

2.
method much advantageous to rapidly
ascertaining any accumulating amounts
shall show will be true:

~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} some parcels, a
lot here & there, will probably be found as
obscure that, to save time, I shall go
round them, and take them out: (where
the mass of material will make it easier.)
unless upon grounds connected with your
own labors as an Engineer, you should
direct:

Yr. Obedt.

E. J. Jacobs

Cambridgeport May 3, 1891.
 Mr. J. G. [unclear]
 City Eng^r. & Civ:

As to the present
 condition of the Examination of Titles
 of Land in the "Washington St. District", as
 called, I beg leave to report:

I think the
 earlier parts of the Examination of Substantially
 the whole area is completed: and the
 title done to this time of the N. Eastern
 & Eastern two of lots is very nearly completed:
 the remainder I shall be able to
 give you in sections, at short intervals: the
 more of the work is done, the more rapidly, with
 the next advance: as to the order of reports to
 you, I shall be governed by your instructions,
 which will be furnished, I suppose, on question of
 confidence of Engineering: in the absence
 of such instructions, I shall pursue the

Office of City Engineer
Cambridge Oct 11th 1871

To the Honorable The Mayor and Aldermen
Gentlemen.

In obedience to the instructions
contained in the order passed by your Honorable Board
October the 3^d the following report is submitted:

On the 9th day of Sept 1869 I received an attested
copy of an order in the following words:

"City of Cambridge

In Board of Aldermen Sept. 8th 1869

Ordered: That the City Engineer, in making the surveys
authorized by this Board, to carry into effect the provisions
of Chapter 391 of the acts of 1869, be instructed to prepare
plans showing not only the outlines of said territory, and
in general the quantities of material required for filling
but also to prepare plans presenting this whole
subject in detail, showing the area of each subdivision,
the name of the owner or agent, the amount of material
required for filling each parcel, as well as that
portion of the street upon which said lot abuts; and
to furnish this Board with such other information
in writing as in his judgment will enable the
Board to have a full understanding of the whole
subject;

Ordered: That for the purpose of ascertaining with
accuracy the names of the owners of the several
parcels of land in said territory, and their respective
interests therein, the City Engineer be authorized to

employ, on behalf of the City, some competent person to examine the records of deeds &c and prepare an abstract of the titles to said parcels."

The duties involved in the above order so far as the personal services of the City Engineer were required, have been performed with due regard to the desire expressed by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and the importance of the great improvement contemplated. Final report was made thereon, with the results of all surveys in detail, on the first day of June 1870, and the same submitted in print for determination by the City Council.

With reference to the latter clause of said order referred to, the following statement of facts is presented: Immediately upon its receipt I made verbal agreement with Mr B. F. Jacobs to furnish me the information desired, and received the encouragement, if not the assurance, that but limited time would be necessary to perform the same. I delayed my report submitted on the 1st of June above alluded to, detailing results then obtained, in the expectation of including in it reference to this portion of the work as complete.

In said report the following clause occurs. "The abstract of title to the numerous parcels of land herein embraced as shown by the registered records is being prepared under sanction of an order passed by your Honorable Board Sept. 8th 1869."

The Gentleman by whom this work is being performed reports it as near completion.

So far as the abstracts are concerned, repeated but unsuccessful efforts have been made to obtain them. Expectations based upon assurances received, have not been realized. After the enquiry made by your Honorable Board in April last, with reference to it, I received the accompanying voluntary report upon progress then made, and the same is herewith presented for your information. More than five months have since passed and apparently the end is not yet reached, though it is reported to me as close at hand.

Since the passage of your order of Oct 3^d calling forth the above brief statement I have consulted other conveyancers with reference to the time necessary to procure the information called for, by abstracts of a reliable nature; and have received the estimate that six weeks is ample to procure the same.

I can offer no apology to your Honorable Board for an apparent remissness on my part in having consumed more than two years in the performance of duties which ought to have been executed, if entrusted by me to energetic hands, in as many months.

In presenting the above with acknowledgments for my own negligence, I could

nor, however unpleasant, say less of the summing
indifference of the person engaged to perform this
service, and do not deem it necessary to say more

Respectfully Submitted

L. G. Chase
City Engineer

Communication
from
City Engineer.
Oct. 11. 1871

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