

City of Cambridge.

In Board of Aldermen, April 21st 1869.

Ordered:

that the Committee on Ordinances be instructed to report an Ordinance empowering the City Engineer to prevent encroachments upon the streets of the City.

Adopted and sent - closed for concurrence.

Attest: Justin A. Jacobs. City Clerk.

In Common Council Apr 27, 1869

Concurred Attest J. W. Cotton Clerk

Order

for an

Ordinance to prevent encroach-
ments on the street

April 21st 1869

City of Cambridge

City Engineer's Office

Mar. 1. 1869.

To the Hon. Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Gentlemen.

Application has been made to the City Engineer for a "survey and grade" upon one of the unaccepted passageways in the City, of 20 ft. width. This application, I doubt not, is made in good faith for, I am informed, by the party making it, that it is based upon an Ordinance which he observed published in the Cambridge papers last fall. Since the passage of the ordinance referred to, however unusual the power conferred upon the City Engineer "to determine the correct line and grade of such street, lane, square, or alley", I have, when called upon, endeavored to discharge the duties prescribed as my judgment, in each case, dictated for the interest of the City; exercising prerogatives heretofore reserved to your Hon. Board. This is the first instance where a demand has been made for such services upon a private lane, alley, or passage and I understand it to be the duty of the City Engineer un-

der the ordinance to comply with the request. I anticipate many perplexities, with much labor, from similar cases and consider it impolitic to establish a precedent for doing private surveying at the expense of the City. No immediate action on this application being necessary, I have deferred any proceedings until the wishes of the present board may be obtained. I respectfully ask for instructions; whereupon, all requisitions, hereafter, will be fully and promptly answered, in accordance therewith.

Very Respectfully

J. G. Chase
City Engineer

In Board of Aldermen. March 3. 1869.
Referred to the Committee on City Engineering. Sent - also for concurrence -
attest Justin A. Jacobs. City Clerk.

In Common Council Mch 9. 1869
Concurred Attest J. W. Cotton Clerk

Communication
from City Engineer -
Lins & grades of Streets.

March 3. 1868.

The Committee on Engineering, to which was referred the communication from The City Engineer, in regard to his duty, in reference to frequent calls that are made upon him to give lines and grades of streets upon private lands and unaccepted narrow streets and lanes, would report, that in their judgment he should not give the grade of such streets and narrow ways at the expense of the City, but that he in all cases where the streets are public highways by being accepted as such, or by the right of public travel have become such, should give grades and lines to all parties wishing to build, or making improvements on such streets; and the Committee would recommend that the present City Ordinance, - defining the duty of the City Engineer, be revised and amended, so as to clearly define the duty of said Officer, and they would further recommend, that the whole subject be referred to the Committee on City Ordinances.

All of which is most respectfully submitted for the Committee, H. Mead

In Board of Aldermen, April 14. 1869.
Accepted and the subject
is referred to the Committee on Ordinances.
Sent down for concurrence.

Attest Justin A. Jacobs. City Clerk.

Concurred — In Common Council April 20, 1869
Attest J. W. Cotton Clerk

Report of Committee on
City Engineering. 59

San - grades, &c.

April 14, 1869.