

The Joint Special Committee who were, by an order of the City Council of January 8<sup>th</sup> last, & other orders subsequent, thereto, directed to appear before committees of the Legislature, in the several matters of "Cambridge Great Bridge" "the removal of tombs & bodies from the burial ground in Ward Two" "the boundary line between Cambridge & West Cambridge & Belmont" & "the petition of Thomas Stearns & others for a new horse railroad on Broadway, would report that they have attended to the several duties assigned them. The Committee early came to the conclusion that if the authorities of Brighton were met in a fair & just spirit, a settlement of the respective liabilities, present & future, of this city, & that town, <sup>in respect to the Bridge</sup> might be amicably attained & thus a long controversy before the Committee of, perhaps the Legislature itself, <sup>avoided</sup> and a settlement more satisfactory to

all parties finally made. This committee, under this belief, which was one also entertained by the select men of Brighton, held several interviews with the gentlemen select men of the last named town. - These interviews resulted in causing an accurate survey of the river where the bridge is located to be made, and <sup>resulted in</sup> an agreement as to its reconstruction, & future support of ~~the~~ bridge by the two corporations, subject to the approval of the city Council of Cambridge, & the town of Brighton. This approval was given, & the substance of this agreement incorporated into a bill, which was passed by the Legislature. - & this matter thus finally settled. As this bill was submitted to approval by the city Council, it is not necessary the committee should say more in regard to it. -

The committee appeared several times before the Committee on Probate & Chancery of the House of Representatives, & also before the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, in reference to the petition

for the removal of tents & bodies from  
the burial ground in word two. The result  
of this application of the City Council has  
been so recently & fully communicated by the  
Mayor to them, that any further remark  
upon it is unnecessary - except to say that  
it was unsuccessful in the Senate.

Upon the petition of the City &  
of the towns of West Cambridge & Belmont, a  
law was enacted, straightening the line be-  
tween these towns. This Act is Chapter 34  
of the Acts of the present year. An Act  
was also passed correcting an error in the  
Act of 1856, relating to the boundary line  
between this city & Somerville. This Act  
was not passed upon any application of  
your Committee, but they deem <sup>it</sup> quite a  
proper one to correct an error, palpably  
made by the person who drew the Act  
of 1856.

Your Committee attended also at  
different times before the Committee on Railways  
& Canals, during the hearing on the petition  
of Thomas Stearns & others for a new railroad

in Broadway, & requested that any bill that might be proposed for that purpose should be submitted to their examination, & were assured that it should be done. Accordingly a bill was submitted by the petitioners to our inspection & several sections for the protection & security of the city inserted in the same, at the suggestion of the Committee. As, however, no bill incorporating the new railroad was passed, ~~thereby~~ by the Legislature, these changes were of no consequence.

Your Committee were authorized to employ counsel, and also to print certain documents relating to the Great Bridge. They did not find it necessary to do either. The only expenses incurred by the Committee's direction, were some six dollars for two carriages to bring out the Committee of Probate & Chancery to view the Burial Ground, & fifteen dollars paid to Messrs Richardson & Holt for services connected with the burial grounds, both which bills have been approved & paid. - There was also the expense

of the surveys, made on Charles River  
in reference to the Bridge - which are,  
however, as important in reference to its  
reconstruction, as to settle the rights of parties  
in regard to it -

All which is respectfully sub-  
mitted.

Chas. F. Russell  
Chas. H. Saunders  
Leotis Davis  
Geo. P. Carter  
John. S. Bates

} Committee

In Common Council June 18. 1862.

Accepted and sent off for concurrence.

Attest. Jos. C. Holt. Clerk.

Report of Joint Special  
Committee. 34  
Congt. Great Bridge  
before Legislature.  
June 18. 1862