

Common Council Chamber)
August 1st. 1853.)

The Council met. Present all the Councilmen save McCarty & Maguire,

The Minutes of the preceeding meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer Monthly report read and approved.

1201.	Allowed,	David Leach, for hogs sold	8.10
2.	Do	Oliver Rice " Pump at cistern on Massachusetts & East street. 13.80 & Wash. & Delaware st. \$15. Rep. well 1.75:	30.55
3.	Do.	Richard Berry, Labor on Streets	12.12
4.	Do.	Invincible Fire Company For 6 Fire Torches \$6	36.00
5.	Do.	Western Liberties Fire Co. 4 " Torches \$6	24.00
6.	Do	Hiram L. Lewis Labor on Streets	8.75
7.	Do	John Pig Do.	10.00
9.	Do.	Abner Smith Do.	20.62
8.	Do	E Weightman Do.	31.88

On Motion by Mr. Newcomb,

The rules were suspended for the purpose of receiving from the assessor the assessment roll.

Mr. Little, the assessor made a verbal statement that he was unable to complete said assessment in time to report it today and asked for further time.

On Motion by Mr. Dunlap,

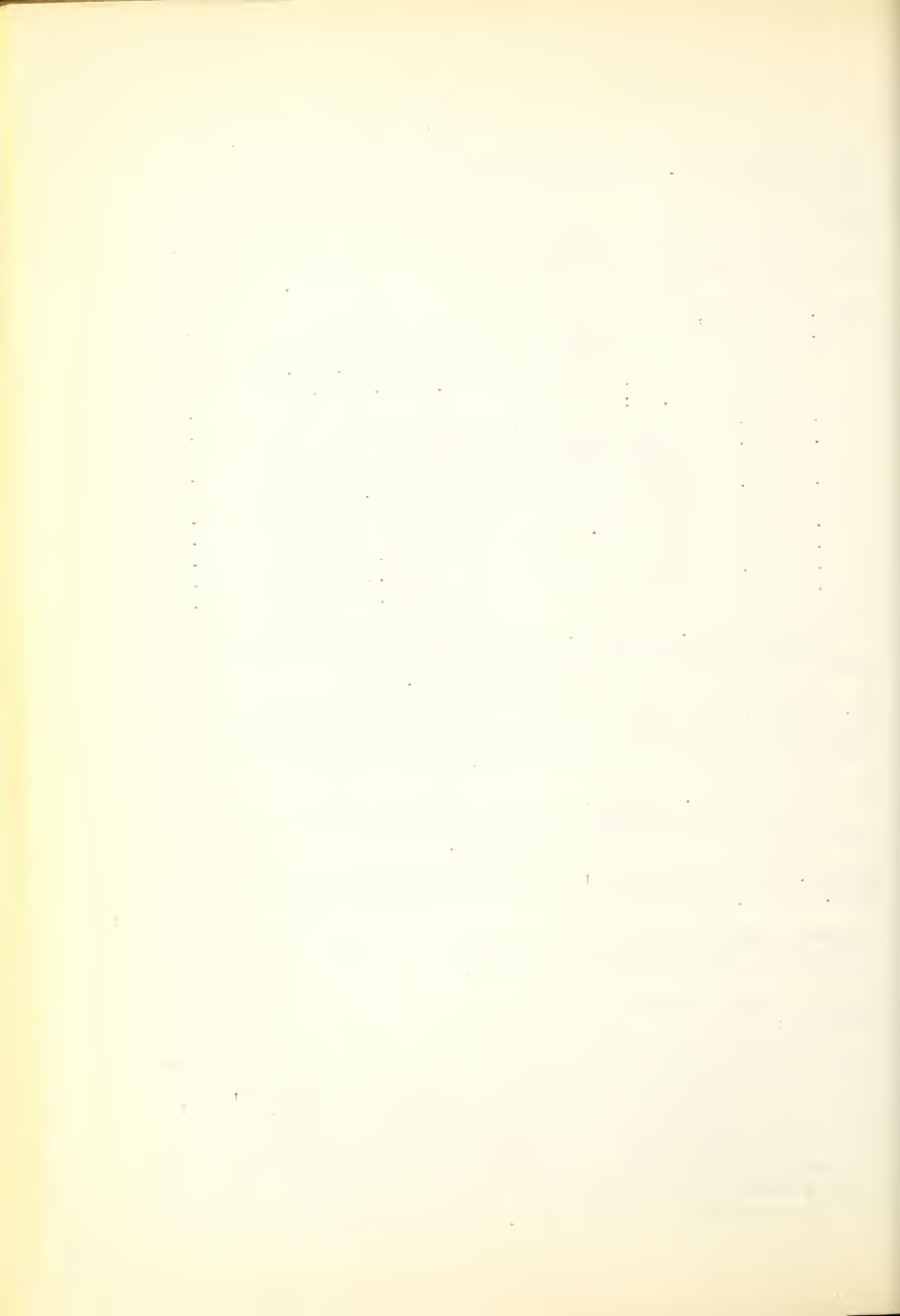
One weeks' further time was granted the assessor to make return of the assessment roll.

Messrs. Davis & Parrish's acct for castings amounting to \$216.85 was, on Motion, referred to the committee on accounts.

A communication relative to "hole" in Vermont between Meridian and Pennsylvania streets was read.

The following report was received, and read from the Civil Engineer:

"In compliance with a resolution of the city council, directing the civil engineer to examine the bridge at the crossing of Washington and Noble Streets over Pogues' Run, and to ascertain the best place to build a bridge on said street, the undersigned respectfully reports, that the bridge over Pogues Run at the crossing of Washington street is placed about twenty five feet west of the east line of Noble Street, and is therefore a serious obstacle to the use and improvement of that street. If a new bridge was erected



beyond the east line of Noble Street, it would considerably increase the already awkward bend of the run below the present bridge. A bridge; at no distant day, will have to be erected across Noble Street, immediately below the bridge across Washington street, and between these bridges a foot bridge will also have to be erected, which would not only form a rather picturesque appearance, but would materially interrupt the flow of water in the run. As soon as the finances of the city will permit, the undersigned would recommend the erection of a two-eyed stone culvert over Pogues' Run, commencing at the intersection of the North line of Washington Street with the east line of Noble Street, running obliquely across Washington street to the intersection of the South line of that street with the west line of Noble street, which would serve the purpose of road and foot bridges for both streets, and afford a straight passage for the water in the run.

James Wood, Civil Engineer.

Indianapolis, July 19, th 1853.

Also, an estimate of the expense of repairing bridge over Pogues Run on Meridian Street amounting to \$82.00

The following petitions were read:

"To the Honorable Council of Indianapolis:

The undersigned would respectfully petition your honorable Council to grant them license to sell all kinds of merchandize, except spirituous liquors at public auction for one year.

A. M. Hunt & Co."

On Motion, it was

Ordered, That the prayer of the petitioner be granted by the payment of the usual license fee.

To the Common Council of Indianapolis:

The undersigned, owners of property on the South Side of Meridian Street, in Out Block, No. Six, respectfully represent that their fences were erected in accordance with a survey exsiting at the time, but they are informed by the Street Commissioner that they encroach from one to two feet upon the sidewalk and they have been ordered to place such fences upon the line. They further represent that the property is so far removed from the business part of town that the fences cause no inconvenience to any person, the sidewalks being of ample width and they, therefore, pray the Common Council to direct that the Street Commissioner suspend all further action in the premises until the additional sidewalk shall be needed for the use of the public.

E.W.H. Ellis, Prest. P. & I.R.Co.
C.C.Campbell
John Chailis
Jonathan Holmes,
John Dell,
J.H. Perry.



On Motion by Mr. Newcomb,

The order directing the fences to be removed to the line of sidewalk on Meridian Street immediately was extended to the 1st of April 1854

To the Common Council of Indianapolis

"The undersigned, owning property lying along South side of Massachusetts Avenue between East and New Jersey Streets, pray you to order the sidewalk graded & graveled immediately.

Signed W.I.Patterson.

W.E. Featherston	45 ft
Eder Ballinger	80 "
Bauer & Goepper	67 "
Wendel Gardner	35 "

On Motion,

It was, Ordered, The the Civil Engineer set gradestakes, make estimate, and advertise for bids for said improvement, & report said bids to the City Council.

To the Common Council of Indianapolis

The undersigned, owners of lots in Square 45, fronting on Pennsylvania Street between Market and Ohio streets, would respectfully ask your honorable body to instruct your Civil Engineer to erect three lamp posts between the points aforesaid, on the west side of Pennsylvania street, and supply the same with lamps and gas, for lighting the sidewalk; and pass such further order as may be necessary to raise the expense of erecting said posts, supplying same with gas, lighting, extinguishing, and repairing by taxes on the lots between the points aforesaid. July 1853.

D.V. Cully 30 ft of lot	
2, lot 3 & S hf of lot	
4	136.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
E.S. Alrood, lots 5 &	
6	<u>120.00</u>
	256.10 $\frac{1}{2}$

On Motion

Ordered, That the Civil Engineer make report of expense etc, as required by ordinance.

The petition of the property holders living on New Jersey Street between Ohio and New York Streets, praying that the sidewalks shall be graded & graveled, & authorizing the property holders to do their own grading, if they so chose,

Was on Motion,

Laid on the table.

The grading & graveling of Market Street between East & Noble Streets, was, on motion awarded John C. Carroll, he being the best bidder.

The grading & graveling of the alley directly east of Illinois St. runing between Washington & Market streets. was awarded Hugh Slaven being the best bidder.

Mr. Pitts offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Civil Engineer be requested to set the corners stakes on the corner of lot where the 4th Presbyterian Church is in progress of erection and if said building is found to encroach on sidewalk, the Commissioner of Street be required to notify the Trustees of said church to remove the same entirely clear from the sidewalk."

Mr. Wingate moved to lay it on the table,

Which was not adopted by the following vote:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs. Bradshaw, Dunlap, Nelson, Newcomb, & Wingate - 5.

Those who voted in the negative were: Messrs. Carlisle, Delzell, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Pitts, & Strickland - 7.

The question recurring on the adoption or rejection of the resolution it was not adopted by the following vote:

Those who voted in the negative were: Messrs. Bradshaw, Dunlap, Durham, Karns, Nelson, Newcomb, and Wingate, - 7.

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Carlisle, Delzell, Edwards, Pitts & Strickland

On Motion it was

"Ordered, That the Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids for the repair of the bridge across Pogues' Run on Meridian Street, and report at our next regular meeting."

By the following vote

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Nelson, Newcomb, Pitts, Strickland, & Wingate. - 12.

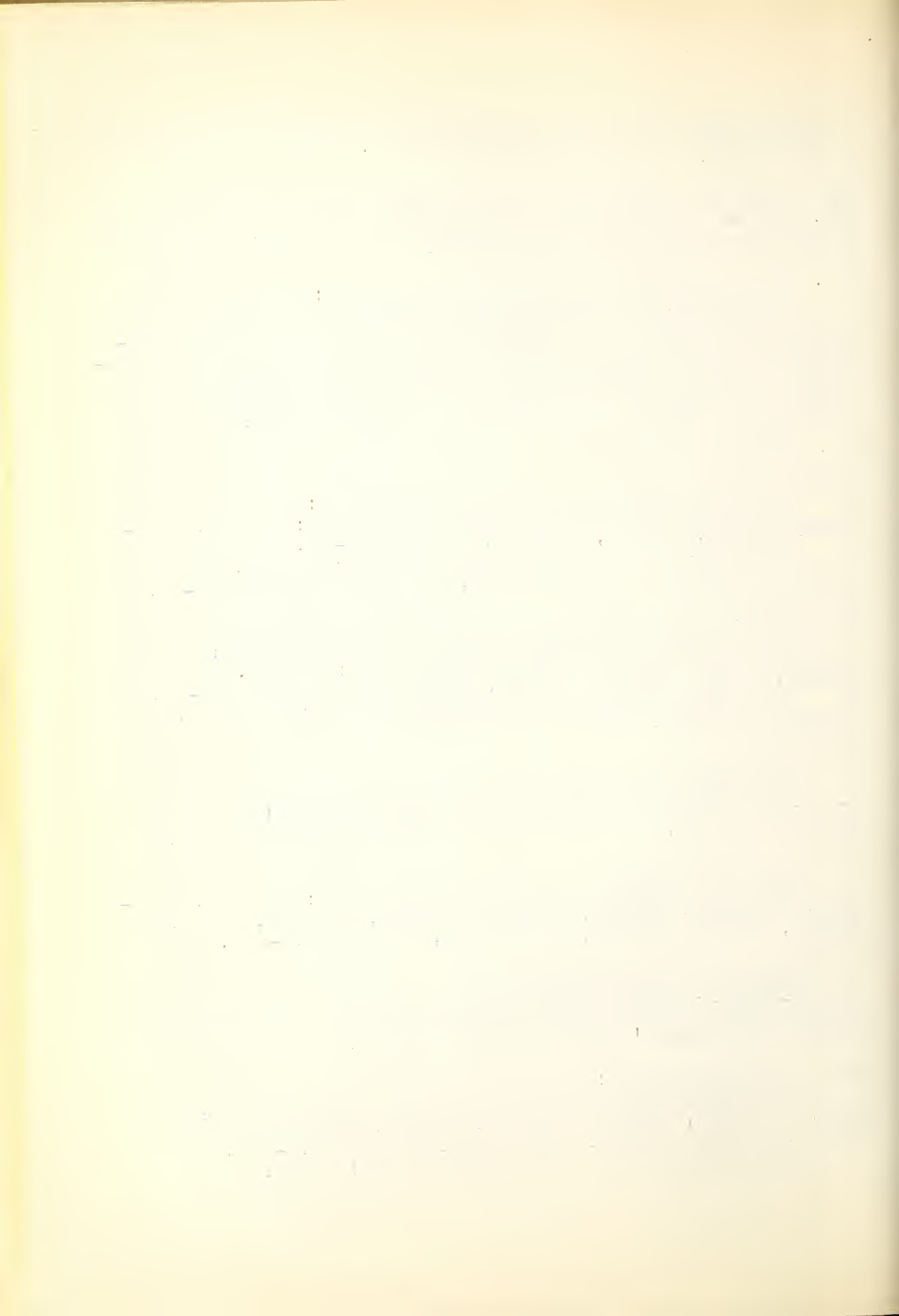
On Motion by Mr Bradshaw, it was

"Ordered, That the Clerk be instructed to advertise and receive bids for the bids for the filling of space at the bridge over Pogues' Run on Alabama Street."

By the following vote:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Nelson, Newcomb, Pitts, Strickland, & Wingate. - 12.

Those who voted in the negative were: None.



Mr. Delzell offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That we accept the propositions of Julius Boetticher to print the ordinances, etc. in German, at the same price that the Locomotive receives"

Adopted by the following vote:

Those who voted in the negative were: Messrs. Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Nelson, Newcomb, & Pitts, - 7.

On Motion by Mr. Dunlap it was

"Ordered, That the Street Commissioner pave, on the South side and North side of both the West & East Market Houses with brick to the width of four feet."

Mr. Geo. W. Pitts offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Civil Engineer be authorized to receive bids for the erection of two foot bridges according to the Engineers estimate & plan on Washington Street across the canal."

Adopted by the following vote:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Nelson, Pitts, Strickland, & Wingate - 11

Those who voted in the negative were: Mr. Newcomb.

On Motion by Mr. Delzell it was

Resolved, That the Committee on the Fire Department be directed to purchase the lot of Mr Woods, at four hundred dollars for the use of Invincible Fire Co. No. 2.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Nelson, Newcomb, Pitts, Strickland & Wingate - 12.

Those who voted in the negative were: None.

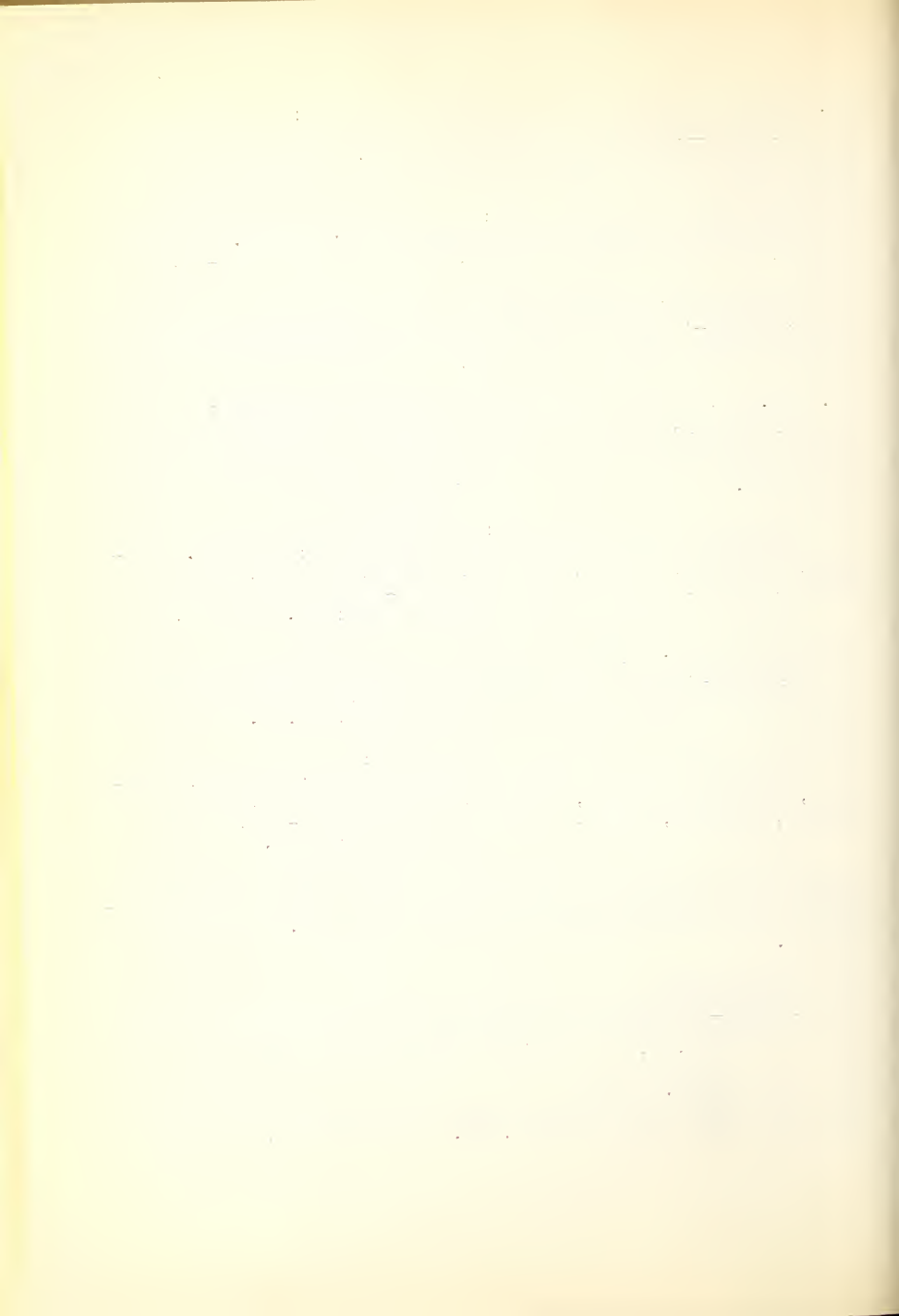
Hugh Slaven verbally announced to the Council the refusal of Wm Wells to pay his proportion of the cost of the improvement of New York Street between New Jersey st. & Alabama street.

On Motion it was

Ordered, That an action be commenced against Wm Wells in the name of the City of Indianapolis for the recovery of the sum of \$27.25, to be paid to the contractor.

On Motion by Mr. Nelson

The order directing the committee of fire department to contract for a lot for H & L. Co. was rescinded.



Mr. Nelson moved that it be located in lot No. 2 in Sq. 48

Mr. Karns moved to lay the motion on the table.

Which motion did not prevail.

The question recurring on the adoption or rejection of the motion, it prevailed by the following vote:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Edwards, Nelson, Newcomb, Pitts, & Strickland - 10.

Those who voted in the negative were Messrs. Karns & Wingate.

Mr Carlisle offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Civil Engineer be directed to prepare plans and estimate of bridge across canal on Maryland St. and report to this Council."

Adopted by the following vote:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Nelson, Newcomb, Pitts, Strickland, & Wingate - 12.

Those who voted in the negative were: None;

Haynes' & Ryn prayed the Council privilege to use the dirt from the alley in O.B. 84. Granted.

Mr. Edwards offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the City Engineer be authorized to make an estimate for building a bridge across the canal on South street and report at the next meeting of the Council."

On Motion by Mr. Newcomb the words "and North" were added after South.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution as amended it was adopted as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Messrs Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Nelson, Newcomb, Pitts, Strickland, - 10.

Those who voted in the negative were: Messrs. Delzell, & Wingate.

On Motion adjourned to meet at 7.45.



Evening Session

8 O'clock, P. M.

Present all save Messrs. Edwards, Durham, Maguire, & McCarty.

The Mayor announced the object of the evening session to be to receive the report of the Trustees of the Free Schools.

Mr. West of the Trustees read the following report:

"To the Mayor and Common Council of Indianapolis:

First report of the Trustees of the Free Schools of Indianapolis for the quarter ending July 8, 1853:

Whol No. of Scholars in attendance:			
Males	564		
Females	<u>485</u>		1050
Between the ages of five & thirteen:			
Males,	483		
Females,	<u>407</u>	1890	
Between the ages of thirteen & twenty one:			
Males	81		
Females	78		
Over Twenty-one	<u>1</u>	<u>160</u>	1050

Average daily attendance		694
The Largest No. in one day		865
Present at the public examination		573
No. of Scholars in the alphabet		142
" " " " " Spelling		927
" " " " " Reading		836
" " " " " Mental Arithmetic		314
" " " " " Radical do.		172
" " " " " Geography		248
" " " " " Grammar		109
" " " " " Writing		325
" " " " " History		27
" " " " " Physiology		7
" " " " " Algebra		1
" " " " " French		2

The textbooks adopted by the Trustees for the public Schools of this city are:

Dennan's Spelling Book.
 Webb's 1st, 2d & 3d Readers.
 Parker's 3d, 4th & 5th Rhetorical Readers.
 Stoddards Juvenile Arithmetic
 " Mental Do.
 " Practical Do.
 Butlers Primary Grammar.
 Do. Practical Do.
 Smith's Primary Geography
 Do Quarts Do.
 McElligotts Young Analyser.

Willard's History of United States.
 Webster's School Dictionary
 Cutters Physiology.

There has been employed during the last quarter seven Principal & seven Assisstant Teachers. Five of the Principals, and all the Assistants, were females. Each Principal has been paid \$125. and each assistant \$62.50, for quarter of eleven weeks making the am't paid to teachers \$1312.50 - or One Dollar and Twenty five cents for each scholar in attendance.

Although the attendance during the last quarter has been nearly two hundred per cent. over any previous term, still there are hundreds more within the limits of our city to be brought into our public schools. There are not in our public school houses, accommodation for more than Six hundred & fifty scholars; and even at this summer term, when we have the smallest number in the schools in the whole year, the daily average attendance has been six hundred and ninety-four, ranging from five hundred and seventy three to eight hundred and sixty five.

The Trustees are convinced that there has not been as much accomplished during this 1st qr. of our free schools, as there should have been. This is owing cheifly to the following causes.

1st. The amount of time our teachers have devoted to learning children the alphabet. There has been during the last term One hundred and forty two in this department. The only excuse that can be tolerated for sending children to school to learn the alphabet is - that the parents cannot read themselves.

2d. The interference of parents with the studies and regulation of the schools.

3d. Keeping children out of school for trivial reasons from half a day to three days in a week. Out of ten hundred and fifty children who have attended the last quarter, but forty seven have attended regularly every day. Parents are not aware what a serious draw back this is to the progress of their children, and the interruption of the studies of the whole school. The absentees from school yesterday, do not make up their loss to-day, as the explanations of the teacher are necessary to understand the following and so on. It is a broken link in the great chain of life as well as of education, that must to a certain extent influence all their future prospects.

4th The want of proper classification of our schools, and the adoption of a regular course of studies fitted to the



capacity and attainments of the scholars.

To remedy these evils, the Trustees propose to adopt, at the opening of the schools on the 1st Monday of September, the graded system. This, in their opinion, is one of the great improvements of the age; and is the most practical and philosophical system of education, which has yet been devised. The system embraces four grades, 1st. Primary, 2. Intermediate, 3d Grammar School, 4th High School.

The system of graded schools has been tested in all of the New England States, in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, and in six of the towns and cities of our own State; and in every instance where the system has been fully carried out - the results have been to lessen the whole cost of tuition, from one to two hundred per cent., and to increase the attainments of the scholar, in just about the same proportion over the old system and former method of communicating instruction.

For want of more school-rooms, the Trustees expect for the first and probably the second terms to have but three grades. In our public school houses they will unite The primary & intermediate grades. For the Grammar School and the High School, they have secured the Seminary, and have obtained proposals for putting the same in good which proposals are appended to this report.

It is the design of the Trustees to make the standard of attainments for admission into the Grammar & High Schools such as will give character to these schools, and a credit to those who have the necessary qualifications to gain admission..

There must, of necessity, be fourteen teachers, employed in our public schools, and probably four at the opening of the Grammar and High Schools, making in all Eighteen teachers, whose aggregate salary will not vary much from \$1900. It is expected that \$2000 will cover the expense per quarter, for teachers, and fuel, for all the public schools of our city; including the Grammar & High Schools. This does, not, however, include the incidental expenses, which will probably amount to \$1500, including the repairs and furniture for the Seminary making the aggregate \$9,500.

The report of the City Clerk will show the amount of available funds for school purposes now in the treasury, and that amount that will be received from the general School fund, that can be appropriated to the public schools during the next school year; also, the amount to be paid on unfinished contracts when these contracts when these contracts have been fulfilled and the amount of incidental expenses which have already accrued; which will show the amount necessary to be raised for School purposes for the next year.

The Trustees take this occasion to present a few Statistical items obtained from the twentythird annual report of the Trustees of the public Schools of Cincinnati:

Whole No. of Scholars in their Public Schools, 15435 Average Daily attendance 6980 - only 45 per cent.

In our public Schools during the last quarter we had 1050 scholars, average daily attendance 694, 66 pr cent.

In Cincinnati schools there were employed $1\frac{1}{4}$ Teachers averaging One teacher to 88 scholars registered

In our public schools there were 14 Teachers, average one teacher to 75 scholars registered

The amount paid to teachers in the public schools of Cincinnati was \$57,356.94, averaging per teacher \$329.63, Most of the Teachers were females, and those who taught the lowest classes, at the rate of \$16 per month; ranging from \$160 to \$1200 pr annum.

In our schools the average price of teachers for the last quarter was \$375.

The whole amount expended for school purposes for the Cincinnati schools for the year included in the report, was \$103,712.92. Of this amount there was paid for buildings \$28,337.02; and incidental expenses \$18,018.96, so that there was only paid for tuition \$57,356.94, averaging per scholar, (registered) \$3.72 per year or 93 cents per quarter. This sum of 93¢ per quarter includes the privilege of the High Schools.

The concluding remarks of Mr. Barney Principal of the Cincinnati Hughes High School published in the report shows the grade of Scholarship of these High Schools. He Says:

"Surely it cannot be regarded as a matter of small importance, that in this flourishing and enterprising city are established two institutions of learning, which gratuitously offer the children of every class of its citizens, all the essential advantages of a complete Academical and University education, with the Ancient languages and the other branches of a Collegiate course. The Modern Languages also, and the useful accomplishments may be acquired by every student: provided, he possesses the requisite desire, industry and application."

It is the design of the Trustees to establish this system of Schools here; so far as it can be, with the means at their disposal. There is no city where Model Schools can

do more good to our citizens than our own State as well as our sister States as here in Indianapolis, and we trust that the day is not far distant, when this city will be as celebrated for its institutions of learning, as it is now for its railroads, and its public enterprize

Respectfully Submitted

H. P. Coburn)
C. Fletcher) Trustees
H F. West)

Estimated expense of Schools for ensuing year:

Amount required to pay teachers (14) for the Public Schools for one year		\$5,250.00	
Principal High School		1,000.00	
Assistant Do.		800.00	
Principal Grammar School		600.00	
Assistant Do. Do.		300.00	
			<u>\$7,950.00</u>

Repair on Seminary	\$325.00	
Seats, desks, furniture for 100	350.00	
Division fence	45.00	
Repairs on fences	20.00	
2 pumps & one well	55.00	
2 Privies	<u>25.00</u>	820.00

Fuel for all the Schools	180.00	
Repairs	150.00	
Pumps & well for 7th Ward	27.00	
Contingencies	<u>500.00</u>	857.00
		<u>\$9,627.00</u>

Mr. Newcomb offered for adoption the following:

"Resolved, That the School Trustees be authorized to contract for the repairs of the County Seminary in the manner proposed by them in their report, just submitted, for the use of a High and Grammar school, which they propose in said report to establish"

On Motion by Mr. Dunlap.

Laid on the table.

Caleb Scudder Mayor

On Motion Adjourned,

Daniel B Culley, City Clerk