

City of Cambridge.

In Board of Aldermen, May 1. 1861.

The Joint-Committee on Reservoirs and Drains, in pursuance of an Order dated April 10th, has carefully considered the suggestions contained in the communication of the Superintendent of Drains made to the City Council in May 1860. in relation to providing Skeleton Plans of the streets on which the present and future sewers of the City may be delineated, and would respectfully

Report: That, in the examination of this subject, the Committee has become convinced that there is an increasing and imperative demand for the adoption of some general system of sewerage, which shall be based upon a judicious, economical and sanitary plan.

For this purpose it is necessary that a plan or plans be procured for the use of the City Council, which shall show the contour lines of the City and streets within the limits thereof, plotted upon such a scale that the location of each sewer and drain now laid or to be hereafter constructed, may be delineated in such a manner as to indicate its position in the street, its size, and the material of which it is built, and that said plans be made so as to repre-

sent different sections upon separate sheets.

This may be accomplished by copying upon an enlarged scale the City Map executed by T. F. Wells, adding thereto such streets or ways as have more recently been laid out and established.

In connection with such desired improvement, it seems of vastly greater importance that some base should be adopted as a level, - either mean high or low tide water, or an assumed elevation, so that by record deduced from actual surveys and levels, the depth and capacity of each sewer and drain may be readily determined, notwithstanding any alteration which may be made in a street by change of its grade or otherwise.

The above remarks will apply with equal force to the sewers already constructed and to all extensions of the same hereafter to be made.

From this base, so adopted, there should be established, in different sections of the City, bench marks, or fixed and permanent points, having their true relations and elevation recorded, for future reference and convenience in practical use.

It will be necessary that surveys should be made, and levels taken upon all streets wherein sewers or drains are now laid, and that a profile of each be made, representing the present surface or carriage-way of the same, the established grade of the same, if fixed with the

depth or location of the sewer or drains therein. And, inasmuch as many of the old drains of the City appear to have been laid down without any plan or system, this would render necessary much examination in order to ascertain truly their size and capacity and their need value to the City for the purposes intended.

The estimate expended of performing the above mentioned work in a satisfactory and acceptable manner, with such improvements as may be suggested during the progress of the work, would be \$5000.

In the belief that this work is absolutely required in order to reduce to system the work already done, so that the City may receive the greatest benefit from it, and to avoid expensive mistakes in the future, and in the belief that it is of more real importance than the construction of any new sewer, the Committee would recommend the adoption of the accompanying plan.

And which is respectfully submitted.

Curtis Davis

for the Committee.

Report
Skeleton Plans of Streets.

May 1, 1961

Street Plans -

Contract - with Chase.

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