

CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Common Council and Board of Aldermen.

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMON COUNCIL.

FIRST REGULAR SESSION—JANUARY 2, 1888.

The members elect of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, to serve as such until the first day of January, 1890, convened in the Council Chamber, Monday evening, January 2d, A. D. 1888, at 7:30 o'clock, in regular session.

Hon. Caleb S. Denny, Mayor, and *ex officio* President of the Common Council, took the Chair, and directed the City Clerk to call the names of the Councilmen who had been duly elected and qualified as Councilmen of the City of Indianapolis.

The following Councilmen were present at the roll-call :

1st Ward—	Elton B. Elliot.	13th Ward—	Edward Dunn.
2d “	David F. Swain.	14th “	William E. Davis.
3d “	Calvin F. Darnell.	15th “	Michael J. Burns.
4th “	William H. Wilson.	16th “	William J. Parkinson.
5th “	John R. Pearson.	17th “	William M. Hicklin.
6th “	Henry L. Smith.	18th “	Simeon Coy.
7th “	Robert McClelland.	19th “	John O'Connor.
8th “	John C. Finch.	20th “	Charles H. Stuckmeyer.
9th “	William T. Long.	21st “	Preston C. Trusler.
10th “	Joseph L. Gasper.	22d “	Patrick J. Kelley.
11th “	Isaac Thalman.	23d “	Thomas Markey.
12th “	Mathew M. Cummings.	24th “	James Johnston.
		25th Ward—	Frederick W. Gaul.

All the members being present, the Mayor addressed the Common Council as follows:

Gentlemen of the Common Council :

You assume control of the city's legislative affairs at a favorable time in its history. I believe the long years of business depression and slow growth in Indianapolis are ended. A new era of prosperity and rapid

development has dawned, and unless all signs fail, another year will find this city taking great strides in material improvements.

Few cities in the land suffered like this one from the effects of the panic of 1873. The business failures of that period, and those which followed for years afterwards as results of over-speculation prior to the crash, have hung over us like a pall. But for a few years past, business has gradually improved; and now these signs of returning prosperity are met with discoveries of great sources of natural wealth almost at our doors, which bid fair to make this one of the greatest manufacturing cities of the country. The foundations for a large, rich and attractive city are already laid. We have but to take advantage of our surroundings to attain these ends; and I congratulate you on the fact, that you have been called to your present positions at a time when you can so materially aid in promoting these much desired results.

The preceding Council left a good record for economy and honest service. We should always strive to improve, even on a good example set for us.

With this determination, let us now begin our two years' work, and with the same ambition; end it.

I hope a friendly feeling will at all times exist between this body and the Board of Aldermen. A free spirit of conference and just compromise should always manifest itself between the two bodies.

Great haste in matters where public interests are involved should never be practiced. The committees are organized to scrutinize and investigate, and nothing which is not thoroughly understood when presented, should receive your approval, without a reference to the appropriate committee.

THE CITY'S INDEBTEDNESS.

The following is a statement of the city's present indebtedness, together with the dates of maturity and rates of interest being paid on the various series of bonds outstanding:

Amount due January 1, 1889, drawing 6 per cent.,.....	\$110,000
Amount due January 1, 1890, drawing 6 per cent.,.....	45,000
Amount due April 1, 1893, drawing 8 per cent.,.....	21,000
Amount due July 1, 1893, drawing 7.3 per cent.,.....	600,000
Amount due January 26, 1894, drawing 7.3 per cent.,.....	109,500
Amount due July 1, 1894, drawing 7.3 per cent.,.....	300,000
Amount due July 1, 1895, drawing 7.3 per cent.,.....	207,000
Amount due January 1, 1896, drawing 7.3 per cent.,.....	8,000
Amount due July 1, 1896, drawing 6 per cent.,.....	5,000
Total,.....	\$1,405,500

It will thus be seen that the annual interest on these bonds amounts to the sum of \$100,668.50, which is nearly all payable semi-annually.

I have not included the \$500,000 of our outstanding Belt Railroad bonds in the above statement, for the reason that the city holds a like amount of the first mortgage bonds of that company to off-set that indebtedness, and it is not doubted that the city is fully protected against loss on that account.

In addition to the foregoing, the city also owes the sum of \$70,000, falling due December 31st next, having been borrowed last week by your predecessors to take up the temporary loan for the same amount made one year before. This may be called the standing temporary loan. In addition to it, you will have to borrow small amounts at short time to defray the current expenses for the months until taxes commence to come in, as was done last year.

The original amount of this standing temporary loan, which was caused largely by the embarrassments and losses of ex-Treasurer Pattison, was \$100,000, but the last Council reduced the amount \$30,000 during its first year. This was only made possible by the collection of a large amount of delinquent taxes during that year, which had been accumulating for years.

While I hope you will be able to reduce the amount of this annual loan, made in anticipation of our current revenues to meet running expenses, I very much fear you can not do so, at least this year. If the city should get any material financial relief from the Legislature next year, which can be used to wipe out that indebtedness, I hope it will be done, and that no future Council will be forced to allow such an annoying incumbrance to be placed on the city's credit.

It is apparent that the \$110,000 of our old bonded indebtedness, falling due one year from this time, can not be then paid, except by renewal in some form. I trust the Finance Committee will take prompt steps to make arrangements to refund that part of our debt at a lower rate of interest. I also ask that committee to renew the effort made two years ago toward refunding the larger sums falling due in the near future, at lower rates. It is certainly not improbable that at least the holders of the \$600,000 of bonds maturing in 1893, would take long-time four or four-and-a-half per cents. in exchange for them, without waiting until their maturity. This city ought not to be paying such ruinous rates of interest as it now is.

If any encouragement can be received, looking to the refunding of even a considerable part of our indebtedness, a representative should be sent to New York at an early day to conduct the negotiations.

You will remember that two years ago the city tried the experiment of placing the \$100,000 loan made for one year at that time, among our people here at home. Bonds ranging from \$100 to \$1,000 were put on sale at the Treasurer's office. But \$32,000 of the amount required was taken here, however, the remainder being sold in New York. The matter was not very well advertised at that time. I believe, with longer time bonds, drawing four or four and one-half per cent., the \$110,000 falling due one year from now, could be placed among our own citizens. I request that this matter receive the consideration of the Finance Committee.

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES.

While I confidently believe the city will rapidly improve from now on, even without reference to what you may be able to do in your official capacity, it will require but a plain statement of facts as to its present sources of revenue for corporation uses, to demonstrate that for this year, at least, you can not indulge in any lavish expenditures to aid in these improvements. The municipality should be able to keep pace with its individual citizens in the matter of improvements. But I fear it will not be able to do so until its income is in some way increased. Under the act of 1877 this city is limited in its tax rate to ninety cents on the one hundred dollars of property values, and the "Winter bill" of 1885 contains similar limitation clauses.

According to "Hicks' Statistics of Leading Cities of the United States," compiled in January, 1887, but one other city has so low a rate. During the ten years this law has been in force the city has managed, by close economy, to get along, however, and on the whole the law has been a popular and a beneficial one. During these years the people have been in no condition to pay heavy taxes. They preferred not to be taxed to accumulate a sinking fund with which to pay any part of our bonded debt at its maturity, the law referred to specifically abolishing the sinking fund previously provided for, and showing upon its face that it was the purpose to refund, instead of to pay, the same. Of course it must be accepted as settled, that the great bulk of our old debt will have to be renewed, in some form, as it falls due. Hence, for my present purpose, I need not take our fourteen hundred thousand dollars of permanent indebtedness into account here, except as the one hundred thousand annual interest on that debt affects our current revenues.

The reports of the Treasurer and City Clerk will fully advise you as to last year's receipts and expenditures, and I need not therefore review them here to any extent.

Taking last year's assessed valuations of property and the city's net income from miscellaneous sources, as a basis, I think a liberal estimate for this year from similar sources, is the sum of \$520,000.

Last year the seven principal items of expense were as follows:

Interest on city debt, including the \$70,000 temporary loan.....	\$103,818
Fire department.....	77,293
Public light.....	74,531
Police department.....	56,858
Water rents.....	33,268
Street repairs, pay-rolls and material accounts.....	32,716
Street improvements.....	23,308
Total.....	\$401,792

If these items of expense, or the aggregate of them, should remain the same this year as last, it will be seen that only the sum of \$118,208 will remain, with which to meet the expenses of the other thirty classes or items of expenses under which the accounts of the city are kept. It must not be forgotten, either, that such departments as the Engineer's, the City Hospital and Branch, and the City Dispensary, as well as the salaries of all the city officers, are included in these thirty items.

But without further mention of these minor items of expense at this time, let us see what saving, if any, can be made over last year, in the seven principal ones above set out.

The interest account will be slightly increased.

The cost of the Police Department you can not control. But, as to it, the public can not reasonably ask or expect the Police Commissioners to reduce the expenses. The men are none too well paid. Neither ought the number be reduced. I am sure the present Board of Commissioners have done, and are doing, all they can to give the city an economical and efficient police service.

Your predecessors entered into a three years' contract with the Indianapolis Water Company on the basis paid for water during the existence of the previous contract. As several thousand feet of new mains are annually laid, and as the contract provides for locating one fire plug for every five hundred feet of such mains, at the rate of \$50 a year for each plug, the cost of that department will be considerably increased.

Both the street repair and street improvement departments have been neglected so long, that the expense of maintaining them will, almost of necessity, be larger this year than last. For the year 1874-'5, the street repairs in this city cost \$89,434, and the city's portion of the cost of original improvements amounted to \$65,833. Since that time there has been a gradual scaling down in the allowances for these departments, until, as seen above, the appropriations for maintaining them last year was but a little more than one-third what they amounted to twelve years ago. The city's part of the Washington street improvement alone, will nearly equal the total of last year's expenditures in that department; and as it has become a public necessity for several of our other principal streets to be at once put in better condition, it is clear that the cost of maintaining the two departments referred to will be increased this year.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that the cost of maintaining five out of the seven departments named above, will, in the aggregate, be considerably increased this year, leaving but two of the expensive departments in which to effect any saving. What can be done in these?

A contract already exists with the Indianapolis Gas Light and Coke Co. for lighting the streets, which expires in the near future. That a material saving can be made in this department after that date, there is, of course,

little doubt. There is much to consider in connection with this subject of future street lighting. I hope the Committee on Public Light will give the matter their immediate and earnest attention, so that the question of a future contract for street lighting will be fully understood before the present one expires.

In this connection the committee should not forget that the vapor light contracts have been rapidly accumulating, until what it was at first stated should never cost to exceed a few hundred dollars a year, have now increased to as many thousands. As fast as these contracts expire, the number of lights should be reduced, as well as the price of those retained. There are many of these vapor street lights that have never, as I believe, been of any practical value to the city.

It has been apparent to all who have given the subject consideration, that the Fire Department has cost the city too much in proportion to its receipts, for years past. The expense of maintaining this department is out of all proportion to many of the others. It consumes more than one-seventh of the city's income, without including the thirty odd thousand dollars paid annually to the Water Company, the bulk of which is also properly chargeable to the cost of fire protection. This department has for so long been the pride of the city, however, that the public would be loath to see anything done to impair its efficiency. And yet, the large expense of maintaining it has become so serious a question, on account of the city's cramped financial condition, that the time has fully come for the Council to carefully consider the question of how it can be reduced with the least detriment to the service.

The pay of the officers and men employed can not fairly be cut down; for, taking into consideration the hazard and character of the work required of them, their salaries are low enough. And with the amount of apparatus now in use, the number of houses maintained, and men employed, I do not suppose the cost of supplies can be lessened; for I believe the Chief Engineer has been as sparing in his demands as possible under the circumstances. Hence, it would seem, that any saving to be made in this department will have to be brought about by reducing the number of men employed, or the number of houses maintained, or both. I have heard it stated by one well posted in the management and affairs of the department, that one man can be spared from each of the seven engine companies without detriment to the efficiency of the department. I have also heard the opinion many times expressed that at least one house can be closed without serious injury to the service. I can not vouch for the correctness of these opinions, but I ask the Fire Committee to carefully consider these suggestions, and any other matters occurring to them, keeping in mind the past high standard of efficiency of the department on the one hand, and the condition of our finances on the other. As soon as said committee can make such investigations as they think proper and sufficient, I recommend that they report to the Council, so that final action on the matter of reducing the expenses of this department may be had at the earliest practicable time.

THE CITY TAX LIMIT.

Let me return to the question of our tax limit. Can the city much longer exist under the limitations as now fixed? If not, what is to be done, when, and how?

At the time the ninety cent limit law was passed, the assessed value of property in Indianapolis for purposes of taxation, was \$60,456,201, and the rate was \$1.13 on the \$100 for general city uses. For some years prior to that, the valuation of property and rate of taxation had both been even higher. The cut of 23 cents on the \$100 of valuations, as returned for the year

1876, was perhaps all that was intended by the Legislature, or desired by those who recommended the passage of the bill. But assessments were lowered from year to year, until, in the year of 1886, the total valuations, as returned by the Assessor, amounted to \$55,759,746. This sum, at ninety cents on the \$100 (making no allowance for delinquency) would have yielded \$501,837. But after the Assessor had made his return, as above, the County Board of Equalization arbitrarily cut down the values fixed by him on real estate, twenty per cent., leaving the total value of all property, real and personal, for that year, \$48,756,608, yielding but \$438,809, or a loss to the treasury of \$63,028. These reduced values on real estate, as thus fixed, can not be increased for five years yet, the law requiring assessments for taxation of real estate to stand for six years. The statute says that real estate shall be valued for purposes of taxation, at its "full fair cash value, estimated at the price it would bring at a fair voluntary sale." Tested by this rule, it may be questioned whether the values fixed by the Assessor on the property in this city, in 1886, were to high. But admitting that the Board of Equalization was justified in its action at the time, the increase in values since has been as much or more than the reduction then made; and if real estate advances, as we all confidently expect from now on, I do not doubt that its "full fair cash value," by the time another assessment is allowed, will be almost double that on which its owners will be paying taxes. But to say nothing of increased values, or what the per cent. of increase will likely be for the next five years, an amendment to the present law, increasing the limit in the same ratio that the values for taxation have been reduced since 1877, would still leave the aggregate amount of taxes collected, the same, and would yield no more revenue for city uses than was originally intended.

In saying what I have on this subject, I do not wish to be understood as recommending that the law be amended so as to increase the rate of taxation over the limit as now fixed, unless it becomes an imperative necessity, in order to save the city from disgrace. I have only tried to show that the city is now compelled to run on much less revenue that it did ten years ago, and that, too, with a largely increased territory to support.

If, at the end of the present year, you should see that the city government can not be decently maintained, or longer attempted to be run with safety to its credit on the tax rate now allowed, you can then lay such facts before our Senators and Representatives in the General Assembly, as will fully advise them of the city's financial condition, and make such recommendations to them as you may deem to be your duty as the people's representatives.

In no event would any law on the subject of a property tax become operative during your term. But it is hoped that the General Assembly, which meets one year from this time, will pass some *special* tax laws that will materially aid this city during the coming year. The question of passing a bill imposing a higher tax on saloons, will, of course, be one of general interest and effect throughout the State, and it will either pass or be defeated without reference to what you or I may say. But there is a statute much needed, which I believe you can materially aid in securing. I refer to a law authorizing you to impose a special license or tax on vehicles, to be used in repairing our streets. The law, as it now stands, neither imposes such a tax, nor authorizes you to do so, except on the few that carry passengers and freight for hire. A strong effort was made by the Mayor and other officials of this city, four years ago, to secure the passage of such a law, but it met with no favor among our members.

I believe those who wear out the streets, should at least keep them in repair after the abutting property owners have once built them. With a vehicle tax sufficient to keep our streets in repair, and as much more to go

into the general treasury derived from some other special source, the city could likely get along without an increased property tax for years to come. I hope some such relief will be given, for the value to this city of maintaining a low tax on real estate can not be over-estimated.

THE STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

On June 20, 1887, a special committee of the Council, together with the City Attorney and Mayor, made a report as directed by a resolution of the Council, in which it is stated that the Citizens' Street Railway Co. is violating certain provisions of its charter. The report will be found printed in full on pages 395 to 397 of the proceedings of the Council of last year. There are eight violations set out. Some of them are of minor importance in themselves, but of course for the Council to allow any violations of corporation charters to be practiced, is setting a bad precedent. There are some violations mentioned in that report, however, of so much consequence, even outside of any principle involved, as to call for immediate action by you, unless they are at once remedied. (1) The company should be required to discontinue the use of the inferior, dangerous, and unsightly "bob-tail" cars now in use. (2) The T rail and old-time flat rail should be replaced with the "most approved" kind, as the charter directs. (3) Conductors should be placed on several of the principal lines. If the company had been complying with the terms of its charter on this subject for the past few years, there is little doubt that several serious accidents and deaths of citizens, as well as several murders and robberies of the company's drivers, would not have occurred. (4) The company should be required to complete the Mississippi street line to Twelfth street in the early spring, or else take up the portion of the track already laid: for to allow the company to leave the line as it is, will be to uphold it in practicing a plain deception and fraud on the Council. Yea, it means more than that. It will most likely defeat the building of a line by any other company to Crown Hill, while the present company persistently refuses to accommodate the thousands of citizens who have for years begged for such a line.

Without further particularizing, I again call your attention to the report above mentioned, and ask that you give it such consideration as the importance of the matters there discussed demand, no action having heretofore been taken thereon.

There is still another matter connected with the street car service which ought not to longer pass unnoticed. It is not mentioned in the report referred to, and is not in any legal sense, perhaps, a violation of the company's charter. I refer to the use of mules as a means of propelling the cars. This city has grown too large to longer tolerate such a service. The practice is both cruel and disgraceful. Public sentiment should begin to assert itself on this subject, and, aided by you, should not cease until the managers of the company are forced to replace worn-out mules with horses.

THE WATER COMPANY.

The question of the adoption of more equitable rules and prices by the Indianapolis Water Co. for the benefit of private consumers, should be investigated by you. There are many complaints by those who use the company's water, and still more by those who do not, because of their inability to get the same, for the reason that they are unable to pay the prices charged, or are unwilling to comply with the rules promulgated by the company. The water supplied by the company is good. It ought to be now used by five times as many of our citizens as do enjoy it. The health of the people demands that better water than that which comes from our surface wells should be introduced. Just what powers the Council

may have under the terms of the company's charter, to remedy existing evils in reference to these matters, I do not now pretend to say. But the subject is such a grave one to the people that it ought to receive your prompt attention. I tried to get a consideration of these complaints of citizens and such concessions by the company as are equitable, two years ago, when the city's contract with the company was under consideration, but failed. The company afterwards got the terms demanded by it from the city for the public supply, and a contract running for three years. It having been treated so liberally by the city, it is not unreasonable to suppose that fair prices and regulations will now be guaranteed to the citizens by its officers.

With the patrons of the city water increased, the dust nuisance during our mid-summer and fall months would largely cease, and would perhaps be brought within such bounds by the use of the street sprinkler, as to enable the Fire Department to do the rest on our principal streets where water mains are laid.

THE WASHINGTON STREET IMPROVEMENT.

Washington street should be regraded and repaved as early as possible, but all natural gas and water pipe connections along the street should be first made. I recommend that the Engineer be directed to give notice to all property-owners along the entire line to be improved a reasonable time in advance of commencing the work, that no openings for such purposes will be allowed after the new street is made, and that the order thereafter be rigidly adhered to.

A NEW CITY BUILDING NEEDED.

The basement of the Court House is illy suited for Police Court purposes. Neither was this room where you meet ever intended for a legislative hall. After a three years' experience of pretty close confinement in this basement, I can say that none of the rooms are fit for public offices. The city is in no condition, financially, at this time to erect a city building, however. But as soon as the remaining pieces of the Tomlinson real estate are sold, I think the city will be morally bound to invest the proceeds in some kind of a structure for the use of the "city authorities," as directed by the will of Mr. Tomlinson. The terms of the will have one-half been complied with in building a public hall for the "use of citizens" over the market house, but no provision has been made for the "city authorities." The city has been perpetually enjoined from erecting such a structure where Mr. Tomlinson directed, on the East Market Square. In order to comply as nearly as possible with his expressed wish, I do not believe you could do better than sell the remnant of real estate, as soon as a good price can be obtained for it, and invest it in building a cheap addition to the Central Station House. By purchasing the lot on the south, an addition large enough to accomodate the Council, Board of Aldermen, City Court, and City Officers, could be built for a small sum. The present structure is sound, and could be utilized in every part. The prison is all that is needed, and the Police Court ought to be near it. To say nothing of the inconvenience of transferring prisoners through the streets every day to the Police Court, it is demoralizing to the public, humiliating to many prisoners, who deserve better treatment, and wrong in every sense.

I recommend that the special committee appointed some weeks ago, give this matter their careful consideration, and report what the lot will cost, and what an addition suited to the purposes required, can be built for.

TOMLINSON HALL.

It costs more to maintain Tomlinson Hall than was originally anticipated. It should be made to pay expenses and something for the wear

and tear of furniture, if possible. This can only be done by charging a moderate rental for its use. The schedule of prices fixed by your predecessors, should be closely adhered to, as to all persons and societies who rent the same for profit. There are cases, however, where no more than the expense of light and fuel should be charged. For meetings of a State and national character, bringing large crowds of people to the city, and for entertainments purely charitable in their character, in which the citizens of Indianapolis generally are interested, I believe exceptions should be made. A sound discretion should always be used when petitions from such sources, asking the free use of the hall, are presented. It will be easy to determine when a case appeals to the pride, sympathy or generosity of the city, and deserves your favorable consideration.

THE NEW MARKETS.

Many of the marketers fail to pay their stall rent promptly. It is doubtful whether the present ordinance, dividing the annual rental into four payments, is a wise one. It greatly complicates the accounts and entails a great deal of work on the Clerk.

I ask the Market Committee to give this and other subjects about which complaints are constantly made in reference to the East Market, early attention, so that all existing errors and evils may be remedied before the commencement of the new market year.

THE PUBLIC PARKS.

Our public parks should be made as attractive as possible. While it will not be possible to do much toward improving Garfield park in the near future, perhaps, some policy with reference to it should be adopted soon. When the purchase-money bonds fall due and are paid, in January, 1894, the land alone will have cost the city \$270,000. As it is, it affords no revenue to the city or pleasure to the people.

Millitary, University and Circle Parks can be maintained at a very small cost. They should be gradually beautified. Circle Park will never be made popular or attractive, however, so long as the street surrounding it continues to be the principal stand for express wagons.

It will be the duty of the Committee on Public Property to make such recommendations concerning the improvement and care of these parks, as to them may seem proper; and I suggest that said committee, in connection with the Committee on Streets and Alleys, investigate the question of establishing stands for hacks and express wagons. As I am at present informed, no places for them to stand are now designated by order of the Council at all. This should be done, and all necessary regulations connected therewith, fixed by an ordinance. Several places should, if possible, be established; for it is neither pleasant nor convenient to the public to have them all at two or three places, as now.

NEW COMMITTEES.

I think you should at once make provision for the appointment of a Committee on Natural Gas.

There should also be appointed, not later than the middle of the year, a Special Committee on Legislation, thus giving its members ample time to discuss and digest all matters of legislation deemed important for the city, before the meeting of the General Assembly. I have copies of a number of bills prepared four years ago, which I will gladly give to the committee, if appointed, as a basis for their work. This city has outgrown many provisions of the old law of 1867, and the charter act ought to be amended in many material respects, so far as the larger cities of the State are concerned.

POLICE JUDGE.

I will also ask that committee, at the proper time, to consider the propri-

ety of asking the Legislature to make provision for the election of a Police Judge in this city. It is doubtful whether Article VIII of Chapter XXI of the Revised Statutes of 1881, is now in force. But even if that act has not been repealed by implication, it is not altogether what this city needs.

I will not discuss the question of the propriety of relieving the Mayor of the Police Court work at this time, but may make it the subject of another communication, either to this body or the Legislative Committee, when appointed. As no action by the General Assembly would likely bring about any change during my term, but would only affect my successors, I shall hope to be able to present some reasons for the change suggested, that will not be considered as springing from selfish or interested motives.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the City Clerk will permit me to suggest that all papers referred to committees, be sent to the chairman as soon as copies can be had from the printer, and in all cases of special emergency, that written copies be prepared for the use of the committees, so that meetings can be held promptly.

Let me urge you all to be regular and prompt in our attendance at our meetings. By so doing, special sessions will rarely ever become necessary. Adjourned and called meetings should be discouraged.

I ask your indulgence and assistance in presiding over your deliberations, and promise you in return my best endeavors to deal justly with you all, under every circumstance.

The Mayor announced the appointment of the following Standing Committees:

To the Members of the Common Council:

Gentlemen:—I hereby appoint the following Standing Committees, as provided for by Rule 46 of this body, the first named member to act as Chairman in each case:

Accounts and Claims—McClelland, Hicklin, and Swain.

Bridges—Wilson, O'Connor, and Coy.

Contracts—Darnell, Stuckmeyer, and McClelland.

Education—Pearson, Kelley, and Smith.

Finance—Thalman, Pearson, Markey, Dunn, and Stuckmeyer.

Judiciary—Cummings, Kelley, and Pearson.

Markets—Swain, Burns, and Wilson.

Office Fixtures and Supplies—Finch, Coy, and Long.

Ordinances—Elliott, Parkinson, and Smith.

Printing—Gasper, Johnston, and Davis.

Public Charities—Hicklin, Cummings, and Burns.

Public Health—Markey, Elliott, and Gasper.

Public Light—Trusler, Markey, and Finch.

Public Property—Davis, Hicklin, and Trusler.

Railroads—Darnell, Gaul, and Swain.

Rules—Long, Darnell, and Parkinsecn.

Sewers and Drainage—Gasper, Johnston, and Long.

Streets and Alleys—Dunn, Stuckmeyer, and Elliott.

Water—Smith, O'Connor, and Cummings.

Respectfully submitted,

C. S. DENNY, Mayor.

By consent, Councilman Swain offered the following resolution:

Be it Resolved by the Common Council, That there be added to the Standing Committees of the Council, as provided for by Rule 46, the following additional committees:

1. A Committee on Fire Department, to whom shall be referred all reports, recommendations, motions, resolutions, and other matters relating to said Department, and who shall act and advise with the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department as to the expenses and other matters pertaining to said Department.

2. A Committee on Natural Gas, to whom shall be referred all matters and papers pertaining to the subject of natural gas.

Each of said committees shall consist of three members, and shall be appointed by the Mayor, as early as practicable.

Which was adopted, by the following vote:

AYES, 25—viz: Councilmen Burns, Coy, Cummings, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Gaul, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, Markey, McClelland, O'Connor, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler, and Wilson.

NAYS—None.

The Mayor appointed the following Councilmen to act on such Committees:

To the Common Council:

Gentlemen:—I hereby appoint the following members as members of the Committee on Natural Gas, as provided for by resolution adopted at this session:

Thalman, Gaul, and Dunn.

I also appoint as members of the Committee on Fire Department, the following:

Trusler, Gaul, and Finch.

Respectfully submitted,

C. S. DENNY, Mayor.

By consent, Councilman Thalman, in behalf of the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report, accompanied with resolution:

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

Gentlemen:—Last year the Treasurer was in condition to advance the city what money was needed during the months of January, February and March, to meet current expenses. As last years' taxes, now due, are seldom paid until within a week or two before the last days of grace in April, Treasurer Loftin informs us that owing to the very close settlements that he is called on to make, from all sources, he does not think he will have funds to accommodate us. We therefore recommend that you authorize your Finance Committee to borrow such amounts from month to month, as may be required, and herewith submit a resolution to that effect.

Respectfully,

Isaac Thaman,
John R. Pearson,
Henry L. Smith,
C. H. Stuckmeyer.

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis That the Mayor and Committee on Finance of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed to make a temporary loan in the name and on behalf of the city, in anticipation of the current year's revenue, for any sum not exceeding seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000), for any period of time not exceeding ninety days from date of issue of bonds, at not exceeding six per cent. per annum. That the Mayor and City Clerk be, and they

are hereby, authorized and directed to execute the proper bonds and obligations of the city for said amount; and for the payment of said bonds and obligations so to be given, the faith of the City of Indianapolis is hereby irrevocably pledged.

Which report was received, and the resolution adopted, by the following vote:

AYES, 25—viz: Councilmen Burns, Coy, Cummings, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Gaul, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, Markey, McClelland, O'Connor, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler and Wilson.

NAYS—None.

OPENING AND REFERRING SEALED PROPOSALS FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

Sealed proposals for the following street improvements were opened, read, and referred to the Committee on Contracts:

(S. O. 122, 1887)—For grading and graveling the first alley east of Oriental street, from Williams street to the first alley north of Williams street.

(S. O. 135, 1887)—For grading and graveling the first alley north of Bates street from Leota street to the first alley east of Leota street.

(S. O. 136, 1887)—For grading and graveling the first alley east of Leota street from Bates street to the C, H. & I. R. R. tracks.

(S. O. 140, 1887)—For grading and graveling Lincoln Lane (or Texas street), and sidewalks, from East street to the east line on Moore's addition.

REPORTS, ETC., FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The Acting City Clerk submitted the following reports; which were received:

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 December, 1887, viz:

Board of Health.....	\$ 224 75
City Civil Engineer's Department.....	222 80
City Dispensary.....	380 69
City Hospital and Branch.....	1,627 58
City Hall.....	15 76
Fire Department—pay-rolls.....	5,180 00
Fire Department—accounts.....	1,104 31
Gas.....	6,289 64
Incidentals.....	50 00
Markets.....	153 00
Parks.....	121 30
Police.....	4,824 29
Salary.....	363 33
Sewers.....	2,149 40
Station House.....	275 67
Street Improvements.....	1,669 91
Street repairs—pay-rolls.....	1,211 52
Street repair—accounts.....	297 86

Tomlinson Hall Janitors.....	\$	105	00
Tomlinson Hall accounts.....		157	83
Water rent		8,512	91

\$ 34,937 50

SPECIAL FUNDS.

Tomlinson Estate Funds.....		9	15
From Illinois street tunnel fund.....		15,149	80

\$ 50,096 45

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH T. FANNING,
Acting City Clerk.

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 year ending December 31st, 1887, viz:

Board of Health.....	\$	3,010	80
Bridges.....		3,981	78
Cemeteries.....		30	00
City Assessor.....		7,921	00
City Civil Engineer's Department.....		2,615	35
City Dispensary.....		3,742	70
City Hall.....		3,019	90
City Hospital and Branch.....		16,901	77
City Treasurer's per cent.....		4,404	86
Cisterns.....		74	47
Elections.....		1,655	05
Fire Department—pay-rolls.....		62,826	65
Fire Department—accounts.....		14,466	68
Fountains and driven wells.....		55	87
Gas.....		74,531	30
Incidentals.....		1,508	93
Interest on bonds.....		164,240	55
Interest on, and redemption of temporary loans.....		57,863	08
Judgments and costs.....		3,148	28
Markets.....		2,126	01
Market-master's fees.....		186	00
Parks.....		1,603	60
Police.....		56,857	79
Printing.....		3,481	65
Public property.....		600	00
Salary.....		27,338	73
Sewers.....		8,263	23
Station House.....		3,090	44
Street Improvements.....		23,307	64
Street openings and vacations.....		630	00
Street Repairs—pay-rolls.....		26,780	27
Street Repairs—accounts.....		5,916	47
Taxes refunded.....		1,268	25
Tomlinson Hall Janitors (regular).....		1,276	00
Tomlinson Hall Janitors (extra),.....		822	90
Tomlinson Hall accounts.....		1,374	18
Water rent.....		33,267	66
Market House and Public Hall.....		6,525	44

\$630,815 28

SPECIAL FUNDS.

From Tomlinson Estate Fund.....	\$ 142 96
From Illinois Street Tunnel Fund.....	25,329 60
	<hr/>
	\$656,287 87

Of the above orders there remain in the custody of the City Clerk on December 31, 1887, the aggregate sum of \$336 50
 And of orders drawn in previous years, the aggregate sum of..... 678 33

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH T. FANNING, Acting City Clerk.

The City Clerk submitted the following report; which was approved, and the appointments confirmed:

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I have appointed Michael W. Toomey my Deputy, and Clerk of the Board of Aldermen. I have also appointed H. B. Stout and William W. Walden Deputy Clerks, and request your honorable bodies to confirm their appointments.

Very respectfully,

JNO. W. BOWLUS, City Clerk.

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

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I herewith report the following estimates of work done according to contract:

A first and final estimate in behalf of Freaney Brothers, for erecting four lamp post on Ketcham street, between Merrill and Sinker streets.

1,020 lineal feet, at .0823 cents..... \$84 00

A fourth and partial estimate in behalf of A. Bruner, for constructing a brick sewer in and along Ray and Rockwood streets, from the present terminus of the Ray street sewer to the east bluff of White River.

215 lineal feet, at \$7.25..... \$1,558 75

2 catch-basins, at \$65.00 each..... 130 00

1 man-hole, at \$40.00..... 40 00

\$1,728 75

Less 10 per cent. reserve..... 172 87

Amount allowed in this estimate..... \$1,555 88

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. SHEARER, City Civil Engineer.

The following estimate resolution was 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 Freaney Brothers, for the erection of four (4) lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures, complete to burn gas, on Ketcham street, between Merrill and Sinker streets, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of said city; 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, 24—viz: Councilmen Burns, Coy, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Gaul, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, Markey, McClelland, O'Connor, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler, and Wilson.

NAYS—None.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report :

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I herewith report the following contracts and bonds:

Contract and bond of Haywood & Co., for grading and paving with brick, the south sidewalk of South street, from New Jersey street to East street.
Bond, \$500.00; surety, J. L. Fisher.

Contract and bond of Haywood & Co., for grading and graveling Kennington street and sidewalks, from Yeiser street to the first alley north of Yeiser street.
Bond, \$300.00; surety, L. A. Fulmer.

Contract and bond of Haywood & Co., for grading and paving with brick, the south sidewalk of Biddle street, from Pine street to the C., C., C. & I. R. R. tracks.
Bond, \$300.00; surety, R. P. Dunning.

Contract and bond of Fulmer & Seibert, for curbing the west sidewalk of New Jersey street, from Walnut street to North street.
Bond, \$500.00; surety, J. L. Fisher.

Contract and bond of Geo. W. Buchanan, for grading and paving with brick, the sidewalks of Sullivan street, from McCarty street to Buchanan street.
Bond, \$1,000; surety, R. P. Dunning.

Contract and bond of James W. Hudson, for grading, bowldering and curbing the gutters of Michigan street, from East street to Delaware street.
Bond, \$6,000; sureties, L. A. Fulmer and J. L. Fisher.

Contract and bond of Jas. E. Twiname & Co., for grading, bowldering and curbing the gutters of Pennsylvania street, from Seventh street to Eighth street.
Bond, \$1,200; surety, L. A. Fulmer.

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. SHEARER, City Civil Engineer.

Which was received, the contracts concurred in, and the bonds approved.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Gas:

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—In accordance with the provisions of General Ordinance No. 14, 1887, the Broad Ripple Natural Gas Company have filed with me their general plan for laying their mains in the territory lying north of Market and west of Meridian streets, which, as provided in Section 4 of said ordinance, I have approved as to the mains; but as to the location of gate-valves and regulators, I have deemed it prudent to withhold my approval, thinking it best to allow the necessities of the several cases to determine their location. Reserving the right to regulate the matters above excepted, I submit the same to you for your action.

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. SHEARER, City Civil Engineer.

Councilman Thalman, in behalf of the Committee on Natural Gas, submitted the following report; which was concurred in:

To the Mayor and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Natural Gas, recommend that the report of the

City Civil Engineer be concurred in, with the understanding that the provision of the ordinance be strictly adhered to, as provides for laying mains during unseasonable weather.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Thalman,
Edward Dunn,
Frederick W. Gaul,
Committee on Natural Gas.

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

To the Mayor and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—The undersigned, to whom was referred General Ordinance No. 47, 1887—being an ordinance imposing and requiring a license fee of *one hundred dollars* on all persons selling intoxicating liquors out side, and within two miles of the city limits—reports that having examined said ordinance, and also the case of *Lutz vs. the City of Crawfordsville*, recently decided by the Supreme Court of Indiana, holding that such a license can be exacted, and believing in the justice of such an ordinance, I earnestly recommend its speedy passage.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. L. TAYLOR, City Attorney.

On motion by Councilman Cummings, the following entitled ordinance was read the second time, ordered engrossed, and then read the third time:

G. O. 47, 1887—An ordinance supplemental to an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to increase the public revenues of the City of Indianapolis, by licensing saloons, telegraph companies, and wagons or other vehicles used by express companies doing business in said city, and to provide for the erection of a City Hall and Market House;" ordained May 23, 1882.

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 21—viz: Councilmen Burns, Cummings, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, McClelland, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler, and Wilson.

NAYS, 4—viz: Councilmen Coy, Gaul, Markey, and O'Connor.

REPORTS, ETC., FROM OFFICIAL BOARDS.

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

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—We herewith report expenditures in the Street Repair Department for the month of December together with total expenditures for year 1887.

EXPENDITURE FOR DECEMBER, VIZ:

Pay-rolls.....	\$ 1,211 52
Blacksmithing.....	48 15
Bowlders.....	4 50
Brick.....	4 50
Castings.....	14 40
Cement.....	5 50
Fountains repairs.....	16 90
Gravel.....	23 84
Hardware.....	27 69
Lumber.....	44 43
Miscellaneous.....	1 75

Rent	12 80
Sand.....	23 50
Stone crossings.....	70 85
Total	\$15,09 33

EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 1887.

Pay-rolls.....	\$26,780 37
Blacksmithing.....	476 46
Boulders	618 50
Brick	125 30
Broken stone.....	296 25
Castings for sewers, etc.....	105 44
Cement.....	31 00
Fountain repairs and pumps.....	110 60
Freight on stone.....	114 70
Gravel.....	583 80
Hardware.....	378 60
Lumber	1,987 38
Miscellaneous	186 22
Rent of city lumber-yard.....	75 80
Rubber goods.....	14 00
Sand	158 55
Sewer pipe.....	385 21
Stone crossings	252 11
Toll.....	16 50
Total.....	\$32,696 79

Respectfully submitted,

C. H. Stuckmeyer,
R. McClelland,
Board of Public Improvement

C. S. RONEY, Street Commissioner.

The Board of Health submitted the following report; which was referred to the Committee on Public Health:

Indianapolis, Jan. 2, 1888.

To the Mayor, City Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—At the last meeting of the City Board of Health, the secretary was requested to prepare an instruction card to accompany the flags of warning, and the following is a copy of the result.

S. E. EARP, M. D.,
Secretary of the City Board of Health,

DANGER FLAGS.

When flags of warning are posted on buildings, indicating the existence of small pox, cholera, diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles, or any other infectious or contagious disease, they must remain at least two weeks, and longer if necessary, to avoid the contagion of the disease, except measles, which must remain at least one week. Flags must not be removed without the authority of the health officers

The person affected with the disease must be effectually isolated, and the children of the household must be prohibited from attending any school.

SMALL POX.

When small pox exists all unvaccinated persons must be vaccinated with non-humozinized virus immediately, and all persons who have been exposed to the disease, although vaccinated, must be re-vaccinated

BURIALS.

In case of death from any contagious or infectious disease, the body must be placed in a coffin as soon as possible, securely closed and not opened again. The burial

must take place within eighteen hours, or earlier if those in charge are so notified by the health officers. The funeral must be strictly private.

DISINFECTANTS.

For disinfecting discharges, vomiting matter, etc.:

Dissolve four ounces of chloride of lime in one gallon of soft water.

For disinfecting clothing:

Immerse in boiling water for half an hour, or destroy by fire.

The room in which there has been a case of infectious or contagious disease must be disinfected, and all bedding, clothing and furniture disinfected or destroyed. Close the room tightly, fumigate with sulphurous acid gas produced by burning sulphur.

Bichloride of mercury solution:

Four ounces of bichloride of mercury to the gallon of water, and add one drachm of permanganate of potassium to each gallon. One ounce of this solution to one gallon of water will be suitable to disinfect clothing, and the proportion of four ounces to the gallon to wash walls, ceilings and wood work. The full strength may be used for discharges and vomited matters, etc. It is poisonous and must not come in contact with metal.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES.

This being the regular appropriation night, the following entitled Appropriation Ordinances were introduced and placed upon their final passage, without a suspension of the Rules:

The Chief Fire Engineer submitted the following entitled ordinance, which was read the first and second times, ordered engrossed, and read the third time:

Ap. O. 1, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of the Fire Department. [Amount appropriated, \$360.24.]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 24—viz: Councilmen Burns, Coy, Cummings, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Gaul, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, Markey, McClelland, O'Connor, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler, and Wilson.

NAYS—None

The Hospital Board introduced the following entitled ordinance, which was read the first and second times, ordered engrossed, and read the third time:

Ap. O. 2, 1888—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, \$1,571.55.]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 24—viz: Councilmen Burns, Coy, Cummings, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Gaul, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, Markey, McClelland, O'Connor, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler, and Wilson.

NAYS—None.

By the Committee on Accounts and Claims, through Councilman McClelland, the following entitled ordinance was introduced, read the first and second times, ordered engrossed, and read the third time :

Ap. O. 3, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis. [Amount appropriated, \$11,891.63.]

And it was passed by the following vote :

AYES, 24—viz: Councilmen Burns, Coy, Cummings, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Gaul, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, Markey, McClelland, O'Connor, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler, and Wilson.

NAYS—None.

By the City Clerk, on behalf of the Police Commissioners, the following entitled ordinance was introduced and read the first and second times, ordered engrossed, and read the third time :

Ap. O. 4, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of Station House. [Amount appropriated, \$250.30]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 24—viz: Councilmen Burns, Coy, Cummings, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Gaul, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, Markey, McClelland, O'Connor, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler, and Wilson.

NAYS—None.

By the Finance Committee, through Councilman Thalman, the following entitled ordinance was introduced, read the first and second times, ordered engrossed, and read the third time :

Ap. O. 5, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of the compensations of the officer and members of the Fire and Police Departments, the Committee Clerk, City Janitor, Assistant City Janitor, Tomlinson Hall Janitor, Tomlinson Hall Assistant Janitor, and Market Masters of the East and West Markets. [Amount appropriated, \$10,975.33.]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 24—viz: Councilmen Burns, Coy, Cummings, Darnell, Davis, Dunn, Elliott, Finch, Gasper, Gaul, Hicklin, Johnston, Kelley, Long, Markey, McClelland, O'Connor, Parkinson, Pearson, Smith, Stuckmeyer, Swain, Thalman, Trusler, and Wilson.

NAYS—None.

INTRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Councilman Cummings offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the Street Commissioner be ordered to at once remove the switch or rail road track out and from west Market street, from Mississippi street to Missouri street or to the Big Four tracks, and put the same in repair.

Councilman Darnell presented the following petition; which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys:

to the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—We, the undersigned, interested real estate owners, would most respectfully petition your honorable bodies to cause an alley to be opened to a width of twelve (12) feet between Tennessee and Mississippi streets, from Seventh street to Eighth, or Williams street, on the dividing line between Lots 4 and 5 and Lots 8 and 9 in Henderson's addition to the City of Indianapolis. A plat of said proposed opening is herewith submitted, marked Exhibit "A," and made a part of this petition.

A. H. Gladden, C. H. Nolting, J. L. McCormick, and fifty-eight others.

Councilman Kelley offered the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Water:

Resolved, That the Indianapolis Water Company be, and is hereby, directed to lay water mains on Beaty street south from McCarty street to Buchanan street, thence west on Buchanan street to East street, and locate a hydrant to every thousand feet of mains so laid.

Councilman O'Connor offered the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Water:

Resolved, That the Indianapolis Water Company be, and is hereby, directed to extend its water mains north on Dillon street to Georgia street and west on Georgia street to Noble street, and to locate two hydrants under the direction of the Chief Fire Engineer.

Councilman Thalman offered the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance, and City Attorney:

Resolved, That the Central Union Telephone Company of Indianapolis be, and is hereby, authorized to extend its lines of poles and wires so as to connect with the police telephone boxes recently established by the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners, at the following points in the City of Indianapolis, to-wit:

- A. 1—Central Police Station.
- B. 2—Corner Christian and College avenues.
- C. 3—Corner First and Mississippi streets.
- D. 4—Corner Delaware and McCarty streets.
- E. 5—Corner Meridian and Washington streets.
- F. 6—Corner Washington and West street.
- G. 7—Corner Washington and East streets.
- H. 8—Corner Massachusetts avenue and Peau streets.
- I. 9—Corner Blake and Elizabeth streets.
- K. 10—Corner McCarty and Meridian streets.
- L. 11—Corner McCarty and East streets.
- M. 12—Corner Virginia avenue and Prospect streets.
- N. 13—Corner Kentucky avenue, and West streets.

The setting of poles and stringing of wires under this resolution, shall be subject to the approval of the City Civil Engineer of said city.

Councilman Thalman offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the Committee on Printing be instructed to advise with the City Clerk and elimit all unnecessary matter that may be introduced by the Council from the printed proceedings.

Councilman Thalman offered the following motion; which was referred to the Rental Committee, with instructions to draft ordinance:

That the Mayor and Committee on Public Property be requested to prepare an ordinance defining what meetings or associations may be permitted to use Tomlinson Hall free, or by paying expenses and regulating the rental prices.

Councilman Trusler offered the following motion; which was referred to the Committee on Bridges:

That the City Civil Engineer be instructed to prepare plans for, and make estimate of the cost, of a bridge over Pleasant Run at Willow street.

Councilman Swain presented the following petition; which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys:

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

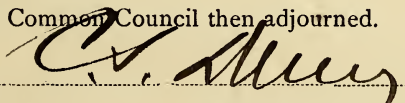
Gentlemen:—The undersigned, owners of real estate on North Delaware and Pennsylvania streets, respectfully petition your honorable bodies to cause the public alley between Delaware and Pennsylvania streets, and extending from the south line of W. S. Hubbard's addition, City of Indianapolis, to the south line of Lot 10 in Vajen's Third addition to the City of Indianapolis, to be opened and extended through the piece of land located north of Fifth or King street, between Delaware and Pennsylvania streets, and known as Lots (9) nine and (10) ten in C. C. and C. C. addition to the City of Indianapolis. Said alley to be opened to a width of 29½ feet in order that it may conform to the width of the alley north of the proposed vacation. A plat of the above described ground, with property adjacent thereto, is herewith filed with the petition and made a part thereof.

Jay G. Voss, 134 feet on Delaware street; Chas. F. Sayles, 67 feet on Delaware street; S. S. Adams, 67 feet on Delaware street; Enos Hege, 67 feet on Pennsylvania street; Conn. M. L. I. Co., 215 feet on Pennsylvania street, by Jos. A. Moore, Finan. Corresp't.

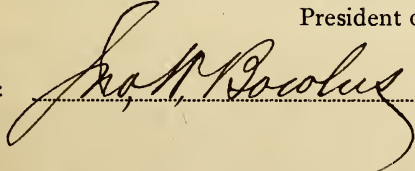
Councilman Swain offered the following motion; which was unani- mously adopted:

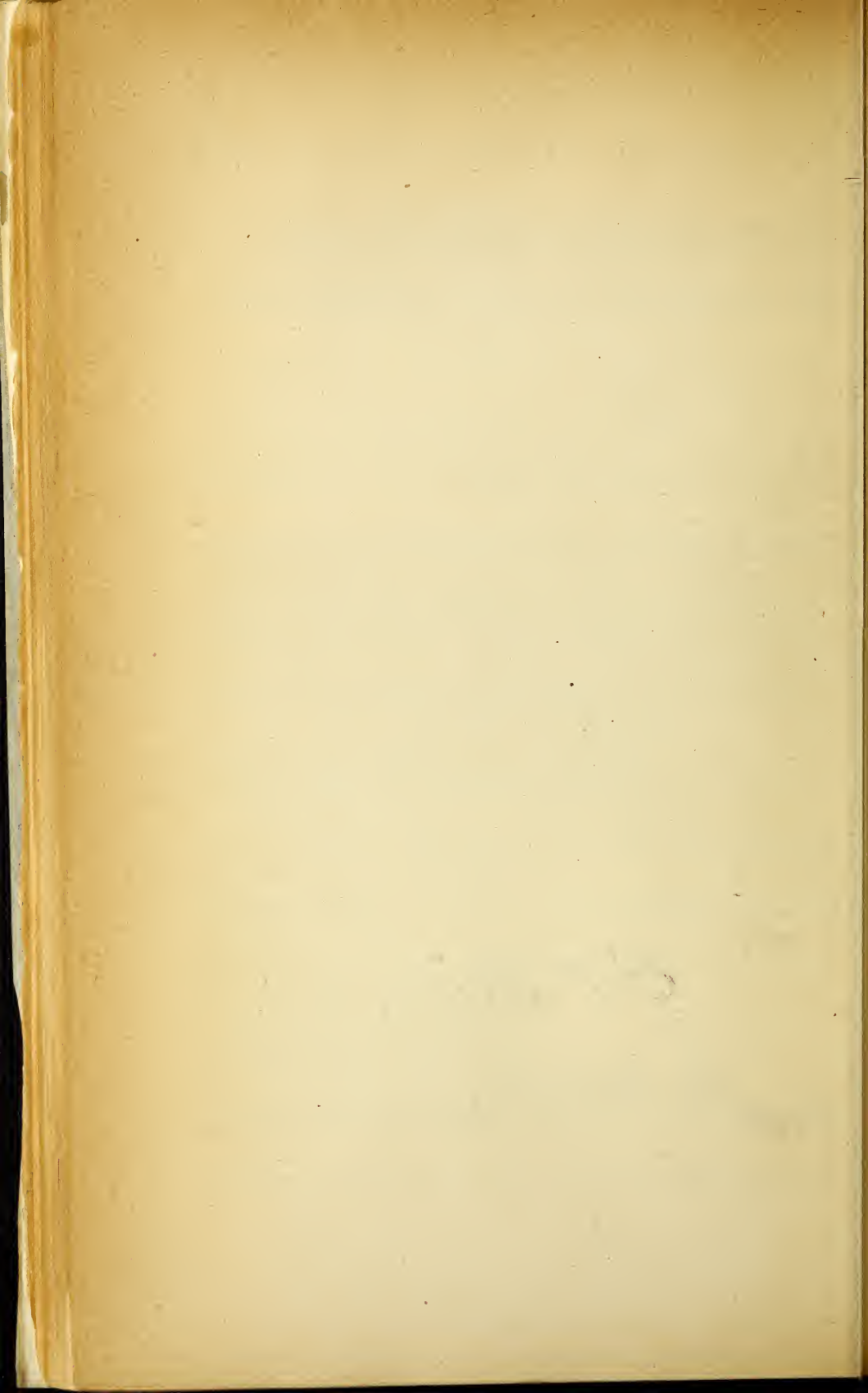
That a vote of thanks be tendered to the citizens of the Eighth Ward for the flowers presented to the Council.

On motion, the Common Council then adjourned.

 , Mayor,

President of the Common Council.

Attest:  , City Clerk.



PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

REGULAR SSESSION—JANUARY 2, 1888.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, met in the Aldermanic Chamber, Monday evening, January 2, A. D. 1888, at seven and one-half o'clock, in regular session, as fixed by the Rules of said Board.

John W. Bowlus, City Clerk, called the Board to order, and stated that the following members held certificates of election, issued upon the authority of the report of the Canvassing Board of Inspectors at the last City Election, held on the 11th day of October, 1887; the said report of Inspectors being on file in the office of the City Clerk, and said members having filed their certificates of election with the City Clerk, and have duly qualified as Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, according to law:

FIRST ALDERMANIC DISTRICT.

Miles M. Reynolds and James H. Taylor.

SECOND ALDERMANIC DISTRICT.

William E. Tousey and Millard F. Connett.

THIRD ALDERMANIC DISTRICT.

Granville S. Wright and Harry B. Smith.

FOURTH ALDERMANIC DISTRICT.

Henry W. Laut and Timothy J. Clark.

FIFTH ALDERMANIC DISTRICT.

John Rail and Julius F. Reinecke.

The roll was called by the City Clerk, with the following result:

PRESENT—Aldermen Clark, Connett, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, Tousey, and Wright—9.

ABSENT, 1—viz: Alderman Laut.

Whereupon the Clerk announced a quorum present, and that the first business in order was the election of a temporary President.

Alderman Reynolds moved that Alderman Rail be elected temporary President; which motion was unanimously adopted.

Alderman Rail then took the Chair, and announced that the election of a permanent President was now in order.

Whereupon Alderman Smith nominated Alderman Wright.

Alderman Reinecke seconded the nomination, and upon his motion, the Clerk was directed to cast the vote of the Board for Alderman Wright.

Temporary President Rail then announced that Alderman Wright had received the unanimous vote of the Board for President, and he thereupon declared him the duly elected President of the Board of Aldermen for the ensuing two years.

President Wright, upon taking the Chair, delivered the following address:

Gentlemen of the Board of Aldermen:

In assuming the duties of the position to which you have called me, I desire to express to you my gratification and appreciation of the honor you have conferred on me.

Indianapolis is the only city in the State governed by a common council and board of aldermen. The Board of Aldermen was created by act of the Legislature approved March 5, 1877, and afterwards amended March 8, 1881.

I had the honor, as a deputy city clerk, of calling to order the first Board of Aldermen organized under the original act, and presiding until the organization was completed by the election of the late Judge Horatio C. Newcomb as its President. The first meeting was held on Monday evening May 7, 1877. Judge Newcomb was succeeded as President by the following gentlemen in the order named: William D. Wiles, Jonathan M. Ridenour, Henry Coburn, James T. Layman, Brainard Rorison, and Thomas E. Endly. Under the original act the Board of Aldermen had equal power with the Council to originate legislation, but by the amendment of March 8, 1881, this power was, I think, properly limited, and now this body has no power to originate any ordinance, order, resolution or motion for the appropriation of money or for the government or regulation of the city, but the same must originate in the Common Council. The concurrent action of the two bodies being required in all cases to give force and effect to any measure except in regard to qualifications of its own members and its order of business. The action of the Council and Board must be separate and distinct. This practically makes the Board of Aldermen a board of review, with the veto power, a very arbitrary power, to be exercised only after mature reflection and careful investigation.

Indianapolis is the only city in the State with a tax levy limited by State Statute to ninety (90) cents on the one hundred dollars valuation, being but little more than half that of other large cities of the State.

The condition of the different departments of the city and the management of the city's business will, I have no doubt, be fully and carefully set forth in detail by Mayor Denny, in his message to the Common Council. His long experience in city affairs and his inclination to always advise for the best, ought to entitle his suggestions to the highest consideration by the members of this Board.

During the two years I have been a member of this body, I have endeavored to carefully scrutinize every measure coming to us from the other branch of the city legislature, and I can say that I have been continually surprised at the very few mistakes made by the Common Council. When it is considered that propositions must originate with them, many of which have been entirely new and of very great importance to the city's future, and necessarily considered hastily, and to a certain extent, without sufficient time for close investigation, I think it can be safely said that the Council has made no material or serious mistake. I trust the incoming Council will make equally as enviable a reputation.

It ought to be the policy of the city to lessen the cost to the property owners of the improvement of public streets. A saving of one-fifth to one fourth could be made on all streets used for only residence purposes by narrowing the roadways of such streets to a minimum width, and adding the surplus to the sidewalks and parking the same. The appearance of the city and its beauty and comfort

would thereby be greatly enhanced. This could be further increased by the uniform planting of the best varieties of shade trees along such newly improved public streets.

In the matter of public parks, the city is very deficient. By reason of the very low tax limit fixed by State Statute under which this city operates, and the great uncertainty and doubtful expediency of an increased rate, the city has not been financially able to properly undertake the improvement of what parks we have or to consider the purchase of additional grounds for park purposes. The question has been one of finance. Garfield Park ought to be improved; land on the north ought to be acquired for park purposes; this should include Fall creek and the low grounds adjoining from the Michigan road, if possible, to Schofields' mill. The surface of the ground is such that it is now almost a complete park. How best to create a fund for this purpose has received many suggestions.

I have thought that all this might be accomplished by creating a park fund in an increase of the city poll tax. It would seem proper that a fund should be created for this purpose from such a source, especially where the benefits to be enjoyed are so nearly personal and individual. The city now collects but fifty cents per capita from male citizens between the ages of twenty one and fifty years. It would require State legislation to increase this tax, but if increased one dollar, would give this city a fund amounting to more than \$17,000 the first year, and constantly and rapidly increasing; the number of polls returned by the last assessment being 17,065.

March 1st next the contract with the gas company for street lighting will be subject to a revision by the city. A renewal of this contract, if made, ought to be made at a very material reduction from the present price. Under the terms of this agreement the city has the right to substitute any other mode of street lighting than the one now in use; that is, any other than artificial gas, electricity being specially mentioned. The city also has the right at any time, by giving one week's notice, to test the utility of any other mode of lighting as many as 300 lamps embraced in any one district or portion of the city. The property owners have paid for and own all public street lamps and fixtures to the number of 2 640, and for furnishing light, lighting and extinguishing the same, the city pays \$25 per annum per post, being 2,740 hours of light per post through a burner having a capacity of four cubic feet per hour. It might be well to test the utility of natural gas for street lighting, by permitting 300 lamps to be so lighted. Light furnished by natural gas for 2740 hours through a burner having the capacity of twelve cubic feet per hour (three times the capacity of artificial gas burners) would cost, under ordinance rates, \$2.30 per post per annum, as against \$25, the present cost; or 300 lamps for \$690, as against \$7,500, the present cost. A test will prove the utility of natural gas for this purpose as well as the correctness or incorrectness of these figures.

It might be well for us, in considering proposed legislation, to remember that a public office is a public trust, and that its duties and obligations must be discharged in the interest of the public without reference to the person or individual to be benefited or injured by our action.

The city needs cheaper gas than the ordinance rates for manufacturers; cheaper light for street lamps; Washington street ought to be improved; the viaduct completed, and the street car service and accommodations made equal to the demands of a large and rapidly growing city.

All measures must be considered entirely upon their merits. All propositions calling for the expenditure of money should be closely scrutinized.

All important measures should be referred to appropriate committees for investigation. Time and the public press are valuable assistants and effective agents in arriving at proper conclusions and preventing bad legislation.

Our course should be conservative, but at all times firm and positive in that which we believe to be the best interest of the people who have delegated us to represent them.

In assuming the duties of presiding officer, I shall not forget that all members are equal and entitled to like privileges.

With your assistance and support, I shall undertake to discharge the duties of this position, as nearly as possible, with equal justice to all. Again, I thank you.

The nomination of a Vice President being in order, Alderman Connett nominated Alderman Reynolds; and on motion, the Clerk cast the vote of the Board for Alderman Reynolds.

Whereupon the President declared Alderman Reynolds the duly elected Vice President of the Board of Aldermen for the ensuing two years.

The following report of the City Clerk was read, and the appointment of Michael W. Toomey was confirmed as the Clerk of the Board of Aldermen, and Harvey B. Stout and William W. Walden were confirmed as Deputy City Clerks.

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I have appointed Michael W. Toomey my Deputy and Clerk of the Board of Aldermen. I have also appointed H. B. Stout and Wm. W. Walden deputy clerks, and request your honorable bodies to confirm their appointments.

Very respectfully,

JNO. W. BOWLUS, City Clerk.

President Wright announced the following Standing Committees:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

1. *Contracts and Bridges*—Tousey, Smith and Clark.
2. *Finance and Accounts and Claims*—Smith, Taylor and Reinecke.
3. *Fire Department*—Connett Reynolds and Laut.
4. *Hospital and Dispensary*—Taylor, Tousey and Clark.
5. *Judiciary and Ordinances*—Reynolds, Connett and Rail.
6. *Markets and Public Property*—Connett, Reynolds and Laut.
7. *Police Department*—Tousey, Smith and Clark.
8. *Printing and Office Fixtures and Supplies*—Smith, Tousey and Reinecke.
9. *Public Light and Education*—Taylor, Smith and Rail.
10. *Railroads and Public Charities*—Reynolds, Taylor and Rail.
11. *Ru es*—Wright, Reynolds and Clark.
12. *Streets and Alleys, and Sewer and Drainage*—Tousey, Taylor and Reinecke.
13. *Water and Public Health*—Connett, Taylor and Laut.

The following message was read and received:

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I submit herewith the following papers for your consideration, favorably passed upon by the Common Council, at a regular session, held this, Monday evening, January 2d, 1888.

For the Common Council:

JNO. W. BOWLUS, City Clerk.

The following report and resolution were read:

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—The Common Couacil, at the session held January 2d, 1888, concur in the following report, and adopted the following resolution:

To the Mayor, City Council and Board of Adlermen:

Gentlemen:—Last year the Treasurer was in condition to advance the city what money was needed during the months of January, February and March to meet current expenses, as last year's taxes, now due, are seldom paid until within a week or two before the last days of grace in April.

Treasurer Loftin informs us that, owing to the very close settlements that he is called on to make from all sources, he does not think he will have funds to accommodate us. We therefore recommend that you authorize your Finance Committee

to borrow such amounts, from month to month, as may be required. We herewith submit a resolution to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Thalman,
John R. Pearson,
Henry L. Smith,
C. H. Stuckmeyer.

Resolved, By the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the city of Indianapolis, that the Mayor and Committee on Finance of the Common Council of the city of Indianapolis, Indiana, be and they are hereby, authorized and directed to make a temporary loan in the name and on behalf of the city, in anticipation of the current year's revenue, for any sum not exceeding seventy thousand dollars, (\$70,000) for any period of time not exceeding ninety days from date of issue of bonds, at not exceeding six per cent. per annum.

That the Mayor and City Clerk be, and they are hereby, authorized and directed to execute the proper bonds and obligations of the city for said amount; and for the payment of said bonds and obligations, so to be given, the faith of the city of Indianapolis is hereby irrevocably pledged.

On motion of Alderman Smith, the action of the Council was concurred in, and the resolution adopted, by the following vote :

AYES, 8—viz: Aldermen Clark, Connett, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

The report from the City Civil Engineer, accompanied with estimates, (see page 14, *ante*), was read, and the favorable action of the Common Council concurred in.

The following estimate resolution (see page 14, *ante*), was 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 Freaney Brothers, for the erection of four (4) lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures, complete to burn gas, on Ketcham street, between Merrill and Sinker streets, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of said city; and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

Which was adopted, by the following vote :

AYES, 8—vis: Aldermen Clark, Connett, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

The report from the City Civil Engineer, accompanied with the report of the Committee on Natural Gas of the Common Council and a plat and general plan of the Broad Ripple Natural Gas Company, showing the streets, alleys and public grounds to be opened, and the proposed location of mains and pipes in such streets, alleys and public grounds, and the pressure intended to be carried, (see pages 15 and 16, *ante*), was read, and the favorable action of the Common Council concurred in, and the general plan approved.

The following entitled ordinance (passed by the Common Council) was read the first time :

G. O. 47, 1887—An ordinance supplemental to an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to increase the public revenue of the City of Indianapolis, by licensing Saloons, Telegraph Companies and Wagons or other vehicles used by Express Companies doing business in said city, and to provide for the erection of a City Hall and Market House;" ordained May 23d, 1882.

On motion by Alderman Rail, the Rules were suspended for the purpose of placing the above entitled ordinance on its final passage, by the following vote:

AYES, 8—viz: Aldermen Clark, Connett, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

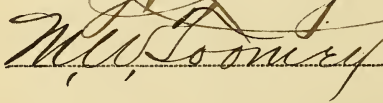
G. O. 47, 1887, was then read the second and third times and passed, by the following vote:

AYES, 8—viz: Aldermen Clark, Connett, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

On motion, the Board of Aldermen then adjourned.


....., President.

Attest: 
....., Clerk.