

48 Holyoke St.

Cambridge

May 17, '82.

Dear Sir -

Knowing that any citizen however humble and unknown to Mr. Doyle, will receive a patient hearing whenever he has any grievance to complain of, will, I trust be a sufficient excuse for the liberty I take in sending you this letter. A petition signed H. B. Sullivan will soon be given to a committee over whom you have the honor to preside. It asks, modestly I hope, some act of protection against a danger to life, an injury destructive to taxable property and an important hindrance to the needful requirements of public travel, maintained on Holyoke St., near Mill St., Ward 1. because of the narrowness of the street. I have said a danger to life, because we have five tenement houses accommodating twelve families with the usual number of children, not counting more. A Kindergarten school is close by. Children are frequently on the street, who owing to the peculiar geography of the place, cannot be seen by

teamsters driving rapidly by till face to face
with the danger. I have said destructive to tax-
able property because collision is of frequent
occurrence that breaks our fences and renders pub-
lic travel inconvenient. Every abutter feels the ne-
cessity of protection, but a weak and pusill fear that
betterments would exceed in hardship the misery we
are now obliged to suffer, accounts for only one name
upon the petition. I am informed by Alderman
Corcoran whom it seems fully understands the
case, that a decision of the Supreme Court holds the
district complained of open to public travel forever. If
it were possible to close it against public travel and
closing should be proposed by the committee as a rem-
edy, no waggons could approach our homes with wood
or coal and other provisions, the usefulness of Holly-
oke Street and more especially Mill St, controlled and
cared for by the City with dwelling houses and other
taxable property thereon would be gravely effected;
grievances would only increase rather than diminish.
A map in the City Engineer's possession will show that
a trifling expense without moving houses will give
the required protection and convenience to public tra-
vel. With abiding faith in the disposition

of Mr. Doyle and the committee having the matter
in charge to ask for the greatest ^{good} of the greatest num-
ber, with the least possible injury to the individu-
al. Believe me

Yours very respectfully
J. D. Sullivan

Communication from 49

J. D. Sullivan

in regard to Holyoke st

May 17. 1882