

Mayor and Aldermen
of City of Cambridge
Gentlemen

I have been in the business of what we call Numbering Streets, about twelve years and have numbered thirty cities and villages one of which was the City of Cambridge some eight years ago

It has been found expedient in cities where I have numbered to go through them again after some five to seven years & fill up the work by numbering the new buildings and those if any which were skipt the first time - South Boston East Boston - Charlestown & Chelsea have thus been done - For South & East Boston the City Council Appropriated one hundred Dollars each The City of Charlestown paid two hundred for the work after it was done

The government of City of Chelsea requested me to do the same at my own expense without an Appropriation which I did but lost by it

I have lately traveled through the streets of your City and find that people are dismantling the Numbers so that in a short time it will spoil all that has been done and require the whole to be renumbered at an extra cost

I preserved my books so that I have a list of all the streets, (then existing) in your City and propose to go to work and fill up and regulate the Numbers as they should be

I will suggest two or three ways and beg an answer at an early day

First to Number all the doors (not done) by an order or ordinance of the City Council with Brass figures at some price agreed on - giving the owners the privilege of having Silver Figures by paying the difference

Second) for the government to appropriate some

Amount say one hundred Dollars which I will pay up in
cross fingers over Non Resident and other buildings - where the case
negoties and your Assessors can do the same in their Bill of
Sale - and let others pay their own and have what kind they please
On thirdey for the agreement to agree to pay
me fifty Dollars of a contingent fund and I will go to
work and do it the best I can at my own priqure letting
the owners have what kind they please and pay the same as
before

perhaps your Honor will suggest some better way
but I am quite shure it cannot be done without the
aid of the Government

South Maaden Feb 20th 1860

Lewis Waterman

In Board of Aldermen, Feb. 22. 1860 -

Laid upon the table.

Attest, Justin A. Jacobs, City Clerk.

of
Communication
of Lewis Waterman,
Wrennery Street,
Feb. 22. 1860.