

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL.

REGULAR SESSION.

CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS,
MONDAY, MAY 15TH, 1865, 8 O'CLOCK, P. M. }

The Common Council met in regular session.

Present—His Honor, the Mayor, John Caven, in the Chair; and the following members :

Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Brown, Coburn, Colley, Emerson, Fletcher, Glazier, Grosvenor, Jameson, Lefever, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker, Staub and Thompson—17.

J. HENRY KAPPES, Esqr., Councilman elect from the Second Ward, presented his certificate of election and oath of office, and, on filing the same with the City Clerk, took his seat as a member of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis.

The proceedings of the regular session, held May 8th, 1865. were read and approved.

His Honor, Mayor CAVEN, announced the following Standing Committees :

To the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :

The Standing Committees of the present Council are hereby constituted as follows :

Judiciary.

SIMS A. COLLEY,
ADOLPH SEIDENSTICKER,
WM. H. LOOMIS.

Finance.

P. H. JAMESON,
SAMUEL LEFEVER,
CHRISTIAN F. SCHMIDT.

Accounts.

HENRY COBURN,
W. CLINTON THOMPSON,
J. H. KAPPES.

Fire Department.

WILLIAM ALLEN,
S. A. COLLEY,
J. A. GROSVENOR.

Police.

WILLIAM BOAZ,
H. COBURN,
J. H. KAPPES.

Streets and Alleys.

A. H. BROWN,
H. COBURN,
P. H. JAMESON.

Education.

H. A. FLETCHER,
P. H. JAMESON,
JOSEPH STAUB.

Bridges.

R. B. EMERSON,
WM. BOAZ,
WM. ALLEN.

Markets.

CHARLES GLAZIER,
J. B. MACARTHUR,
J. A. GROSVENOR.

Public Buildings.

R. B. EMERSON,
WM. BOAZ,
JOSEPH STAUB.

Cisterns.

S. LEFEVER,
H. COBURN,
C. F. SCHMIDT.

Gas Light.

W. C. THOMPSON,
S. LEFEVER,
C. F. SCHMIDT.

Revision of Ordinances.

ADOLPH SEIDENSTICKER,
S. A. COLLEY,
P. H. JAMESON.

Soldiers' Aid.

J. H. KAPPES,
W. C. THOMPSON,
W. H. LOOMIS.

The City Clerk presented the official bonds of the following City Officers :

CHARLES JOHN, Market Master, giving as security, Alexander Metzger—penalty of bond, \$1,500.00.

JAMES LOUCKS, City Sealer, giving as security, Wiley M. Lowry and David Powell—penalty of bond, \$1,500.00.

CHARLES RICHMANN, Chief Fire Engineer, giving as security, Fr. Ritzinger and John B. Stumph—penalty of bond, \$1,500.00.

By Mr. Coburn—Petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 8, 1865.

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

We, the undersigned lot owners in the Cemeteries of the City of Indianapolis, respectfully petition your honorable body to take charge of the said Cemeteries and build a permanent fence around the same, and keep the ground in order, and establish rules and regulations for the government of the same, and pass an ordinance to compel lot owners to pay the expenses of the same.

JOHN G. WATERS,
DANIEL B. CHARLES,
C. S. BUTTERFIELD,
CHARLES RICHMAN,
JOHN B. STUMPH,
And others.

Which, on motion of Mr. Brown, was referred to the Commit.

tee on Public Buildings and Grounds, with instructions to report an ordinance in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners.

By Mr. Seidensticker—Petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

The undersigned respectfully ask for permission to lay down flag stone pavements in front of their respective property on the south side of Washington street, between Alabama and New Jersey streets, under direction of the Civil Engineer.

DR. E. KLEIN,
A. J. GERSTNER,
CHARLES ALDAG,
CHRIST. KARLE,
JACOB BECKER.

On motion the prayer of the petitioners was granted.

By Mr. Seidensticker—Petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

GENTLEMEN:—We, the undersigned resident property-holders of St. Clair street and Massachusetts Avenue, between East street and Railroad street, would respectfully represent to your honorable body, that in consequence of the improper grading of Massachusetts Avenue, between East street and Railroad street, our cellars are inundated, and our property otherwise damaged; therefore we do petition your honorable body to have Massachusetts Avenue re-graded, and St. Clair street graded and graveled. As in duty bound we will ever pray.

J. E. LUDLUM,
H. KETTENBACH,
OTTO C. VOLMER,
PHILLIP ENNERS,
And others.

Which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

By Mr. Coburn—Petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

GENTLEMEN:—Your petitioner respectfully represents that he was the *bona fide* holder of a City Order, numbered 4648, for \$77.50, allowed May 16th, 1864, in favor of William Bolen, policeman, for his pay for the month of January, 1865, dated February 1st, 1865; that while he was such holder the said order was accidentally burnt and entirely destroyed. Your petitioner respectfully asks that your honorable body will direct the City Clerk to issue to him a duplicate warrant, and respectfully represents that he will give such indemnity as your honorable body may require.

Respectfully,

INGRAM FLETCHER.

STATE OF INDIANA, }
COUNTY OF MARION, } ss.

Ingram Fletcher being sworn, on his oath says, that the statements of the foregoing petition are true, as he verily believes.

INGRAM FLETCHER.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of May, 1865.

BYRON K. ELLIOTT,
Notary Public.

Which, on motion, was referred to the Finance Committee.

Dr. Jameson presented a remonstrance from John J. Morgan, of Co. "A," V. R. C., and other disabled soldiers, against the passage of an ordinance prohibiting "runners" or "agents" for certain Mercantile houses as petitioned for by J. W. Monfort, and others.

Which, on motion, was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. Grosvernor—Remonstrance :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

Whereas the honorable body, the City Council of the City of Indianapolis, have passed an ordinance to grade and gravel all of Georgia street west of Pennsylvania street, through to West street now we, the property-holders on Georgia street west of Tennessee street, petition your honorable body to except all of Georgia street west of Tennessee street. and that part be laid over for another year; by so doing you will confer a great favor, and we will ever pray.

A. WALDO,
Ag't for the McGill Heirs.
MARTIN BYRKIT,
JAMES BRADLEY,
WM. SHEETS,
And others.

Which, on motion, was laid upon the table.

By Mr. Brown—Petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 8, 1865.

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

GENTLEMEN:—Having been required, during the past year, to receipt for and disburse over four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) to relieve the city from two drafts, for the labor and responsibility of which I have received nothing, I think it but just that some compensation be given me. I therefore hereby petition your honorable body to make me such allowance as you may think right and just.

Respectfully, JOS. K. ENGLISH, *City Treasurer.*

Which, on motion, was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Brown presented a remonstrance from M. L. Brett and others against the grading and bouldering of Meridian street, between New York and North streets, as proposed to be petitioned for by other citizens living along the line of said street.

Which, on motion, was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

By Mr. Coburn—Petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned respectfully represent that it would be for the public benefit to have Pratt street, extending through out-lot 174, in the City of

Indianapolis, increased in width thirty feet. That the public convenience, and that of the property holders upon and along said street, would be greatly promoted by thus increasing the width of said street. For a more full showing of said improvement, we respectfully refer to the accompanying plat. Your petitioners pray that the matters may be referred to the Commissioners provided for by section 60 of the City Charter. Respectfully,

JOHN W. HAMILTON,
SAMUEL LAMB.

Resolved, That the matter of the widening of Pratt street, as mentioned in the petition of John W. Hamilton and others, be referred to the Commissioners provided for by section 60 of the Charter; and that the City Clerk be directed to issue the notices provided for by an ordinance entitled "An ordinance relative to the opening, laying out, constructing, altering and repairing streets and alleys within the City of Indianapolis, and prescribing the duties of certain officers in relation thereto."

Which, on motion of Dr. Jameson, was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

By Mr. Coburn, from the Board of Public Improvements:

OFFICE BOARD OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, }
Indianapolis, May 15th, 1865. }

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

GENTLEMEN:—Your Board would respectfully introduce the following entitled ordinance for the erection of lamp-posts on Noble street, between Market and Michigan streets.

HENRY COBURN,
AD. SEIDENSTICKER, } *Board.*
W. CLINTON THOMPSON, }

AN ORDINANCE to provide for furnishing and erecting lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures on Noble street, between Market and Michigan streets,

Which was read the first time, and, on motion, was read the second time by its title.

By Mr. Coburn, from the Board of Public Improvements:

OFFICE BOARD OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, }
Indianapolis, May 15, 1865. }

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

GENTLEMEN:—Your Board would respectfully report in relation to the petition of John R. Elder and others in reference to widening the culvert across New York street, at New Jersey street, that the Street Commissioner be instructed to widen it to a sufficient width to allow the full and free passage of all water.

HENRY COBURN,
AD. SEIDENSTICKER, } *Board.*
W. CLINTON THOMPSON, }

On motion of Mr. Brown, the report was concurred in, and the Civil Engineer directed to furnish the Street Commissioner with a plan of said work.

By Mr. Coburn, from the Board of Public Improvements:

OFFICE BOARD OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, }
Indianapolis, May 10, 1865. }

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Board of Public Improvements, to whom was referred

various bids on cisterns and street improvements, would respectfully report, that they find the following parties the lowest bidders :

CISTERNs.

John Stumph is the lowest, on the six located as follows: His bid is 95 cents per bbl.

One at corner of Bluff Road and Ray Street.....	600	bbls.
One on Illinois Street, between Merrill and McCarty.....	600	"
One on Illinois Street, near Louisiana Street.....	700	"
One on Alabama Street, near Maryland street.....	700	"
One at corner of Noble and Michigan streets.....	600	"
One at corner of Tennessee and Walnut streets.....	600	"

Total number of bbls. for Stumph.....3,800

C. E. Witsit is the lowest, on two located as follows: His bid is 98 cents per bbl.

One at corner of Noble street and Fletcher Avenue.....	600	bbls.
One at corner of Georgia and Cady streets.....	600	"

Total number of bbls. for Whitsit.....1,200

J. P. Cruse is the lowest, on one located as follows: Bid 98 cents per bbl.

One corner Vine and East streets.....	600	bbls.
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The total cost of the above nine cisterns will be \$5,374. W. H. Sibley's bid was not considered, his bid being informal.

PAVING SIDEWALKS.

C. E. Witsit, best bidder on paving the north side of Washington street, between Alabama and Noble streets, at 94 cents per superficial yard.

John Stumph, best bidder on paving and curbing the south-east side of Kentucky avenue, between Washington and Maryland streets—paving 85 cents per superficial yard; curbing 87 cents per lineal foot.

John Stumph, paving and curbing (with white oak plank) the sidewalk on Ohio street, between Pennsylvania and Tennessee streets—paving 85 cents per superficial yard; curbing 25 cents per lineal foot.

BRIDGES.

Bennett Brooks, best bidder on foot-bridge over the western arm of the canal and the National road, at \$220 00.

STREET IMPROVEMENT.

John Stumph, bouldering and curbing Washington street and the National road, between the first alley west of West street and Blake street—bouldering 90 cents per yard; curbing 87 cents per lineal foot.

Daniel Mahoney, grading and graveling Norwood street and sidewalks, and coating the centre of the street with cinders—grading 41 cents; graveling 65 cents; cinders 65 cents per yard.

Also, for grading and graveling Fort Wayne avenue and sidewalks, between Delaware and Alabama streets—grading 40 cents; graveling \$1 47.

Also, for grading and graveling Fort Wayne avenue and sidewalk, between Alabama street and the corporation line north—grading 43 cents; graveling \$1 49 per yard.

Andrew Stewart, for grading and graveling Vermont street and sidewalk—grading 44 cents; graveling \$1 35. As there is a heavy remonstrance before the Board, they would recommend that the work be postponed for the present.

The Board would recommend that the ordinance for the improvement of the sidewalk on Missouri street, be reconsidered, as it erroneously provides for the improvement of the east side, when it was intended for the west sidewalk.

HENRY COBURN,
AD. SEIDENSTICKER,
W. CLINTON THOMPSON, } *Board.*

On motion of Dr. Jameson so much of said report as relates to proposals to build cisterns was referred to the Chief Fire Engineer, with instructions to report what number, if any, of the cisterns advertised for can be best dispensed with; and so much as relates to street improvement and building foot bridge over the western arm of the Canal was concurred in, and contracts awarded.

Mr. Coburn from the Board of Public Improvements, presented the following contracts and bonds for street improvement:

SEIBERT & CATTERSON, for grading and graveling Georgia street and sidewalks, between Pennsylvania and West streets, giving as security James Kirlin, Samuel M. Seibert and William Cogill; penalty of bond \$16,000.00.

C. E. WHITSIT, for grading and paving the sidewalk on the east side of Pennsylvania street, between Ohio and St. Clair streets, giving as security W. G. Wright; penalty of bond \$4,500.00.

C. E. WHITSIT, for grading and paving the sidewalk on the east side of Virginia Avenue, between Washington and Alabama streets, giving as security Hiram Seibert; penalty of bond \$2,000.00

C. E. WHITSIT, for grading and paving the sidewalk on the east side of Pennsylvania street, between St. Clair street and the Corporation line, north, giving as security W. G. Wright; penalty of bond \$1,500.00.

C. E. WHITSIT, for grading and paving the sidewalk on the west side of Pennsylvania street, between North street and the Corporation line, north, giving as security Hiram Seibert; penalty of bond \$3,000.00.

C. E. WHITSIT, for grading and paving the sidewalk on the north side of Washington street, between Alabama and Noble streets, giving as security T. M. Stevens; penalty of bond \$7,000.00.

Which were severally accepted and approved.

Mr. Coburn, from the Board of Public Improvements reported sundry sealed proposals for public works as advertized for by the Civil Engineer.

Which were opened and read in Council and referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

Mr. Seidensticker called for the drawing for choice of seats, which was made the special order of business for this meeting, at the meeting held May 8, 1865.

On motion of Mr. Brown the Clerk wrote the number of each ward on a separate sheet of paper and deposited the same in a hat; and His Honor, the Mayor drew them out one at a time, with the following result:

- 1st choice—6th Ward—choice, 6th Ward seats.
- 2d choice—9th Ward—choice 7th Ward seats.
- 3d choice—7th Ward—choice, 2d Ward seats.
- 4th choice—1st Ward—choice, 1st Ward seats.
- 5th choice—3d Ward—choice, 3d Ward seats.
- 6th choice—2d Ward—choice, 8th Ward seats.
- 7th choice—4th Ward—choice, 4th Ward seats.
- 8th choice—5th Ward—choice, 5th Ward seats.
- 9th choice—8th Ward—choice, 9th Ward seats.

Mr. Brown moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of introducing an ordinance fixing the salaries and pay of City Officers and employees.

The question being on the suspension of the rules, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz Brown, Coburn, Colley, Emerson, Fletcher, Glazier, Grosvenor, Jameson, Kappes, Lefever, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker, Staub and Thompson—18. Noes, none.

So the rules were suspended.

Mr. Brown then introduced the following ordinance, to-wit:

AN ORDINANCE to provide for the compensation of City Officers, and officers and members of the Police Force and Fire Department, for the fiscal year ending May 15, 1866.

SECTION 1. *Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis,* That the annual compensation of the following-named officers, for the fiscal year ending May 15, 1866, shall be as follows:

The Mayor, one thousand dollars.

The Clerk, one thousand, five hundred dollars, out of which amount he is to pay his Deputy and clerk hire.

The Marshal, five hundred dollars.

The Deputy Marshal, five hundred dollars.

The Street Commissioner, one thousand dollars.

The Civil Engineer, one thousand, five hundred dollars.

The Assistant Civil Engineer, nine hundred dollars.

The Assessor, one thousand dollars.

The Attorney, five hundred dollars.

The Sexton of the Grave Yard, eighty dollars.

The Winder of the Town Clock, one hundred dollars.

The Market Master, four hundred and fifty dollars.

SECTION 2. The sum of nine thousand and thirty dollars is hereby appropriated to pay the salaries provided for in the first section of this ordinance, and the Clerk is authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer in payment of such salaries in favor of the persons entitled to receive the same, at the end of each quarter, at the rate fixed by the first section of this ordinance, charging the same to the account of "officers' salaries;" and the Clerk is hereby expressly prohibited from overdrawing the amount thus appropriated between the 15th day of May, 1865, and the 15th day of May, 1866, unless authorized to do so by a special ordinance of the City Council, passed by a vote of two-thirds of all the members thereof.

SECTION 3. The Treasurer shall be entitled to receive two per cent. upon all current taxes he may collect during the fiscal year ending May 15, 1866, and five per cent. on all collections of delinquent taxes made by him during the same fiscal year, out of which percentage he shall pay his Deputy and Clerk hire. Such percentage shall be paid by the City Clerk's drawing his warrant, at the end of each settlement, upon the filing in his office a sworn statement of the amount claimed, which statement shall have, in addition, endorsed thereon the approval of the members of the Finance Committee of the Common Council, and it shall be the duty of such Committee to first examine the books and settlement sheets of the Treasurer, before giving such approval.

SEC. 4. The officers and members of the Police Force shall receive the following compensation during the fiscal year ending May 15, 1866.

The Chief of Police, one thousand, five hundred dollars per annum, payable quarterly, as other city officers are paid.

The Lieutenant of the Police Force, three dollars per day for each day actually employed.

The Day and Night Patrolmen of the Police Force, two dollars and fifty cents per day each, for each day actually employed.

SEC. 5. The sum of twenty-three thousand, three hundred and five dollars is hereby appropriated to pay the salaries of the Chief of Police and the daily compensation of the Lieutenant and Patrolmen of the Police Force during the fiscal year ending May 15, 1866, including one thousand dollars, which amount is subject to be drawn from the Treasury by warrant of the Clerk upon the application of the Mayor, and in favor of that officer to pay the compensation of a Detective Policeman whom the Mayor is authorized to appoint, and in his discretion, and keep the name of such appointee from the knowledge of any one except of the Chief of Police. The Clerk shall draw his warrants in favor of the Lieutenant and members of the Police Force, on the first day of each month for services rendered the month previous, upon the filing of a properly certified pay-roll of the Police Force, which pay-roll shall be signed and certified to by the Chief of Police; and the Clerk is hereby expressly prohibited from over-drawing the amount thus appropriated between the 15th day of May, 1865, and the 15th day of May, 1866, unless authorized to do so by a special ordinance of the Common Council, passed by a vote of two-thirds of all the members thereof. All warrants drawn upon the appropriation herein made shall be charged to the account of "Police Force."

SEC. 6. The officers and members of the Fire Department shall receive the following compensation during the fiscal year ending May 15, 1866:

The Chief Fire Engineer, one thousand dollars per annum, payable quarterly, as other city officers are paid.

The Engineers in charge of each steam fire engine, one hundred dollars per month, payable monthly, upon the certificate of the Chief Fire Engineer to the pay-roll of the Fire Department.

Each Driver and Fireman of the companies of the Fire Department, two dollars and fifty cents per day for each day actually employed, payable monthly upon the certificate of the Chief Fire Engineer to the pay-roll of the Fire Department.

Each Hoseman, one hundred dollars per annum, payable quarterly, upon the certificate of the Chief Fire Engineer.

Each Watchman on the Central Alarm Tower, two dollars and fifty cents per day for each day actually employed, payable monthly, on the certificate of the Chief Fire Engineer to the pay-roll of the Fire Department.

SEC. 7. The sum of sixteen thousand, four hundred and seventy-five dollars is hereby appropriated to pay the annual salary of the Chief Fire Engineer, and the monthly and daily compensation of the Engineers, Drivers and Firemen of the Fire Department; and the Clerk is hereby expressly prohibited from over-drawing the amount thus appropriated between the 15th day of May, 1865, and the 15th day of May, 1866, unless authorized to do so by a special ordinance of the Common Council, passed by a vote of two-thirds of all the members thereof. All warrants drawn upon the appropriation herein made shall be charged to the account of "Fire Department."

SEC. 8. The Councilmen shall, during the fiscal year ending May 15, 1866, receive two dollars for each and every session, regular or special, of the Common Council which they may attend, payable quarterly, and the City Clerk is authorized to draw his warrant on the Treasurer in payment of such compensation, ascertaining the number of sessions attended by each Councilman, from the official proceedings of the Common Council, and all such warrants shall be charged to the account of "Salaries of Councilmen."

SEC. 9. This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

Ordained and established this 15th day of May, 1865.

Attest:

JOHN CAVEN, Mayor.

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, City Clerk.

Which was read the first time, and, on motion, was read the second time by its title.

Mr. Brown then moved that the rules be suspended and the ordinance read the third time now, and placed upon its passage.

The question being on the suspension of the rules, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Brown, Coburn,

Colley, Emerson, Fletcher, Glazier, Grosvenor, Jameson, Kappes, Lefever, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker, Staub and Thompson—18. Noes, none.

So the rules were suspended and the ordinance read the third time.

The question being shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Brown, Coburn, Colley, Emerson, Fletcher, Glazier, Grosvenor, Jameson, Kappes, Lefever, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker, Staub and Thompson—18. Noes, none.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Kappes moved that the Council proceed to ballot for two Night Patrolmen and one Day Patrolman in the Police Force, for the Second Ward.

Which motion prevailed.

His Honor the Mayor, appointed Councilmen Brown and Loomis tellers.

The ballot resulted as follows :

Day Patrolman—JAMES STEVENS.

Night Patrolmen—FRED. SPONSEL and J. RODGER SHEA.

From the Marshal :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

GENTLEMEN:—I would respectfully report to your honorable body that I have appointed, as my Deputy, John S. Russell, and ask your confirmation of the same.
Yours, truly, JOHN UNVERSAW, *City Marshal*.

The question being on confirming the appointment of John S. Russell as Deputy Marshal, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Brown, Coburn, Colley, Emerson, Fletcher, Glazier, Grosvenor, Jameson, Kappes, Lefever, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker, Staub and Thompson—18. Noes, none.

So the appointment was confirmed.

From the Chief of Police—Report :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Police force of the City of Indianapolis, during the past twelve months. Upon assuming control of the Police, twenty-six members constituted the force. The city was full of soldiers and recruits, and new regiments arriving

daily to fill up the quota for the one hundred days' service, then forming. This number was wholly inadequate to guard the city, and arrest the numerous petty thieves. At that time my duties called me to the field with the 132d Regiment, and I left the force in charge of Lieut. John S. Bray, who proved a vigilant and capable officer.

Upon my return, the floating population was still larger. At a rough estimate, I should compute the people in the city, soldiers and citizens, to number sixty thousand. Seeing at once that with twenty-six Policemen it was impossible to guard a city covering so much ground, and with such mixed, numerous population, I applied to your Honorable Body for an increase of force, which was promptly granted, giving me sixteen additional men. With this force, now numbering forty-one men, the whole police duty of this city has been performed for the last ten months, and in so efficient a manner as to bring compliments from the Chiefs of Police of our principal Western and Eastern cities. In this connection I would state that upon the call for more troops, last fall, large bounties being paid for recruits and substitutes, an influx of bounty jumpers from New York, and other cities, filled our streets with scoundrels and thieves.

They came, as they expressed it, on a country excursion. There was a soft thing in Indianapolis, and they were bound to have the plunder; but their joy was soon turned to mourning, for the activity of the Police, and the excellent guard and detectives, under that man of nerve, Col. A. J. Warner, soon broke their organization, and placed them in safe quarters in the guard house of the Soldiers' Home.

Col. Warner says, in a letter which I append to this report, that "as an indication of the activity and co-operation of the police force with the military, in bringing the guilty to justice and preserving order, may be cited the fact that since August last, as shown by the records of this office, over two hundred deserters, bounty jumpers, and other military offenders have been arrested by members of the police force, and turned over to the Post Provost Marshal. Many of these offenders, arrested as bounty jumpers and deserters, were really professional thieves, cutthroats, and pickpockets, who, while they came here to enlist for bounties, intending to desert, also plied their regular vocations whenever an opportunity offered."

When the population of the city is taken into consideration, the extent of ground covered, the numerous railways affording an easy means of escape for criminals, and the fact stated that there has been no bank robberies, no heavy robberies of any kind, the efficiency of the police will be acknowledged.

Below will be found the number of arrests, and for what offenses, for the past year:

Murder 4; assault with intent to kill 10; grand larceny 85; petit larceny 10; malicious trespass 5; keeping houses of ill fame 41; occupying houses of ill fame 162; visiting houses of ill fame 20; public indecency 11; exhibiting obscene pictures 2; Intoxication 1,749; prostitution 165; associating with prostitutes 36; assault and battery 126; disturbing the peace 116; carrying concealed weapons 70; gambling 5; exhibiting shows without license 53; riotous conduct 2; unlawful assemblages 20; violation of liquor law 2; committing nuisances 9; violation of cemetery ordinance 4; running vehicles without license 32; hitching to lamp posts 9; hitching to shade trees 30; feeding horses on streets, and snow ordinance 55; violation of market ordinance 3; obstructing sidewalks, streets and alleys 166; violation of Sunday ordinance 21; driving on sidewalks 48; building without permits 5; fast riding and driving on streets 26; shooting in the streets 15; public bathing 8; violation of dog ordinance 46; leaving teams unhitched 54; violation of fish ordinance 3; violation of wood ordinance 1; running locomotives too fast 1. Total 3,231.

These are arrests exclusively made by the police. It will be noticed that the arrests for intoxication reach the enormous number of 1,749. We can trace to this intoxication the numerous crimes enumerated in the above list.

We have for assault and battery 125, and disturbing the peace 116, almost directly attributable to intoxication; but it will be noticed that but five have been arrested for gambling. Many people ask, "Why is it that no more arrests are made for gambling?" It is simply from the fact that positive proof is required by the law that money is bet, lost, or won, and from the fact of gamblers having "COUNTERS" to represent money, and knowing the police, the proof can rarely be made.

These "counters" are ivory chips, of no specific value. Most of the gambling done in the city is what is called "bucking against the tiger," that is playing against Faro Bank. Now, when it is taken into consideration that a police force of forty-one men have, during the last twelve months, made three thousand two hundred and thirty-one arrests, it is enough to establish the efficiency of the police, which I had the honor to command.

They have done everything I could reasonably have expected. They have been upright, honest men, vigilant in their duty, enduring hardships and privations, sacrificing their health for the public welfare, and deserve the thanks of the community.

In addition, I would state that over eighty deserters have been arrested by the police and placed in custody of Capt. David Braden, District Provost Marshal, besides a number of United States prisoners, which I have no list of, have been handed over to the late United States Marshal, Garland D. Rose.

In conclusion, I would respectfully tender my thanks to his Honor, Mayor John Caven, and your Honorable Body, for the cordial co-operation and facilities you have rendered me in the performance of duties necessary as they are responsible and laborious.

SAMUEL A. CRAMER, *Chief of Police.*

Which, on motion, was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

By Mr. Brown—Motion:

That the Committee on Streets and Alleys be empowered to employ a suitable person who shall, under their direction, superintend all street improvements ordered by the Council, and report from time to time, through said Committee, on the general condition of the streets and alleys, together with all cases in which street contractors shall fail to comply with their contracts.

Which motion was adopted.

Mr. Colley introduced an ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE to provide for furnishing and erecting lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures on East street, between the first alley north of New York street, on the west side of East street, and Massachusetts Avenue,

Which, on motion of Mr. Colley, was laid upon the table without reading.

From the Chief Fire Engineer—Report:

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Council, I would recommend the building of the following cisterns, as the most needed at this present time:

One on the corner of Georgia and Cady Streets, one on the corner of North and Michigan streets, one on Illinois, near Louisiana, and one on Bluff Road and Ray street. Most respectfully,

CHARLES RICHMANN, *Chief of Fire Department.*

On motion of Mr. Brown the report was referred to the Board of Public Improvements, with instructions to have the Civil Engineer re-advertise for proposals for the cisterns recommended as most needed in the report of the Chief Fire Engineer.

From the Market Master—Report :

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, 1865.

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

GENTLEMEN:—I would respectfully report to your Honorable Body that as Market Master I have collected, the past year, the sum of one thousand and forty-one dollars and twenty-five cents, which sum I paid over to your late Treasurer, Joseph K. English, Esq., and have taken his receipt for the same.

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES JOHN, *Market Master.*

Which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Markets.

Mr. Brown called up the Hack Ordinance, and moved to amend by inserting the following proviso after the words "*Indianapolis Daily Journal*," in the 4th section, to-wit :

"*Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to affect any action now pending, or any right of action now existing, in favor of said city."

Which amendment was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Colley the ordinance was then laid upon the table, and made the special order of business at the next meeting of Council.

By Mr. Seidensticker—Motion :

That the Mayor appoint a special committee to revise the Rules of Order of the Common Council.

Which motion was adopted.

His Honor, the Mayor appointed Councilmen Seidensticker, Brown and Jameson said committee.

By Mr. Brown—Motion :

That the Clerk, Treasurer, Mayor, Civil Engineer, Assessor, Marshal, Chief Fire Engineer, Attorney and Chief of Police report to this Council, at its next regular meeting, statements showing the estimated expenses of their respective offices for the fiscal year commencing May 15, 1865, for office furniture, fuel, lights, blank books, blanks, stationery, and printing, with the view that appropriations be made for the objects made.

Which motion was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Seidensticker, the Council adjourned to meet on Monday, the 22d, at 8 o'clock, P. M.

JOHN CAVEN, *Mayor.*

ATTEST :

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, *City Clerk.*