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A. D. Tatum
Steam Road Roller
in Lexington Ky
April 6th 1887

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John Mc Duffie Esq
Clk of Committee
Cambridge Mass.

Dear Sir

Yours 31st ult. duly
recd. I would have answered sooner. but
ill health prevented.
The Harnisburg Steam Roller has given good
satisfaction here. as far. It lacks some of
the conveniences of the English Roller. Such as
a variety in rates of speed. but it seems strong
durable & durable. runs at a fair average
rate of speed does good work. We have used
ours since last June except the winter
months and have had no repairs. After con-
sidering the difference in cost. I should prefer
the Harnisburg Roller to the Oastler Roller. and
besides this in weight, other things being equal to

favoring American Manufactures in preference
to foreign -

This roller works well on heavy gravel as we
have used it satisfactorily on gravel of our in-
ter -

Both the American & English Rollers have one
serious fault. Having but one engine they are
continually "hanging on the Center" and though
the Engine can readily throw the Engine off the
Center. This necessarily takes time and makes
a disagreeable hitch in the proceedings. I think
that if I were having a Roller made, I should
have two Cylinders, connected in the usual
manner with link motion, so as to obviate
this difficulty. It will probably cost a
little more, but will be much more satis-
fying and of less cost in time.

One point as to the English Roller. Any
machinery must, in time, need some repairs
and as any parts needed would have to
be imported, the cost must be heavy -
I have given you the main reasons that

guided us in the selection and
can recommend our Roller fully -

Very respectfully yours

A. D. Latimer

Supervisor of Streets

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Lexington Kentucky