

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMON COUNCIL.

REGULAR SESSION—APRIL 5, 1880.

The Common Council of the City of Indianapolis met in the Council Chamber, on Monday evening, April 5th, A. D. 1880, at half past seven o'clock, in regular session.

PRESENT—Hon. John Caven, Mayor, and, *ex officio*, President of the Common Council, in the chair, and 23 members, viz.: Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Pearson, Prier, Rooker, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, Van Vorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

ABSENT, 2—viz. Councilmen Carey, and King.

The Proceedings of the Common Council, for the regular session, held on March 15th, 1880, having been printed, and placed on the desks of the Councilmen, said Journals were approved as published.

Sealed proposals for making the below described improvements were opened, read, and referred to the Committees on Contracts:

(S. O. 52, 1879)—For the improvement of Tennessee street, from Ohio street to First street, by grading and graveling the roadway, and bowldering the gutters thereof.

(S. O. 17, 1880)—For grading and graveling First street, from Pennsylvania street to Meridian street.

(S. O. 26, 1880)—For bowldering and curbing the east gutter of Pennsylvania street, from St. Clair street to Pratt street.

COMMUNICATIONS, ETC., FROM THE MAYOR.

His Honor, Mayor Caven, presented the following communication; which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary and City Attorney:

STATE OF INDIANA, MARION COUNTY, ss:

In Marion Superior Court.

William E. Rockwood, et al., vs. 25,160. Stoughton A. Fletcher, and Francis M. Churchman.	}	Notice.
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The City of Indianapolis is hereby notified that the above entitled suit is brought against the defendants to quiet title to the following real estate, to-wit: Block 12, and so much of Block D as lies east of the track of the Indianapolis, Cincinnati & Lafayette Railroad Company track; so much of Block I as lies south of Block C, and so much of the south half of Block C as lies east of said railroad track; also lot 12 in Block eight, and lot 21 in Block eleven—all in Caven & Rockwood's East Woodlawn subdivision of Blocks A, B, C, E and F, in the Indianapolis & Cincinnati Railroad Company's subdivision of the east half of the north half of the west half of south east quarter of Section seven (7,) Township fifteen, Range four east, in Marion county, Indiana, which we have purchased at city tax sale for delinquent city taxes assessed by the city of Indianapolis; and the object of this suit is to quiet plaintiff's title to said real estate as to said tax sales upon the ground that said real estate is not in the corporate limits of the city of Indianapolis, and not liable to city taxes; and enjoin us from setting up any claim to a lien upon said real estate on account of said tax sales.

You are hereby notified to appear and assist in the defence of said suit, as in the event of our being cast in said suit, we shall look to the city of Indianapolis for the refunding to us the money paid out at said tax sale, with interest, damages thereon, and such other damages as we may sustain on account of said suit, which number 25,160, and now pending in the Marion Superior Court.

April 2d, 1880.

STOUGHTON A. FLETCHER.
FRANCIS M. CHURCHMAN.

His Honor, Mayor Caven, presented the following petition: which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary and City Attorney:

To the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

I would respectfully represent that at the city tax sales of 1876, I bought the north half of Lot 173, Ing. Fletcher's addition, in order to protect a mortgage I had on it. The property appeared of record in the name of Noah A. Walker and his wife Emily, though they had sold it before the time of tax sale, and conveyed it, though the deed had not been put on record, and in fact never was.

A year later, February, 1877, the same lot was again sold by the City Treasurer, but this time for the delinquent personal taxes of Noah A. Walker, running back several years. In order to avoid a protracted and expensive law suit, I was compelled to again buy the lot, paying about \$30.

There are two or three things connected with this transaction worthy your notice. First. The property was not at the time of attaching this tax on personal, 1876, the property of Noah A. Walker, or of Noah A. and Emily Walker, his wife. They had parted with it by deed. Although the deed had not been recorded, the title was not in the Walkers, and as a matter of fact, they laid no claim to it, and collected no rents from it.

Secondly. The city had, a year before, sold to me all of Walker's interest, except his right to redeem. It could not be taxed in my name, because it could not be transferred; but it was none the less mine for all that. Even after the expiration of two years, and the farce of giving a deed is gone through with, the right of redemption is practically the same. If Walker's delinquent and personal taxes may follow such land one year, they may two or ten, unless the mere recording of a deed stops it. Recording a deed is not necessary to the transfer of title, and my land is not liable for Walker's personal taxes merely because it appears of record in his name. If it is one year, it may be made for two or ten.

Third. I grant that the neglect or omission of the Treasurer to assess taxes for any year, does not prevent the assessment of taxes upon concealed property thereafter; but the primary lien of such taxes is upon the property taxed, and the city can not hunt up real estate that Mr. Walker may have owned and arbitrarily attach the taxes thereto. He especially can not attach it to real estate which she herself has sold as the property of Walker a year or many years before, whatever right of redemption Walker may have, or even if it still appears on the duplicate in Walker's name.

But finally: The law and the decisions under the law, are very plain. The city can not sell real estate, even for its own taxes, without first exhausting the personal property of the delinquent; much less can it sell real estate for personal taxes, when all the while the taxed property is in the city and can be had by calling for it. This was the case in this instance. The personal property was in the city all the time, and plenty of it, and not concealed, but in daily use by the owners, in their house and on the streets.

I would further represent that on the third day of February, 1877, John F. Adams bought Lot 64, in McChesney's subdivision of Out Lot 150, at Sheriff's sale, and a few days after, at the sale by the city for city taxes, I bought the same lot for delinquent taxes, (including the then delinquent personal,) and that ever since I have kept the city taxes paid; but upon calling a few days ago to pay the taxes of 1879, I found that said lot had been sold by the city for the personal taxes of Mahala Gorham for 1878, and the current taxes of 1879, on the lot. The injustice of this is as manifest as the injustice of the preceding case. Mahala Gorham has had no interest in said lot since February 3d, 1877, except her equity of redemption till February 3d, 1878. The personal taxes of 1878, for which it was sold last February, accrued even after the expiration of this equity, to say nothing of it being subsequent to the sale, by the city, more than a year before.

These are cases of manifest injustice, as well as of clear violations of law. Between individuals, they could be adjusted without the slow and expensive process of law. I see no good reason why they may not be between the city and an individual. I propose, therefore, if you have any doubts as to your right and duty to return to me the \$30 paid three years ago, in the Walker case, and to set aside the sale of another man's property for the personal taxes of another, which accrued after said third party had ceased to have any interest whatever in it, that you prepare an agreed statement of facts for the court, in each case, that the law and the equity in the case may be reached without the expense and acrimony of litigation. The interest of the tax payer and the city alike demand such an adjudication, for the city is the aggregate body of tax payers. It is well to have revenue, but it must be had equitably and lawfully, and there are other interests to be consulted than the mere convenience of the City Treasurer.

Respectfully,

T. A. GOODWIN.

His Honor, Mayor Caven, submitted the following special message; which was received, ordered printed in the Proceedings of this body, and a vote of thanks tendered His Honor:

To the Members of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—The question of taxation is, of course, one of great interest to every taxpayer, and should be studied by all, and especially by officers who levy, collect and disburse them. To complain of high taxes is supposed to be always in order, and yet very much is demanded of the city treasury. To maintain the fire and police departments as they are always expected to be, in the highest efficiency, build and repair bridges, and in this city keep clean and repair one hundred and fifty miles of streets and an equal length of alleys, with many other unavoidable expenses, requires large sums of money, and it is a very frequent occurrence for the same person to denounce the high taxes and in the same connection complain because some very unreasonable local expenditure which would especially benefit him has not been made. A comparison of our taxes with other cities might help throw some light on the question whether our taxes are too high or not.

In 1850 Indianapolis had a population of 8,034, and was the 74th city in size in the United States. In 1860, with a population of 18,611 inhabitants, was the 45th, and in 1870, with 48,244, was the 27th, and in 1880, with 95,000 to 100,000, will be the 21st, having in the last ten years passed six cities—having passed a city every twenty months, and for thirty continuous years has passed and left behind one city every six months and 24 days.

In 1870, in the United States, there was 72 cities having a population of 20,000 and upward, Indianapolis being then 27th, and now 21st in population. Of the 20 larger cities I have statistics of all except one, which I have not been able to obtain.

The rate of taxation of the 19 larger cities is in the following order, and also the per cent. of debt to property and to population :

	Tax Rate.	Per cent. of Debt.	Debt to Pop'n.
1.....	\$3 20	\$11 05	\$24 26
2.....	2 80	22 00	110 00
3.....	2 70	16 06	75 56
4.....	2 58	9 46	99 46
5.....	2 34	13 14	82 88
6.....	2 17	15 11	55 87
7.....	2 05	10 00	68 31
8.....	1 75	13 62	41 89
9.....	1 70	4 13	18 21
10.....	1 50	4 42	33 00
11.....	1 50	17 37	77 30
12.....	1 50	24 67	135 56
13.....	1 50	13 52	54 34
14.....	1 40	7 82	88 56
15.....	1 37	1 12	10 13
16.....	1 23	10 58	61 97
17.....	1 18	4 28	72 84
18.....	1 12	7 07	38 00
19.....	1 06	92	5 71
Indianapolis.....	93	2 94	14 14

In this list Indianapolis has the lowest tax-rate. The average rate of the ten highest taxed is \$2.28; of the nine lowest taxed, \$1.33, and of the nineteen is \$1.83. Indianapolis' tax-rate is only 29.06 per cent. of the highest taxed city—40.78 per cent. the average of the ten highest; 70 per cent. of the nine lowest—14 per cent. less than the lowest and 50.82 per cent. the average of the nineteen. Their average debt to the property is \$9.33; ours \$2.94, or 31.51 per cent. of their average.

Of the 52 cities less than Indianapolis in 1870, and having a population of 20,000 and upwards, two have since been incorporated with larger cities, and of the other 50 I have statistics of 46, and their tax-rates are as follows, beginning with the highest:

1.....	\$4 78	17.....	\$2 00	32.....	\$1 50
2.....	4 70	18.....	1 96	33.....	1 50
3.....	3 24	19.....	1 81	34.....	1 40
4.....	3 03	20.....	1 80	35.....	1 37
5.....	2 85	21.....	1 75	36.....	1 35
6.....	2 50	22.....	1 70	37.....	1 35
7.....	2 50	23.....	1 64	38.....	1 15
8.....	2 50	24.....	1 64	39.....	1 15
9.....	2 50	25.....	1 62	40.....	1 15
10.....	2 25	26.....	1 57	41.....	1 11
11.....	2 25	27.....	1 56	42.....	1 00
12.....	2 23	28.....	1 50	43.....	95
13.....	2 18	29.....	1 50	44.....	90
14.....	2 12	30.....	1 50	45.....	73
15.....	2 12	31.....	1 50	46.....	60
16.....	2 00				

Indianapolis' rate is but 19.09 per cent. of the highest taxed of these cities, but 30.19 per cent. of the average highest ten, but 45.54 per cent. of the average of the second highest ten, but 58.42 per cent. of the third highest ten, but 69.19 per cent. of the fourth highest ten, and but 5.12 per cent. higher than the average of the lowest six, and the average rate of the forty-six smaller cities is \$186.95, of which our rate is 49.21 per cent., and the average rate of the nineteen larger and forty-six smaller cities combined, is \$185.66, of which our rate is 50.09 per cent. In the rank of the sixty-six cities, Indianapolis in population is twenty-first; in property, twenty-third; in tax-rate, sixty-third; and compared with the nineteen larger cities, in the per cent. of debt to property, and also to population, is 17, but if we taxed as high as the one with the lowest per cent. of debt, we could pay our entire debt in five and one-half years, and if as high as the other, could pay our debt in fifteen years. There is no city as large as Indianapolis with as low a tax, and there are but three smaller ones, with a population over 20,000, with a lower rate, and of these three the next lowest has only increased 9,000 in population in the last ten years, less than one-fifth our increase; and the next lowest has increased less than one-half ours, and, having a number of different special taxes, may not be less than ours; and the lowest taxed city, with 25 per cent. of our property, has a debt 50 per cent. larger, a debt equal to nearly 20 per cent. of her property, has abandoned her city government, and if her debt bears 6 per cent. interest, it would require a tax 30 per cent. higher than ours to pay her interest alone.

The average debt to property of the 65 cities is \$10.84; Indianapolis, \$2.94, or only 37.73 per cent. of the general average. Average debt of 19 larger cities, per capita, \$62.68; Indianapolis, \$14.14, only 22.55 per cent. of the general average. And the average debt, per capita, of the 46 smaller cities is \$74.43; Indianapolis, \$14.14, equal to 19 per cent. of the general average. The estimated population has been taken in every instance from information furnished me by some responsible officer of the city referred to.

The debts of many of these cities are much larger than the basis I have estimated from, but showing available assets to be applied to the debt reduction, I first credited them with their assets and called their debt the remainder, as I also did with our own city by deducting from our nominal debt the amount of the Belt Railroad bonds we hold, and which are available for the reduction of our debt, both principal and current interest.

In addition, several cities that have much heavier taxes than ours charge heavy licenses on all kinds of business. One city with two and one-third our tax-rate, collected from licenses alone equal to 34 per cent. on her entire property last year, or more than one-third our entire tax.

The entire tax Indianapolis will have to pay this year will be, city, general purposes, 75 cents; city school, 18 cents; State, 12 cents; State-house, 2 cents; State school, 16 cents; county, 15 cents—total, \$1.38, or only 73.81 per cent. of the average city tax alone paid by the sixty-six cities with over 20,000 inhabitants. My list of State and county taxes paid by other cities is very incomplete, but what I have are mostly much higher than ours. One city, with a \$2 city tax, has a State and county tax of \$1.00; another, with a city tax of \$1.50, has a State and county tax of \$1.50. Of our entire tax, 24.50 per cent. is for educational purposes.

The following table will show our taxables, rate of taxation and taxes levied for the years named:

	Appraisement.	Tax Rate.	Tax Levied.
1875.....	\$69,251,749	\$1 50	\$1,088,761
1876.....	60,456,200	1 40	846,386
1877.....	55,367,245	1 12	620,131
1878.....	50,029,975	1 08	540,323
1879.....	48,099,940	93	447,319

A reduction in appraisement of 30.50 per cent. and in rate of 42.4 per cent., and a combined reduction in appraisement and rate of 57 per cent. A property that in 1875 paid \$100 tax will this year pay \$43, with an average school attendance of 23 per cent. more to care for.

If Indianapolis taxed as high as the highest taxed larger city, in two years our surplus would build the State-house, market, and city hall, and as high as the highest-taxed smaller city could do the same thing in thirteen months.

If we taxed as high as the average rates of the cities greater and smaller as hereinbefore classified, and should yearly invest our surplus at 6 per cent., the following calculations will show how soon our income would be sufficient to meet our expenses, and we might cease taxation altogether.

If as high as the highest-taxed larger city, in 5 years; at average rate of 5 highest-taxed larger cities, in 6 years; at average rate of 10 highest-taxed larger cities, in 8 years; at average rate of 9 lowest-taxed larger cities, in 17 years; at average rate of 19 larger cities, in 14 years; at the rate of highest-taxed smaller city, in 4 years; at average rate of 5 highest taxed smaller cities, in 5 years; at average rate of 10 highest-taxed smaller cities, in 6½ years; at average rate of second 10 highest-taxed smaller cities, in 11 years; at average rate of third 10 highest-taxed smaller cities, in 16 years; at average rate of fourth 10 highest taxed smaller cities, in 20 years; at average rate of 46 smaller cities, in 12 years; at average rate of 65 larger and smaller cities, in 13 years.

Our appraisal of improvements in the spring of 1875 was \$17,465,550, and during the years 1875-6-7-8-9 new buildings were erected of the value of \$4,540,750, being an increase of 25 per cent.; and yet in 1879 our improvements were appraised at \$15,019,100, being a decrease of 14 per cent., and during the same five years reduced our debt \$191,665.

In Indiana are ten smaller cities than Indianapolis, with property over three millions, and an estimated population of 12,000 and upwards, and their tax rates are as follows, beginning with the highest, and also the per cent. of debt to property:

	Tax Rate.	Per cent. of Debt.
1.....	\$ 1 70	\$ 8 62
2.....	1 50	8 97
3.....	1 25	5 18
4.....	1 10	2 36
5.....	1 00	4 88
6.....	1 00	3 23
7.....	1 00	95
8.....	1 00	5 25
9.....	1 00	5 70
10.....	95	1 91
Total.....		\$11 50

Indianapolis' is but 54 60 per cent. the tax-rate of the highest of these—but 71 per cent. the average of the five highest, and 94 per cent. of the average of the 5 lowest, and 81 per cent. of the average of the ten. Our debt to property is 49.24 per cent. of the 7 highest and 47.82 per cent. more than the three lowest, and our debt to property is 60 per cent. of the average of the ten.

It has long been indefinitely known that Marion county was paying into the State school fund much more than it received therefrom, and believing the facts would be interesting to our tax-payers, I have prepared the following tables showing the amounts paid into and received from said fund from, to and inclusive of the years 1861 to 1879. The State school fund for distribution consists of taxes paid in by the counties and interest from the permanent fund loaned out. Prior to 1861 I have been unable to find any data; for the years 1861-2 have been able to find only the total amounts this county paid in and received, without showing what portion of the amount received was from interest. For the years 1863-4-5-6, I find what we paid in from taxes and what we received as a whole, without showing what portion was from interest; but from and inclusive of 1867 to 1879, I find and set out what we paid and received from taxes, and so, from and inclusive of 1861 to 1866 the following figures show totals received and paid, it not being possible to ascertain what portion was from taxes or interest, and while that far not entirely exact, yet is not far from the facts, as the interest was of course placed to both sides of the account:

Years.	Amount paid in.	Amount drawn out.	Difference against Marion Co.
1861.....	\$ 34,752 87	\$ 15,209 92	\$ 19,542 95
1862.....	31,518 85	19,296 48	12,222 37
1863.....	31,687 15	17,868 43	13,818 72
1864.....	33,612 89	21,290 30	12,322 59
1865.....	40,694 10	31,225 75	9,468 35
1866.....	64,830 04	46,336 42	18,493 62
1867.....	69,209 27	40,698 66	28,510 61
1868.....	58,000 00	34,366 42	23,633 58
1869.....	61,000 00	36,247 00	24,753 00
1870.....	57,500 00	41,195 38	16,304 62
1871.....	65,000 00	42,299 15	22,700 85
1872.....	63,000 00	44,041 07	18,958 93
1873.....	78,750 00	48,800 74	29,949 26
1874.....	147,897 13	67,025 70	80,871 43
1875.....	164,994 39	72,281 26	92,713 13
1876.....	148,668 24	67,956 18	80,712 06
1877.....	153,009 63	69,084 88	83,924 75
1878.....	146,519 58	71,187 90	75,331 68
1879.....	157,551 88	75,207 25	82,344 63
Totals.....	\$1,608,196 02	\$861,618 89	\$746,577 13

So that 44.55 per cent. of the State school tax paid by this county is distributed out of it. The excess we have paid, had it been invested yearly at six per cent. on the first day of January, 1880, would amount to \$946,196.61, and the yearly interest on which would amount to \$11,423.43 more than the yearly average amount we have received, and equal to paying for twelve and one-half years in advance a sum equal to the amount we received last year. In the last six years we have paid to the State school fund \$918,640.85, and drawn out \$422,743.17, or \$495,897.68 less than we paid in; or an average yearly loss to us of \$82,648.28—receiving only 45 per cent. of the amount we paid in. The property of this county was appraised last year at \$94,343,910. Indianapolis property at \$67,379,695; Center township outside of the city, at \$8,733,645, and the remainder of the county at \$18,230,570. On that basis this year, Indianapolis will pay \$32,600.26 more than the whole county received last year. If the property of the county were appraised at \$46,942,650, a reduction of a little over 50 per cent, we would this year pay as much school tax as we received last. Seventy-one and 40 one-hundredths per cent of the property of the county is in this city, and as an appraisalment will be made this year, in justice to ourselves there should be a reduction of at least 40 per cent., and should not be appraised higher than for city purposes, which will probably be about \$50,000,000.

The census of 1870 reports our population at 48,244, and the enumeration of school children for that year was 13,082, the ratio of school children to population being 1 to 3.68, and assuming that ratio from year to year to be a fair approximate, the following tables will show our probable population March, 1879:

	School Children.	Population.	Increase.
1870.....	13,028	48,244	
1871.....	14,617	53,780	5,536
1872.....	15,718	57,842	4,062
1873.....	16,927	62,291	4,449
1874.....	19,125	70,480	8,189
1875.....	20,723	76,260	5,780
1876.....	21,255	78,218	1,958
1877.....	22,806	83,926	5,708
1878.....	25,012	92,044	8,118
1879.....	26,039	95,825	3,779
Total increase.....			47,579

An increase in nine years of 47,579, or a fraction over 98 per cent., an average yearly increase of 5,286; and during the five worst years of the panic the increase was 29,733, an annual increase of 5,946. This approximate of school children is continually employed, and seems to be reliable. In 1860 our population was 18,612 and the school children 5,178, being 1 to 3.59 of population, against 3.68 in 1879—a difference of only 2.44 per cent., and in 1870 the ratio of school children to population in the entire State was 1 to 3.74, or 2 14 per cent. more than ours in 1870.

In May, 1869, the total vote for mayor in this city was 5,641. In May, 1879, it was 14,466, an increase of almost exactly 150 per cent.; so that if we had a population of 40,000 in 1869 (one year before the census report shows we had 48,242,) our population by this approximation would have been 100,000 in May last. The average yearly increase for the years between the census of 1860 and 1870 was 2,966; and if we allow the year 1869 credit for double this average growth, our population in May of that year would be 43,329, which multiplied by 150 per cent., would make our population now 108,322.

According to the census of 1870, Marion county had 71,939 population, and in the same year cast 11,304 votes. This is in the ratio of one voter to 6.364. In 1878 the county cast 22 226 votes for Congressman, which, multiplied by 6.364, would make the population of the county in the fall of 1878, 141,466, and the vote in the city was 16,012, which, multiplied by the same ratio, would give us a population at that time of 101,900. The population outside of the city in the county in 1870 was 23,695 as against probably 40,000 now. The vote of the State in 1870 was one voter to 5.29 of population.

The increase in our population in the last nine years was equal to 31 per cent. of that of New York; to 35 per cent. of that of Philadelphia; to 36 per cent. of that of St. Louis; to 61 per cent. of that of Boston; to 51 per cent. of that of Baltimore; to 85 per cent. of that of Cincinnati, and 19 per cent. more than Buffalo. During the last nine years there were only thirteen cities in the United States that added more to their population than Indianapolis—not in per cent. merely, but in actual numbers. During that period we passed six cities and gained largely on three more. The census of 1880 will show our population to be near 100,000.

In 1810 Indiana in population was the 20th State; in 1820 the 18th; in 1830 the 13th; in 1840 the 10th; in 1850 the 7th; in 1860 the 6th, where it still remains, having passed and left behind during a period of fifty years, fourteen States, being equal to passing one State every three years and seven months; and this city, for the last thirty continuous years, has passed and left behind one city every six months and twenty-four days, and the census of 1880 will show a population in the State of 2,200,000.

Of the nineteen cities larger than this, the police force ranges from one officer to 433 to 1,434 inhabitants, the average being one officer to each 717 inhabitants. Indianapolis has one to each 1,611 inhabitants, or equal to 27 per cent. of the highest rate, 89 per cent. of the lowest, and 44.50 per cent. of the average.

Of forty-four smaller cities, with over 20,000 inhabitants, it ranges from one officer to 543 to 3,000 inhabitants, one city only having the latter figure, the next being one to 1,930, and the average is one to 1,247, Indianapolis being 34 per cent. of the highest, and 77 per cent. of the average.

It is usual to complain of taxes, forgetting how much is expected. It is simply a question like any other business question, what amount the taxpayer can afford to pay, not as a burden, but a benefit? Simply low taxation may not be economy if at the expense of safety, health, cleanliness, comfort, growth and prosperity. The true economy consists largely in judicious expenditure.

It seemed to me it might enlighten us some to institute a comparison of our taxes with other cities in the United States, and we find our tax is only half the average of all the cities of the country having a population in 1870 of 20,000 and upwards, we having a lower tax than any larger city, and the lowest of any larger or smaller but three, and two of them growing but little, and one of them is but three cents lower, and during the last ten years has increased in population but one-fifth our growth, and the third city has repudiated; and in the combined facts of low tax, debt and growth, we make a far better showing than most, and the best of any having in the last five years advanced in the right way from four different directions;

First, by \$1,000,000 additional improvements each year, and yet, second, reducing our appraisement, and third, reducing our tax-rate, being a combined reduction in tax of 60 per cent.; and fourth, reducing our debt.

It might be well to have such a comparison with other cities made every year, as it would be gratifying to our taxpayers to know that our affairs are as judiciously managed as other cities, and it might enable us to detect when we were becoming extravagant. It is true, the labor is great and the expense something. I had to write about two hundred letters to obtain the information necessary to prepare this communication, and the calculations took days and nights of labor, but I hope you will feel that it is not entirely without value.

Respectfully submitted,

J. CAVEN, Mayor.

REPORTS, ETC., FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report; which was received, and the City Civil Engineer instructed to re-advertise for new proposals.

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—The contract for grading, and paving with brick the north sidewalk of St. Clair street, from East street to Park avenue, was awarded March 1st, 1880, by your honorable bodies, to J. W. Smith, and he having failed to file a bond for said work, I would recommend that said work be let to the next lowest and best bidder, or that I be directed to advertise for proposals to do said work.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. PATTERSON, City Civil Engineer.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report; which was received:

To the Mayor and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—In the matter referred to me by your honorable body March 1st, 1880, of J. L. Spaulding vs. Edward Mueller, for the collection of street assessments by precept, would report that the matter has been settled satisfactorily between the parties, and therefore it will not be necessary to issue the precepts.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. PATTERSON, City Civil Engineer.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report; which was received, and the several estimates (presented therewith) approved:

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—I herewith report the following estimates:

A first and final estimate in behalf of James Mahoney, for grading and graveling the roadway and sidewalks thereof of John street, from Peru avenue to Massachusetts avenue.

477 lineal feet, at 49½ cents \$236 10

A first and final estimate in behalf of E. B. Elliott, for grading, and paving with brick, (except where already paved,) the sidewalks of Harrison street, from Noble street to Dillon street.

2383 7-12 lineal feet, at 22 cents..... \$524 37

2 yards extra gravel at alley crossings..... 1 30

Total estimate..... \$525 67

A first and final estimate in behalf of J. L. Spaulding, for grading and graveling Chesapeake alley and sidewalks, between West and Helen streets.

1450 9-12 lineal feet, at 28½ cents.....	\$413 38
4 yards extra gravel, at 60 cents.....	2 40

Total estimate.....	\$415 78
---------------------	----------

A first and final estimate in behalf of Wm. Murphy, for grading and graveling the second alley south of South street, from School street to Noble street.

560 lineal feet, at 14½ cents.....	\$81 19
Extra grading.....	9 75

Total estimate.....	\$90 94
---------------------	---------

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. PATTERSON, City Civil Engineer.

The following estimate resolution was then read :

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, That the accompanying first and final estimate in behalf of James Mahoney, for grading and graveling the roadway of John street, from Peru avenue to Massachusetts avenue, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen, and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

And it was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Conner, Rooker, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

The following resolution was also read :

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, That the accompanying first and final estimate in behalf of E. B. Elliott, for grading, and paving with brick (except where already paved,) the sidewalks of Harrison street, from Noble street to Dillon street, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen, and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

And it was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Rooker, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

The following estimate resolution was also read :

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, That the accompanying first and final estimate in behalf of J. L. Spaulding, for grading and graveling Chesapeake alley and sidewalks, between West and Helen streets, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen, and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

And it was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Rooker, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

The following estimate resolution was also read :

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, That the accompanying first and final estimate in behalf of Wm. Murphy, for grading and graveling the second alley south of South street, from School street to Noble street, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen, and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

And it was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Rooker, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

The City Clerk submitted the following report :

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen :

Gentlemen.—I herewith report the following affidavits, now on file in my office, for the collection of street assessments by precepts, to-wit :

Fred. Gansberg vs. Ann L. Fredericks, for.....	\$ 9 49
Fred. Gansberg vs. George W. Hoffman, for.....	7 95
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 88
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 87
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 88
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 87
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 88
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 87
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 88
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 87
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 88
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 87
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 88
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 87
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 88
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 87
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 88
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	19 87
Fred. Gansberg vs. Benjamin C. Shaw, for.....	3 98
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G.	

Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	21 20
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	69 96
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	69 96
Fred. Gansberg vs. Barth's heirs, viz: Anna M. Jack, Fannie G. Roll, and Caroline B. Leonard, for.....	259 97
Fred. Gansberg vs. George Wagoner, for.....	9 61

And recommend that you order the precepts to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

JOS. T. MAGNER, City Clerk.

Which was concurred in, and the precepts ordered to issue, by the following vote:

AYES, 17—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Brown, Bryce, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Rooker, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

The City Clerk submitted the following report; which was referred to the Committees on Finance:

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I herewith submit an itemized statement, showing the amount of orders drawn on the city treasury during the month of March, 1880:

Board of Health.....	\$	150 75	
City Assessor's Department.....		80 25	
City Civil Engineer's Department.....		100 95	
City Dispensary.....		167 18	
City Hall.....		786 10	
City Hospital and Branch.....		803 61	
City Treasurer's percentage.....		741 98	
Damages and Costs.....		862 95	
Fire Department.....		4,794 06	
Gas.....		5,119 43	
Incidentals.....		86 43	
Interest on bonds.....		54,247 75	
Market-Masters' Fees.....		94 74	
Parks.....		43 50	
Police.....		3,444 08	
Printing.....		570 25	
Salary.....		117 41	
Station Houses.....		271 68	
Street Improvements.....		3 26	
Street Repairs.....		2,850 07	
Water rent.....		7,392 85	
			\$81,729 28
School Fund.....			4,172 00
Total.....			<u>\$ 85,901 28</u>

Respectfully submitted,

JOS. T. MAGNER, City Clerk.

The City Treasurer submitted the following report; which was referred to the Committees on Finance:

Report of Wm. G. Wasson, City Treasurer, for the month of March, 1880.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand February 29th, 1880, as per report	\$	118,607 54
From current taxes.....		82,393 92
From delinquent taxes.....		949 86
From tax sales.....		39,419 56
From auction licenses.....		10 00
From benefits.....		15 00
From coal licenses.....		6 00
From dray licenses.....		3 00
From dog licenses.....		4 50
From express licenses.....		51 20
From fines (City Court).....		54 60
From Gregg bequest.....		8,281 21
From hack licenses.....		66 00
From market masters' fees.....		203 75
From peddlers' licenses.....		67 00
From promiscuous.....		69 40
From tapping sewers.....		3 00
		<u>\$ 250,205 54</u>

DISBURSEMENTS.

For Board of Health	\$	150 75
For bridges.....		186 45
For City Assessor's Department.....		80 25
For City Civil Engineer's Department.....		93 95
For City Commissioners.....		21 00
For City Dispensary.....		167 18
For City Hall.....		36 10
For City Hospital and Branch.....		789 48
For City Treasurer's percentage.....		741 98
For damages and costs.....		105 00
For Fire Department.....		4,732 33
For gas.....		5,119 43
For interest on bonds.....		54,247 75
For parks		43 50
For market-masters' fees.....		94 74
For police		3,417 83
For printing		570 27
For salary		117 41
For school fund.....		6,241 02
For station houses		271 18
For street improvements.....		3 26
For street repairs		2,603 02
For water rent.....		7,392 85
Balance on hand.....		162,978 83
		<hr/>
		\$ 250 205 54

Respectfully submitted,

W. G. WASSON, City Treasurer.

The City Attorney submitted the following report; which was received:

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—In obedience to your instructions, I herewith submit a petition for the annexation of certain lands owned by Fred Henry Wiley, and bounded on the west by the Michigan Road, on the south by Fourth street, and on the east by the Central Canal. I also submit the accompanying resolutions pertaining to the same matter for your adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. HENRY, City Attorney.

The following petition and resolution were then read:

To the Honorable, the Board of Commissioners of Marion County, Indiana:

The Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the city of Indianapolis, respectfully petition your honorable body to annex to said city of Indianapolis the following described contiguous territory, to-wit:

One acre, more or less, situated in the north half of the south west quarter of Section thirty-five (35,) Township sixteen (16,) Range three (3) east, in Marion county, Indiana, and bounded on the west by the Michigan road; on the south by Fourth street, and on the east by the Central Canal. A plat of which lands is herewith filed and marked exhibit "A."

The said parcel of land is owned by Fred, Henry Wiley, a minor, of whom John C. Wright is guardian. Your petitioners would respectfully represent that the said described parcel of land should be annexed to said city for the following reasons:

First. Because it is important that the police powers of said city should be extended over said territory.

Second. Because it is essential to the proper laying out, improving and maintenance of streets.

Third. Because said annexation is for the benefit of the public generally.

Your petitioners therefore pray that your honorable body will order the annexation of the territory aforefaid to said city of Indianapolis.

The Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen of the city of Indianapolis.

By John A. Henry, City Attorney.

Resolved, That the petition prepared by the City Attorney be, and is hereby, adopted as the petition of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the city of Indianapolis, and that the City Clerk be, and he is hereby, directed to file the same, with a certified copy of this resolution, and the motion heretofore adopted upon this subject, in the office of the Auditor of Marion county, Indiana.

Resolved, That the City Clerk be, and is hereby, directed to cause the proper notice of the pendency of said petition to be at once published according to law.

And the resolution was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Bryce, Dowling, Hamilton, Har-
mening, Kahn, Lamb, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Pearson, Prier, Rooker,
Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVornhis, Wiese and Wood.

NAYS—None.

The City Attorney submitted the following report; which was referred to the Joint Committees on Judiciary, and Finance and the City Attorney:

Indianapolis, April 3d, 1880.

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—I beg leave to report that the Superior Court, in the case of Simon Yandes vs. Rushcarp, et al., entered judgment and a decree against the city for \$5,858.69.

This was an action to foreclose a mortgage on certain real estate on north Pennsylvania street, 50 feet of which had been taken for a street in 1875, in the opening of Second street.

In the condemnation proceedings, damages to the amount of \$6,364.00 were awarded to Ruscharp on account of the ground so taken, and the same was subsequently paid to him. At that time Yandes held a mortgage on said real estate, and was not notified of the condemnation proceedings.

The Court, at the former trial, ordered all the property sold, including that taken for street, and directed that the city pay any deficiency that might remain unpaid of plaintiff's debt. An appeal was taken from that judgment, and the same was by the General Term reversed.

The cause was again tried at Special Term, and resulted in decree for the above amount, but directing that the ten feet not taken for the street be sold, and the proceeds applied in discharge of the debt of the plaintiff, and the city pay the balance. Mr. Yandes has made me an offer to compromise the matter for \$4,500.00, and I therefore submit the same to you for such action thereon as you may deem proper.

I might add that the cause has been prepared for an appeal, if you so desire. I also herewith submit a communication from Addison C. Harris, Esq., for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. HENRY, City Attorney.

The following communication was read; and referred to the Joint Committees on Judiciary, and Finance and City Attorney:

Indianapolis, March 19, 1880.

DR. SIR:—On February 18, 1870, an ordinance was introduced and passed, for

putting a cement pipe sewer in Illinois street, between Washington and South streets. The cost was paid out of the General Sewerage Fund. By the ordinance itself, the contract was awarded to John W. Dodd. You will see that by the 4th section of the ordinance, half the money paid out was sought to be collected back from the property holders owning property "on both sides of Illinois street." After the sewer was put in and paid for, one-half of the cost was put on the property between South and Washington streets, apportioned at so much per foot, irrespective of the supposed benefits. The sewer was so small—15 by 22 inches oval—as to be of no practical use. In 1873 a suit was brought by certain of the property holders to enjoin a threatened sale of their property, (being case number 3,194 in the Superior Court,) under these assessments. Judge Perkins granted an injunction, as he was then on the Superior Bench.

Soon after this, perhaps in 1874 or '5, the city tore out the worthless sewer and built a good one in its place. The pipes used were found to be rotten and worthless, and, as said before, the sewer was so small as to be of no value.

Since the sewer was torn out, no effort has been made to collect the assessments. I am informed the whole matter has been dropped by the city officers. Without speaking of the legal questions involved, it is manifestly inequitable and unjust to strive to make the property holders pay for a sewer that was of no benefit to anybody, but wholly worthless.

Judge Holman wants the case disposed of. The city, I know, desires to deal fairly with her citizens. Under the circumstances, I feel that the city should no longer claim to enforce these assessments. I do not understand that she has made any effort to enforce their collection for the last five or six years. I beg that you will consult and advise with the officers, Aldermen and Councilmen in this regard. I feel sure that every one will concur in the view that it is the right thing, under the circumstances, to abandon all claims to compel the property holders to pay for that which was never of any value to them, and consent that these assessments be set aside, so that they may not appear to be a charge on the lots and a cloud on their titles.

Yours, most respectfully,

ADDISON C. HARRIS,

Att'y. for property holders.

To JOHN A. HENRY, Esq., City Att'y.

The Chief Fire Engineer submitted the following report; which was received:

Indianapolis, March 26, 1880.

To His Honor, Mayor Caven, Board of Aldermen, and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—Notice has been received by me from the Water Works Company, that the following hydrants have been placed in service:

No. 588, northeast corner Blake and Market streets.

No. 589, northeast corner Blake and second alley south of New York street.

No. 590, northeast corner Blake and Vermont streets.

No. 591, northeast corner Blake and Michigan streets.

No. 592, northeast corner Blake and North streets.

No. 593, northeast corner Blake and Elizabeth streets.

No. 594, northwest corner Blake and Rhode Island streets.

No. 595, southeast corner Blake street and Indiana avenue.

No. 596, southeast corner Douglass street and Indiana avenue.

No. 597, northeast corner St. Clair street and Indiana avenue.

These hydrants have been properly located by the Fire Board and Chief Fire Engineer. They have been tested, and are in good condition. This notice was received on March 17, 1880, from which date they charge the city at the rate of \$50.00 per year for each hydrant.

I was also notified on March 20, 1880, that hydrant No. 598 was placed in service. Charges have been made for this hydrant from the above date, at the rate of \$50.00 per year. This hydrant was properly located and tested, and is now in order.

Respectfully submitted,

J. G. PENDERGAST, Chief Fire Engineer.

The Chief Fire Engineer submitted the following report:

Indianapolis, April 2, 1880.

To the Honorable Mayor Caven and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—In compliance with your order of March 15th, with reference to South Meridian, Union and Chestnut streets, I would report as follows:

That I have examined said streets, and find that on South Meridian street there are a few bad places, such as deep ruts and holes; also on Union street there are some bad places, and on the north end of Chestnut street. These places would be unsafe for the Fire Department to pass over in going to a fire, especially after night, when they could not be seen, but generally these streets compare favorably with a majority of our streets.

I would further report that unless we are provided with water in that district there would not be much use for us to pass over these streets, either day or night. As there is a large district south of Morris street that is thickly built up and altogether unprovided with water to use in case of fire, a cistern built in that district would be very important in case the services of the Fire Department was needed there; therefore I respectfully recommend that a cistern with a capacity of 1800 barrels be built in the above named district.

Respectfully submitted,
J. G. PENDERGAST, Chief Fire Engineer.

On motion, so much of the report as relates to streets, was referred to the Board of Public Improvements, and the remainder to the Fire Board.

The Superintendent of the City Hospital and Branch submitted the following report; which was received:

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—The following reports of the City Hospital and Branch, for the month of March, 1880, are respectfully submitted:

	First Week.	Second Week.	Third Week.	Fourth Week.	Days.	Monthly Total.
Number of paid Officers and Employes in Hospital						
Number of paid Officers and Employes in Branch.....						
Number of beds in Hospital						
Number of beds in Branch.....						
No. of adult patients in Hospital at beginning of week.....	46	49	43	45	44	46
No. of infant patients in Hospital at beginning of week.....	3	3	3	4	4	3
No. of adult patients received during week	10	9	5	7	2	33
No. of infant patients received or born during week.....	.....	2	1	.....	1	4
No. of adult patients discharged during week	7	13	3	6	4	33
No. of infant patients discharged during week.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
No. of adult patients who died during week.....	.....	2	.....	2	.....	4
No. of infant patients who died during week.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
No. of patients in Branch at beginning of week.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
No. of patients in Branch at end of week.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
No. of adult patients in Hospital and Branch at end of week	49	43	45	44	42	42
No. of inf't patients in Hospital and Branch at end of week	3	3	4	4	5	5
No. of pay-patients at beginning of week.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
No. of pay-patients at end of week .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Aggregate number of days of patients in Hospital.....	362	359	332	346	146	1545
Aggregate number of days of patients in Branch .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Aggregate number days of employes in Hospital.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	444

Number of prescriptions filled during the month.....	360	
Total expenditures for month		\$887 79
Cash collected from pay-patients and other sources, and paid to City Treasurer.....	\$38 00	
Aggregate number of days subsistence furnished	1989	
Average daily cost of each patient .....		.574
Average daily cost for patients, officers, and employes.....		.446

WILLIAM N. WISHARD, M. D., Superintendent.

REPORTS, ETC., FROM OFFICIAL BOARDS.

The Board of Public Improvements, through Councilman KcKay, submitted the following report; which was received, and the several recommendations concurred in :

To the Mayor, and Members of the Common Council, and

Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—Your Board of Public Improvements, to whom was referred sundry papers, make the following report thereon:

1st. Is a motion that the Street Commissioner fill the chuck holes on Wyoming street, between High and Delaware streets.

We recommend the work be done.

2d. Is a motion that the Street Commissioner fill the chuck holes opposite 175 and 177 east Louisiana street.

We recommend the work be done.

3d. Is a motion that the Street Commissioner fill the chuck holes in St. Joseph street, between Pennsylvania and Alabama streets.

We recommend the chuck holes in said street be filled with gravel, from Pennsylvania street to Ft. Wayne avenue.

4th. Is a motion that the Street Commissioner clean the gutters, and fill the chuck holes with cinders, on east Merrill street, at Peter Zimmer's grocery.

We recommend the work be done.

Respectfully submitted,

M. H. McKay,

J. L. Bieler,

Board of Public Improvements.

The Board of Public Improvements and Street Commissioner, through Councilman McKay, submitted the following report; which was received:

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—We herewith report expenditures of the Street-Repairs Department for the month of March, 1880, together with total amount of expenditures to April 1st, 1880:

Pay-rolls	\$ 2,229 78
Gravel.....	90
Blacksmithing.....	7 40
Lumber.....	304 65
Sand	20 80
Hardware.....	50 06

Repairs on street fountains	6 82
George E. Lowry's serving official notices on property holders to repair sidewalks, etc.....	44 25
Total expenditures for March, 1880.....	\$ 2,664 66
Total expenditures per last report	27,570 15
Total expenditures to April 1st, 1880.....	\$ 30,234 81

Respectfully submitted,

M. H. McKay,
J. L. Bieler,

Board of Public Improvements.

L. A. FULMER, Street Commissioner.

The Dispensary Board, through Councilman VanVorhis, submitted the following report; which was received:

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—The following reports of the City Dispensary for the month of March, 1880, are respectfully submitted:

Number of Patients treated at Dispensary.....	184
Number of Medical cases at Dispensary	125
Number of Surgical cases at Dispensary	41
Number of Disease of Nervous System.....	10
Number of Disease of Eye and Ear.....	8
Number of Out-door Patients treated	110
Number at Station House.....	7
Number at News Boys' Home	1
Total number of Patients treated during month.....	302
Total number of Visits made during month.....	343
Total number of Prescriptions filled during month.....	804
Number of Births during month.....	00
Number of Deaths during month.....	5

EXPENDITURES FOR MONTH.

C. A. Ritter, Superintendent.....	\$ 37 50
T. R. Rubush, Resident Physician.....	37 50
F. M. Ferree, Prescription Clerk.....	30 00
W. A. & I. N. Pattison, drugs.....	46 40
Watson Coal & Mining Co.....	7 00
Indianapolis Gas Light & Coke Co.....	5 60

Total expenditures for month..... \$164 00

C. A. RITTER, M. D., Superintendent.

The Board of Health submitted the following report; which was received:

Report of Deaths in the City of Indianapolis, from the 15th day of March, to the 31st day of March, 1880—inclusive.

Under 1 year.....	15
1 to 2 years.....	9
2 to 5 ".....	11
5 to 10 ".....	6
10 to 15 ".....	4
15 to 20 ".....	6
20 to 25 ".....	7

25 to 30	"	.....	4
30 to 40	"	.....	7
40 to 50	"	.....	3
50 to 60	"	.....	5
60 to 70	"	.....	4
70 to 80	"	.....	8
80 to 90	"	.....	0
90 to 100	"	.....	0
100 and upwards		.....	0
Unknown		.....	0
Total.....			89

Respectfully,

HENRY JAMESON, M. D., President,
W. E. JEFFRIES, M. D., Secretary,
Board of Health.

The Board of Health submitted the following communication; which was received and request granted:

Indianapolis, April 5, 1880.

To the Honorable, the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—We respectfully ask that officer Shelton be detailed to assist in the duties of this office. The time of year has arrived when sanitary measures ought to be prosecuted vigorously. We have at present two sanitary policemen on duty; one is required in the office all the time, and the other is kept busy answering calls of individual complaints, leaving us without any one to prosecute any work on our own account.

We would prefer officer Shelton for the reason that he is familiar with the work.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY JAMESON, M. D., President.
W. E. JEFFRIES, M. D., Secretary.

The Board of Health submitted a report for the year ending with December 31st, 1879.

On motion by Councilman Kahn, it was ordered that the report be printed in pamphlet form, and action thereon be postponed until next Monday night, April 12th, and that the said report, together with all ordinances in relation to Privy Vaults, &c., be made the special order for such meeting.

REPORTS, ETC., FROM COMMITTEES.

Councilman Kahn, from the Committee on Finance, to which committee had been referred G. O. 4, 1880, submitted the following entitled ordinance as a substitute for the one referred:

G. O. 13, 1880—An Ordinance granting Charles T. Gilmore a license to carry on, maintain and exhibit a Museum and Menagerie in the city of Indianapolis.

The Committee on Public Health, through Councilman VanVorhis,

submitted the following report; which was made the special order for next Monday night:

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Public Health, together with the Board of Health, to whom G. O. 10, 1880, was referred—an ordinance relative to the erection and maintenance of privies, water-closets, &c.—would report thereon as follows:

After careful examination of all the provisions of said ordinance, and due consideration of the same, recommend to amend section 2d by adding, after the words "fit sanitary condition," the words "and it shall be within the power and discretion of the Board of Health to order the owners of any other building, located on the street or alley or public place in or through which a public sewer has been constructed." And would further recommend to strike out of section 4th the words "or to locate or erect any privy nearer than two feet of the line of any adjacent lot, without obtaining the written consent of the owner of such adjacent lot." And also recommend that where section 4 reads "and every privy vault hereafter constructed shall have a depth of not to exceed eight feet," to strike out the word eight and insert the word ten instead. And to strike out section 27 entire; and after so amended, said ordinance be passed.

Approved:

Henry Jameson, Pres't.
Wm. E. Jeffries, Sec'y.,
Wm. Wands,
Board of Health.

Respectfully submitted,

Flavius J. VanVorhis, Ch'n.,
W. H. Tucker,
M. L. Brown,
Committee on Public Health.

The Committee on Judiciary, through Councilman Lamb, submitted the following report; which was received, and the several recommendations concurred in:

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—Your Judiciary Committee and City Attorney, to whom was referred sundry papers, report thereon as follows:

1st. Is a petition by L. I. Mossler and others asking the Council to pass an ordinance prohibiting a certain class of runners or solicitors to be employed by business houses.

Report thereon, that satisfactory arrangements having been made between such houses, concerning such employment, recommend that the prayer of said petitioners be not granted.

2d. Is the petition of Caroline S. Mears, executrix of the estate of George W. Mears, asking the refunding of certain moneys paid on account of an alleged erroneous tax assessment.

Recommend the prayer of the petitioner be not granted.

3d. Is a claim by Ed. May, executor of the estate of Edwin May, asking \$150 on account of furnishing certain plans for a work house to be built for the City of Indianapolis (which same never was built).

Recommend the payment of \$100 in satisfaction of such claim. We think the city liable to the estate of Mr. May on her contract with him for the sum above allowed.

4th. Is a petition of Fannie Allred, wherein she asks the Council and Board of Aldermen to allow her damages on account of straightening Pogue's Run.

Recommend the prayer of petitioner be not granted.

Wm. C. Lamb,
C. F. Rooker,
Jas. T. Dowling,
Committee.

JOHN A. HENRY, City Att'y.

The Committee on Bridges, through Councilman McKay, submitted the following report; which was concurred in :

To the Mayor, and members of the Common Council, and

Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Bridges, to whom was referred the motion to rebuild the Blackford street bridge out of the materials from the viaduct, would report that after examination we find the bridge in an unsafe condition, and a new one should be constructed at once.

We recommend that the Street Commissioner construct such bridge, under the direction of the City Civil Engineer and Board of Public Improvements.

Respectfully submitted,

M. H. McKay,
Henry Bermann,
Committee on Bridges.

Councilman Hamilton, in behalf of the Committees on Public Property, submitted the following report; which was concurred in :

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen:—Your Joint Committees on Public Property, to whom was referred the subject of procuring a reduction of the rental paid for the quarters now occupied by the city officers, have discharged that duty, and beg leave to present a copy of the order passed by the County Commissioners and entered upon their records, as their report, and recommend the adoption of the same by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen.

H. G. Carey,
Council Committee.

James T. Layman,
Aldermanic Committee.

STATE OF INDIANA, }
MARION COUNTY, } ss :

{ Commissioners' Court,
March Term, 1880.

"The Board believing that the interests of the county are better protected in the occupancy of the rooms in the lower story of the Court House, by the city authorities of Indianapolis as at present, than if left vacant or rented to miscellaneous tenants, and as said city bears a large proportion of the county expenses;

It is hereby ordered, That the lease made with said city, and recorded on the 18th day of December, 1877, on pages 106 and 107 of Record No. 16, be and the same is continued in full force and effect as to all its terms and conditions, excepting that instead of three thousand dollars per year, as is stipulated in said lease, the said city is released from payment of twelve hundred dollars, per year, of said amount, from and after the first day of April, 1880; and as full compensation and rental for said premises from and after said first day of April, 1880, to the expiration of the said lease, said city shall pay to the County Treasurer the amount of eighteen hundred dollars for each year, one-fourth thereof on the first days of April, July, October, and January of each year respectively."

I, William A. Pfaff, Auditor of said county, certify the foregoing to be a true copy of an order of the Board of Commissioners of said county, made and entered March 18th, 1880.

Witness my hand and official seal, March 31st, 1880.

[SEAL.]

WM. A. PFAFF,
Auditor Marion County.

The Committees on Railroads, through Councilman Prier, submitted the following report; which was concurred in :

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen :—Your Committees on Railroads, to whom a petition of C. E. Merrifield was referred, asking that a permit be granted him to lay a railroad switch across Pratt street, on the east side of and adjacent to the track of the I. C. & L. R. R. in this city, would recommend that said permit be granted and an ordinance passed in conformity with the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Kahn,
H. J. Prier,
C. F. Rooker,
H. Seibert,
Committees.

The following entitled ordinance, introduced by the foregoing named committees, was read the first time :

G. O. 14, 1880—An Ordinance granting C. E. Merrifield the right and privilege to build and construct a Railroad Switch across Pratt street, near the tracks of the I., C. & L. Ry. Co.

The Committee on Water, through Councilman Wood, submitted the following report ; which was concurred in :

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen :—Your Committee on Water, to whom a resolution was referred, directing the Water-Works Company to lay a 6-inch main on Cherry street, from Broadway street to the east end of St. Mary street, would report thereon as follows :

After careful consideration of the matter, and in view of the fact that this being a thickly settled part of the city, and also that said proposed main would connect two dead ends of mains, we recommend that said resolution be adopted.

Geo. P. Wood,
M. H. McKay,
M. L. Brown,
Committee on Water.

The following resolution was then read :

Resolved, That the Water Works Company of Indianapolis be, and is hereby, directed to lay a six-inch main in, and along, Cherry street, from Broadway street to the east end of St. Mary street, placing one plug under the direction of the Fire Board and Chief Fire Engineer.

And it was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, Pearson, Prier, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, Van Vorhis, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

Councilman Hamilton, in behalf of a certain special committee, submitted the following report ; which was concurred in :

To the Mayor and Common Council :

Gentlemen :—The undersigned, Special Committee and City Attorney, to whom was referred the petition of certain citizens asking for the removal of the railroad

switch running from the main track of the I. P. & C. R. R. to North street, beg leave to report that upon investigation we find that the right to construct and maintain said switch from the point on the main track to the point where the same strikes their old track on Peru street was given to said company by the ordinance ratifying the contract between the I. P. & C. R. R. Co. and the U. C. C. & I. R. R. in the readjustment of their tracks, and that the I. P. & C. R. R. also reserved the right to keep and maintain a portion of their old track on Peru street. We are therefore of the opinion that the said railroad have such vested rights in the right-of-way for said switch as would prevent the city from compelling its removal.

We are therefore compelled to report against granting the prayer of the petition.

We however recommend that the matter of the proposed removal of said switch be referred to the Committee on Railroads, with directions to enter into negotiations with said railroad company for the removal of the same at an early day.

Respectfully submitted,

F. W. Hamilton,
M. H. McKay,
C. H. Harmening,
Special Committee.

JOHN A. HENRY, City Attorney.

MESSAGES AND PAPERS FROM THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

The following message was read :

To the Mayor and Common Council :

Gentlemen:—The Board of Aldermen, at its regular session held on March 17th, 1880, on recommendation of the Aldermanic Committee on Streets and Alleys, approved your action of January 7th, 1880, in adopting the following motion, on condition that he complies with all existing ordinances regulating the same, viz :

“That Henry Guetig, proprietor of the Spencer House, be and is hereby allowed to erect in front of his premises, South Illinois street, a business sign nine or ten feet high.”

For the Board of Aldermen :

GEO. T. BREUNIG, Clerk.

Councilman VanVorhis moved to lay the subject on the table.

Which motion was not adopted.

Councilman Pearson moved to refer to the Joint Committees on Streets and Alleys.

On motion by Councilman Morrison, the action of the Board of Aldermen was concurred in.

The following message was read :

To the Mayor and Common Council :

Gentlemen:—The Board of Aldermen, at its regular session held on March 17th, 1880, refused to concurrently adopt the following motion (adopted by your honorable body March 15th, 1880), for the reason that the ground in question was not a public street, and the city therefore had no jurisdiction over the same, viz :

“That the Lafayette Railroad Co. and property holders be permitted to grade

and gravel the street west of the Lafayette Railroad tracks, between North and Walnut streets, at their own expense, under the direction of the City Civil Engineer."

For the Board of Aldermen:

GEO. T. BREUNIG, Clerk.

On motion, this body concurred in the action of the Board of Aldermen, thus receding from its action of March 15th, in adopting the aforesaid resolution.

The following message was read:

To the Mayor and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—At a regular session of the Board of Aldermen, held on March 17th, 1880, the following report (originating in said body) was concurred in, viz:

"To the President and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

35 *Gentlemen*:—Your Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom sundry papers were referred, would report thereon as follows:

* * * * *

2d. Is a motion as to the necessity of bowldering and curbing all gutters on new street improvements; also old gutters in the central part of the city.

After due consideration, we would recommend that in all new street improvements, the gutters be bowldered and the street improved from gutter to gutter, and the gutters in the center of the city, where not already improved, be bowldered as fast as practicable.

Respectfully submitted,

H. E. Drew,
Hiram Seibert,
W. F. Piel,
Aldermanic Committee."

I submit the foregoing for your consideration and action.

For the Board of Aldermen,

GEO. T. BREUNIG, Clerk.

On motion, the report was referred to the Board of Public Improvements, with instructions to report at next regular meeting of this body.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES.

The following entitled ordinances were introduced, and were severally read the first time:

By the Fire Board, through Councilman Tucker:

Ap. O. 19, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of the Fire Department.

By the Hospital Board, through Councilman Morrison:

Ap. O. 20, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of the City Hospital and Branch.

By the Police Board, through Councilman Downey:

Ap. O. 21, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of Station-Houses.

By the Committees on Accounts and Claims, through Councilman Van-Vorhis :

Ap. O. 22, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis.

By the Committees on Printing, through Councilman Hamilton :

Ap. O. 23, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of Printing, Stationery, and Advertising.

By the Board of Public Improvements, through Councilman McKay :

Ap. O. 24, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating the sum of Five Thousand Dollars, on account of the Street-Repairs Department of the city of Indianapolis.

Appropriation Ordinances Nos. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, 1880, were severally read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

Ap. O. 19, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of the Fire Department. [Amount appropriated, \$1,662.33.]

Was read the third time, and passed by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Prier, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

Ap. O. 20, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of the City Hospital and Branch. [Amount appropriated, \$887.79.]

Was read the third time, and passed by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Prier, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

Ap. O. 21, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of Station Houses. [Amount appropriated, \$217.53.]

Was read the third time, and passed by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Prier, Sheppard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

Ap. O. 22, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis. [Amount appropriated, \$32,300.28.]

Was read the third time, and passed by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Prier, Shepard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

Ap. O. 23, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of Printing, Stationery, and Advertising. [Amount appropriated, \$247.61.]

Was read the third time, and passed by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Prier, Shepard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

Ap. O. 24, 1880—An Ordinance appropriating the sum of Five Thousand Dollars, on account of the Street-Repairs Department of the city of Indianapolis.

Was read the third time, and passed by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Brown, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Prier, Shepard, Shilling, Tucker, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

Councilman Tucker, by consent, offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the Joint Committees on Streets and Alleys be, and are hereby, requested to call a joint meeting of said committees, on Wednesday, April 14th, at 4 P. M., in this Council Chamber, and that the City Clerk notify W. H. English, J. S. Spann, E. L. Atkinson, G. C. Krug, J. C. S. Harrison, representative of the Bobbs estate; M. L. Brown, H. Seibert, J. B. Hosbrook, and such others as may be interested in the opening and widening of Dillon street, to meet with said joint committees at the above time and place.

Councilman Tucker was then granted leave of absence for the balance of this session.

NEW ORDINANCES.

Under this order of business, the following entitled ordinances were introduced, and were severally read the first time:

By Councilman Bermann:

S. O. 29, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling the first alley west of East street, from McCarty street to Bicking street.

S. O. 30, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling Spruce street, between Prospect street and Pleasant Run.

By Councilman Bieler :

S. O. 31, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling the first alley south of Fletcher avenue, from Cedar street to Grove street.

S. O. 32, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling East street and sidewalks, from Minnesota street to Raymond street.

The above entitled ordinance (S. O. 32, 1880,) was accompanied by the following petition; which was received:

Indianapolis, February 20th, 1880.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen :—The undersigned, owners of real estate fronting on East street, between Minnesota and Raymond streets, respectfully petition for the passage of an ordinance providing for the grading and graveling of said street and sidewalks between the points named.

And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

Carl Resener, Henry Alfrey, Charles Warweg, L.
Thompson, Lars Peterson, Jacob Wirtz, George
Walter.

By Councilman Bryce :

S. O. 33, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and bowldering the alley between Pennsylvania street and Meridian street, from Georgia street to Louisiana street.

By Councilman Dowling :

S. O. 34, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and bowldering the gutters, and curbing with stone, the outer edge of the sidewalks, of Kentucky avenue, from Maryland street to Louisiana street.

Councilman Brown was granted leave of absence for the balance of the session.

By Councilman Hamilton :

S. O. 35, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading, and paving with brick, (except where already paved,) the south sidewalk of Cherry street, from Broadway street to Plum street.

S. O. 36, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling the first alley north of Arch street, from Broadway street to Plum street.

S. O. 37, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling the first alley north of Massachusetts avenue, from Oak street to Plum street..

S. O. 38, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling the first alley west of Park avenue, from Walnut street to St. Clair street.

By Councilman Lamb :

- S. O. 39, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and bowldering the gutters, and curbing with stone, the outer edge of the sidewalks (where not already bowldered and curbed,) of Virginia avenue, from Washington street to its southern terminus.
- S. O. 40, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and bowldering the east gutter, and curbing with stone, the outer edge of the east sidewalk (except where already curbed and bowldered,) of Alabama street, from Louisiana street to South street.

By Councilman Prier :

- S. O. 41, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling Newman street and sidewalks, from Seventh street to Ninth or Bolton street.

The above entitled ordinance was accompanied by the following petition; which was received :

Indianapolis, March 29, 1880.

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen :—The undersigned, owners of real estate fronting on Newman street, between Seventh and Ninth or Bolton streets, respectfully petition for the passage of an ordinance providing for grading and graveling Newman street and sidewalks thereof, from Seventh street to Ninth, or Bolton street.

And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

Theo. P. Haughey, Trustee, by A. Vansiclen, 1085 feet;

S. A. Fletcher, jr., 55 feet; Rob't Thomas, by S. A. F., Jr., 55 feet.

By Councilman VanVorhis :

- S. O. 42, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling the first alley north of St. Marys street, from Delaware street to Pennsylvania street.

The above entitled ordinance was accompanied by the following petition; which was received :

Indianapolis, April 2, 1880.

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen :—The undersigned, owners of real estate fronting on the first alley north of St. Marys street, between Delaware and Pennsylvania streets, respectfully petition for the passage of an ordinance providing for the improvement of the same by grading and graveling. Your petitioners beg leave to state that this alley is the only outlet between the two streets for a distance of more than two squares, and pray you for all necessary relief. And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Joseph P. Shipp, 195 feet; J. F. Failey, J. F.

Pratt, P. M. Gapen, Daniel Stewart, J. K.

Sharpe, A. L. Clippinger, W. M. Jillson, J.

A. Hanson.

By Councilman VanVorhis :

S. O. 43, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and bowldering the northwest gutter, and curbing with stone, the outer edge of the northwest sidewalk, of Fort Wayne avenue, from St. Mary street to St. Joseph street.

By Councilman Wood:

S. O. 44, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and bowldering the southeast gutter, and curbing with stone, the outer edge of the southeast sidewalk of Kentucky avenue, from Louisiana street to Sharpe street.

S. O. 45, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for grading and bowldering West street, and grading the sidewalks to make a width of twenty-five feet, and curbing the outer edge thereof with stone, (except where already curbed,) from Washington street to Kentucky avenue.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Councilman Bermann presented the following remonstrance; which, together with S. O. 18, 1880, was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

To the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

The undersigned, property holders on the west side of south Delaware street, from Merrill street to Madison avenue, are opposed to the curbing and bowldering of the west gutter of said street.

Julius Richey, 25 feet; F. M. Steward, 25 feet; Isidore Obergfell, 25 feet; D. T. Showers, 25 feet; F. Kapke, 25 feet; Michael Koser, 25 feet; Christine Lingel, 25 feet; Johanna Kennedy, 50 feet; Mary Welsh, 25 feet; Gottfreid Blum, 25 feet; Johana Wilson, 25 feet; Julius C. Wagner, 25 feet; J., M. & I. R. R. Co., per S. Frazier, agent, 425 feet; Helena Kæpke, 25 feet; J. R. Buell, 25 feet; Johana Flynn, 39½ feet; Ellen Barry, 37½ feet; Timothy Lyon, 37½ feet; Daniel Lyons, 25 feet; D. Root, 50 feet; Xavier F. Mayer, 25 feet; Jerry Creeden, 25 feet; Wm. Wundram, 75 feet.

Councilman Bermann offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner be directed to clean the gutters of Downey street, from East street to Madison avenue.

Councilman Bieler offered the following motion; which was adopted:

Moved, That the City Attorney and the Joint Committees on Streets and Alleys be instructed to prepare resolutions to designate and establish stands for public vehicles; also to designate and fix the payments to be made for the use and employment of public vehicles in the conveying of persons to and from points within the city of Indianapolis, as is provided in sections 11 and 12 of G. O. 40, 1879.

Councilman Bieler presented the following petition, and offered the following resolution:

Indianapolis, March 22d, 1880.

To the Mayor and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—The undersigned, your petitioners, respectfully represent to you and say they are the owners of, and conduct a large manufacturing interest on Madison avenue, in said city of Indianapolis; that owing to the long runs now made by the Fire Department to get to our property, it leaves us with little fire protection.

Therefore, we ask and petition you to locate the No. 10 Hose-Reel on the southwest corner of Madison avenue and Wilkins street. This will give fire protection to several hundred thousand dollars worth of property which is now comparatively unprotected; and for you to grant us this just request, your petitioners will ever pray.

P. Leiber & Co., City Brewery; Indianapolis Moulding and Picture Frame Co.; James M. Bradley, Indianapolis Hominy Mills; John F. Mayer, Indianapolis Moulding and Picture Frame Co.; Jac. Metzger & Co., Beer Bottlers; Fr. Deitz, Box Factory; Kautzky and Co., Moulding Factory; Western Furniutre Co., Paulini, Sec'y; Dean Brothers, Foundry & Machine Shop; E. Reeves, Flouring Mills; A. M. Kuhn & Co., Coal Dealers.

Resolved, That the Fire Board be, and are hereby, instructed to locate the No. 10 Hose-Reel on the southwest corner of Madison avenue and Wilkins street, or as near that point as they deem prudent and to the best interest of the city.

On motion, the foregoing petition and resolution were referred to the Fire Board, with instructions to report thereon at the meeting of this Council, to be held on next Monday night.

Councilman Bieler presented the following petition; which was referred to the Joint Committees on Streets and Alleys:

Indianapolis, April 5th, 1880.

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—The undersigned, citizens and freeholders in the city of Indianapolis, respectfully petition your honorable bodies to cause to be vacated so much of the first alley south of Coburn street, running east and west, as lies south of lots Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17, in Dougherty's subdivision of a part of Out-Lot No. 99, in said city of Indianapolis. A plat of such proposed vacation is filed with this petition, and made a part of the same. And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Brothers of Sacred Heart, 160 feet; Isaac Foster, 174 feet; C. O. Browning, 40 feet; Ferdinand Dietz, 180 feet.

Councilman Dowling offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the Chief of Police be, and is hereby, directed to enforce section 23 of G. O. 40, 1879; and it is the sense of this Common Council that no owner, driver, foreman, runner or solicitor, of any public vehicle shall be allowed to solicit passengers on the north side of McNabb street, between Illinois and Meridian streets, or in the Union Depot, nor at any place other than two (2) feet from their hacks.

Councilman Hamilton offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner fill with broken stone, the holes in Pine street, between St. Clair and the first street south.

Councilman Hamilton offered the following motions; which were severally adopted:

That A. Prange have permission to bowlder and curb the gutter, and pave with brick the sidewalk in front of his premises on west side of Oak street, extending from Massachusetts avenue to the first alley north. Such work to be done at his own expense and under the superintendence of the City Civil Engineer.

That the City Attorney report to this Council whether the city, at this time, holds any title to, or interest in, the grounds north, along Fall Creek, donated on conditions, by Mrs. Fleming, and others, for a Public Park; or if such lands have all reverted to the donors thereof.

Councilman Hamilton presented the following communication; which was referred to the Committee on Public Property:

To the Hon. Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—The undersigned have a customer who desires to purchase real estate on Washington street, and being aware that you have been considering the advisability of selling the real estate known as the "Tomlinson Estate," we have called the attention of our customer to the brick storehouse known as No. 34 East Washington street, situated on 18½ feet of ground off of the east side of lot No. 4' in square 56, in the City of Indianapolis, the same being a part of the Tomlinson Estate. Our customer is favorably impressed with said real estate, and desires to know at what price it can be bought.

We pray your honorable bodies will take immediate action in the matter, and that you will name a reasonable price for said real estate, the purchase money to be all paid in cash on delivery of a good and sufficient deed, and in case we succeed in effecting a sale of said real estate or furnish you the customer to whom you consummate a sale, we will charge the City of Indianapolis the usual cash commission charged for the sale of real estate, viz: \$100.00 on the first \$3,000.00, and 2 per cent. on the amount of the purchase money in excess of \$3,000.00.

L. P. CULLODEN & Co.,
16½ East Washington street, Room 5.

Councilman Hamilton presented the following petition; which was referred to the Committee on Water:

City, March 5, 1880.

To the Honorable bodies, the Common Council and Board of Aldermen
of the City of Indianapolis:

The undersigned petitions your honorable bodies for a permit to erect and maintain a water plug, or hydrant, in front of E. Mansur's property, on the west side of Massachusetts avenue, between Pennsylvania and Delaware streets.

Yours very respectfully,

CHAS. G. HAAG.

Councilman Hamilton presented the following petition; which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary and City Assessor:

Louise Koss, a widow, owns lot 205 Noble's Sub. out-lot 45 on which the assessment amounts to \$900.00. The petitioner believes that the assessment of \$300.00 on the improvements on said lot are too high, and asks your honorable body to have the amount of improvements reduced so as to compare with assessed value of other improvements.

LOUISE KOSS.

Councilman Hamilton offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the following named places be, and the same are hereby, designated as the places for holding the election in the several Wards of the City of Indianapolis, at the coming city election, to be held on Tuesday, the 4th day of May, 1880 :

- First Ward—Southwest corner of Home avenue and Columbia avenue.
- Second Ward—Northwest corner of College avenue and Seventh street.
- Third Ward—No. 5 Engine House, on West Sixth street.
- Fourth Ward—No. 307 Indiana avenue.
- Fifth Ward—No. 9 Hose-Reel House, on West St. Joseph street.
- Sixth Ward—Bacon's Block, on Fort Wayne avenue, between Alabama and New Jersey streets.
- Seventh Ward—No. 317 Massachusetts avenue.
- Eighth Ward—Northeast corner of New York and Davidson streets.
- Ninth Ward—Northwest corner of Market and East streets.
- Tenth Ward—No. 129 Massachusetts avenue.
- Eleventh Ward—Headquarters of Fire Department, corner of New York street and Massachusetts avenue.
- Twelfth Ward—No. 1 Engine House, on Indiana avenue.
- Thirteenth Ward—Church on Blackford street, between Michigan and North sts.
- Fourteenth Ward—No. 149 Minerva street.
- Fifteenth Ward—No. 299 West Maryland street.
- Sixteenth Ward—No. 52 Kentucky avenue.
- Seventeenth Ward—No. 26 East South street.
- Eighteenth Ward—No. 2 Hook and Ladder House, on East South street.
- Nineteenth Ward—Corner of Noble and Georgia streets.
- Twentieth Ward—Butler Mission Church, on Fletcher avenue.
- Twenty-First Ward—No. 23 Prospect street.
- Twenty-Second Ward—Northwest corner of Virginia avenue and Bradshaw street.
- Twenty-Third Ward—Schilling's Chair Factory, at No. 132 and 134 East McCarty street.
- Twenty-Fourth Ward—No. 17 East McCarty street, at H. Paul's Shoe Store.
- Twenty-Fifth Ward—Northeast corner of McCarty and Tennessee streets.

And it was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 19—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Prier, Sheppard, Shilling, VanVorhis, Wiese and Wood.

NAYS—None.

Councilman Harmening offered the following motions; which were referred to the Board of Public Improvements :

That the Street Commissioner be directed to fill chuck holes in Market and Ohio streets, east of Noble street.

That the Street Commissioner be directed to improve the alley on east side of No. 8 Hose-Reel house, west Washington street.

Councilman Harmening offered the following motions; which were severally adopted :

That Wm. Reger be, and is hereby, granted permission to grade and gravel, at his own expense, the sidewalk along his property, on East Ohio street, between Hanna street and the No. 14 School House; such work to be done according to stakes to be set by the City Civil Engineer, who is hereby directed to set the same

That Wm. Kulp be granted a permit to grade and pave with brick, at his own expense, the sidewalk in front of his lot, No. 248 Noble's Sub. out-lot 45, according to stakes set by the City Civil Engineer.

Councilman Lamb presented the following claim; which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Finance:

Indianapolis, March 26, 1880.

CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS,

To E. Th. Holler,

Dr.

To damage to horse falling through defective bridge over Pogue's Run, on Delaware street, March 20:

Medical bill and medicine, as shown by Dr. L. A. Greiner's bill hereto attached.....	\$ 10 00
Permanent damage to horse.....	75 00
Loss of time for horse.....	15 00
Damage for breaking wagon as shown by bill hereto attached....	6 75
Damages to harness as shown by bill hereto attached.	8 00
Total.....	\$114 75

Councilman Lamb presented the following communication; which was referred to the Police Board:

To the Honorable Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—I propose to sell to the City of Indianapolis, sixty (60) feet off of the east end of lot number one (1) in Yandes & Wilkins Sub. of the south half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of square number sixty-two (62) in the City of Indianapolis, Marion county, Ind., for three thousand dollars (\$3000), payable as follows: one thousand dollars (\$1000) cash in hand, and two thousand dollars (2000) in five (5) years, with interest at six (6) per cent. per annum, payable annually at the end of each year. Conveyance to be made by warrantee deed, free from encumbrance, and abstract furnished showing a perfect title. Said 60 feet of said lot lies immediately east of the City Prison, or Central Police Station, and is a part of the same lot upon which the Station House now stands. Possession to be given within sixty (60) days from delivery of deed.

ROBERT DENNY.

Indianapolis, March 25, 1880.

Councilman Morrison offered the following motion; which was laid on the table:

Moved, That the Committees to whom were referred the petition of Gov. Thomas A. Hendricks for damages to his carriage and harness, on north Illinois street, be, and are hereby, instructed to examine the bond of the sewer contractor and ascertain if said contractor is not liable for said damage.

Councilman McGinty offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Health, Committee on Judiciary and City Attorney:

That the Street Commissioner be directed to fill the wash-out between Merrill street and Catherine street bridge, with the dirt taken from the gutters, and crib the same with some logs or rough timber or some refuse stones, in order to secure their property.

Councilman McGinty offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the City Civil Engineer be directed to notify Mr. Reisner to file his bond for grading and graveling Wilkins street and sidewalks, from Church street to West street, and to commence the work right away; and in case he should fail to give bond, the contract be given to the next lowest bidder.

Councilman McGinty offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner be directed to clean the gutters on West street, between Merrill and Morris streets; also, to clean the gutters on McCarty street, between Illinois and West streets, where it is needed the worst.

Councilman McKay offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the City Assessor be, and is hereby, directed to pay the Deputy City Assessors two dollars per day, for each and every day actually employed.

Councilman O'Connor offered the following motion; which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys, with instructions to report at the next regular session of this body:

That the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Indianapolis Railroad Company be required to build a good substantial fence on the south side of their track on Maryland street, from Benton street to Pine street.

Councilman O'Connor offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to fill the chuck holes in Bates street, from Noble street to Leota street.

Councilman Prier offered the following motions; which were referred to the Board of Public Improvements, with power to act:

That the Street Commissioner is hereby directed to put in gutter bridges at the intersection of Eighth street and Martindale avenue.

That the Street Commissioner is hereby directed to put in a gutter at the intersection of Beeler and Seventh streets, without delay.

Councilman Shilling offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner be instructed to clean the gutters and fill chuck holes on North street, between Indiana avenue and Douglass street.

Councilman Wiese offered the following motions; which were severally adopted:

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to examine the bridge on south Illinois street, as it is in a dangerous condition.

That D. Mussmann be permitted to curb with stone, in front of No. 244, 246, 248, and 250 South Meridian street, at his own expense, and that the City Civil Engineer be directed to set the stakes for the same.

Councilman Wiese offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to repair Merrill street, between Union and Meridian streets.

Councilman Prier presented the following remonstrance; which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys:

Indianapolis, February 9, 1880.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen :—The undersigned, owners of real estate fronting on Hill avenue between Beeler street and Newman street, respectfully remonstrate against the passage of an ordinance providing for the vacation of a 60 foot street, unnamed, being the first street east of Sewing Machine grounds on Hill avenue—said street being already vacated and fenced in by said Sewing Machine Company. My reasons for objecting to said vacation are, I bought that lot as a corner lot, according to plat in the Assessor's office, and by them fencing it in makes mine an inside lot, as my lot is siding with theirs. And I pray your honorable body will compel them to reopen said street.

And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

Charlotte Schmitt, Joseph Cunningham, Lake Burris,
Fred. Kable, Benjamin King, John W. Jameson,
John Hawkins, Wm. C. Montgomery, D. C. Hughes,
David McConnell, Daniel O'Leary, Henry Davenport,
Elias Sutphen, Emiline Bridges, Beverly Cary,
George Childs, E. W. Hawkins, Lucinda Crabtree.

Councilman Wood presented the following petition; which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary:

Indianapolis, March 15, 1880.

Gentlemen :—We, the subscribers, would respectfully request your honorable body not to open the proposed alley from West Chesapeake street to the private alley running east and west in square 71.

There are now two public alleys running through this square and two private alleys, which are used by all persons who wish to use them. This proposed alley will be the fifth on the square, and as we have now more than is usual, and sufficient to enable every one to reach his lot, we think this would be an injury, as it is wider than any other; does not correspond to any on the square, and will still more hurt the compactness of the square—already badly injured by the many wagon ways through it.

Moreover, the way was never intended for a public alley, as we understand your body has been informed. The plat was made 26 years ago, with this private way marked on it, and to connect with private alley above it. It was made wider than any other of the alleys about it; did not correspond to them in size, and the plat was not acknowledged before a justice of the peace or recorder of the county as required by Statute in case of public alleys. See Vol. 1 R. S. 1876, p. 898, section 3. Nor was this alley ever opened but the lots have always been fenced up to the line as they are now fenced, and buildings put on the back of the lots where the proposed alley would run.

We own the only lots on that plat, and earnestly ask that no change at this late day be made in the arrangements which, after long use, we have found most convenient.

Peter Dietz, Jacob Crone, John Redmond, D. Root,
S. J. Watson, H. M. Foltz, gd'n of Edward Mosby,
Richard Moore, H. A. Holmes.

Councilman Wood offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That Special Ordinances No. 30, 1879, and No. 31, 1879, be, and they are hereby, stricken from the files.

PENDING ORDINANCES.

The following entitled ordinance was taken up, read the second time, ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time:

S. O. 23, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for improving College avenue, from Seventh street to Twelfth street, by grading and graveling the roadway, bowldering the gutters, and curbing with stone the outer edges of the sidewalks thereof.

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 18—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Sheppard, Shilling, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinance was taken up, read the second time, ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time:

S. O. 28, 1880—An Ordinance to provide for paving with brick (where not already paved) the sidewalks of west Michigan street, from Tennessee street to Missouri street.

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 18—viz. Councilmen Bermann, Bieler, Bryce, Dowling, Downey, Hamilton, Harmening, Kahn, Lamb, Morrison, McGinty, McKay, O'Connor, Sheppard, Shilling, VanVorhis, Wiese, and Wood.

NAYS—None.

On motion, the Common Council then adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, Mayor,

President of Common Council.

Attest: Jos. T. MAGNER, City Clerk.