

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT

*New York,* June 4, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 31st ult. enclosing letter from John Harson Rhoades, Esq., No. 66 Beaver St.

Please find enclosed a copy of my letter of this date addressed to Mr. Rhoades.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenston*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

*New York,* June 4, 1895.

John H. Rhodes, Esq.,

66 Beaver St., City.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 28th inst. addressed to Mayor Strong has been received and carefully noted.

You can still have the fullest faith in the Superintendent of Buildings intending to do his duty, but as it requires a legal trial before a dismissal can be made in this Department, to make the "new broom sweep clean" it will require about one hundred and fifty of such trials, which cannot be done in a few days. But as my health is pretty good and as I intend to strive to make this Department a credit to the City of New York, I think in a short time very marked improvements will be noticeable. I only hope that the citizens of the City will stand by me and appreciate my endeavors to do what is reasonable and right in this Department.

Yours very truly,

Superintendent of Buildings.



JOHN H. KENNEDY

JOHN H. KENNEDY

JOHN H. KENNEDY

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JOHN H. KENNEDY

JOHN H. KENNEDY

JOHN H. KENNEDY

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
STEVENS

*New York,* June 8, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst. enclosing letter from William Dihm, 64 West 125th St., concerning dangerous condition of a building at 38 West 125th St.

Please find enclosed a letter in reply to Mr. Dihm stating that I have had the matter of the complaint examined into and will take the proper steps at once to correct the matter.

Very respectfully yours,

*Stevens Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON  
Supt. Buildings  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT

*New York*, June 8, 1895.

Mr. William Dihm,

64 West 125th St., City.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 3d inst. complaining of premises  
38 West 125th St., addressed to Mayor Strong, was forwarded by him  
to me for my attention.

Replying thereto I would say that I have had same exam-  
ined into and will immediately take all necessary steps in the  
matter, trusting that you will have no further cause for complaint.

Yours truly,

Superintendent of Buildings.

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2 W CORNER 1014 ST

25 350 ECHLIN 773442

DISCONTINUED FOR BUILDING

TO: MARYANN DUNN

TO: CHAIRMAN  
THOMAS (SAMOYA)  
1964-65  
TO: CHAIRMAN  
THOMAS (SAMOYA)  
1964-65



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY

SUPERINTENDENT

*New York,* June 12, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Will you kindly inform me what disposition you have seen fit to make of Assembly Bill No. 1551, 1929, entitled "An act to secure the registration of plumbers and the supervision of plumbing and drainage in cities of the State of New York," and greatly oblige,

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson & Crattable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.





# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
BUILDING DEPT.

*New York,* June 18, 1895.

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Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

Answering your communication of the 14th inst. transmitting a resolution No. 56a of the Board of Aldermen, giving permission to Robert J. Wallace to erect and construct a bay-window on the premises on the south west corner of 162d St. and Morris Ave.

I beg leave to report that said bay-window appears on plans for New Buildings record No. 996 of '95 submitted to this Department. The said plans have not as yet been acted upon. The bay-window if constructed as shown on the plans would project beyond the building line.

The resolution provides for the work to be done under the direction of the Commissioner of Street Improvements of the 23d and 24th Ward.

While I appreciate that the Board of Aldermen can grant such permits, the Building Law does not allow this Department to authorize the construction of any bay-window beyond the building

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS O. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT  
STEVENSON & CONSTABLE  
BUILDING DEPT.

*New York,* \_\_\_\_\_

To Hon. Wm. L. Strong, -- Page 2.

line, therefore, we can only approve as to construction and not as to the projection. The proposed bay-window, as far as construction is concerned, comes within the requirement of the building law.

I herewith return said resolution and the accompanying papers.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenston & Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



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# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
Supt. Building Dept.

2 (15)

New York, June 20, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I would respectfully state that as there is no Department in this City, as previously reported to you, which has authority to control the tearing down or removal of any old buildings in the City of New York, and as we have had several serious accidents and are likely to have others, I would suggest that the Board of Aldermen of the City pass a resolution placing the proper and necessary authority and control of this matter in the hands of this Department or the Police or Fire Department and that the authority be vested at once, as the tearing down of the old buildings at Mulberry Bend is likely to result in serious accident unless immediately put in charge of some Department.

Respectfully yours,

*Steven W. Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRIDGES,  
STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

*New York,* June 21, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th inst. enclosing communication from Mr. Z. Isder, concerning the tearing down of an old building on Fourth Ave.

In reply I would say that although this Department has no authority in regard to the tearing down of such buildings, we sent an inspector to examine this job and to see that reasonable care was being exercised.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



Mayor of the City of New York,

Hon. William L. Spring,

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2 W CORNER 1ST ST.

26 550 FOUNTAIN AVENUE

DRIVING SCHOOL

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT

*New York,* June 29, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

In confirmation of telephone message of this morning, I beg to request your Honor to refuse all license and permit for the use of the Bohemia Roof Garden on the roof of building Nos. 1360 and 1362 Broadway until the building laws regarding same have been complied with. The use of this building for such a purpose under existing circumstances would be in direct violation of the building laws.

Very respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

Major Edwards

1895

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June 29, 1895.

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1.94  
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of the City of New York

10.10

tion of telephone message of this morning.

to Honor to refuse all license and permit for

mis Roof Garden on the roof of building Nos.

way until the building laws regarding same have



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

CONSTABLE,  
THOMSON & BRADY  
STEVENSON & CO. INC. DEPT.  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BLDG.

*New York,* July 5, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I herewith return copy of Resolutions of the Board of Aldermen, Nos. 635 and 642, in relation to bay-windows at 283 Sixth Ave.

Permit me to say that under the enactment of the Legislature governing this Department it is impossible for me to approve said resolutions and I therefore can only signify that I will look after the construction of same and see that it is correct; but cannot approve the allowing of such bay or bulk windows projecting beyond the building line.

Yours very respectfully,

*Stevenston & Co. Inc.*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

82

A large, stylized, handwritten flourish or signature, possibly reading "L. J. 1891", written in dark ink on a light background. The signature is highly decorative, with multiple loops and a long, sweeping tail that extends towards the bottom left. The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO. 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVE  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT

(Copy)

*New York,* April 25th, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of April 16th and to thank you for the enclosed list of licensed places of amusement in this City.

I have noted your suggestion in regard to examination as to the condition, etc., and in reply would say that I find that no regular inspection has been made of the theatres and other places of amusement in this City for several years; that no regular record has been kept of same; that no files exist in this office showing plan and arrangement of the theatres and other places of amusement in this City; and that it will be impossible for this Department with its present corrupt force of inspectors and the limited number of men at its disposal to make up defects that have accumulated by years of carelessness, and to examine and report on the various theatres and other places of amusement by the first of May next.

I would suggest that your Honor, so as not to interfere with the business operations of such theatres and places of amuse-



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT.

(Copy)

*New York,*

To Hon. Wm. L. Strong, page 2.

ment as you have granted licenses to, should renew the licenses conditionally, extending them only until the term of their present contracts expires, and that said licenses should not be renewed until proper inspection and examination and report by this Department.

Very respectfully,

Stevenson Constable,

Superintendent of Buildings.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

83.

THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

New York, July 5, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter to which I referred in my conversation with you this afternoon in regard to theatres. As I reported to you then that owing to the laws governing this Department, which make it impossible for me to discharge inspectors without a trial, I must again report that owing to the gross corruption existing among them I cannot be responsible in this matter until after such time as I can get trusted and reliable men for the work.

Yours respectfully

*Steven S. Lintable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

Enclosure.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON STABLE,  
SURT. BLDG. DEPT.  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

New York, July 18, 1895.

Mr. Job E. Hedges,

Secretary, Mayor's Office,

New York City.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 16th inst. duly received.

As soon as we have copies of the building laws it will  
give me pleasure to send one to Mr. Frederick L. Hoffman, No.  
761 Broad St., Newark, N.J., in accordance with your request.

Yours truly,

*Steven W. Cruttable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY, *TABLE,*  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 12, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 10th inst. enclosing card relating to 249 South St.

I frequently find anonymous letters of great importance in tracing evidence. Directly in regard to No. 249 South St. I would say that we have a precept against this property from the Court, giving the owners until the 25th of August to make good.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevens*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENS & CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT, DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 12, 1895.

Hon. William *A.* Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of your kind favor of the 12th inst.

The enclosed document will receive my immediate attention. I very frequently find anonymous letters to be of great importance in tracing up matters relating to this Department as they often put me on track of importance evidence.

Permit me to assure you again that I am leaving no stone unturned to make this investigation a most thorough and searching one, as I will endeavor to prove to you in the report which I will make as soon as the facts are all in.

I hope to give myself the pleasure of calling upon you to-morrow morning.

Yours very respectfully,

*Stevens & Constable R*

Superintendent of Buildings.



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to-morrow morning.

Don't will it to be so  
make as soon as the

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY, STABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 14, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

I herewith return copy of Resolutions of the Board of Aldermen, Nos. 655, 661 and 666, in relation to bay windows at No. 20 West 57th St. and at premises No. 44 West 34th St., and regarding chimney breasts on building No. 1370 Broadway.

Permit me to say that under the enactment of the Legislature governing this Department it is impossible for me to approve said resolutions and I therefore can only signify that I will look after the construction of same and see that it is correct; but cannot approve the allowing of such bay or bulk windows or breasts projecting beyond the building line.

Yours very respectfully,

*Stevenson Crestable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

Enclosures.



57.

Dear Sir:-

Mayor of the City of New York,

Hon. William L. Strong,

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(18)

3 W CORNER 8TH ST.

705 750 EIGHTH AVENUE

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

APR. 14, 1895.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON & STABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
DEPT. OF BUILDINGS.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 19, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 15th inst. relative to Proctor's Palace Theatre, Nos. 146-158 East 58th St., and in reply would say that examination has been made of same and work thereon is found not yet to be completed, so that final examination cannot be made. There are at least six items that are not in place as required by law and until same are completed I cannot make a final report.

Very respectfully yours,

*Steven S. Conittable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



Dear Sir:-

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

HON. WILLIAM F. STROUD

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NOV. 19, 1892.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY, CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 20, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

It gives me pleasure to be able to report that in spite of all obstacles -- insufficient and inefficient force at my command, the great accumulation of unfinished work on my taking charge of the Department and the greatest six months work ever done by the Department -- I have been able to have made a thorough inspection of all the theatres of this City. This had not been done for three years and I regret to say was, I find, even more needed than I advised you. The carelessness and total disregard of the requirements of the laws in regard to safety of life in many instances is beyond expression. I will at once have list made and forwarded you, as I am taking immediate action to enforce the law.

I would ask your determined action in supporting me in this matter as it is the only way in which the safety of the public can be assured.

Respectfully,

*Steven W. Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



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It gives me pleasure to be able to report that in spite

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY, STABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 20, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

Since the law does not allow this Department to fix the positive responsibility for the carrying out of the plans and specifications in a rigid and strict form so as to insure a strict adherence thereto, therefore until such laws can be passed, which will place this responsibility as it should be placed, do you not think that it would be perfectly reasonable and right for me to insist, before passing any plans, that the owner, for whom such work is to be done, shall file a positive guaranty in this Department in such form as the attorneys of this Department shall deem most proper and binding for the carrying out of said plans and specifications.

Kindly advise me in regard to this matter and greatly oblige,

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

*Answered*  
*Aug 27 95*



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK,

HON. WILLIAM F. STROUD,

AND

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DEPARTMENT OF BOARD

2 W. C. R. ST.

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REGISTRATION

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY, STABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 21, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of even date. I regret exceedingly that in your judgment it is not possible under the existing laws to place the responsibility for the carrying out of the plans and application filed in this Department on the parties directly interested in said plans and application, so as to insure the construction that this Department has approved.

Very respectfully,

*Thomas J. Brady*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



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# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

New York, Aug. 22, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to report the following list of theatres which have been found by careful examination to be in flagrant violation of the law, and which have been put in violation by this Department:

Academy of Music, ✓	2 Irving Place.
Bijou,	1239 Broadway.
Casino,	1404 Broadway.
Daly's,	1221 Broadway.
Doris Museum,	351 Eighth Ave.
Fourteenth Street,	107 West 14th St.
✓ Grand Opera House,	269 Eighth Ave.
Harlem Atheneum,	125 East 125th St.
Herald Square,	1333 Broadway.
Hoyt's,	8 West 24th St.
Huber's Museum,	106 East 14th St.
London,	235 Bowery.
Melrose Lyceum Theatre,	2884 Third Ave.
Miner's Eighth Ave. Theatre,	310 Eighth Ave.
Olympic Theatre,	2392 Third Ave.
Palmers,	1228 Broadway.
Standard,	1287 Broadway.

Very respectfully,

*Stevenson Crettable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



Human Theater now  
Baylen

29

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS U. BRADY, CRISTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 26, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

At the building in process of erection at the corner of Clinton Place and University Place, Alfred Zucker, architect, a well under foundation work has been built upon directly contrary to the instructions of this Department, disregarding directly both inspectors orders and my own orders. I intend to make this a positive example to the architects of New York and will insist upon my orders being obeyed.

Asking your thorough co-operation as in the past and that matters be kept from the press as heretofore, I am,

Yours respectfully,

*Thomas U. Brady, Cristable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



DEALERS:-

REASON OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

HON. WILLIAM T. BLOOMER.

AND

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APR. 30, 1882.

U. S. A. COMMISSIONER OF LANDS

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CONFIDENTIAL

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENS, CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT, DEPT.

FHD

New York, Aug. 29, 1895. 189

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 23d inst. relative to theatres and places of amusement, and in reply would say that the matter is being pressed with thoroughness and vigour and I trust that all will soon meet the requirements of the law.

Yours respectfully,

*Steven W. Brett*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,

THOMAS J. BRADY, CHIEF DEPT.  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

New York, Aug. 29, 1895. 189

64.  
Job E. Hedges, Esq.,

Sec'y, Office of Mayor,

Dear Sir:-

761 2 5 8  
Letter of F. L. Hoffman, under date of August 26th ,  
forwarded to me, was duly received. Permit me to say that the  
Building Department has no copies of the Building Laws for distri-  
bution as they have never been printed by the Department. The  
laws are however on sale by the different publishers, etc.

I have ordered a few copies struck off for the use of  
our inspectors and for the Department. Regretting that I cannot  
favor Mr. Hoffman under the premises, I am

Yours very truly,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY, STABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

New York, Aug. 30, 1895, 189

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th inst. and to say that the matter referred to therein is receiving immediate attention. I will report to you as soon as all points connected with same have been examined.

Yours respectfully,

*Steven W. Constantable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

*New York,* Aug. 30, 1895/89

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Will you kindly have the License Clerk send us a list  
of the licensed concert saloons as recorded in his office, and  
greatly oblige,

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

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Yours respectfully,

23

Superintendent of Buildings.

Greatly obliged,

of the licensed concert saloons as recorded in his office, and

Will you kindly have the license clerk send us a list



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

SEVEN 1/2 ST. CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT DEPT.

FHD

✓

New York, Sept. 5, 1895. 189

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 31st ult., enclosing list of Concert Halls in this City, and to thank you for the same.

Yours respectfully,

*Steven J. Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

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23

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of June 1891.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT

FHD

24

New York, Sept. 6, 1895. 189

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Will you kindly advise me as to why various bills for  
work done for this Department by T. P. Galligan & Son on unsafe  
buildings, etc., have not been paid, and greatly oblige,

Yours respectfully,

Thomas J. Brady  
Superintendent of Buildings.

N. B. I have sent the above letter to  
Comptroller Hatch

S. B.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON, CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 6, 1895. 189

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York,

Dear Sir:-

Examination of the Wakefield Grammar School, Wakefield, suburb of Mount Vernon, Westchester Co., develops the fact that the building is in an unsafe condition, and school should not be opened on Monday next, which I understand is the day appointed for opening the said school. We have put a violation on said building and I merely notify you as a precautionary measure in regard to the matter.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenston Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



Dear Sir:-

Mayor of the City of New York,

Hon. William F. Sulzberg,

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2 W. COHEN ST.

25 550 FORTUIT 77 N.Y.C.

EDMUND H. KELLY, D.M.H.H.

9/6/95.

NOTICE TO PLUMBERS.

The Superintendent of Buildings hereby notifies all Plumbers in the City of New York that under the law they are required to go before the Board of Plumbing Examiners and pass an examination, obtaining a license and registering in this Department, before being able lawfully to do any work in this City.

The Superintendent regrets to say that he finds there are several hundred plumbers in the City whose names he cannot find recorded as having obtained a license, and that he intends to take immediate proceedings to enforce this law, which seems to have been carelessly overlooked or neglected.

*Stevenson Constable*

Superintendent of Buildings.

*F.H.R.*

(Copy.).



9/6/95.

NOTICE CONCERNING LODGING HOUSES.

The Superintendent of Buildings finding that the lodging houses of this City have not been thoroughly inspected for over three years in regard to fire escape facilities would hereby give the owners and proprietors of same formal notice that he intends to use all the authority at his disposal to enforce the laws and will insist on a rigid compliance with all fire escape regulations of the Department of Buildings; also that any such buildings that have been heretofore inspected and are not yet in accord with the requirements of the law must carry out instructions previously given.

*Stevenson Constable*

Superintendent of Buildings.

*J.M.D.*

(Copy).

9/6/95.

NOTICE CONCERNING HOTELS.

The Superintendent of Buildings would respectfully call the attention of the various hotel owners and proprietors in the City of New York to the fact that, as there has been no regular inspection of the hotels in this City for three years, and as many of them are in violation of the law in regard to fire escape facilities, and many have not complied with notices served upon them at that time, he intends to have an inspection made as rapidly as possible of all such buildings and will insist on immediate enforcement and compliance with all regulations and orders of this Department.

*Stevenson Crestable* J.H.D.  
Superintendent of Buildings.

(Copy)



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

New York, Sept. 6, 1895.

M

Sir:

I would respectfully call your attention to the following.

Finding from careful examination that there has been a great deal of imperfect iron and careless construction used in many buildings in the City of New York, I intend that whatever laws or authority are placed in my hands shall be rigidly enforced.

No cast iron shall be delivered on any work with any paint or coating thereon of any description, but must be exactly as it comes from the foundry-- merely cleaned.

That cast iron columns must be drilled as required by law; that all joints, bearings and boltsholes must be even and true and of exact and proper size for the iron to be joined thereto or lashed thereon or for the bolt to be placed therein. All bolts must fill the entire opening or hole in which they are placed and the thread on same must extend at least two threads through the nut when drawn up home.

Also, immediately upon securing the contract for any building or the supplying of any iron, notification of same must be forwarded to this Department, and before delivery of material on work, notice requesting inspection must be sent to this office and inspection made thereof before said material is placed in the building. After inspection and before the placing of the iron, the necessary painting can be done.

I would call your special attention to Section 485, 486 and 487 of Chapter 410 of the Laws of 1882, as amended by Chapter 275 of the Laws of 1892.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson*

Superintendent of Buildings.

*E. A. D.*



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON'S CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 7, 1895. 189

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find copies of some notices forwarded  
to the papers, which, knowing your deep interest in this Depart-  
ment and your anxiety to have it as it should be, I know you will  
be interested in.

Yours truly,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

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# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON, CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

New York, Sept. 7, 1895. 189

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 3d inst. together with enclosures therein.

I note your answer regarding the Harlem Atheneum, 125th St., and thoroughly agree with you, as the theatres that now stand in violation of the law in this City have done so for several years past and it is about time we should insist that they comply with the law fully.

In regard to application of Siegmund Simon, desiring to open a concert hall at 256 West 125th St., I would say that we are looking into the matter, as a set of plans have been filed here to make some changes prior to opening concert hall as mentioned. I will report to you as soon as the examination has been made. We have private information in this Department that the owner, is, if not the Clark himself a brother of the Clark who had a saloon on Sixth Ave. which became very notorious. I feel that it is well worthy of your honest consideration, as this saloon had to be closed.

Respectfully,

Superintendent of Buildings.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,*

Sept. 9, 1895. 189

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

A number of the large hospitals of this City are not properly provided with fire escapes and the Department of Public Charities and Corrections have notified me that it is impossible for them to place the required fire escapes on the buildings as they have not the means to do it with. Under these conditions I would like your advice, as I find so much negligence in my Department from not having had public buildings and institutions properly examined that this becomes a very serious matter. The more I see of the handling and working of this Department the more convinced I am that of all other Departments it is the one that should be entirely free from politics and made simply a business Department, and until this is done the safety and welfare of the people of this City cannot be secured nor the making of proper investments in real estate accomplished.

Yours truly,

*Thomas J. Brady*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



310 WEST TWENTY-SECOND STREET,  
NEW YORK CITY.

To Hon William L Strong  
Mayor New York City

Dear Sir I am requested by Mrs  
Alma Calder Johnson to say that the  
"Safety device" for ladder openings on fire  
escapes, can be seen at Office of Mr  
Constable Supt. of Buildings - but will  
be presented to you personally - if you  
so direct. Please note there are now  
through out the City - various kinds of  
covering to aforesaid openings - as per  
list - appended - These must exist - by  
permission, or are contrary to law.  
These doubtless would be found inopera-  
tive through rust. Our device has no  
rings or bolt - to become clogged, is of

low cost- and easily placed on  
all existing balcony fire escapes.  
Other cities allow coverings to these  
dangerous openings - why not also  
in our over crowded districts, should  
not- the children be protected, while  
the firemen in their duties have a  
known quantity to encounter- instead  
of a boarded or roped over stile- to  
the ladders -

Very Respectfully.

Mrs Thaddeus A Smith -

of Board of Managers  
"Little Mothers"

Sept - 7<sup>th</sup> 1893 -



Coverings to Ladder Openings on Fire  
Escapes - incorporated as part of flooring  
and more or less inoperative, may  
be run at -

No 693. Ninth Avenue.

5-7th St - Corner Ninth Ave

203 West - 20th St.

St Cloud Hotel Broadway and 42nd St -

The Chelsea 222 W. 23rd St.

Mott St - Corner Grand

Hester St - near Centre.

And many others - These exist permanently  
and if without permission of Building  
Dept - <sup>are</sup> Contrary to law - Section 498. Chapter

410 -

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 10, 1895. *189*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I herewith beg to return letter of Mrs. Thaddeus A. Smith and to say that I will examine into this matter carefully, but in my judgment no door or trap to fire escapes should be allowed, for immediately same is allowed it becomes a balcony and is used as such.

Yours respectfully,

*Stephen C. Eastable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

P. S. The main plea in favor of the trap-- the safety of children-- implies the use of the fire escape for a purpose it is not intended for-- a balcony.

*S.C.*



...the safety of children--

...the safety of children--

*Handwritten signature*

2

29

...the safety of children--

...the safety of children--

...the safety of children--

...the safety of children--

...the safety of children--

...the safety of children--

73.  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENS & CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 10, 1895. 189

Job Hedges, Esq.,

Mayor's Secretary,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 9th inst., introducing Mr. Samuel Strasbourger, duly received and noted.

The case which Mr. Strasbourger represents is not plans before me, but a very gross case of negligence on the part of his clients, whose buildings I have been forced to take charge of under an unsafe, as they almost collapsed a few days ago and if it had not been luckily discovered in time we would have had another serious calamity.

I have extended every courtesy that promptness and determined action would allow.

Yours very truly,

*Stevens & Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEWARTSON CONSTABLE  
BUILDING DEPT.  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 13, 1895. 189

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have written a very strong and frank letter to the Civil Service Commissioners. I regret to say that owing to some laxity in their system the class of men that are passed by that Commission are in many instances entirely unfit to fill the positions in this Department for which they apply, and before a Department like this can ever be made efficient, thorough and reliable in its operations it must have good men. As I am now about to have examinations for clerkships in this Department I desire your co-operation in aiding me in accomplishing the results herein mentioned.

I believe thoroughly in Civil Service, especially if all influence, friendships and surroundings can be obliterated and each man stand on his merit. There is ample opportunity for accomplishing this result if it is taken up practically and carried out literally.

Yours respectfully,

*Stewartson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
Supt. BUILDING DEPT.  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 17, 1895. 189

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I saw Mr. Davis, the gentleman whom you recommended, and have advised him just what steps to take at once in regard to Civil Service, as there are to be examinations within the next three days.

Hoping that he may prove himself able to pass his examinations and assuring you that I shall then be most happy to have him as a clerk in this office, I am,

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenston Constable.*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



Devis, the Gentlemen who

1117

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 19, 1895. *189*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 17th inst. enclosing anonymous postal card. Permit me to say that the same has been forwarded to the Department of Public Works as the complaint related to sidewalks, which are within the jurisdiction of that Department.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevens Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

STEVENSON  
CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,  
SUPERINTENDENT.



715

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

M.

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.

THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPERINTENDENT  
STEVENS ON CONSTABLE,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

New York, Sept. 25, 1895. 18.9

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 24th inst.

Mr. Seasongood called at this office in regard to three cases now pending in this Department, one an unsafe and the other two what we call floor weight violations. I have extended every courtesy possible to the gentleman, owing to his absence from the City, and have sent a special inspector down to investigate the unsafe building and to see whether such delay as he is forced to ask for endangers life or limb in any way.

Hoping that this may be satisfactory, I am,

Yours respectfully,

*Stevens On Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NO 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEWART BRADSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 25, 1895. *189*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

It gives me pleasure to report that in many instances the owners and lessees of the theatres which were found in violation of the law have signified to me their willingness to comply with the law and have in most instances started to make such alterations and changes as the Department requires. In some few instances we have not been successful in accomplishing the results necessary to insure safety, but I hope in a few days to be able to report all as striving to comply.

Yours respectfully,

*Stewart Bradstable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

77.  
DEAR SIR:-

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

HON. WILLIAM L. STROUD,

2

40

S. N. CORNER 18TH ST.

ROCKAWAY AVENUE

INTERNATIONAL BUILDINGS

Sept. 20, 1892.



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY  
SUPT. BUILDING DEPT.  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

New York, Sept. 25, 1895. 189

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

I hope in a few days to have completed the inspection of the hotels of this City, none of which have been examined for three years. I find many of them in violation of the law and will take as prompt action as is possible, owing to the insufficiency of my force and incompetency of many of my men, to insist on compliance with the law and to prevent accident in case of fire or panic.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,** *M.*

**NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

*STEWART BRADY*  
CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT  
BUILDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 25, 1895. *189*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

It gives me pleasure to report that although still very much crowded with work and with an insufficient and incompetent force at my disposal, I have been able to inspect most of the Police Precinct Station Houses of the City, and anticipate having but little trouble in increasing the safety from fire and accident in these buildings.

Hoping soon to complete my examination, I am,

Yours respectfully,

*Stewart Brady*  
Superintendent of Buildings.



Independent of Britlinga.

*Handwritten signature*

Yours respectfully,

41

2

Nothing more to complete my examination, I am,

the safety from fire and accident in these buildings.  
Manager of the City, and anticipate having the little change in the  
disposal, I have been able to make most of the Police District Station  
closed with work and with an inefficient and incompetent force of men

# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

THOMAS SEABY, CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 26, 1895. 189

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

In reference to the matter of aiding this Department in preventing accident and in great cases of emergency, where prompt and immediate action must be taken to secure damaged and unsafe walls, buildings, etc., as there has never been made any preparation by the Department to properly cover this ground, and as with my present appropriation it is impossible that I with the limited means and force at my disposal can act so as to accomplish the proper result, I have decided to arrange with certain contractors who have at hand all the necessary facilities always to be ready at my call to proceed immediately to the point of danger and make safe. This is within the law, and as a makeshift under the existing circumstances I feel I would be criminal in neglecting it.

One of the contractors designated for this work has, after consultation with me, already built an emergency wagon and is also preparing another, which, without making any charge to this Department beyond that which is charged in his bill against the property and which usually we are able to recover, I feel is a move in the right direction.

The Fire Department, the Police Department, the Department of Public Works and the Department of Charities and Corrections all have special facilities and apparatus for emergencies, especially where danger to life and limb is in question, and I most assuredly think that

this



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS D. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDENT,  
CITY BUILDING DEPT

New York, \_\_\_\_\_ 189

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,-- page 2.

this, the great structural department in the City, which has now had in the five months of my own experience over 1150 cases of unsafe buildings, etc., should be properly provided with the necessary apparatus at its command.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

buildings, etc., should be properly provided with the necessary  
in the five months of my own experience over 1150 cases of unsafe  
this, the Great structural department in the City, which has now had  
Hon. Wm. J. Strong,-- Page 5.

2

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DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

330 HORNET AVENUE  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.

*Wm. J. Strong*

1900



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON, CONSTABLE,  
THOMAS J. BRADY,  
SUPERINTENDING DEPT.

FHD

*New York,* Sept. 26, 1895. *189*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

It gives me pleasure to report the following work of this Department from March 26th to the present date, and also a comparison with the two years previous.

Plans acted on from March 26th to Sept. 26th-- 6 months:

	<u>New Buildings.</u>	<u>Alterations.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
1895	1420	1171	2591 ✓
1894	875	995	1870 ✓
1893	818	1111	1929 ✓

I consider, as this work has been much more thoroughly done in the Department than ever before, that it certainly indicates the activity and improved system of the working of this Department, and if I only can, by obtaining proper and efficient men on the outside, make as rapid advance in the structural portion and the carrying out of the plans filed, I feel that I will have accomplished a great result towards the safety of the public and the improvement of structural property in this City.

Another proof of this is that the unsafe buildings reported, examined and corrected during the same periods have been as follows:

1895-	1219 ✓
1894--	625 ✓
1893-	719. ✓

Respectfully,  
Superintendent of Buildings.

*Stevenston Constable*

It gives me pleasure to report the following work of this

Dear Sir:-

Mayor of the City of New York

Hon. William F. Strong,

GENERAL INVESTIGATOR DEPT.  
OF COMMERCE AND NAVY  
WASHINGTON

AND

2 W. CORNER 181ST ST.

25 250 FORTUITA AVENUE

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Sept. 22, 1890.

18.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

*M.*  
*New York,* Sept. 27, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find copy of a letter sent by me to John A. Sleicher, Esq., Supervisor City Record, regarding various requisitions of this Department.

Yours respectfully,

*Stevenson Constable*  
Superintendent of Buildings.

*Copy -*

**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,**

**NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,**  
S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,

STEVENSON CONSTABLE,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

FHD

*New York, Sept. 27th, 1895.*

John A. Sleicher, Esq.,

Supervisor, City Record, City.

S i r:-

Yours of Sept. 26th relative to the requisitions for Stationery and Printing for this Department for the year 1896 was duly received.

In reply I would state that such requisitions were made with much care and after much thought and were based on the actual needs of the Department. The new blanks, which you refer to, are absolutely needed to carry out the proper systems which are necessary in the Department-- where everything has been very carelessly done. When I assumed the Superintendency of this Department I found the records improperly kept and in some instances not kept at all and in many no records whatever. I have been seriously hampered for the want of proper blanks and supplies and in numerous instances compelled to draw from private resources and from my contingent fund to pay for the same. I notified the Mayor that I could not assume any responsibility for the years previous to 1895, but would try to secure simple and accurate records from then on.

As to the checks to which you refer, the same are for warrants for salaries for employees and are in the form and printed as prescribed by the Comptroller. Heretofore, I am informed, these checks were furnished the Department by the Comptroller, and requisition was made on



# DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,

NR 220 FOURTH AVENUE,

S.W. CORNER 18TH ST.,



*New York,*

your Board for the reason that you asked for the same. Please refer to your Printed Form No. 3. If requisition for the same should be made on the Comptroller please inform me, as the same must be of the quality of paper, in the form, &c, (as I have before stated) that he directs, and cannot be prepared by a secretary or typewriter, as you suggest.

It is my desire to conduct the business of this Department upon an economical and business a basis as possible, without, detriment, however, to the interests of the public, and so as to have accurate statistics and records, and not careless and incomplete as now. I admit that my requisitions exceed those of my predecessor, but the business of the Department has increased during the past six months 100 per cent. and is still increasing, besides I expect the force of the Department to be increased at least  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. next year.

Said requisitions have not been prepared at random, and the Forms, Books, Stationery, &c, therein called for, I must have in order to conduct successfully and properly the business of the Department and to make it a creditable branch of the City government, and if the same is cut down by revision I desire to be placed on record as entering my protest against the same, believing as I do that I am thoroughly acquainted with the Department's needs.

Respectfully,

Superintendent of Buildings.

2

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2 W CORNER 181 ST

1/2 E 30 EIGHTH AVENUE

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

200 EIGHTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY