

Common Council Chamber
Indianapolis, Indiana, Feby 22d 1854

The Council met. Present Messrs. Carlisle, Dunlap, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Maguire, McCarty, Nelson, Newcomb & Pitts, Councilmen & Scudder Mayor.

The Minutes of the preceeding meeting read and approved.

The report of the Free School Trustees was read, and ordered of file.

S.F 75.	Allowed McCord & Wheatley, Weatherboarding for Seminary	\$ 4.95
158.	Allowed McCord & Wheatley, lumber to fix cupola for Town Clock	7.08
159.	Allowed E.C. Croase opening ditch on Mississippi St.	5.50
160.	Allowed H R Gasten Relief Fire Company	43.00
161.	" R. Ware Messenger Western Liberties fire Co.	10.00

Mr. Maguire from the committee on finance reported an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to regulate Board Kilns."

On Motion by Mr. Karns, laid on the table.

Mr. Pitts presented a petition signed by S.S. Rooker and others asking the opening of the forty feet Street running from the Michigan Road west to the Lafayette road, running between Out Block No. 161, and Out Block No. 162 and 165 in the North West corner of said city, as the convenience of the citizens of the neighborhood require the same.

On Motion referred to the Councilmen of the 4th Ward. To

Mr. Durham offered the following petition:

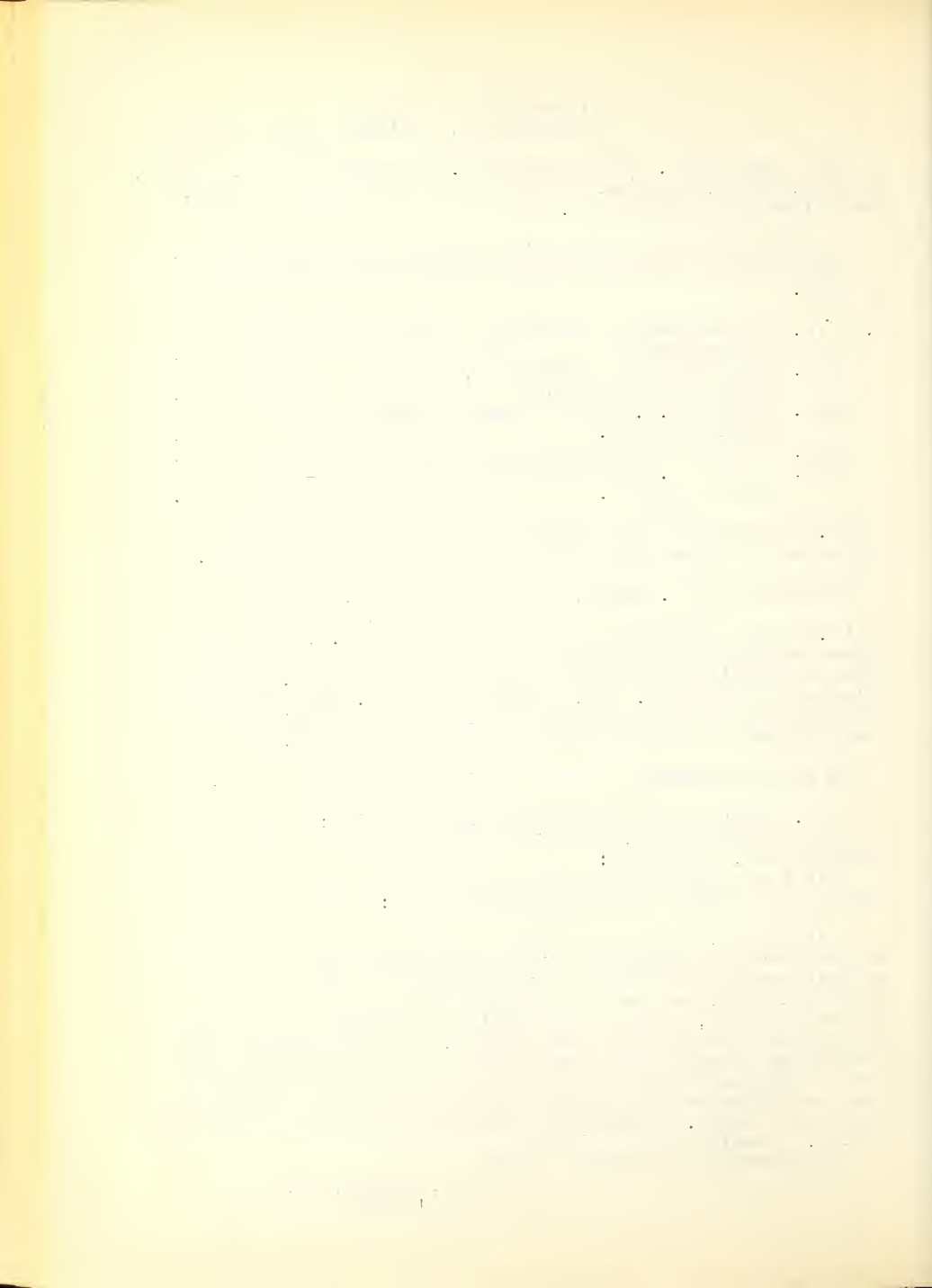
To the Honorable, The Common Council of the city of Indianapolis, Gentlemen:

At a meeting of our company held on Saturday evening last the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That we recommend to the Council to purchase for our use the lot next to the Stable that was burned down on East street said lot is twenty five feet front by Sixty five feet deep, and can be purchased for the sum of Five Hundred Dollars, and our President be appointed a committee to lay the matter before the Council." In accordance with the resolution I would most respectfully draw the attention of your honorable body to the resolution and would merely add that it is the only lot that can be purchased on any thing like reasonable terms. Hoping that you will give it your earliest notice, I would most

Respectfully subscribe myself

W C. Lupton, Jr.
Pres't Invincible Fire Co.



On Motion,
 Referred to the Councilmen of the 1st Ward to ascertain
 relative to the title, and also as to the terms of payment.

A petition of Richard Cook, butcher, was read, and
 On Motion, by Mr Newcomb,
 Laid on the table.

Mr. Pitts offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Civil Engineer set the grade stakes
 on West Streets, from North Street to New York Street, and
 establish the grade of New York Street, West of West Street,
 and set the grade stakes for the same.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Carlisle, Dunlap, Durham, Edwards, Karns,
 Maguire, McCarty, Nelson, Newcomb, & Pitts. - 10.

162. On Motion by Mr Pitts, allowed, L.D. Wilson
 for hogs sold 8.37
 Said account was certified to be correct by the Marshal.

Mr Durham offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Civil Engineer advertise for building
 a cistern at the crossing of Ohio & East Streets"

Mr Carlisle, moved that it lay on the table.

Which motion did not prevail.

Mr Nelson moved to amend by adding a cistern in the third
 Ward. Carried, by the casting vote of the Mayor.

Mr. Pitts moved to amend by adding one cistern in the
 Fourth Ward. Not carried

Mr Karns, moved to lay the whole matter on the table.

Which Motion prevailed.

On Motion adjourned

Daniel B Culley
 City Clerk

Report of the School Trustees.

To the Common Council of Indianapolis: Gentlemen:

The accompanying documents, numbered from one to seven, inclusive, exhibit the operations of the Common Schools in the several Wards of this City, during the quarter ending on the 11th day February, 1854. The report marked No. 8, shows the condition and operations of the Central High School of Indianapolis, for the same period; and the document marked No. 9 exhibits an abstract of the financial condition of the Common Schools interests of the city.

In carrying into effect the provisions of the School law, in Indianapolis, the Trustees have often been embarrassed in the discharge of their duties by the presence of difficulties which almost invariably attend an impartial and effective administration of the educational affairs of a new and rapidly growing community. These difficulties are of various degrees of importance. To harmonize the conflicting opinions that generally prevail, in such a community, on the subject of common school education, is a task of no small magnitude. The temporary inadequacy of necessary funds may be stated as another source of embarrassment. The purchase and enclosure of lots, and the building and furnishing of a sufficient number of school houses for the accommodation of the children of the city, are the duties which require, in their performance, not only a considerable lapse of time, but they require, also, a reasonable expenditure of money, the duty of securing the services of competent and efficient teachers in the public schools, has not been free from perplexities, yet the undersigned believe that this duty has been fairly and successfully discharged.

In order to promote harmony, and uniformity in the course of instruction, the school books recommended by the Indiana State Board of education have been adopted as text books in the common schools of this city.

Being fully assured of the necessity and expediency of the Measure, and relying on the sanction of the Common Council, and the approval of the citizens, the Trustees have established certain rules and regulations designed to secure punctuality in the attendance of scholars, and to maintain correct morals and strict discipline in the government of the schools. A faithful support of these rules, by parents, guardians, and teachers, is regarded essential to the usefulness and prosperity of the Common Schools of Indianapolis.

The Central High School has been established for the benefit of the more advanced pupils of the several Ward schools; and such pupils may, upon examination, at certain fixed periods, be admitted to the High School; in which in-



stitution the scholars will be thoroughly instructed in all the branches of learning usually taught in Colleges.

On a late examination of the Central High School and the several Ward schools, the Trustees were gratified to receive satisfactory evidences of the faithfulness and diligence of the teachers, and the general good conduct and improvement of the pupils.

In four of the Ward Schools more room is urgently required for the accommodation of the classes; and the undersigned indulged a hope that they will soon have means at their disposal to supply this pressing demand.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. P. Coburn)
 C. Fletcher, Sr.) Trustees.
 John B. Webb)

Indianapolis, Feby 22, 1854.

Documents.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9										
	Whole No. Schol. Reg.	" " Males	" " Females	Males bet. 5 & 13	Females " 5 & 13	Males " 13 & 21	Females 13 & 21	Over 21	Average Daily Att.	No. in Primary less.	Reading	Spelling	Arithmetic	Geography	Grammar	Composition	Writing	analytical orthography.	
1st Ward	158	88	70	75	57	13	13	107	110	158	158	70	60	40	37				
2d do	145	94	51	82	38	12	2	120	125	145	145	120	98	35	30				
3d do.	139	88	51	59	36	29	15	103	111	130	139	79	41	19					
4th do	160	70	90	45	50	25	35	2	75	68	160	95	26	21	40				
5th do	141	71	70	59	63	12	7	100	18	123	140	88	51	60	18	76	25		
6th do	167	111	56	86	46	25	10	90	10	157	157	100	66	52		80	49		
7th do.	160	87	73	68	60	19	13	110	110	119	110	90	60	40					
	1070	609	461	474	350	135	104	4	705	212	983	1009	642	402	267	125	156	74	

Report of the Central High School.

Whole No. enrolled, 84; Whole No. of Males 44. Whole No. of females 40, Males between 5 and 13 years 24, Males between 13 & 21. years 20, Females between five and thirteen 27, and between thirteen & twenty one years 15, Average daily attendance 74.

Reading 37, Penmanship 34, Spelling & Defining 84, Analytical orthography 84, Descriptive Geography 43, Intellectual arithmetic 84, Practical Arithmetic 62, Highir Arithmetic 22, English Grammar 64, Analytical Grammar 20, Elocution 47, Chemistry 84, Composition 84, Declamation 44.

Books used: Parker's Series, Eclectic Spelling book, Wright's Orthography, Stoddard and Thompson Arithmetic, Mitchells Geography, Butlers Grammar, Penned's Analytical Grammar, and Selmen's Chemistry.

Respectfully Submitted -