

PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

REGULAR SESSION—DECEMBER 26, 1887.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, met in the Aldermanic Chamber, Monday evening, December 26, A. D. 1887, at 7:30 o'clock, in regular session.

PRESENT—Hon. Thomas E. Endly, President of the Board of Aldermen, in the Chair, and Aldermen Brown, Crosby, King, Laut, Prier, Pritchard, Rail, Schmidt, and Wright—10.

ABSENT—None.

The Proceedings of the Board of Aldermen for the special session held December 19th, 1887, having been printed and placed on the desks of the Aldermen, said Journals were approved as published.

The Committee on Police Department, through Alderman Brown, submitted the following report; which was received:

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Police beg leave to report that they have exercised a careful and protecting care over our most efficient force for the past two years, and it is with pleasure that we find everything in their department and conduct to be amended. Financially we report nothing paid in and nothing paid out. This our final report. M. L. BROWN.

The Committee on Public Light and Education, through Alderman King, submitted the following report; which was concurred in:

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—Your Gas Committee, to whom was referred S. O. Nos. 114, 115, 116 and 118, would recommend that they pass. And that S. O. 15 be stricken from the files. Respectfully submitted,

Isaac King,
H. W. Laut,
Jas. A. Pritchard,
Committee on Public Light.

The following entitled ordinance was ordered stricken from the files:

S. O. 15, 1887—An ordinance to provide for the erection of lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures (complete to burn gas, except the service pipes), on Summit street, between Washington street and the C., St. L. & P. R. R. tracks.

The following entitled ordinance was read the second and third times:

S. O. 114, 1886—An ordinance to provide for the erection of lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures (complete to burn gas, except the service pipes), on Lincoln avenue, between Ash street and Bellefontaine avenue.

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES 10—viz: Aldermen Brown, Crosby, King, Laut, Prier, Pritchard, Schmidt, Wright, and President Endly.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinance was read the second and third times :

S. O. 115, 1887—An ordinance to provide for the erection of lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures (complete to burn gas, except the service pipes), on Talbott avenue, between Seventh and Ninth streets.

And it was passed by the following vote :

AYES, 10—viz: Aldermen Brown, Crosby, King, Laut, Prier, Pritchard, Rail, Schmidt, Wright, and President Endly.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinance was read the second and third times :

S. O. 116, 1887—An ordinance to provide for the erection of one lamp-post, lamp and fixtures (complete to burn gas, except the service pipes), on Broadway street, between Seventh street and Lincoln avenue.

And it was passed by the following vote :

AYES, 10—viz: Aldermen Brown, Crosby, King, Laut, Prier, Pritchard, Rail, Schmidt, Wright, and President Endly.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinance was read the second and third times :

S. O. 118, 1887—An ordinance to provide for the erection of lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures (complete to burn gas, except the service pipes), on New Jersey street, between Seventh street and the first alley south of the State Ditch.

And it was passed by the following vote :

AYES, 10—viz: Aldermen Brown, Crosby, King, Laut, Prier, Pritchard, Rail, Schmidt, Wright, and President Endly.

NAYS—None.

The Committee on Railroads and Public Charities, through Alderman Laut, submitted the following report; which was concurred in :

To the President and Board of Aldermen :

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Railroads, to whom was referred G. O. No. 32, 1887, have examined the same and recommend its passage.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. Laut,
M. L. Brown,
Committee on Railroads.

The following entitled ordinance was then read the second time :

G. O. 32, 1887—An ordinance authorizing the C, I, St. L. & C. R. R. to lay a switch track across First street.

And it was passed by the following vote :

AYES, 9—viz: Aldermen Brown, Crosby, King, Laut, Prier, Pritchard, Rail, Wright, and President Endly.

NAYS, 1—viz: Alderman Schmidt.

On motion by Alderman Schmidt, the following entitled ordinance was recalled from the Committee on Streets & Alleys and Sewers & Drainage, and referred to the Aldermen of the Fifth District :

S. O. 36, 1887—An ordinance to provide for grading and bowldering the gutters, and curbing the sidewalks of New Jersey street, from Merrill street to McCarty street, and widening the sidewalks to a width of fifteen feet.

Aldermen Rail offered the following motion :

To recall from the Committee on Streets and Alleys, the resolution compelling the Citizens Street Railway Company to place platforms on their cars, and the action of the Council be concurred in.

Alderman King moved as an amendment to the above motion, that the Committee be instructed to report on the subject matter at the next regular meeting.

Alderman Prier moved as a substitute, that all papers pertaining to the subject be recalled from the Committee.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 6—viz: Aldermen Brown, Prier, Pritchard, Rail, Wright, and President Endly.

NAYS, 4—viz: Aldermen Crosby, King, Laut, and Schmidt.

And the following reports recalled from the Committee to which they were referred, (see page 667 *ante*), were read for information :

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen :

Gentlemen.—Your Judiciary Committee to whom was referred Council papers on the subject of platforms, report the following resolution, and recommend its passage.

Respectfully submitted,
James A. Pritchard,
Lorenz Schmidt,
Committee on Judiciary.

Resolved, That the Citizens' Street Railway Company be, and there are hereby, instructed to begin at once, and build as rapidly as possible, rear platforms on all the cars used on all the lines in this city, like those now in use on the latest improved cars on the Massachusetts avenue line. And the City Clerk is hereby instructed to prepare duplicate copies of this resolution, and serve one of them upon said company, and indorse his return upon the other, showing upon whom the same was served, the date thereof, and report the same to the Council and Board of Aldermen.

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen :

Gentlemen.—As one member of the Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred the following resolution.

"WHEREAS, Section four of the ordinance of January 18th, 1864, entitled 'An ordinance authorizing the construction, extension and operation of certain passenger railways in and upon the streets of the City of Indianapolis,' provides, among other things, that cars and carriages for the purpose of transporting passengers, shall be of the best style and class used on such railways in other cities; and

Whereas, Such best style and class of cars uniformly have rear platforms attached thereto; and

Whereas, In this city all rear platforms have been taken off of the cars, greatly to the inconvenience and annoyance and danger of the traveling public, and especially to women and children; therefore

Resolved, That the Citizens' Street Railway Company be, and there are hereby, instructed to at once build rear platforms on all cars used on all the lines in this city. And the City Clerk is hereby instructed to prepare duplicate copies of this resolution, and serve one of them upon the company, and endorse his return upon

the other, showing upon whom the same was served, the date thereof, and report the same to the Common Council and Board of Aldermen.

I recommend that the action of the Council be concurred in, and the resolution be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

G. S. WRIGHT,
of the Committee on Judiciary.

W. M. L. TAYLOR, City Attorney.

Alderman Pritchard moved to adopt the majority report:

Alderman Rail moved as a substitute, to adopt the minority report.

Which failed by the following report:

AYES, 5—viz: Aldermen Brown, Prier, Rail, Wright, and President Endly.

NAYS, 5—viz: Aldermen Crosby, King, Laut, Pritchard, and Schmidt.

The motion to adopt the majority report then failed by the following vote:

AYES, 5—viz: Aldermen Crosby, King, Laut, Pritchard, and Schmidt.

NAYS, 5—viz: Aldermen Brown, Prier, Rail, Wright, and President Endly.

(No further action was taken on this subject at this meeting.)

Alderman Pritchard offered the following motion, which was unani-
mously adopted:

That the thanks of the Board of Aldermen be extended to President Endly for the very kind, patient and considerate manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Board for two years last passed, assuring him that we will hold in grateful remembrance his kindness to us all.

Alderman Pritchard offered the following motion, which was unani-
mously adopted:

That this Board hereby tenders its most sincere and earnest thanks to City Clerk Joseph T. Fanning, for his uniformly kind and courteous treatment of and gentlemanly conduct towards the members of this body, and that we recognize in him an honest, capable and conscientious official.

That we further hereby extend our thanks to Deputy Clerks Perrott and Gould, and desire in this manner to bear testimony to their faithful conduct in the discharge of their many duties.

There being no further business for consideration, President Endly addressed the Board of Aldermen as follows:

Gentlemen of the Board:

In taking leave of this body, I desire to return my sincere thanks to each and every member for their uniform courtesy and good feeling manifested toward me while on the floor, and particularly so since I have been called upon to preside.

When I first entered this Board as an Alderman, I little knew what the responsibilities were if a member looked after the interests of the city as closely as he did his own private affairs. Since being a member of this body, there has been many important questions for our decision, which vitally effected the interests of the city; among these I will mention the City Hospital, which has proven a great and lasting benefit to the unfortunate people of this city. The money expended on this work is paying a large dividend when measured by the good work in caring for the needy and destitute. Tomlinson Hall and Market house are a credit to our

city and are filling a necessary want long felt, as is shown by the constant demand for the hall for large public gatherings, also by the increased patronage of our citizens in procuring the daily supplies of life direct from the producers, thereby reducing the expense of living, which has a tendency to make the city popular as a manufacturing centre and enabling the workingman to save more of his earnings for other comforts of life. These buildings besides providing desirable places for meetings and marketing, are bringing in a handsome revenue. Several important sewers have been constructed in different parts of the city, thereby securing proper drainage, which promotes cleanliness and making the city one of the healthiest in the Union. More of such improvements will be money well expended.

Our Fire Department has been greatly improved by the erection of several new engine houses and improved equipment. By judicious management and discipline it has become equal to the best in the country. The management of this department has been so efficient that I deem it detrimental to the city's interest to make any radical changes.

The erection of the new Union Depot and Viaduct is another improvement which should not be over looked and which will be, when completed, one of the finest in the country. Our city is conceded to be one of the greatest railroad centers of the nation, and with the new Union Depot completed, our accommodations for the traveling public can not be surpassed. The Viaduct will give to the citizens of the southside facilities for reaching our business centers without encountering the dangers they have been subject to in the past, also enabling our manufacturers to do their shipping without encountering unnecessary delays they have been compelled to experience in waiting for passing trains.

The ordinance for the introduction of natural gas into this city has been given a great deal of thought and consideration by this body, and the investigation of the subject was made more thorough than any other question that has come before the Board since I have been a member. The ordinance that was passed seems to meet the approval of a large majority of our citizens, and there is no doubt that this newly discovered product of nature will prove a very great benefit to this community. In legislating upon this important subject, this Board had tried to do equal justice to the producer and consumer, and any change in the ordinance before giving it a fair and impartial trial, would, in my opinion, be a great mistake. I had hoped to see Washington street improved in such a manner as to be a credit to a city of this size and importance as a manufacturing and commercial center. It is certainly detrimental to the interests of the city to allow it to remain in its present condition.

The finances of the city have been managed with prudence and economy, when you consider the inadequate amount of revenue received from taxation and the many calls for money to meet actual necessities. Good management has been shown by keeping within the limits of our ways and means. The city certainly requires more money for its running expenses, and I deem it expedient to urge upon the Legislature at its next session, to pass a bill authorizing an increase of taxation, in order to have sufficient revenue to meet its necessities and make improvements which are greatly needed to keep this city apace with competing points. Again, gentlemen, I thank you.

On motion, the Board of Aldermen then adjourned.

THOMAS E. ENDLY, PRESIDENT.

Attest: SAM. V. FERROTT, Clerk.