt.....	1883. 60 00					
	Interest on the City Debt—Before January, 1884.....	1884. 4,437 50					
	Interest on the City Debt—Before January, 1885.....	1885. 7,000 00					
	Incumbrances in Harbor, Removal of.....	1884. 175 00					
	Incumbrances—Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards, Removal of.....	1885. 17 60					
	Judgments.....	" 3,277 80					
	Laying Croton Pipes.....	1884. 1,777 28					
	Laying Croton Pipes.....	1885. 586 50					
	Lamps and Gas and Electric Lighting.....	1884. 2 03					
	Lamps and Gas and Electric Lighting.....	1885. 832 42					
	Maintenance—Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards.....	1884. 74 95					
	Maintenance—Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards.....	1885. 1,153 56					
	Maintenance and Government of Parks and Places—Supplies.....	1884. 139 60					
	Maintenance and Government of Parks and Places—Supplies.....	1885. 9,251 70					
	Maintenance and Government of Parks and Places—Museums.....	" 10 94					
	Maintenance and Government of Parks and Places—Police.....	" 5,139 54					
	Maintenance and Government of Parks and Places—Salaries.....	" 2,932 69					
	Maintenance and Government of Parks and Places—Zoological Department.....	1884. 155 00					
	Maintenance and Government of Parks and Places—Zoological Department.....	1885. 394 57					
	Nursery and Child's Hospital.....	" 8,846 03					
	Police Fund—Salaries.....	" 7,047 50					
	Police Station-houses—Alterations, etc.....	" 1,750 00					
	Printing, Stationery and Blank Books.....	1884. 428 65					
	Printing, Stationery and Blank Books.....	1885. 5,043 64					
	Public Drinking Hydrants.....	" 151 18					
	Public Buildings—Construction and Repairs.....	1884. 749 49					
	Public Buildings—Construction and Repairs.....	1885. 357 75					
	Public Charities and Correction—Salaries.....	1884. 109 58					
	Public Charities and Correction—Salaries.....	1885. 30,050 49					
	Public Charities and Correction—Supplies.....	1884. 25 00					
	Public Charities and Correction—Supplies.....	1885. 11,501 19					
	Public Charities and Correction—Supplies.....	1885. 23,951 07					
	Public Instruction.....	1883. 80 32					
	Public Instruction.....	1884. 2,761 83					
	Public Instruction.....	1885. 11,543 54					
	Riverside Avenue.....	" 169 79					
	Riverside Park.....	" 379 46					
	Repairs and Renewal of Pavements, etc.....	" 866 20					
	Repairs and Renewal of Pipes, Stop-cocks, etc.....	1884. 50 60					
	Repairs and Renewal of Pipes, Stop-cocks, etc.....	1885. 6,019 37					
	Roads, Streets and Avenues—Unpaved.....	" 393 87					
	Removing Obstructions in Streets and Avenues.....	" 150 50					
	Rents—Department of Public Parks.....	1884. 33 34					
	Rents and Repairs—Department of Public Parks.....	1885. 16 66					
	Salaries—Board of Assessors.....	" 1,549 99					
	Salaries—Chamberlain's Office.....	" 2,083 33					
	Salaries—Common Council.....	" 5,868 25					
	Salaries—Commissioners of Accounts.....	" 1,640 32					
	Salaries—City Courts.....	" 18,416 47					
	Salaries—Department of Taxes and Assessments.....	" 7,204 11					
	Salaries—Department of Public Works.....	" 20,468 57					
	Salaries—Department of Finance.....	" 4,367 18					
	Salaries—Judiciary.....	" 77,959 48					
	Salaries—Law Department.....	" 8,307 19					
	Salaries—Mayor's Office.....	" 1,333 31					
	Salary of the Physician to the Jail of the City and County of New York.....	" 83 33					
	Supplies for Police.....	" 6,250 00					
	Supplies for and Cleaning Public Offices.....	1884. 397 56					
	Supplies for and Cleaning Public Offices.....	1885. 5,853 44					
	Sewers—Repairing and Cleaning.....	1884. 859 23					
	Sewers—Repairing and Cleaning.....	1885. 4,003 50					
	Carried Forward.....	\$597,521 97	\$65,516 55	Carried Forward.....		\$4,057,309 35	

1885. Mar. 7	Brought Forward.....	\$527,521 97	\$65,516 55	1885.	Brought Forward.....	\$4,057,309 35
	Sewers and Drains—Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards.....	1885. 382 54				
	Storage Building for Disinfectants.....	1884. 618 27				
	Surveys, Maps and Plans—Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards.....	" 4 70				
	Surveys, Maps and Plans.....	1885. 16 15				
	Surveying, Laying-out etc.—Tax and Assessment Maps—Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards.....	1884. 4 70				
	Surveying, Laying-out, etc.—Tax and Assessment Maps—Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards.....	1885. 9 40				
	Surveys, Maps and Plans—Street Openings.....	" 1,223 79				
	New York Infant Asylum.....	" 5,919 20				
	Police Fund.....	" 293,930 00				
	Balance.....		829,650 78			
			3,162,142 02			
			\$4,057,309 35			\$4,057,309 35

E. & O. E.

NEW YORK, March 7, 1885.

1885.

Mar. 7 By Balance..... \$3,162,142 02

T. S. RUMNEY, Deputy Chamberlain.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE SINKING FUNDS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, in account with HENRY B. LAIDLAW, Chamberlain, for and during the week ending March 7, 1885.

			SINKING FUND FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE CITY DEBT.	SINKING FUND FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON THE CITY DEBT.
1885. Feb. 28 Mar. 7	By Balance, as per last account current.....			
	Assessment Fund.....	Cady.....	\$150 50	\$806,028 24
	Street Improvement Fund.....	".....	15,118 74	
	Sinking Fund Redemption—Surplus Interest.....	Commissioners Sinking Fund.....	500,000 00	
	Market Rent and Fees.....	Tomes.....	5,982 20	
	Licenses.....	Byrnes.....	13 00	
	Dock and Slip Rent.....	Voorhis.....	31,283 02	
	Interest on Deposits.....	First National Bank.....	479 45	
	".....	United States Trust Company.....	44 52	
	".....	Bank of New York.....	787 33	
	".....	Bowery National Bank.....	285 75	
	".....	Continental National Bank.....	191 78	
	".....	Farmers' Loan and Trust Company.....	603 70	
	".....	Third National Bank.....	47 94	
	".....	Central Trust Company.....	191 78	
	".....	Bank of North America.....	224 65	
	".....	Oriental Bank.....	95 89	
	".....	Merchants' National Bank.....	194 45	
	".....	Fourth National Bank.....	95 89	
	".....	Bank of the State of New York.....	191 78	
	".....	Union Trust Company.....	630 14	
	".....	Chatham National Bank.....	76 71	
	".....	United States National Bank.....	191 78	
	".....	Produce Exchange National Bank.....	191 78	
	".....	Hanover National Bank.....	143 83	
	Croton Water Rent and Penalties.....	Chambers.....	\$14,008 36	
	Croton Water Arrears and Interest.....	Cady.....	913 51	
	Fines.....	McMahon.....	732 12	
	Penalties.....	Finn.....	901 00	
	Court Fees and Fines.....	Boyd.....	645 43	
	".....	Cregier.....	10 00	
	".....	Boese.....	236 86	
	".....	Jarvis.....	443 44	
	".....	McAfee.....	80 00	
	".....	Reid.....	1,424 37	
	".....	Perley.....	463 00	
	".....	Reilly.....	343 00	
	".....	Dunphy.....	130 25	
	".....	Bruns.....	195 00	
	".....	Archibald.....	163 00	
	".....	Gardner.....	230 60	
	".....	Kelly.....	118 00	
	".....	Deane.....	202 00	
	".....	Bigelow.....	57 00	
	".....	Carroll.....	237 50	
	".....	McCarthy.....	141 50	
	".....	Boese.....	246 00	
	".....	Jarvis.....	120 00	
	".....	Tomes.....	302 50	
	".....	".....	520 18	
	Stenographers' Fees.....			
	House Rent.....			
	Ferry Rent.....			
	To Sinking Fund Redemption.....		\$50,500	22,930 62
	To Sinking Fund Interest.....		1,312,744 89	\$50,103 90
	Balance.....			183,289 47
			\$1,363,244 89	\$683,393 37
			\$1,363,244 89	\$683,393 37

Mar. 7, 1885. By Balances.....

E. & O. E.

NEW YORK, March 7, 1885.

T. S. RUMNEY, Deputy Chamberlain.

APPROVED PAPERS

Ordinances and Resolutions passed by the Common Council during the week ending Mar. 21, 1885.

Resolved, That permission be and the same is hereby given to James Hamel to fill in, regulate, grade, curb and flag One Hundred and Second street, commencing at Tenth avenue and running westerly about one hundred feet, the work to be done at his own expense, under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Works.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 9, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 16, 1885.

Resolved, That permission be and the same is hereby given to George S. Payson to lay a plank walk, two feet wide, on Inwood street, from the railroad station to the Kingsbridge road, the work to be done at his own expense, under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Works; such permission to continue only during the pleasure of the Common Council.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 9, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 16, 1885.

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Public Works be and he is hereby requested to include in the list of streets to be repaved this year, as provided in chapter 476, Laws of 1875, Washington place, from Macdougall street to the Sixth avenue.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 9, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 16, 1885.

Resolved, That Croton-mains be laid in Lexington avenue, from One Hundred and Seventeenth to One Hundred and Eighteenth street, as provided in chapter 381, Laws of 1879.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 9, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 16, 1885.

Resolved, That One Hundred and Fortieth street, from North Third avenue to Morris avenue, be regulated, graded, curbed and flagged a space four feet wide, where not already done, under the direction of the Commissioners of the Department of Public Parks; and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 9, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 16, 1885.

Resolved, That Croton-mains be laid in One Hundred and Fifty-first street, between the Boulevard and St. Nicholas avenue, as provided in chapter 381, Laws of 1879.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 9, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 16, 1885.

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Public Works be and he is hereby authorized to lay water-pipes in One Hundred and Sixty-fourth street, between Morris and Sheridan avenues; in Sheridan avenue, between One Hundred and Sixty-fourth and One Hundred and Sixty-fifth streets, and in One Hundred and Sixty-fifth street, between Sheridan and Gerard avenues, pursuant to the New York City Consolidation Act of 1882, sections 189 and 194.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 9, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 16, 1885.

Resignation of Chas. A. Herrmann as a Commissioner of Deeds.

Resolved, That Charles A. Herrmann be and he hereby is appointed a Commissioner of Deeds, in place of Charles A. Herrmann, who has resigned.

Resignation accepted and resolution adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 16, 1885.

Resolved, That the following-named persons be and they are hereby respectively reappointed to the office of Commissioner of Deeds in and for the City and County of New York, to date from the expiration of their present terms of office, March 21, 1885:

James Cogan,
Archibald B. Thompson,
Henry E. Melville,
Stanislaw Krzeminski,

James Boylan,
George E. Simons,
Edward P. Schell,
William J. Lanigan.

Also,

Resolved, That the accompanying resignation of Thaddeus J. McCarthy as Commissioner of Deeds be accepted, and the resolution appointing Robert E. Nicholls Commissioner of Deeds in his place, be adopted.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 16, 1885.

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Public Works be and he is hereby requested to include in the list of streets to be repaved this year, as provided in chapter 476, Laws of 1875, the following: South street, from Pier 6 to Pier 8; Coenties Slip, from South street to Front street; Peck Slip, from Pearl street to South street; Thames street, from Broadway to Greenwich street; also Washington street, from Canal to Houston street.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 16, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 21, 1885.

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Public Works be and he is hereby requested to include in the list of streets to be repaved during the present year, as provided in chapter 476, Laws of 1875, Thirtieth street from the Eleventh avenue westerly to the line of the old bulkhead on the North river.

Adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 16, 1885.

Approved by the Mayor, March 21, 1885.

FRANCIS J. TWOMEY, Clerk of the Common Council.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

MAYOR'S OFFICE—BUREAU OF LICENSES,
NEW YORK CITY, March 21, 1885.
Number of licenses issued and amounts received therefor
for the week ending Friday, March 20, 1885:

DATE.	NUMBER OF LICENSES.	AMOUNTS.
March 14, 1885.....	90	\$129 00
" 16, ".....	236	328 25
" 17, ".....	180	314 75
" 18, ".....	133	178 75
" 19, ".....	156	246 00
" 20, ".....	63	73 25
Totals.....	858	\$1,270 00

THOMAS W. BYRNES,
Mayor's Marshal.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

STATEMENT OF THE HOURS DURING WHICH
all the Public Offices in the City are open for business,
and at which each Court regularly opens and adjourns, as
well as of the places where such offices are kept and such
Courts are held; together with the heads of Departments
and Courts.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

Mayor's Office.

No. 6 City Hall, 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
WILLIAM R. GRACE, Mayor; RICHARD J. MORRIS-
SON, Secretary; WILLIAM L. TURNER, Chief Clerk.

Mayor's Marshal's Office.

No. 1 City Hall, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
THOMAS W. BYRNES, First Marshal.
GEORGE W. BROWN, JR., Second Marshal.

Permit Bureau Office.

No. 12 City Hall, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
HENRY WOOD, Registrar.

COMMISSIONERS OF ACCOUNTS.

Rooms 114 and 115 Stewart Building, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
WM. PITT SHEARMAN, J. B. ADAMSON.

AQUEDUCT COMMISSIONERS.

Room 78, Tribune Building, 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.
THE MAYOR, President; JAMES W. McCULLOUGH, Sec-
retary; BENJAMIN S. CHURCH, Chief Engineer.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Office of Clerk of Common Council.

No. 8 City Hall, 10 A. M. to 4 P. M.
ADOLPH L. SANGER, President Board of Aldermen.
FRANCIS J. TWOMEY, Clerk Common Council.

City Library.

No. 12 City Hall, 10 A. M. to 4 P. M.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Commissioner's Office.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
ROLLIN M. SQUIRE, Commissioner; DAVID LOWBER
SMITH, Deputy Commissioner.

Bureau of Chief Engineer.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
GEORGE W. BIRDSALL, Chief Engineer.

Bureau of Water Register.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
JOHN H. CHAMBERS, Register.

Bureau of Street Improvements.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
GEORGE A. JEREMIAH, Superintendent.

Engineer-in-Charge of Sewers.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
STEVENSON TOWLE, Engineer-in-Charge.

Bureau of Repairs and Supplies.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
THOMAS H. McAVOY, Superintendent.

Bureau of Water Purveyor.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
ALSTON CULVER, Water Purveyor.

Bureau of Lamps and Gas.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
STEPHEN MCCORMICK, Superintendent.

Bureau of Streets.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
GEO. E. BABCOCK, Superintendent.

Bureau of Incumbrances.

No. 31 Chambers street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
JOSEPH BLUMENTHAL, Superintendent.

Keeper of Buildings in City Hall Park.
MARTIN J. KESSE, City Hall.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Comptroller's Office.

No. 15 Stewart Building, Chambers street and Broad-
way, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
EDWARD W. LOWE, Comptroller; RICHARD A. STORRS,
Deputy Comptroller.

Auditing Bureau.

Nos. 19, 21, 23 Stewart Building, Chambers street and
Broadway, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
WM. J. LYON, Auditor of Accounts.
DAVID E. AUSTEN, Deputy Auditor.

Bureau for the Collection of Assessments and Arrears
of Taxes and Assessments and of Water Rents.
Nos. 31, 33, 35, 37, 39 Stewart Building, Chambers
street and Broadway, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
ARTEMAS S. CADY, Collector of Assessments and Clerk
of Arrears.

Bureau for the Collection of City Revenue and of
Markets.
Nos. 1 and 3 Stewart Building, Chambers street and
Broadway, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
FRANCIS TOMES, Collector of the City Revenue and
Superintendent of Markets.

Bureau for the Collection of Taxes.

First floor, Brown-stone Building, City Hall Park.
MARTIN T. McMAHON, Receiver of Taxes; ALFRED
VREDENBURG, Deputy Receiver of Taxes.

Bureau of the City Chamberlain.

Nos. 25, 27 Stewart Building, Chambers street and
Broadway, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
HENRY B. LAIDLAW, City Chamberlain.

Office of the City Paymaster.

Room 1, New County Court-house, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
MOOR FALLS, City Paymaster.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

Office of the Counsel to the Corporation.

Staats Zeitung Building, third floor, 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.
Saturdays, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
E. HENRY LACOMBE, Counsel to the Corporation
ANDREW T. CAMPBELL, Chief Clerk.

Office of the Public Administrator.

No. 49 Beekman street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
ALGERNON S. SULLIVAN, Public Administrator.

Office of the Corporation Attorney.

No. 49 Beekman street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
WILLIAM A. BOYD, Corporation Attorney.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Central Office.

No. 300 Mulberry street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
STEPHEN B. FRENCH, President; WILLIAM H. KIFF,
Chief Clerk; JOHN J. O'BRIEN, Chief Bureau of Elections.

DEPARTMENT OF CHARITIES AND CORREC-
TION.

Central Office.

No. 66 Third avenue, corner Eleventh street, 8.30 A. M.
to 5.30 P. M.
JACOB HESS, President; GEORGE F. BRITTON, Secre-
tary.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Office hours for all except where otherwise noted from
9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Saturdays, to 3 P. M.

Headquarters.

Nos. 155 and 157 Mercer street.
CORNELIUS VAN COTT, President; CARL JUSSEN, Sec-
retary.

Bureau of Chief of Department.

CHARLES O. SHAY, Chief of Department.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

No. 301 Mott street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

ALEXANDER SHALER, President; EMMONS CLARK,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS.

No. 36 Union Square, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

JOHN D. CRIMMINS, President; EDWARD P. BARKER
Secretary.

Civil and Topographical Office.

Arsenal, Sixty-fourth street and Fifth avenue, 9 A. M.
to 5 P. M.

Office of Superintendent of 23d and 24th Wards.
One Hundred and Forty-sixth street and Third ave-
nue, 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

DEPARTMENT OF DOCKS.

Nos. 117 and 119 Duane street, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

LUCIUS J. N. STARK, President; JOHN T. CUMING,
Secretary.
Office hours from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. daily, except Satur-
days; on Saturdays as follows: from September 15 to
June 15, from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.; from June 15 to Septem-
ber 15, from 9 A. M. to 12 M.

DEPARTMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS.

Staats Zeitung Building, Tryon Row, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
Saturdays, 3 P. M.
THOMAS B. ASTEN, President; FLOYD T. SMITH,
Secretary.

Office Bureau Collection of Arrears of Personal Taxes.
Brown-stone Building, City Hall Park, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
CHARLES S. BEARDSLEY, Attorney; WILLIAM COM-
BERFORD, Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF STREET CLEANING.

Nos. 31 and 33 Park Row, "World" Building, Rooms
8 and 9, 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
JAMES S. COLEMAN, Commissioner; JACOB SEABOLD,
Deputy Commissioner; M. J. MORRISON, Chief Clerk.

ASSESSMENT COMMISSION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT A MEET-
ing of the Commissioners under the act, chapter
550 of the Laws of 1880, entitled "An act relating to
certain assessments for local improvements in the City
of New York," passed June 9, 1880, will be held at their
office, No. 27 Chambers street, on Tuesday, March
24, 1885, at 2 o'clock P. M.

DANIEL LORD, JR.,
JOHN KELLY,
ALLAN CAMPBELL,
JOSEPH GARRY,
Commissioners under the Act.

JAMES I. MARTIN, Clerk.

AQUEDUCT COMMISSION.

COMMISSIONERS OF APPRAISAL OF REAL ESTATE
TO BE TAKEN FOR THE NEW
AQUEDUCT WITHIN THE COUNTY OF NEW YORK.

EVERY OWNER OR PERSON IN ANY WAY
interested in any real estate between the Harlem
river and the northern boundary of the City and County
of New York, intended to be taken or entered upon and
used and occupied for the purposes of the new Aqueduct;
also any owner or person interested in any real estate
contiguous thereto, and which may be affected by the
construction, and maintenance of said aqueduct, or of any
of the works connected therewith, is hereby required to
present his claim to the Commissioners of Appraisal
appointed for the purpose of appraising such lands and
easements, or ascertaining such damages, at the offices of
said Commissioners, Room 803, in the Mutual Life In-
surance Building, No. 32 Nassau street, in the City
of New York.

All said claims may be filed on and after the first day
of October, 1884. The maps showing the location of the
Aqueduct, and the lands and interests to be acquired
will be on file at the said offices on and after that date.

E. ELLERY ANDERSON,
HENRY F. SPAULDING,
ROBERT MURRAY,
Commissioners

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS,
36 UNION SQUARE,
NEW YORK, March 18, 1885.

BIDS OR ESTIMATES FOR EACH OF THE
following works, to wit:

No. 1. For furnishing and delivering, where required,
Broken Trap-rock Stone and Trap-rock Screen-
ings, along certain roads, avenues and streets in
the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards, in the
City of New York.

No. 2. For furnishing and delivering Screened Roa
Hook Gravel where required on the Central Park
and Riverside avenue, in the City of New York.

No. 3. For the Erection of a Wall on the easterly side of
Eighth avenue, between Seventy-seventh and
Eighty-first streets, City of New York.

—will be received by the Department of Public Parks
until 10 o'clock A. M. on Wednesday, the first day of
April, 1885.

Special notice is given that the works must be bid for
separately, that is, two or more works must not be in-
cluded in the same estimate or envelope.

The nature and extent of each of the several works, as
near as it is possible to state them in advance, is as stated
in the form of contract and specification.

As the above-mentioned quantities, though stated with
as much accuracy as is possible in advance, are approxi-
mate only, bidders are required to submit their estimates
upon the following express conditions, which shall apply to
and become part of every estimate received:

1. Bidders must satisfy themselves by personal examina-
tion of the location of the proposed work, and by such
other means as they may prefer, as to the accuracy of the
foregoing statement, and shall not at any time after the
submission of an estimate dispute or complain of such
statement nor assert that there was any misunderstanding
in regard to the depth of the excavation to be made or
the nature or amount of the work to be done.

2. Bidders will be required to complete the entire work
to the satisfaction of the Department of Public Parks, and
in substantial accordance with the specifications for the
work and the plans therein referred to. No extra compen-
sation beyond the amount payable for the several classes
of work before enumerated, which shall be actually per-
formed at the prices therefor, to be specified by the
lowest bidder, shall be due or payable for the entire
work.

The person making any bid or estimate must furnish
the same inclosed in a sealed envelope, to the head of
said Department, at his office, on or before the day and
hour above mentioned.

The envelope must be indorsed with the name or names
of the person presenting the same, the date of its presenta-
tion, and a statement of the work to which it relates.

The estimates received will be publicly opened by the
head of the said Department at the place and hour last
above mentioned and read.

Each bid or estimate shall contain and state the name
and place of residence of each of the persons making the
same; the names of all persons interested with him, or them
therein; and if no other person be so interested, it shall
distinctly state that fact; that it is made without any con-
nection with any other person making an estimate for
the same purpose, and is in all respects fair and without
collusion or fraud; and that no member of the Common
Council, head of a Department, Chief of a Bureau,
Deputy thereof or Clerk therein, or other officer of the
Corporation, is directly or indirectly interested therein, or
in the supplies or work to which it relates, or in any por-
tion of the profits thereof. The bid or estimate must be
verified by the oath in writing, of the party or parties
making the estimate, that the several matters stated there-
in are in all respects true. Where more than one person
is interested, it is requisite that the verification be made
and subscribed by all the parties interested.

Each bid or estimate shall be accompanied by the con-
sent in writing of two householders or freeholders in the
City of New York, with their respective places of busi-
ness or residence, to the effect that if the contract be
awarded to the person making the estimate, they will,
on its being so awarded, become bound as his sureties
for its faithful performance; and that if he shall omit or
refuse to execute the same, they will pay to the Cor-
poration any difference between the sum to which he
would be entitled on its completion, and that which the
Corporation may be obliged to pay to the person or per-
sons to whom the contract may be awarded, at 275 sub-
sequent letting; the amount in each case to be calculated
upon the estimated amount of the work by which the bids
are tested. The consent above mentioned shall be accom-
panied by the oath or affirmation, in writing, of each of
the persons signing the same that he is a householder or
freeholder in the City of New York, and is worth the
amount of the security required for the completion of
the contract, over and above all his debts of every
nature, and over and above his liabilities as bail, surety,
or otherwise; and that he has offered himself as a surety
in good faith and with the intention to execute the bond
required by section 27 of chapter 8 of the Revised Ordin-
ances of the City of New York, if the contract shall be
awarded to the person or persons for whom he consents
to become surety. The adequacy and sufficiency of the
security offered to be approved by the Comptroller of the
City of New York.

No bid or estimate will be considered unless ac-
companied by either a certified check upon one of
the National banks of the City of New York, drawn to
the order of the Comptroller, or money to the amount of
five per centum of the amount of the security required
for the faithful performance of the contract. Such check
or money must not be inclosed in the sealed envelope
containing the estimate, but must be handed to the officer
or clerk of the Department who has charge of the
Estimate-box, and no estimate can be deposited in said
box until such check or money has been examined by
said officer or clerk and found to be correct. All such
deposits, except that of the successful bidder, will be
returned to the persons making the same within three
days after the contract is awarded. If the successful
bidder shall refuse or neglect, within five days after notice
that the contract has been awarded to him, to execute the
same, the amount of the deposit made by him shall be for-
feited to and retained by the City of New York as liqui-
dated damages for such neglect or refusal; but, if he
shall execute the contract within the time aforesaid, the
amount of his deposit will be returned to him.

N. B.—The prices must be written in the estimate, and
also stated in figures, and all estimates will be considered
as informal which do not contain bids for all items for
which bids are herein called, or which contain bids for
items for which bids are not herewith called for. Permis-
sion will not be given for the withdrawal of any bid or
estimate. No bid will be accepted from, or contract
awarded to any person who is in arrears to the Corpora-
tion upon debt or contract, or who is a defaulter, as
surety or otherwise, upon any obligation to the Corpora-
tion.

The amount in which security will be required for the
performance of the several contracts is as follows:

For Number 1, above mentioned.....	\$15,000 00
" 2, ".....	10,000 00
" 3, ".....	3,500 00

The Department of Public Parks reserves the right to
reject any or all the bids received in response to this ad-
vertisement if it should deem it for the interest of the city
so to do, and to re-advertise until satisfactory bids or pro-
posals shall be received. But the contracts when awarded
will in each case be awarded to the lowest bidder.

Blank forms for proposals and forms of the several
contracts which the successful bidders will be required to
execute, can be had at the office of the Secretary, and the
plans can be seen and information relative to them can be
had at the office of the Department, 36 Union Square.

SALEM H. WALES,
JOHN D. CRIMMINS,
JESSE W. POWERS,
HENRY R. BECKMAN,
Commissioners of the Department of Public Parks

CITY OF NEW YORK,
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS,
36 UNION SQUARE,
March 18, 1885.

PROPERTY-OWNERS INTERESTED IN THE
proposed change of the grades of WASHINGTON
AVENUE, between East One Hundred and Sixty-sixth
and One Hundred and Sixty-eighth streets; BROOK
AVENUE, between North Third avenue and One Hun-
dred and Sixty-fifth street, are requested to call at the
office of the Topographical Engineer of the Department
of Public Parks, at the Arsenal Building, Sixty-fourth
street and Fifth avenue, Central Park, on or before Tues-
day the 31st instant, and examine the plans showing such
proposed change of grades and file any objections
thereto.

By order of the Department of Public Parks.

E. P. BARKER,
Secretary

CITY OF NEW YORK,
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS,
36 UNION SQUARE,
December 26, 1884.

PROPERTY-OWNERS INTERESTED IN THE
proposed change of the grades of the streets and
avenues intersecting and crossing the tracks of the
Harlem Railroad Company, in the Twenty-third and
Twenty-fourth Wards, are requested to call at the office
of the Topographical Engineer of the Department of
Public Parks, at the Arsenal Building, Sixty-fourth street
and Fifth avenue, Central Park, and examine plans, as
prepared by the Department of Public Parks, showing a
system of proposed over grade crossings, and make known
their views in relation to the same with the view of secur-
ing such change of grades.

By order of the Department of Public Parks.

E. P. BARKER,
Secretary.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

HEADQUARTERS
FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK,
155 & 157 MERCER STREET,
NEW YORK, Nov. 21, 1883.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE
Board of Commissioners of this Department will
meet daily, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the transaction of
business.

By order of

CORNELIUS VAN COTT, President.
HENRY D. PURROY,
RICHARD CROKER,
Commissioners

CARL JUSSEN,
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF DOCKS.

DEPARTMENT OF DOCKS,
Nos. 117 and 119 DUANE STREET,
NEW YORK, March 16, 1885.

NOTICE.

VAN TASSELL & KEARNEY, AUCTIONEERS,
will sell at public auction, at the Exchange Sales-
room, No. 111 Broadway, on

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1885,

at 12 o'clock M., the right to collect and retain all wharf-
age which may accrue for the use and occupation by
vessels of more than five tons burthen, of the follow-
ing-named Piers and Bulkheads, to wit:

ON NORTH RIVER.

For and during the term of five years, from May 1,
1885:

Lot 1. Pier, old 12, north half, and half Bulkhead, north-
erly.
Lot 2. Pier, old 13, and half Bulkhead, south.

For and during the term of three years, from May
1, 1885:

Lot 3. Bulkhead north of Pier, new 1.
Lot 4. Pier at Gansevoort street.
Lot 5. Pier at Little West Twelfth street.
Lot 6. Pier at West Sixteenth street.
Lot 7. Pier at West Eighteenth street.
Lot 8. Pier, new 59.

Lot 9. Pier and approach at West Forty-fourth street,
with the privilege of erecting a dump on the
approach.

Lot 10. Pier at West Fifty-first street, with reservation
for public bath on the north side of pier.

Lot 11. Pier at West One Hundred and Twenty-ninth
street.

Lot 12. Pier at West One Hundred and Thirty-eighth
street.

Lot 13. Pier at West One Hundred and Fifty-second
street.

Lot 14. Pier at West One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street.

For and during the term of one year, from May 1,
1885:

Lot 15. Pier, old 20.

Lot 16. Pier, old 21, and Bulkhead between Piers, old 20
and 21.

ON EAST RIVER.

For and during the term of three years, from May 1,
1885, except as to lot No. 20:

Lot 17. East half of Pier 18.

Lot 18. Bulkhead Platform between Piers 20 and 21.

Lot 19. Outer half of the east side of Pier 22.

Lot 20. Outer 211 feet of the west side of Pier 23.

(This lot will be sold for the term of two years
and eleven months, from June 1, 1885.)

Lot 21. Pier 44, and 45 feet of Bulkhead westerly.

R. E. CLEARY,
Storekeeper.

work, if the contract shall be awarded to the person or persons for whom he consents to become surety. The adequacy and sufficiency of the security offered to be required by the Comptroller of the City of New York.

awarded to the person or persons for whom he consents to become surety. The adequacy and sufficiency of the security offered to be approved by the Comptroller of the City of New York.

refuse, within five days after notice that the contract has been awarded to him, to execute the same, the amount of the deposit made by him shall be forfeited to and be retained by the City of New York as liquidated damages.

for such neglect or refusal; but if he shall execute the contract within the time aforesaid, the amount of his deposit will be returned to him.

THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ALL BIDS RECEIVED FOR ANY PARTICULAR WORK IF HE DEEMS IT FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY.

Blank forms of bid or estimate, the proper envelopes in which to inclose the same, the specifications and agreements, and any further information desired, can be obtained at the office of the Chief Engineer of the Croton Aqueduct, Room 10, No. 31 Chambers street.

ROLLIN M. SQUIRE,
Commissioner of Public Works.

NOTICE OF SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION.

ON TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1885, AT 11 o'clock A. M., the Department of Public Works will sell at public auction, by Van Tassel & Kearney, auctioneers, at their salesrooms in Thirteenth street,

ONE HORSE.

TERMS OF SALE.

Cash payment in bankable funds at the time and place of sale, and the immediate removal of the same.

ROLLIN M. SQUIRE,
Commissioner of Public Works.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
ROOM 6, NO. 31 CHAMBERS STREET,
NEW YORK, March 10, 1885.

TO LAMP-POST MANUFACTURERS.

BIDS OR ESTIMATES, INCLOSED IN A SEALED envelope, with the title of the work and the name of the bidder indorsed thereon, will be received at this office until Tuesday, March 24, 1885, at 12 o'clock M., at which place and hour they will be publicly opened by the head of the Department and read, for the following:

FOR FURNISHING ONE HUNDRED CAST-IRON LAMP-POSTS.

Bidders for the above contracts must be regularly engaged in the business and well prepared for furnishing the materials they propose for; and no contract will be made with any bidder who is not prepared to furnish satisfactory evidence to that effect.

Each estimate must contain the name and place of residence of the person making the same, the names of all persons interested with him therein, and if no other person be so interested, it shall distinctly state that fact. That it is made without any connection with any other person making an estimate for the same work, and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. That no member of the Common Council, head of a department, chief of a bureau, deputy thereof or clerk therein, or other officer of the Corporation is directly or indirectly interested in the estimate or in the work to which it relates or in the profits thereof.

Each estimate must be verified by the oath, in writing, of the party making the same, that the several matters therein stated are true, and must be accompanied by the consent, in writing, of two householders or freeholders in the City of New York, to the effect that if the contract is awarded to the person making the estimate, they will, upon its being so awarded, become bound as his sureties for its faithful performance; and that if he shall refuse or neglect to execute the same, they will pay to the Corporation any difference between the sum to which he would be entitled upon its completion and that which the Corporation may be obliged to pay to the person to whom the contract shall be awarded at any subsequent letting; the amount to be calculated upon the estimated amount of the work by which the bids are tested.

The consent last above mentioned must be accompanied by the oath or affirmation, in writing, of each of the persons signing the same, that he is a householder or freeholder in the City of New York, and is worth the amount of the security required for the completion of the contract, over and above all his debts of every nature, and over and above his liabilities as bail, surety, or otherwise, and that he has offered himself as surety in good faith, with the intention to execute the bond required by law.

No estimate will be considered unless accompanied by either a certified check upon one of the national banks of the City of New York, drawn to the order of the Comptroller, or money, to the amount of five per centum of the amount of the security required for the faithful performance of the contract. Such check or money must not be inclosed in the sealed envelope containing the estimate, but must be handed to the officer or clerk of the Department who has charge of the estimate-box, and no estimate can be deposited in said box until such check or money has been examined by said officer or clerk and found to be correct. All such deposits, except that of the successful bidder, will be returned to the persons making the same within three days after the contract is awarded. If the successful bidder shall neglect or refuse, within five days after notice that the contract has been awarded to him, to execute the same, the amount of the deposit made by him shall be forfeited to and be retained by the City of New York, as liquidated damages for such neglect or refusal; but if he shall execute the contract within the time aforesaid, the amount of his deposit will be returned to him.

THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ALL BIDS RECEIVED FOR ANY PARTICULAR WORK IF HE DEEMS IT FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY.

Blank forms of bid or estimate, the proper envelopes in which to inclose the same, the specifications and agreements, and any further information desired can be obtained at the office of the Superintendent of Lamps and Gas, Room 11, No. 31 Chambers street.

ROLLIN M. SQUIRE,
Commissioner of Public Works.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
NO. 31 CHAMBERS STREET,
NEW YORK, Nov. 1, 1883.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO property-owners of the City of New York that, by the New York City Consolidated Act of 1882, among other matters relating to Croton water rates and affecting all properties liable for Croton water charges, is embraced the following, in "Title 2, Duties and Powers of the Department of Public Works as to Procuring and Distributing Water":

§ 350. The Commissioner of Public Works shall, from time to time, establish scales of rents. * * * * * Such rents shall be collected from the owners or occupants of all such buildings, respectively, which shall be situated upon lots adjoining any street or avenue in said city in which the distributing water-pipes are or may be laid, and from which they can be supplied with water, said rents shall become a charge and lien upon such houses and lots, respectively, as provided by law.

It becomes my duty to state that on and after the first day of April, 1885, all extra charges, such as steam-engines, bakeries, barbers, bathing-tubs, boarding-houses, boarding-schools, building purposes, horses, horse-troughs, hotels, porter-houses, taverns, etc., printing offices, stone cutting or dressing, slaughter-houses, dyeing, water-closets and urinals, laundries, restaurants, soda fountains, extra families, oyster and coffee saloons, water by meter measurement, meters and meter setting, and all other purposes for which the use of Croton water is chargeable according to law, are liens, and unless paid on or before the 30th day of April next must be returned to the Clerk of Arrears, with the amount due on each lot.

HUBERT O. THOMPSON,
Commissioner of Public Works.

CORPORATION NOTICE.

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

List 1899, No. 1. Paving Lexington avenue, from One Hundred and Fourth to One Hundred and Thirty-first street, with granite-block pavement.

The limits embraced by such assessments include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land situated on—
No. 1. Both sides of Lexington avenue, from One Hundred and Fourth to One Hundred and Thirty-first street, and to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections in writing to the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 11½ City Hall, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

The above-described lists will be transmitted, as provided by law, to the Board of Revision and Correction of Assessments for confirmation, on the 20th day of April ensuing.

JOHN R. LYDECKER,
JOHN W. JACOBUS,
JOHN MULLALLY,
HENRY A. GUMBLETON,
Board of Assessors.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NO. 11½ CITY HALL,
NEW YORK, March 17, 1885.

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

List 1877, No. 1. Regulating, grading, setting curb-stones and flagging sidewalks four feet wide, in Ninth avenue, from the centre line of Eighty-first street to the south curb-line of One Hundred and Tenth street.

The limits embraced by such assessments include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land situated on—

No. 1. Both sides of Ninth avenue, from Eighty-first to One Hundred and Tenth street, and to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections in writing to the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 11½ City Hall, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

The above-described lists will be transmitted, as provided by law, to the Board of Revision and Correction of Assessments for confirmation, on the 16th day of April ensuing.

JOHN R. LYDECKER,
JOHN W. JACOBUS,
JOHN MULLALLY,
HENRY A. GUMBLETON,
Board of Assessors.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NO. 11½ CITY HALL,
NEW YORK, March 14, 1885.

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

List 1793, No. 1. Sewer in Fourth avenue (east side), between Eighty-second and Eighty-third streets.

The limits embraced by such assessments include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land situated on—

No. 1. East side of Fourth avenue, between Eighty-second and Eighty-third streets.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections in writing to the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 11½ City Hall, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

The above-described lists will be transmitted, as provided by law, to the Board of Revision and Correction of Assessments for confirmation, on the 13th day of April ensuing.

JOHN R. LYDECKER,
JOHN W. JACOBUS,
JOHN MULLALLY,
HENRY A. GUMBLETON,
Board of Assessors.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NO. 11½ CITY HALL,
NEW YORK, March 11, 1885.

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

List 1344, No. 1. Regulating, grading, setting curb, gutter stones and flagging on Lexington avenue, from One Hundred and Second street to Harlem river.

List 1629, No. 2. Drains for the lands bounded on the north by Fordham and Pelham avenues, on the south by the Kingsbridge road, on the east by the Southern Boulevard, and on the west by Arthur street, in the Twenty-fourth Ward.

The limits embraced by such assessments include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land situated on—

No. 1. Both sides of Lexington avenue, from One Hundred and Second street to Harlem river, and to the extent of one-half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 2. Quarry and Kingsbridge road on the south, College street, Fordham and Pelham avenues on the north, both sides of the Southern Boulevard on the east, and both sides of Arthur street on the west, in the Twenty-fourth Ward.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections in writing to the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 11½ City Hall, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

The above-described lists will be transmitted, as provided by law, to the Board of Revision and Correction of Assessments for confirmation, on the 13th day of April ensuing.

JOHN R. LYDECKER,
JOHN W. JACOBUS,
JOHN MULLALLY,
HENRY A. GUMBLETON,
Board of Assessors.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NO. 11½ CITY HALL,
NEW YORK, March 10, 1885.

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

List 1467, No. 1. Regulating, grading, curb and gutter stones, and flagging Tenth avenue, from One Hundred and Tenth to Manhattan street.

The limits embraced by such assessments include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land situated on—

No. 1. Both sides of Tenth avenue, from One Hundred and Tenth to Manhattan street, and to the extent of one-half the block at the intersecting streets.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections in writing to the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 11½ City Hall, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

The above-described lists will be transmitted, as provided by law, to the Board of Revision and Correction of Assessments for confirmation, on the 9th day of April ensuing.

JOHN R. LYDECKER,
JOHN W. JACOBUS,
JOHN MULLALLY,
HENRY A. GUMBLETON,
Board of Assessors.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NO. 11½ CITY HALL,
NEW YORK, March 7, 1885.

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

List 1087, No. 1. Regulating and paving with granite block pavement Fourth avenue, on the west side from One Hundred and Twenty-fourth to One Hundred and Thirty-third street and on the east side from One Hundred and Twenty-fourth to One Hundred and Thirty-second street.

List 2027, No. 2. Paving Fourth avenue, from One Hundred and Sixteenth to One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street with granite block pavement.

The limits embraced by such assessments include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land situated on—

No. 1. Both sides of Fourth avenue, from One Hundred and Twenty-fourth to One Hundred and Thirty-third street and to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

No. 2. Both sides of Fourth avenue, from One Hundred and Sixteenth to One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street and to the extent of half the block at the intersecting streets.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections in writing to the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 11½ City Hall, within thirty days from the date of this notice.

The above-described lists will be transmitted, as provided by law, to the Board of Revision and Correction of Assessments for confirmation, on the 30th day of March ensuing.

JOHN R. LYDECKER,
JOHN W. JACOBUS,
JOHN MULLALLY,
HENRY A. GUMBLETON,
Board of Assessors.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NO. 11½ CITY HALL,
NEW YORK, February 26, 1885.

DEPARTMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS.

DEPARTMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS,
STAATS ZEITUNG BUILDING,
NEW YORK.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 817 OF THE City Consolidation Act of 1882, it is hereby advertised that the books of "The Annual Record of the Assessed Valuations of Real and Personal Estate" of the City and County of New York, for the year 1885, will be open for examination and correction from the second Monday of January, 1885, until the first day of May, 1885.

All persons believing themselves aggrieved must make application to the Commissioners of Taxes and Assessments, at this office, during the period said books are open, in order to obtain the relief provided by law.

Applications for correction of assessed valuations on personal estate must be made by the person assessed, to the said Commissioners, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M. at this office during the same period.

THOMAS B. ASTEN,
EDWARD C. DONNELLY,
THOMAS L. FEINER,
Commissioners of Taxes and Assessments.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT the Hall of the Board of Education, corner of Grand and Elm streets, by the School Trustees of the Fourteenth Ward, until 4 o'clock P. M. on Monday, the 30th day of March, 1885, for Erecting Two Iron Stairways at Grammar School-house No. 30, on Baxter street, near Grand street.

Plans and specifications may be seen, and blanks for proposals and all necessary information may be obtained, at the office of the Superintendent of School Buildings, No. 146 Grand, corner of Elm street, third floor.

The party submitting a proposal, and the parties proposing to become sureties, must each write his name, place of residence and place of business on said proposal.

Two responsible and approved sureties, residents of this city, are required in all cases.

No proposal will be considered from persons whose character or antecedent dealings with the Board of Education render their responsibility doubtful.

The Trustees reserve the right to reject any or all of the proposals submitted.

JOHN D. KINNER,
FRANKLIN SMITH, M. D.
HENRY IDEN, JR.,
JOHN O'NEILL,
Board of School Trustees, Fourteenth Ward.

Dated New York, March 16, 1885.

JURORS.

NOTICE

IN RELATION TO JURORS FOR STATE COURTS.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF JURORS,
ROOM 127, STEWART BUILDING,
CHAMBERS STREET AND BROADWAY,
NEW YORK, JUNE 1, 1883.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTIONS WILL BE heard here, from 10 to 3 daily, from all persons hitherto liable or recently serving who have become exempt, and all needed information will be given.

Those who have not answered as to their liability, or proved permanent exemption, will receive a "jury enrollment notice," requiring them to appear before me this year. Whether liable or not, such notices must be answered (in person, if possible, and at this office only) under severe penalties. If exempt, the party must bring proof of exemption; if liable, he must also answer in person, giving full and correct name, residence, etc., etc. No attention paid to letters.

Persons "enrolled" as liable must serve when called or pay their fines. No mere excuse will be allowed or interference permitted. The fines if unpaid will be entered as judgments upon the property of the delinquents.

All good citizens will aid the course of justice, and secure reliable and respectable juries, and equalize their

duty by serving promptly when summoned, allowing their clerks or subordinates to serve, reporting to me any attempt at bribery or evasion, and suggesting names for enrollment. Persons between sixty and seventy years of age, summer absentees, persons temporarily ill, and United States and District Court jurors are not exempt.

Every man must attend to his own notice. It is a misdemeanor to give any jury paper to another to answer. It is also punishable by fine or imprisonment to give or receive any present or bribe, directly or indirectly, in relation to a jury service, or to withhold any paper or make any false statement, and every case will be fully prosecuted.

GEORGE CAULFIELD,
Commissioner of Jurors.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

CITY OF NEW YORK,
FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
March 16, 1885.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY-OWNERS.

IN PURSUANCE OF SECTION 916 OF THE "New York City Consolidation Act of 1882," the Comptroller of the City of New York hereby gives public notice to all persons, owners of property affected by the following assessment lists, viz.:

Chatham street sewer, between New York and Brooklyn Bridge and Frankfort street, with alteration and improvement to sewer in Frankfort street, between Chatham and William streets.

Twentieth street sewer, between Fourth avenue and Irving place, from end of present sewer in Twentieth street, east of Irving place.

Eighty-second street sewer, between Eighth and Tenth avenues.

One Hundred and Fourth street sewer, between Eighth and Ninth avenues.

Fourth avenue paving, from One Hundred and Second to One Hundred and Sixteenth street, with granite-block pavement.

One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street regulating, grading, setting curb-stones and flagging, from Fifth to Eighth avenue.

One Hundred and Seventy-fifth street regulating and grading, between Tenth avenue and the Kingsbridge road.

Lincoln avenue crosswalks, from Southern Boulevard to One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street.

One Hundred and Fifty-eighth street crosswalks, at the intersections of Melrose, Courland, College and Railroad avenues.

—which were confirmed by the Board of Revision and Correction of Assessments, March 11, 1885, and entered on the same date in the Record of Titles of Assessments, kept in the "Bureau for the Collection of Assessments and Arrears of Taxes and Assessments and of Water Rents," that unless the amount assessed for benefit on any person or property shall be paid within sixty days after the date of said entry of the assessments, interest will be collected thereon as provided in section 917 of said "New York City Consolidation Act of 1882."

Section 917 of the said act provides that, "If any such assessment shall remain unpaid for the period of sixty days after the date of entry thereof in the said Record of Titles of Assessments, it shall be the duty of the officer authorized to collect and receive the amount of such assessment to charge, collect, and receive interest thereon at the rate of seven per centum per annum, to be calculated from the date of such entry to the date of payment."

The above assessment is payable to the Collector of Assessments and Clerk of Arrears, at the "Bureau for the Collection of Assessments and Arrears of Taxes and Assessments and of Water Rents," between the hours of 9 A. M. and 2 P. M., and all payments made thereon, on or before May 20, 1885, will be exempt from interest as above provided, and after that date will be subject to a charge of interest at the rate of seven per cent. per annum from the date of entry in the Record of Titles of Assessments in said Bureau to the date of payment.

EDWARD V. LOEW,
Comptroller.

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE OF LANDS AND TENEMENTS FOR UNPAID TAXES AND CROTON WATER RENTS IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 928 OF THE NEW York City Consolidation Act of 1882, the Comptroller of the City of New York hereby gives Public Notice that the sale at public auction of lands and tenements in said City for unpaid taxes levied the year 1880, and Croton Water Rents laid for the year 1879, and now remaining due and unpaid, which sale is advertised to be held at the County Court-house, in the City Hall Park, in the City of New York, on Monday, December 22, 1884, at 12 o'clock noon, has been and is hereby postponed by him until Monday, May 11, 1885, to be held on that day at the same hour and place.

A pamphlet containing a detailed statement of the property advertised for sale may be obtained at the Bureau for the Collection of Assessments and Arrears of Taxes and Assessments and of Water Rents.

EDWARD V. LOEW,
Comptroller.

CITY OF NEW YORK—FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, Dec. 20, 1884.

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE OF LANDS AND TENEMENTS FOR UNPAID ASSESSMENTS FOR LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 928 OF THE NEW York City Consolidation Act of 1882, the Comptroller of the City of New York hereby gives PUBLIC NOTICE that the sale at public auction of lands and tenements in said City for unpaid assessments laid and confirmed during the year 1879 and prior thereto, for local improvements, which sale is advertised to be held at the County Court-house, in the City Hall Park, in the City of New York, on Monday, November 24, 1884, at 12 o'clock noon, has been and is hereby postponed by him until Monday, May 25, 1885, to be held on that day at the same hour and place.

A pamphlet containing a detailed statement of the property advertised for sale may be obtained at the Bureau for the Collection of Assessments and Arrears of Taxes and Assessments and of Water Rents.

S. HASTINGS GRANT,
Comptroller.

CITY OF NEW YORK—FINANCE DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, Nov. 15, 1884.

REAL ESTATE RECORDS.

THE ATTENTION OF LAWYERS, REAL Estate Owners, Monetary Institutions engaged in making loans upon real estate, and all who are interested in providing themselves with facilities for reducing the cost of examinations and searches, is invited to these Official Indices of Records, containing all recorded transfers of real estate in the City of New York from 1853 to 1885, prepared under the direction of the Commissioners of Records.

Grantors, grantees, suits in equity, insolvents' and Sheriff's sales, in 61 volumes, full bound, price, \$100 00
The same in 25 volumes, half bound, 50 00
Complete sets, folded, ready for binding, 15 00
Records of Judgments, 25 volumes, bound, 70 00
Orders should be addressed to "Mr. Stephen Angell, Comptroller's Office, New County Court-house."

EDWARD V. LOEW,
Comptroller.