

City of Cambridge.

In Board of Aldermen, June 12 1888

~~Ordered,~~

The Standing Committee on Roads and Bridges, to which was referred a communication from the representatives of this city in ^{the} General Court, calling attention to the recent refusal of the legislature to pass a bill giving the city relief from an alleged nuisance said to be caused by abuse of its privileges by the Boston and Albany Railroad Company, - and further stating that the city has never availed itself of its rights under existing law, relating to the subject. - would respectfully

Report,

The Statutes provide that "upon complaint and application made by the board of railroad commissioners, by the mayor and aldermen of a city, within which a part of any railroad is located, stating that any level crossing of a railroad with a highway, townway or street, is improperly occupied by a

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railroad company with its freight engines, freight cars or freight trains to the unreasonable inconvenience or danger of the public, said board shall, after due notice, hear the parties; and if it appears that the allegations of the complaint are true, may, if public convenience or safety require, order that after a date fixed by said board, such railway company shall not use or occupy such crossing or any part thereof, for making up or disconnecting freight trains, or for connecting or disconnecting the engines or cars of such trains, or for the purpose of distributing freight, or freight cars; and may prescribe and direct such changes to be made in the construction of side tracks, branches and connections, in proximity to such crossings, as will prevent the use of such crossings in the manner aforesaid, in connection with such side tracks, branches or connections; or may prescribe such regulations limiting

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the use of such crossings for such purposes as may appear to be necessary,"

Your committee is informed that Cambridge Street and other streets, at the crossings thereof by the Boston and Albany Railroad are frequently improperly occupied, and travel thereon obstructed, to the great and unreasonable inconvenience and danger of the public, by the connecting and disconnecting of engines and freight cars on said Boston and Albany Railroad, for the purpose of distributing freight, and also that Harvard Street, Broadway and Main Street, at the crossing of said streets by the Boston and Albany Railroad are oftentimes occupied and obstructed in like manner by engines and freight cars distributing freight on said railroad to the unreasonable inconvenience and danger of the public.

Therefore, Your Committee recommends

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that complaint and application be made by the mayor and aldermen to the board of rail-road commissioners as provided by the Statute, for such action in the premises by said board as public safety and convenience may require.

In accordance with the foregoing recommendation, the accompanying order is submitted for adoption by this board.

For the Committee -
Edw. W. Hinkley
Chairman.

standing Committee on
Roads & Bridges, in relation
to the occupation of its
level crossings on certain
sheets, by the Boston & Albany
Railroad Company.

June 12. 1888.