

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Weekly Synopsis For The Information of The Mayor.

Week ending January 11th, 1896.

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$60,629.79.

2nd. Four vault permits issued, the fees for which aggregate, \$2,067.78.

3rd. A contract was awarded for paving with block asphalt 158th Street, from 11th Avenue to the Boulevard Lafayette, at \$2.33 per square yard, to the Hastings Pavement Co.

4th. Bids for a contract for regulating and paving with Macadam pavement the roadway of Kingsbridge Road, from 190th Street to the Harlem River, were rejected because it is contemplated to construct a cable railway on said road, which would reduce by one-third the area to be paved at the expense of the abutting property owners. A question has also been raised as to whether it would not be judicious to change the character of pavement proposed to be laid.

5th. Fees amounting to \$1,123.25 were received for permits to open streets made necessary by the laying of drains and pipes by property owners.

6th. Four permits for bridge-sheds over sidewalks were issued, for which \$20 was received, and 71 permits were issued for building material, etc.

7th. There were discharged 146 laborers and foremen, rendered necessary from lack of work in consequence of the winter season.

8th. One inspector on sewers was discharged for neglect of duty.

Charles H. D. Collins
Commr.

Department of Public Works,

Commissioner's Office,

No. 31 Chambers Street,

New York, Jan. 13th 1896 189

My dear Sir;

I enclose you a statement, containing a synopsis of the transactions of this Department during the past week.

I intend to send you a similar statement every Monday morning.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. D. Collis

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,

Mayor, N.Y. City.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending January 18th, 1896.

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$37,592.31

2nd. Five vault permits issued, the fees for which aggregate \$5,311.48.

3rd. Contracts were awarded as follows: For sewer in 22nd Street, between 2nd and 3rd Avenues, to James E. Marsh, who was the lowest bidder; for sewers in 11th Avenue, both sides, between 186th and 187th Streets, to E. J. McLaughlin, the lowest bidder.

4th. Fees amounting to \$1,036.75 were received for permits to open streets.

5th. Six permits for bridge-sheds over sidewalks were issued, for which \$30 was received.

6th. 1 stenographer and typewriter was appointed.

7th. 114 employees (foremen, laborers, etc.) were discharged.

8th. The Police Department was requested to revoke the licenses of the engineers of the following buildings for violating the City Ordinances by discharging steam into the public sewers: Proctor's Pleasure Palace, the Lexington Opera House, the Downing Building, Nos 5-11 Dutch Street, and the Hotel Imperial.

Charles H. T. Collis
Commr Public Works

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending January 25, 1896.

- 1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$42,044.25
- 2nd. Two vault permits issued, the fees for which aggregate \$705.75
- 3rd. Fees amounting to \$3,671.20 were received for permits to open streets.
- 4th. Eight permits for bridge-sheds over sidewalks were issued, for which \$40 was received.
- 5th. For redemption of obstructions seized and removed from the public streets and sidewalks, \$38.75 was received.
- 6th. 20 permits were issued to tap water-mains for house-connections, for which \$91 was received.
- 7th. Nine permits issued to connect house-drains with sewers, for which \$156.93 was received.
- 8th. 3,010 lineal feet of sewers were cleaned, and 16,911 lineal feet of sewers were examined.
- 9th. An employee of the contractor for the Waldorf Hotel was arrested for opening the asphalt pavement on 33rd Street without a permit from this Department.
- 10th. 13 permits to place building material on streets were revoked for failure to comply with the conditions of the same.
- 11th. Two carpenters were appointed, and seven foremen, assistant foremen and laborers were reinstated.
- 12th. The fifteen free floating baths were insured for one year for \$100,000, premium \$1,000.

Charles H. J. Collis
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending February 1, 1896

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$54,794.38

2nd. The following works are advertised for public letting on the 11th inst: Sprinkling with sand 5th Ave., from 26th to 59th St; sewer in Columbus Ave., between 107th St. and Cathedral Parkway; sewers in 5th Ave., between 138th and 140th Sts., etc; sewer in 185th St., between Kingsbridge Road and Audubon Ave, etc; outlet sewer in 145th St., between Harlem River and 8th Ave., etc.

3rd. Four vault permits issued, the fees for which aggregate \$595.31.

4th. Fees amounting to \$3,543 were received for permits to open streets.

5th. On January 31st 208,000,000 gallons of water were consumed. The normal daily consumption is 190,000,000 gallons. Present excess is due to waste occasioned by consumers permitting faucets to run continually to avoid freezing. The rainfall in the Croton basin during the month of January was one inch.

6th. Five permits for bridge-sheds over sidewalks were issued, for which \$25 was received.

7th. Fourteen permits to place building materials on streets were revoked for violation of the conditions of said permits.

8th. The following changes have been made in the force: One messenger reinstated at \$1,000 per annum (former salary, \$1,200 per annum); one elevator attendant appointed; one clerk reduced from \$1,500 to \$1,300 per annum; one assistant cashier increased from \$1,500 to \$1,800 per annum, his probation being completed; one second assistant cashier appointed at \$1,200 per annum, which is no increase of expenditure, because a vacancy caused by the discharge of a clerk will not be filled; two laborers reinstated.

Charles H. D. Collins
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending February 8th, 1896.

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$41,155.38.

2nd. Collections for three vault permits, \$2,238.68.

3rd. Collections for permits for opening streets, \$1,205.30.

4th. Collections for bridge-sheds over sidewalks, \$10.

175 5th. Weekly average of water-meters examined, read and recorded by eight inspectors, $53\frac{1}{3}$ each--Same work done in corresponding week of 1895 by 19 inspectors, 20 each.

6th. On February 2nd the south side of 59th Street, for a distance of 100 feet from 6th Avenue easterly, caved in, owing to deep excavation for an adjoining building, carrying down the water-mains, sewer and gas pipes, which were at once cut off and capped east and west of the excavation. The damage is being repaired by the building contractors.

7th. The extraordinary rainfall of three inches on February 5th, on frozen ground, caused a heavy freshet in the Croton watershed, and an overflow of 4,000,000,000 gallons of water over the Croton Dam. One half of the rainfall has been impounded in the storage reservoirs and lakes as a reserve supply.

8th. Changes in the working force: Deceased--Harry Howard, inspector of vaults, and one keeper on Croton Aqueduct. Promoted--One clerk, 1st grade at \$1,000 per annum to 2nd grade at \$1,400. Three female cleaners resigned. One foreman, one caulker, three female cleaners and one male cleaner reinstated.

Charles H. Collis

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending February 15th, 1896.

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$28,733.68

2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$5,435.80.

3rd. Collections for permits for opening streets, \$1,437.00

4th. Collections for bridge-sheds over sidewalks, \$70.

5th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$48.

6th. Collections for sewer permits, \$393.84.

7th. Contracts awarded to the lowest bidders: For sprinkling with sand 5th Avenue, from 23rd to 59th Street, for one year, at \$25 per day when required; for sewer in Columbus Avenue, from 117th Street to Cathedral Parkway, \$6,112.50; for sewer in 5th Avenue, between 138th and 140th Streets, etc., \$16,053.55; for sewer in 185th Street, between Kingsbridge Road and Audubon Avenue, etc., \$14,452.50; for outlet sewer in 145th Street, between the Harlem River and 8th Avenue, with branches and alterations at 7th Avenue, 8th Avenue, Lenox Avenue, 143rd and 144th Streets, \$71,612.50.

8th. Average daily consumption of water, 204,000,000 gallons.

9th. Changes in the working force: One engineman resigned; two axemen promoted to foremen; one axeman appointed; two skilled laborers removed; three laborers removed, and one cleaner deceased.

Charles H. T. Collis
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... February 22, 1896.

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$55,153.10

2nd. Collections for four vault permits, \$576.94.

3rd. Collections for sewer permits, \$508.00

4th. Collections for permits for street openings, \$1,229.25

5th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$14.00

6th. Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$25.00.

7th. The Corporation Attorney has been requested to prosecute the owners of No 25 Pine Street for recovery of the penalty of \$50 for discharging steam into the public sewer.

8th. Changes in the working force: The Chief Clerk removed and a new Chief Clerk appointed; six engineer-inspectors of paving, regulating and grading appointed; one assistant general inspector of street openings appointed; one male cleaner, one female cleaner and three laborers reinstated, and one team and truck added to the repair force.

9th. During the extremely cold weather of the past week the consumption and waste of water rose to 236,000,000 gallons per day, and on Monday and Saturday, when the temperature had risen, the consumption diminished to 224,000,000 gallons. This is a forcible illustration of the enormous waste from the pernicious habit of keeping faucets in houses open and water running during severely cold weather to prevent freezing in the pipes.

Charles H. D. Collis
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending.....February 29,.....1896.....

- 1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$37,846.91.
- 2nd. Collections for four vault permits, \$1,008.39
- 3rd. Collections for six permits for sewer-connections, \$455.60
- 4th. Collections for restoration of pavements over street openings, \$3,624.50
- 5th. Collections for permits for temporary sheds over sidewalks, \$10
- 6th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$20.75
- 7th. Average daily consumption of water, 220,000,000 gallons.
Lowest rate of consumption, on Friday, in consequence of higher temperature, and abstention from waste to prevent freezing in service-pipes, 215,000,000 gallons.
- 8th. One contract awarded for furnishing and laying water-mains in 2nd, 8th and Jerome Avenues, and in 96th and 100th Streets, on the lowest bid, \$85,933.66.
- 9th. All the bids on two contracts for furnishing water pipes and special castings were rejected for the best interests of the City, and new bids are advertised for. (Bidder declined to make castings "bell end down".)
- 10th. Changes in the working force: One engineer-inspector appointed; one elevator attendant appointed; two laborers reinstated; one assistant foreman reinstated; three carts discharged; one laborer discharged; one rammer discharged; pay of one varnisher increased from \$2.25 to \$3 per day.
- 11th. New rail for general use of surface railways adopted and approved by the Mayor.

Charles H. Collins
Commr

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending March 7, 1896.

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$43,295.34.
2nd. Collections for sewer permits, \$428.83.
3rd. Collections for vault permits, \$790.49.
4th. Collections for restoration of pavements, \$1,228.50.
5th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$13.50.
6th. Collections for permits for temporary sheds over side-walks, \$30.00.

7th. Average daily consumption of water, 220,000,000 gallons. A heavy freshet at the beginning of the week, with a rainfall of four inches, filled all the old storage reservoirs, and half filled the two new ones which have recently been made ready for the reception of water. At the same time from 3,500,000,000 to 5,000,000,000 gallons of water, which could not be impounded, has daily run over the Croton dam.

8th. Bills (amounting to \$649,637.45) for expense incurred by this Department in repaving between and about rail-tracks, were transmitted to the Corporation Counsel for collection from the railroad companies.

9th. Changes in the working force: One rodman and two male cleaners appointed and one horse and cart hired; one foreman, one rammer, one female cleaner and six laborers reinstated; one laborer removed; salary of one clerk increased from \$1,750 to \$2,000 per annum, his term of probation having expired -

Charles H. D. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending March 14, 1896.

- 1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$40,285.76
- 2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$1,104.46.
- 3rd. Collections for permits for sewer-connections, \$276.80
- 4th. Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$1,255.75.
- 5th. Collections for permits for protective sheds over side-walks, \$10.00.
- 6th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$17.00.
- 7th. Average daily consumption of water, 213,000,000 gallons.
- 8th. Contracts let and awarded to the lowest bidders--estimated cost: Two contracts for stop-cocks, hydrants, etc., under two different appropriations, \$28,700; one contract for tapping cocks, boxes, etc., \$3,356.20; one contract for wooden plugs, hydrant guards, bolts, etc., \$3,818.50; three contracts for water-mains, \$83,859.40; one contract for coal for high-service works, \$39,830; one contract for coal for public buildings and offices, \$21,691.20; one contract for fire wood for public offices, \$4,250; one contract for ice for public offices, \$1,918; one contract for Boulevard lamps, \$2,604.
- 9th. All the bids for a contract for furnishing tools and materials for the street repair gangs were rejected in the interest of the public, and new bids are advertised for.
- 10th. The Dry Dock, East Broadway and Battery Railroad Company has been notified that a permit for reconstructing the rail-tracks on Clinton Street will be issued only on condition that the pattern of rail recently approved by the Mayor, the Commissioner of Public Works, and the Department Engineers be used.
- 11th. The Commissioner has approved and established a change or modification of the grade of 113th Street, between Amsterdam and Morning-side Avenues, on the application of the Trustees of Columbia College, and after public advertisement.

Charles H. T. Collins
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... *March 23,*..... *1896.*

- 1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$77,730.23.
- 2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$2,586.27.
- 3rd. Collections for sewer permits, \$176.00.
- 4th. Collections for restoration of pavements over street openings, \$1,261.75.
- 5th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$10.50.
- 6th. Collections for permits for protective sheds over sidewalks, \$10.
- 7th. Contracts awarded to the lowest bidders: For paving cement for street repairs (estimated cost), \$12,000; for masons' materials for sewer repairs, \$1,868.05; for cast iron manhole-heads, covers, hoods and grates for sewers and sewer-basins, \$2,606.50.
- 8th. Average daily consumption of water, 205,000,000 gallons.
- 9th. Rain-storm and melting snow have caused another freshet in the watersheds which will produce temporary discoloration of the water and the peculiar taste which pertains to dissolved snow.
- 10th. Changes in the working force: One assistant foreman, four caulkers, one paver, one rammer and fourteen laborers appointed; one bath attendant and one laborer discharged; and three carts hired.
- 11th. All bids for furnishing 2,500 cubic yards of washed gravel were rejected in the interests of the City.

Charles H. T. Collis
Commr of Pub Works

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending March 28th, 1896.

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$33,276.69.

2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$2,704.56.

3rd. Collections for sewer permits, \$236.

4th. Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$2,623.

5th. Collections for permits for temporary sheds over sidewalks, \$35.

6th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$9.75

7th. Average daily consumption of water, 200,000,000 gallons.

8th. The Commissioner has appointed a Board, consisting of the Engineer in Charge of Street Openings, the Chief Engineer of the Croton Aqueduct, the Water Purveyor, the Engineer in Charge of Sewers, and the Consulting Engineer, to examine into, and report upon, all applications and projects for changes of street grades.

9th. Bids are invited by advertisement in the CITY RECORD for the license to sprinkle the public streets in the 23rd and 24th Wards for the season of 1896.

10th. Changes in the working force: One steam engineer appointed, one carpenter discharged, and one assistant foreman resigned.

Charles H. D. Collis
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending April 4th, 1896

- 1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$39,669.04.
- 2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$1,710.18.
- 3rd. Collections for sewer permits, \$452.60.
- 4th. Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$1,291.
- 5th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$6.
- 6th. Collections for temporary sheds over sidewalks, \$10.
- 7th. Contracts awarded to the lowest bidders: For granite block pavements on 91st Street, from Avenue A to the East River; 95th and 96th Streets, from 1st Avenue to the East River; 97th Street, from Park to 5th Avenue; 168th Street, from Amsterdam Avenue to Kingsbridge Road; Jumel Terrace, from 160th to 162nd Street--For asphalt pavements on 100th Street, from Madison to Park Avenue; Convent Avenue, from 145th to 146th Street; 162nd Street, from Amsterdam to Edgecombe Avenue; 98th Street, from Lexington to 3rd Avenue; Manhattan Avenue, from 106th to 110th Street.
- 8th. Changes in the working force--Resignations: The Deputy Commissioner and one clerk of the first grade; new appointments: One messenger and one steam engineer; reappointments: Two assistant foremen, four pavers, two rammers, ten laborers--four horses and carts rehired.
- 9th. Average daily consumption of water, 198,000,000 gallons.

Charles S. T. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending April 11, 1896

1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$31,147.50.

2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$1,081.99.

3rd. Collections for sewer permits, \$667.84.

4th. Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$15.

5th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$20.50.

6th. Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$1,281.25.

7th. Contracts awarded to the lowest bidders: For furnishing 2,500 cubic yards washed gravel; for furnishing 2,500 cubic yards gravel and 2,500 cubic yards gravel screenings; for furnishing 1,500 cubic yards broken stone and 1,000 cubic yards screenings; for sewer in 158th Street, between Boulevard Lafayette and 11th Avenue, etc; for sewer in 54th Street, between 11th and 12th Avenues, etc; for sewer in 81st Street, between Columbus Avenue and Central Park West.

8th. Average daily consumption of water, 195,000,000 gallons.

9th. All the storage reservoirs in the Croton watershed are now filled to high water mark, containing 36,000,000,000 gallons of water, which is 12,000,000,000 gallons more than at this time last year. A surplus flow of 450,000,000 gallons per day is now running over the Croton Dam.

10th. Changes in the working force--Appointed: Deputy Commissioner, messenger, 1st grade clerk, foreman and varnisher; Reappointed: Patrolman, rammer, 20 laborers, 12 teams and four horses and carts hired; Removed: Inspector of incumbrances, and bath attendant; Increased: Clerk, from \$1,000 to \$1,200.

11th. A license to sprinkle the streets in the 23rd and 24th Wards for the season of 1896 was awarded to the highest bidder at \$625.

Charles H. T. Collins
Commr

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending April 18, 1896

- 1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$41,200.55.
- 2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$1,524.57.
- 3rd. Collections for sewer permits, \$726.04.
- 4th. Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$1,347.60
- 5th. Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$25.
- 6th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$22.
- 7th. Average daily consumption of water, 195,000,000 gallons.
- 8th. The following Bureaus and offices have removed to their new quarters in the American Tract Society Building, 150 Nassau Street: The Bureau of Water Register, Bureau of Lamps and Gas, Bureau of Streets and Roads, Bureau of Incumbrances, Bureau of Chief Engineer of the Croton Aqueduct, office of Engineer in Charge of Sewers, office of Consulting Engineer, office of General Inspector.
- 9th. Changes in the working force: Engineman, painter and five laborers appointed; eight teams and three carts hired; six female cleaners discharged.

Charles H. T. Collins
Comm

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE. .

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending April 25, 1896

- 1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$38,857.04.
- 2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$251.03.
- 3rd. Collections for sewer permits, \$868.24.
- 4th. Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$2,990.50.
- 5th. Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$25.
- 6th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$34.50.
- 7th. Average daily consumption of water, 195,000,000 gallons.
- 8th. All the bureaus and offices of the Department are now located in the American Tract Society Building, 150 Nassau Street.

Charles H. T. Collins

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending May 2, 1896.

- 1st. Collections by the Water Register, \$52,675.55.
- 2nd. Collections for vault permits, \$6,289.45.
- 3rd. Collections for sewer permits, \$892.80.
- 4th. Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$2,720.75.
- 5th. Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$7.
- 6th. Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$35.
- 7th. A contract for repairing and painting the free floating baths has been awarded to the lowest bidder at \$7,343.
- 8th. Average daily consumption of water, 190,000,000 gallons.
- 9th. Changes in the working force: One foreman, assistant foreman two pavers and six rammers appointed; nine horses and carts hired; two laborers removed.

Charles H. D. Collins
Comm

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... *May 9* , *1896*.

The Commissioner of Public Works has established additional rules requiring the Street Sprinkling Association to report to him on the 25th of each month during the sprinkling season the streets and avenues sprinkled; the days on which they were sprinkled; the quantity of water used from the public supply in sprinkling; streets or avenues on which sprinkling has been discontinued; the Association to sprinkle any additional street, avenue, road or public place which the Commissioner shall certify to require sprinkling, and the Association to forfeit all rights, privileges and license on failure to comply with such certificates.

Messrs John D. and Thomas E. Crimmins have been granted permission to build a public sewer at their own expense in 144th Street, between Lenox and 7th Avenues.

The Counsel to the Corporation has approved the forms of contracts for a vault and a coal conveyor at the Highbridge Pumping Station, and for sewers in 144th Street, between Riverside Drive and Amsterdam Avenue; in Gold Street, between John and Fulton Streets; in 183rd Street, between Kingsbridge Road and 11th Avenue; in 96th Street, between 8th and Amsterdam Avenues; and repairs to sewer foot of Vestry Street. These contracts are now advertised for public letting on the 20th inst.

The Counsel to the Corporation has been requested to advise the Department as to the power to compel the removal of the unused rail-tracks on 28th and 29th Streets, the Company having paid no attention to repeated notices to repair the pavement in and about the tracks.

Collections by the Water Register, \$96,376.46.

Collections for vault permits, \$6,175.37.

Collections for sewer permits, \$478.19.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,363.25.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$20.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$8.

The continued dry weather has reduced the natural flow of the Croton river so that on Saturday, the 9th inst., the flow of surplus water over the Croton Dam ceased. No draughts have yet been made on stored water.

Average daily consumption of water, 190,000,000.

The Counsel to the Corporation has approved the specifications for a new style of street lamp, to be placed at the corners of thoroughfares in the City, ~~principally Broadway.~~ *as illuminated sign posts.*

Charles F. Collins
Carr

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending May 16th, 1896.

On Thursday, the 14th inst., one of the four pumping engines at the new high service pumping station on the west bank of the Harlem river at Washington Bridge was started. This new influx of water changes the circulation in the distributing mains and stirs up sediment which will for a few days discolor the water, without, however, affecting its sanitary qualities. This is the beginning of the much needed addition to the high service water supply.

The average daily consumption of water was 204,000,000^{gallons}, an increase of 15,000,000 gallons over the preceding week, due to continued dry and warm weather.

The following asphalt paving contracts, having been approved as to form by the Counsel to the Corporation, are advertised for public letting on the 20th inst: First Avenue, from 20th to 109th Street; the Boulevard, east side, from 92nd to 106th Street; 44th Street, from 6th to 11th Avenue; and 46th Street, from 6th to 8th Avenue.

Collections by the Water Register, \$95,179.01.

Collections for vault permits, \$4,374.17

Collections for sewer permits, \$312.00.

Collections for restoration of pavements, \$766.25.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$10.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$25.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst., the day of the funeral of the late Deputy Comptroller Richard A. Storrs, the offices of the Department were closed, except for the transaction of urgent public business.

Changes in the working force: Appointments--Two steam engineers, four engineer-inspectors of paving, one varnisher; one horse and cart and one team and truck hired; Removals--Two steam engineers, one varnisher, four firemen and one laborer.

Charles A. D. Collis
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE. .

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... May 23,..... 1896.

On Monday night one of the pumping engines at the West 98th Street High Service Station, of 10,000,000 gallons daily capacity, became incapacitated. The necessary repairs will be completed by Wednesday next. Fortunately, the new engine started ~~started~~ at the new station at Washington Bridge on Thursday, the 14th inst., more than supplies the deficiency thus caused. The pressures in the high service districts have been increased five pounds per square inch, which is equal to a rise of five feet in the delivery of the water. The average daily consumption of water in the City has been 205,000,000 gallons.

Under the Act approved May 14th by the Governor (Chapter 669, Laws of 1896) authorizing the issue of \$1,000,000 bonds for the laying of additional water-mains to increase the distribution of water, the Department has submitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment plans and specifications for two lines of 48-inch mains to be laid in 5th Avenue, from 81st to 4th Street, with ~~the~~ appurtenances and connections with the present system, at an estimated cost of \$580,000, and has asked the issue of bonds to that amount. The object is, and the effect will be, to largely increase the supply and elevation of delivery of water in the lower and commercial part of the City. Incidentally they will also increase and equalize the delivery in the central part of Manhattan Island.

The following are the lowest regular bids received for the respective contracts at the public letting held on the 20th inst: For vaults, etc., at New High Service Station, \$9,977; for a coal conveyor at New High Service Station, \$27,948; for sewer in 114th Street, between Riverside Drive and Amsterdam Avenue, \$18,240; for alterations and improvement to sewer in Gold Street, between John and Fulton Streets, \$1,870; for sewer in 183rd Street, between Kingsbridge Road and 11th Avenue, etc., \$5,912.50; for alteration and improvement to sewer in 96th Street, between Amsterdam Avenue and Central Park West, \$9,840.

Changes in the working force--Appointed: One engineer-inspector of paving, one foreman, one assistant foreman, two firemen, one calker, 17 laborers, six teams hired. Removed: Two carpenters and one cleaner. Resigned: One engineer-inspector of paving.

Collections by the Water Register, \$92,671.54.

Collections for vault permits, \$6,146.58.

Collections for sewer permits, \$585.12.

Collections for restoration of pavements over street openings, \$4,350.50

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$40.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$31.50.

Charles H. T. Collis
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... *May 30,*..... *1896.*

At the public letting on May 27th bids were received for 21,000 square yards of asphalt repaving on the present stone block pavement, with fifteen years' guarantee of maintenance, on 44th Street, between 6th and 11th Avenues; and 46th Street, between 6th and 8th Avenues, the lowest bid being \$2.93 per square yard; and for 15,800 square yards asphalt repaving on the present Telford foundation on the east driveway of the Grand Boulevard, from 92nd to 106th Street, at \$2.98. These are the lowest prices ever bid for asphalt pavements in this City on the same conditions and specifications. Last year the prices ranged upwards of three dollars, and were then lower than in any preceding year. The contracts are awaiting the Comptroller's approval of the sureties.

The following contracts for asphalt pavements are advertised for public letting on June 9th: Clinton Place, from 6th Avenue to Macdougall Street; Macdougall Street, from Clinton to Waverly Place; 15th Street, from Union Square to Waverly Place; 49th Street, from Madison to Park Avenue; Madison Avenue, from 125th Street to the Harlem River; 24th Street, from 5th to 10th Avenue; 25th Street, from 8th to 10th Avenue; 84th Street, from Central Park West to Columbus Avenue; 22nd Street, from 10th to 11th Avenue; 24th Street, from 10th Avenue to the Hudson River; 28th Street, at the east River; 105th Street, from the Boulevard to Riverside Drive; 112th Street, from Lenox to 7th Avenue; 120th Street, from Madison to Morningside Avenue; 129th Street, from 7th to 8th Avenue; 47th Street, from 8th to 11th Avenue; also for granite pavement on 107th Street, from Columbus to Amsterdam Avenue, and 146th Street, from the Boulevard to the Hudson River Railroad; also for 1,000 ordinary street lamps and 150 ornamental lamps and for repairs to the outlet sewer at the foot of Vestry Street.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 205,000,000 gallons.

The Commissioner has submitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for approval the plans, form of contract and specifications

for two lines of large water-mains on 5th Avenue, from 81st to 4th Street, and his requisition for the issue of \$580,000 bonds under chapter 559, Laws of 1896; also for a tunnel-passageway under the old Croton Aqueduct on the line of Burnside Avenue, and requisition for an appropriation of \$85,000 under chapter 719, Laws of 1896.

Collections by the Water Register, \$86,776.73.

Collections for vault permits, \$236.18.

Collections for sewer permits, \$969.29.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$2,527.75.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$10.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$10.25.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Two foremen, three laborers, five horses and carts and one team hired; Removed--One assistant foreman and five laborers; Resigned--One leveller.

Charles H. T. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending June 6th, 1896.

Contracts, based on bids received and awards made by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, for burglar and fire-proof safes and file cases for offices in the Criminal Court Building, have been executed.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment have been requested to appropriate \$5,000, by issue of bonds, for expenses of preliminary surveys, borings, etc., for a bridge and approaches at Spuyten Duyvil Creek on the line of Kingsbridge Road, under Chapter 399, Laws of 1896.

The Columbia Bank has been notified to vacate that part of its vaults at 5th Avenue and 42nd Street which extends 15 feet under the carriageway of 5th Avenue, as the space will be required for the large water-mains and new sewer about to be placed in the avenue.

A second pumping engine of 10,000,000 gallons daily capacity has been put in operation at the new high service works at Washington Bridge, and the first engine will now be tested as to its capacity at different pressures and speed.

The average daily consumption of water has been 215,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$109,116.86.

Collections for vault permits, \$1,560.10.

Collections for sewer permits, \$402.48.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$930.75.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$30.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$26.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Two junior clerks, one painter, one pipe fitter and four laborers; one horse and cart hired.

Charles A. T. Collins
Comr

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending June 13th, 1896.

At a public letting held on the 9th inst. bids were received for 15 contracts for new asphalt pavements, aggregating 62,841 square yards. The lowest bids averaged: For asphalt on present stone block pavement, \$2.69 per square yard; for asphalt with concrete foundation on new streets, with five years' guarantee, \$2.66 per square yard; for asphalt on present stone block pavement, within land grants, payable by assessments, five years' guarantee, \$1.99. There is an average reduction of 25 cents per square yard on the lowest bids of May 27th, over 40 cents on the lowest bids in 1895, and from \$1.25 to \$1.50 on the lowest bids for 1890 to 1894.

The average daily consumption of water was 220,000,000^{gallons}. At this time last year it was 190,000,000 gallons. More than one-half the supply for the past week had to be drawn from storage reservoirs, with the usual effect in summer of raising the temperature of the water, as delivered in the City, by 60° F., and giving it a musty smell and taste, but in nowise affecting its sanitary qualities.

Collections by the Water Register, \$105,712.43.

Collections for vault permits, \$2,910.18.

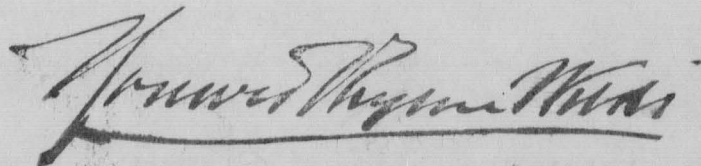
Collections for sewer permits, \$619.45.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$1,220.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$70.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$20.50.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Engineer-inspector of paving, janitor, chainman, mason and 24 laborers; two teams hired.



Deputy & Acting Commissioner of Public Works.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending June 20, 1896.

On the 15th inst. a contract awarded by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, for additional work and alterations in the Criminal Court Building, was executed, including mason work, carpenter work, iron and steel work, plumbing, gas fitting, heating and ventilating work, amounting to \$15,369.

Two of the 15 free floating baths have been placed in their summer berths, at Market Street, East River and 124th Street, North River, respectively. All the baths will be in their berths by the close of this week, June 27th.

The peculiar taste and smell of the water, caused by the heavy drafts on stored water during the recent dry and warm weather, are gradually disappearing in consequence of copious rainfall, and the larger volume of natural flow in the Croton River. The average daily consumption of water for the week was 225,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$103,504.73.

Collections for vault permits, \$2,058.99.

Collections for sewer permits, \$370.84.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$1,007.15.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$35.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$19.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--34 male bath attendants, 32 female bath attendants, and 23 laborers; two horses and carts and one team hired.

Charles H. D. Collins
Comm.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... June 27,..... 1896.....

The large reduction in the prices bid this year for asphalt pavements, as compared with those of last year and preceding years, has enabled the Department to submit and recommend to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for asphalt repavement an additional list of 36 streets, with an aggregate area of 203,640 square yards and length of 11-1/2 miles.

The following are the lowest bids received for the respective contracts at the public letting on the 22nd inst: For water-mains in Bailey Briggs, Undercliff, Forest, Franklin and other avenues and streets, \$10,540; for water-main from 120th Street and Pleasant Avenue to and under the Harlem River to and across Randall's Island, \$9,619; for sewer in Water Street, between Wall Street and Gouverneur Lane, \$1,732.

Six free floating baths were placed in their respective berths for the bathing season at the Battery, at 20th and 50th Streets, North River; and at 51st, 91st and 139th Streets, East River, making eight baths now at their summer stations. The remaining seven baths will be placed in their summer berths during the present week.

Collections by the Water Register, \$87,597.

Collections for vault permits, \$519.70.

Collections for sewer permits, \$1,019.32.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$3,149.25.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$5.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$22.50.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Engineer-inspector of paving, foreman, watchman, two pavers, six male bath attendants, two female bath attendants, fifteen laborers; one team and two horses and carts hired. Resigned--Two laborers.

Charles H. T. Collins
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... July 4,..... 189 6.

The daily consumption of water for the week was 227,000,000 gallons, an increase of 2,000,000 over the preceding week.

Collections by the Water Register, \$93,135.91.

Collections for vault permits, \$4,375.71.

Collections for sewer permits, \$533.48.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$2,065.71.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$25.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$28.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Foreman, assistant foreman, varnisher, two engineer-inspectors, five male bath attendants, four junior clerks, two rammers. Removed--One carpenter and six teams. Resigned--One assistant engineer.

Contracts are advertised for public letting as follows:

On July 21st:

For two lines of large water-mains in 5th Avenue, from 80th to 4th Street.

On July 28th:

For paving with asphalt Fifth Avenue, from 9th to 59th Street.

On July 15th:

For asphalt pavement on 11th Avenue, from 20th to 27th Street; 21st Street, from 11th to 13th Avenue; 23rd Street, from 10th Avenue to Hudson River; 25th Street, from 10th to 13th Avenue; 109th Street, from Central Park to Riverside Drive; 111th Street, from 5th to Lenox Avenue and 7th to Manhattan Avenue--For granite pavement on 158th Street, from Boulevard Lafayette to Hudson River Railroad--For sewers in 135th and 137th Streets, between Convent and St. Nicholas Avenues; in 108th Street, between Manhattan and Columbus Avenues; in 145th Street, between Edgecombe and St. Nicholas Avenues; in 168th Street, between Audubon Avenue and Kingsbridge Road; in Cedar Street at Greenwich Street; in Morris

Street, between Broadway and Greenwich Street; in Broadway, between Morris Street and Exchange Place--For improvement of grounds of New High Service Works.

On July 8th:

For regulating and grading 128th Street, from Convent to Amsterdam Avenue; 139th Street, from 5th to 7th Avenue; 154th Street, from Bradhurst Avenue to Kingsbridge Road; 178th Street and 182nd Street, from Amsterdam Avenue to Kingsbridge Road--For sewers in Lexington Avenue, between 97th and 98th Streets; in Morris Street, between West and Washington Streets; in 4th Avenue, between 31st and 32nd Streets--For repairs to outlet sewer foot of Vestry Street.

Charles H. T. Collis
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending July 11th, 1896.

The following contracts for asphalt pavements are advertised for public letting on the 17th inst: Marketfield Street, from Broad to New Street, etc; 49th Street, from 6th to 7th Avenue; 52nd Street, from Park to 5th Avenue; 54th Street, from 6th to 7th Avenue; 77th and 78th Streets, from Avenue A to Third Avenue; 82nd Street, from Central Park West to Columbus Avenue; 100th Street, from Central Park West to Amsterdam Avenue; 92nd Street, from Avenue A to 1st Avenue; 106th Street, at 8th, 9th and 10th Avenues; 115th Street, from Avenue A to Lexington Avenue; 120th Street, from 5th Avenue to East River; 85th Street, from Park to Madison Avenue.

On the 23rd inst: Granite block pavement on 1st Avenue, 28th to 33rd Street, 49th to 51st Street, 54th to 56th Street, 60th to 61st Street, 72nd to 74th Street, 83rd to 84th Street, 85th to 86th Street, and 91st to 92nd Street.

Collections by the Water Register, \$145,877.35.

Collections for vault permits, 2,272.85.

Collections for sewer permits, 380.44.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$1,035.25.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$25.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$28.50.

Daily consumption of water for the week, 225,000,000 gallons.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Carpenter, male bath attendant, assistant foreman, 12 pavers, five rammers, 20 laborers and nine horses and carts hired. Removed--Inspector of masonry and inspector of construction.

Charles A. D. Collis
Commr

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending July 18th, 1896.

The following contracts were let, and the lowest bids transmitted to the Comptroller for approval of the sureties:

On July 15th--For asphalt pavements on 11th Avenue, between 20th and 27th Streets; on 21st Street, between 10th and 13th Avenues; on 22nd Street, between 11th and 13th Avenues; on 25th Street, between 10th and 13th Avenues; on 109th Street, between Central Park West and Riverside Drive; on 111th Street, between 5th and Lenox Avenues and between 7th and Manhattan Avenues; for sewers in 135th and 137th Streets, between Convent Avenue and St. Nicholas Terrace; in 108th Street, between Manhattan and Columbus Avenues; in 145th Street, between Edgecombe and St. Nicholas Avenues; in Audubon Avenue, between 166th and 168th Streets, etc; in Cedar Street at Greenwich Street; in Broadway, between Morris Street and Exchange Alley: for improvement of the grounds at the new High Service Works.

At the letting on July 14th all the bids for a sewer in 5th Avenue, between Waverly Place and 59th Street, were rejected for the best interests of the City, and the work is advertised for reletting.

Contracts are advertised for public letting on July 28th for strips of asphalt on Hudson Street, from Chambers to Bank Street; on 8th Avenue, from Hudson Street to 13th Street, and on Madison Avenue, from 35th to 36th Street and from 66th to 72nd Street.

The daily consumption of water for the week was 233,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$168,831.76.

Collections for vault permits, \$8,379.36.

Collections for sewer permits, \$507.72

Collections for restoration of pavements over street openings, \$1,397.90.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$20.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$27.50.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Foreman of pavers, two male cleaners and 13 laborers; four horses and carts hired. Removed: Two skilled laborers.

A working party has been organized to put the small parks on the Boulevard in good shape, and as much of the work as can be done with my limited means will be finished this year.

Charles D. Collins
Comm.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... July 25, 1896.

The lowest bids received at public lettings on the 15th and 17th inst. for the following contracts have been transmitted to the Comptroller for approval of the sureties thereon: For asphalt pavements on Marketfield Street, between Broad and New Streets, etc; on 49th Street, from 4th to 5th Avenue; on 52nd Street, from 4th to 5th Avenue; on 77th and 78th streets, from Avenue A to 3rd Avenue; 92nd Street, from Avenue A to 1st Avenue; 100th Street, from Central Park West to Amsterdam Avenue; 106th Street, at 8th, 9th and 10th Avenues; 116th Street, from Avenue A to Lexington Avenue; 120th Street, from 5th Avenue to East River; 85th Street, from Park to Madison Avenue; 11th Avenue, from 20th to 27th Street; 21st Street, from 10th to 13th Avenue; 22nd Street, from 11th to 13th Avenue; 25th Street, from 10th to 13th Avenue; 109th Street, from Central Park West to Riverside Drive; 111th Street, from 5th to Lenox Avenue; 111th Street, from 7th to Manhattan Avenue.--For sewers in 135th and 137th Streets, between Convent Avenue and St. Nicholas Terrace; in 108th Street, between Manhattan and Columbus Avenues; in 145th Street, between Edgecombe and St. Nicholas Avenues; in Audubon Avenue, between 166th and 169th Streets; in Cedar Street, at Greenwich Street; in Morris Street, between Broadway and Greenwich Street.--For improvement of grounds at new High Service Works.

The average daily consumption of water during the week was 226,000,000 gallons.

On the 23rd inst. the men employed in laying gas-mains in 8th Avenue for the Standard Gas Light Company broke the top of the depressed masonry aqueduct at 8th Avenue and 92nd Street by a rock blast, badly damaging the structure. The Chief Engineer is making arrangements to empty the aqueduct and make the required repairs, which will necessitate the lowering of the water level in the Central Park reservoirs by eight feet, and will cause a corresponding lowering of the elevation at which water can be delivered in houses throughout the City.

Collections by the Water Register, \$226,156.07.

Collections for sewer permits, \$265.60.

Collections for vault permits, \$3,436.69.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$7,775.50.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$35.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$28.75.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Steam engineer, two foremen, axeman, two female cleaners, timekeeper, two mowers, eleven laborers; Removed--Assistant foreman.

Charles H. T. Collins
Commr Pub Wks.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending August 1, 1896.

The break in the masonry aqueduct at 92nd Street and Central Park West, which was caused by a blast in laying a gas-main for the East River Gas Company, and was reported in the synopsis for the week ending July 25th, has been repaired.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 230,000,000 gallons.

The lowest bids received at public letting on July 28th for the following contracts, have been transmitted to the Comptroller for approval of the sureties thereon: Paving with asphalt 126th Street, from 2nd to Park Avenue, awarded to Warren-Scharf Asphalt Paving Co. at \$2.53 per square yard; laying asphalt strips on Hudson Street, from Chambers to Bank Street, awarded to California Asphalt Co. at \$2.15 per square yard; and on Madison Avenue, from 33rd to 36th Street, etc., awarded to Sicilian Asphalt Paving Co. at \$2.16 per square yard.

Collections by the Water Register, \$428,200.

Collections for vault permits, \$237.50.

Collections for sewer permits, \$362.20.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$2,199.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$25.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$11.

Charles H. T. Collins
Commr

*This report has been overlooked -
It ought to have been sent you on
Monday last -*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending August 8, 1896.

During the extreme heat of the past week the consumption of water rose to 236,000,000 gallons per day, which is nearly double the consumption of seven years ago. It has had the effect of reducing the pressure in the houses which are supplied from the high service pumping stations.

In response to numerous requests from citizens and from the Street Cleaning Department, an order has been issued to the Street Sprinkling Association to do no sprinkling on asphalt pavements after 10 A. M. on each day.

In consequence of the increased frequency of applications for permits to construct vaults under sidewalks and streets, which demonstrates the great value of this privilege, I have, in pursuance of the power given me by ordinance of the Common Council, increased the charge for vaults within the line of the curb-stone only, from 75 cents to \$2 per superficial square foot.

On Saturday bids were opened for an asphalt pavement, with concrete foundation, on Fifth Avenue, from 9th to 59th Street. Five bids were received, the lowest (by the Calafornia Asphalt Co.) being \$3.85 per square yard for pavement, and \$3 per cubic yard for concrete, amounting in the aggregate to \$318,100; and the highest (by the Fruin-Bambrick Construction Co) \$3.99 per square yard for pavement and \$4.75 per cubic yard for concrete, amounting in the aggregate to \$360,210. The prices bid were higher than were expected by me, but, upon investigation, I find that they were based upon the estimate of increasing traffic during the period of fifteen years for which the contractor guarantees the pavement. There are already over 10,000 vehicles per day passing a given point on this thoroughfare.

Collections by the Water Register, \$59,211.15.

Collections for vault permits, \$1,988.94.

Collections for sewer permits, \$422.39.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,228.25.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$15.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$21.50.

Charles H. B. Collins
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... August 15,..... 1896.

Several measures which come within the province of this Department have been put in operation during the week to afford some relief from the oppressive and dangerous heat.

On Monday I ordered that the daily tour of the men employed on the streets and highways, in the repair of pavements, roads, sewers and water-mains should begin at 6 a. m. and end at 11 a. m. With the advent of cool weather this order is now discontinued.

The public baths were ordered to be kept open to the people continuously day and night.

The streets in the tenement districts have been flushed nightly from the fire-hydrants, to remove soil and cool the atmosphere. Should it become necessary as a sanitary protection measure the Department is ready, at a moment's notice, to flush every paved street in the City with the pure and cool water from the reservoirs.

During the week the average daily consumption of water rose to 240,000,000 gallons, which is 4,000,000 gallons above the average for the preceding week. On the hottest day of the week, (Wednesday) 247,000,000 gallons of water were distributed and used.

The following sewer contracts are advertised for public letting on the 27th inst: In Church Street, between Duane and Thomas Streets; in Macdougall Street, between West Washington Place and Clinton Place; in 163rd Street, between Amsterdam Avenue and Kingsbridge Road; in Audubon Avenue, between 172nd and 175th Streets, etc; in 190th Street, between Amsterdam and 11th Avenues; alterations and improvements in 20th Street, between 9th and 11th Avenues, etc; and in 59th Street, between 11th Avenue and North River, etc.

The following are the lowest bids for the respective contracts at the letting of the 12th inst: For granite or syenite pavement, per square yard: On 13th Avenue, between 23rd and 27th Streets, \$1.34;

on 23rd Street, from 10th Avenue to Hudson River, \$2.57; on 158th Street, from Boulevard Lafayette to Hudson River Railroad, \$2.77.

For sheet asphalt pavement, per square yard, five years' guarantee:

First Avenue, between 32nd and 36th Streets, \$1.90; 100th Street, from 4th to 5th Avenue, \$2.45; 150th Street, from the Boulevard to Amsterdam Avenue, \$2.45.

For repairing and main'aining asphalt pavements where the period of guarantee by the contractors has expired--price per square yard per year: East 7th and East 15th Streets, 11-1/2 cents; West End Avenue and West 73rd Street, 8 cents; Pleasant Avenue, West 82nd, West 85th, West 87th and West 88th Streets, 7 cents; West 96th, West 103rd and West 106th Streets, 12 cents; West 117th, West 119th, West 120th, West 121st and West 122nd Streets, 6 cents; West 128th, West 133rd, West 134th and West 138th Streets, 6-1/2 cents.

The following bids for asphalt block pavement were rejected because the prices are too high as compared with sheet asphalt, and on account of insufficient ^{competition} appropriation: Park Avenue, from 97th to 101st Street, \$2.86 per square yard for pavement and \$4.20 per cubic yard for concrete; Hamilton Place, from the Boulevard to Amsterdam Avenue, \$2.43 per square yard for pavement and \$4.80 per cubic yard for concrete; 113th Street, from Morningside to Amsterdam Avenue, \$2.48 per square yard for pavement, and 4.80 per cubic yard for concrete; 114th Street, from Morningside to Amsterdam Avenue, \$2.48 per square yard for pavement and \$4.80 per cubic yard for concrete.

Collections by the Water Register, \$35,990.89.
Collections for vault permits, \$3,781.25.
Collections for sewer permits, \$369.54
Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$5.
Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$27.
Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$207.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Steam engineer, assistant foreman, and two bath attendants; Removed--Bath attendant; Resigned--Bath attendant; Died--Steam engineer and two laborers.

Charles H. D. Collins
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending.....August 22,.....1896.

Contracts are advertised for public letting on the 31st inst. for repairs to the building No 5 Duane Street, used as a store-house for property in the hands of the Public Administrator, and for alterations and repairs to Ludlow Street Jail.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 236,000,000 gallons, a decrease of 4,000,000 gallons from the preceding week, due to moderation in temperature and considerable rainfall.

Collections by the Water Register, \$52,636.52.

Collections for vault permits, \$4,230.45.

Collections for sewer permits, \$395.84.

Collections for restoration of pavements over street openings, \$3,305.50.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$5.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$53.

Changes in the working force: Appointed: Consulting Engineer, Temporary Inspector of Incumbrances, Flagger, Bath Attendant, Gardener and Rammer. Removed: Two laborers.

Charles H. T. Collis
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending August 29, 1896.

I have ordered the removal of all unused gas lamp-posts from 5th Avenue, and have requested the Postmaster of the City to remove all letter boxes from these lamp-posts, and have made a like request on the Fire Department for the removal of fire-alarm boxes. These boxes can be placed on the gas lamp-posts nearest 5th Avenue on intersecting streets, which are in actual use for street lighting. I have also requested the Fire Department to remove all the fire telegraph wires which are now attached to and strung from public lamp-posts, *on that Avenue.*

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 233,000,000 gallons, which is a decrease of 3,000,000 gallons per day from the consumption for the preceding week, and a total decrease of 7,000,000 gallons per day from the consumption for the week ending August 15th. This is entirely due to the lower temperature which has prevailed in the last two weeks.

Collections by the Water Register, \$49,219.91.

Collections for vault permits, \$194.42.

Collections for sewer permits, \$229.28.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$25.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$44.

Collections for restoring pavements over street openings, \$3,331.50

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Consulting engineer, four laborers; one horse and cart hired. Discharged--One horse and cart.

Charles H. D. Collins
Comm.

*Have erected 50 new street lamps on 51st to 56th Sts
experimentally - The pattern is not changed -
slight & inexpensive ornamentation added:*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending.....September 5, 1896.

At the letting on August 27th bids were received for seven sewer contracts, and the following bids were accepted, being the lowest for the respective contracts: Sewer in Church Street, between Duane and Thomas Streets, \$1,231.25; sewer in Macdougall Street, between West Washington Place and Waverly Place, \$2,955.10; alteration and improvement to sewer in 59th Street, between 11th Avenue and North River, \$12,201; sewer in 163rd Street, between Amsterdam and Edgecombe Avenues, etc., \$3,099; sewers in Audubon Avenue, between 172nd and 175th Streets, etc., \$10,199.50; sewer in 190th Street, between Amsterdam and Audubon Avenues, etc., \$7,792. In consequence of irregularity in two of the three bids which were received at that letting for the contract for alteration and improvement to sewers in 20th Street, between 9th and 11th Avenues, etc., all the bids were rejected in the public interest, and the contract is readvertised for reletting.

At the letting on August 31st, the following lowest bids were accepted: For repairs and alterations to Ludlow Street Jail, \$6,363; for repairs of building No 5 Duane Street, \$1,400.

The lowest bid received on the reletting of the contract for sewers in 5th Avenue, between Waverly Place and 50th Street, amounting to \$68,307, has been accepted.

The following contracts are now advertised for public letting on September 16th: Repairing and maintaining asphalt pavements in Madison Avenue, from 23rd to 32nd Street, and in 43rd Street, between 5th and 6th Avenues and between 7th and 8th Avenues; for asphalt pavement in 98th Street, between 4th and 5th Avenues, and in 148th and 149th Streets, between Convent and Amsterdam Avenues; for sewer in Mercer Street, between West 4th Street and Clinton Place, and for alterations and improvement to sewers in 20th Street, between 9th and 11th Avenues, (readvertised).

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 233,000,000

gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$26,227.15.

Collections for vault permits, \$143.

Collections for sewer permits, \$106.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,217.25.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Inspector of water supply to shipping; four laborers. Removed--Foreman. Resigned--Asst. Foreman and two laborers.

Charles H. J. Collis
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending September 15, 1896.

Work was commenced on the laying of water-mains on 5th Avenue, the first openings being made between 43rd and 46th Streets. Eighty-two sections of pipe, each 12 feet in length, have arrived.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 234,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$29,525.71.

Collections for vault permits, \$2,774.50.

Collections for sewer permits, \$403.33.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$914.25.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$5.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$15.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Two inspectors of laying croton pipes, one cleaner and two laborers; Removed--Messenger, assistant engineer, foreman and laborer; Resigned--Bath attendant.

Charles H. D. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending September 19, 1896.

The lowest formal bids received for the following works at a public letting at this office on the 16th inst. have been accepted and forwarded to the Comptroller for approval of the sureties: Repairing and maintaining the asphalt pavement on Liberty Street, from Broadway to 116 feet east, etc., for ten years at 13 cents per square yard per year, \$3,337.10; repairing and maintaining the asphalt pavement on Madison Avenue, from 23rd to 32nd Street, for ten years at 12 cents per square yard per year, \$13,326.85; paving with asphalt 43rd Street, from 5th to 6th Avenue, etc., and maintaining said pavement for 15 years, \$2.85 per square yard, \$13,310.00; paving with asphalt 98th Street, from 4th to 5th Avenue, and maintaining said pavement for five years, \$2.59 per square yard, \$7,546.00; paving with asphalt 148th Street, from Convent to Amsterdam Avenue, and maintaining said pavement for five years, \$2.90 per square yard, \$3,546.80; paving with asphalt 149th Street, from Convent to Amsterdam Avenue, and maintaining said pavement for five years, \$2.90 per square yard, \$3,610.60; sewers in Mercer Street, between West 4th Street and Clinton Place, \$4,425.30.

The work of laying the 48-inch water-main in 5th Avenue was begun. Twenty-four hour tests were made of the new pumping machinery at High Bridge, and proved entirely satisfactory.

Collections by the Water Register, \$30,054.80.

Collections for vault permits, \$2,239.49.

Collections for sewer permits, \$364.80.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,148.50.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$5.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$51.75.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Four laborers; Removed--Foreman and rammer; Promoted--Two assistant foremen to foremen, and one laborer to rammer.

Charles A. T. Collins

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending September 26, 1896.

The asphaltting of the intersections of 106th Street with Central Park West, Columbus Avenue and Amsterdam Avenue, has been completed, which makes the asphalt carriageway on West 106th Street continuous.

The asphalt pavement is now laid on 1st Avenue, from the south side of 20th Street to the north side of 28th Street, connecting with the asphalt on 20th, 21st and 26th Streets, and forming convenient approach for bicyclists to the East 23rd Street Ferry by either of these streets.

The daily consumption of water for the week was 236,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$44,568.14.

Collections for vault permits, \$2,065.06.

Collections for sewer permits, \$201.68.

Collections for temporary pavements over street openings, \$3,581.75.

Collections for temporary sheds over sidewalks, \$10.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$36.75.

Changes in the working force: One assistant foreman reinstated; five laborers appointed.

The sureties on the contract for sewer in 5th Avenue have been approved by the Comptroller, and the work will now be ordered to be begun without delay.

Charles A. T. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending October 3, 1896.

The following proposals, received at public letting on September 25th, being the lowest received for the respective contracts, have been transmitted to the Comptroller for his approval of the sureties thereon:

Clark and Co., for asphalt block pavement on Park Avenue, from 97th to 101st Street, \$3.12.

The Hastings Pavement Co., for asphalt block pavement on Hamilton Place, from the Boulevard to Amsterdam Avenue, \$2.90 per square yard; for asphalt block pavement on 113th Street, from Amsterdam Avenue to Morningside Avenue, \$2.88 per square yard; and for asphalt block pavement on 114th Street, from Amsterdam Avenue to Morningside Avenue, \$2.85 per square yard.

John A. Gregory, for laying water mains in Crotona, 11th and other avenues and streets, \$5,394.

The daily consumption of water for the week was 234,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$83,730.36.

Collections for vault permits, \$7,868.20.

Collections for sewer permits, \$286.12.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,290.25.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$15.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$31.75.

Changes in the working force: Two engineer-inspectors, one pipe fitter and four laborers appointed.

The work on the laying of water-mains and construction of main sewer on Fifth Avenue progresses satisfactorily, though hindered somewhat by the fact that there are no maps on file in this City indicating the location of the many pipes which underly the roadway of every street and avenue. This is an extraordinary condition of affairs, compelling me to grope in the dark and be ready at any moment to dispose of some ugly and unexpected obstacle to the work. Perhaps no other City in the world

is so lamentably deficient of reliable data upon this subject as New York.

I am correcting this as far as in my power.

Charles A. T. Collins
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending October 10th, 1896.

With a view to obtaining for use in this City the most improved *fire* hydrants, gate-valves and other supplies connected therewith, I am inviting, through advertisement in the CITY RECORD, manufacturers of these articles to send to this Department illustrations and descriptions thereof, in order that a selection therefrom may be placed on exhibition at the 24th Street Corporation Yard on November 10th, and there examined and reported upon by experienced judges to be appointed for that purpose.

The daily consumption of water during the week was 233,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$73,962.84.

Collections for vault permits, \$600.00.

Collections for sewer permits, \$362.32.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$2,128.17.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$26.00.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--Three female cleaners, male cleaner and two rammers. Removed--14 male bath attendants; 33 female bath attendants.

Charles H. D. Collins
Comm.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending October 17, 1896.

The Department has had two public lettings for the contract for storing the 15 free floating baths until the bathing season of 1897. At the first letting only one bid was received, which was rejected because the price bid, \$1.50 per day for each bath, was too high. At the second letting the lowest and second lowest bids were for storage places on the New Jersey shore which guaranteed no safety for the baths. A third bid is for \$1.18 per day for each bath for storage at the foot of 22nd Street, South Brooklyn, where the baths have been safely stored for many years. The price is considerably lower than the price paid in any year prior to 1895, and the offer is the most advantageous to the City which has yet been obtained. The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have, therefore, been requested to authorize the making of a lease on that proposal.

Collections by the Water Register, \$84,448.10.

Collections for vault permits, \$5,216.00.

Collections for sewer permits, \$402.00.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,339.50.

Collections for sidewalk sheds, \$20.00.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$13.25.

Changes in the Working Force: Appointed--1 patrolman, 2 female cleaners, 1 male cleaner, 1 stone cutter and 5 laborers. Removed--1 inspector of regulating and grading, 1 rammer and 1 laborer.

Charles A. D. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending October 24, 1896.

The operation of the pumping engines of the high service station at West 98th Street had to be suspended from the 20th to the 24th inst., in order to make connection with the new 48-inch main from the New Aqueduct. During that time the pressure in the high service supply was diminished by the height of one story. The regular pressure is now restored. The average daily consumption of water for the week was 230,000,000 gallons.

The following are the lowest bids received for asphalt paving contracts at public letting on the 19th inst: The Fruin-Bambrick Construction Company, for 44th Street, between 5th and 6th Avenues, \$2.85 per square yard; for 46th Street, between 1st and Park Avenues, \$2.95 per square yard. The Sicilian Asphalt Paving Company, for 54th Street, between 7th and 9th Avenues, \$3 per square yard. These bids have been transmitted to the Comptroller for his approval of the sureties thereon.

At the same letting the two bids received for the contract for regulating and grading Nagle Avenue, from Kingsbridge Road to 10th Avenue, were rejected in the interests of the City, and the contract is readvertised. (*bids being largely in excess of the estimate*)

Collections by the Water Register, \$75,438.51.

Collections for sewer permits, \$337.71.

Collections for restoring pavements over openings, \$3,290.75.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$10.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$6.50.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--1 Patrolman, 1 gardener, 1 foreman, 2 male cleaners, 1 female cleaner and two laborers. Removed--1 Assistant foreman, 3 bath attendants and 1 cleaner.

Charles H. D. Collis
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... October 31,..... *1896*.....

The pressure of water on Manhattan Island, north of 169th Street, has been increased by supplying that section from the high service tower. This improvement in the water-service is one of the results of the completion and operation of the new high-service pumping station at Washington Bridge.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 232,000,000 gallons.

At a public letting on the 27th inst. bids were received and opened for the contracts for a dam and reservoir on the Byram river, and for an archway under the old Croton Aqueduct at Burnside Avenue. In the interests of the City all the bids for the reservoir contract were rejected because the requests for the specifications for the work by prospective bidders greatly exceeded the supply, thus limiting competition. An additional reason for rejecting all bids was that the specifications were defective in omitting the item of timber. This omission misled some of the bidders and three of the seven bids were informal. The work will be readvertised and amended specifications will be printed in sufficient number to fully supply the demand therefor and insure free and unlimited competition for the contract. The lowest bid for the archway, \$51,865, made by Mr A. C. Gildersleeve, has been transmitted to the Comptroller for his approval of the sureties thereon.

Collections by the Water Register, \$90,766.40.

Collections for vault permits, \$1,430.

Collections for sewer permits, \$532.40.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$2,245.50.

Collections for permits for sheds over sidewalks, \$15.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$15.75.

The Barber Asphalt Coy is now at work on 5th Avenue.

Charles H. T. Collins
Comm.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending.....November 7,.....1896.....

The following bids have been transmitted to the Comptroller for his approval of the sureties, said bids being the lowest received for the respective contracts at public letting on the 2nd inst:

The California Asphalt Paving Co: For paving with asphalt 117th Street, from Lenox to St. Nicholas Avenue, \$2.65 per square yard; 30th Street, from 10th to 11th Avenue, not within land grants, \$2.92 per square yard; within land grants, \$2.14 per square yard.

The Sicilian Asphalt Paving Co: For paving with asphalt Convent Avenue, from 149th to 152nd Street, \$2.75 per square yard.

John Marion: For granite or syenite pavement foot of West 47th Street, \$2 per square yard; at intersection of Avenue A and 53rd Street, \$2 per square yard.

Robert C. Nicholson: For improvement to sewer in Wall Street, between Pearl and William Streets, \$4,181.

William J. Dempsey: For improvement to sewer in Pearl Street, between Burling Slip and Fulton Street, \$2,381.

Charles P. Macklin: For improvement to sewer in 47th Street, between 8th Avenue and Broadway, \$4,641.80.

P. McInerney: For sewer in 149th Street, between Hudson River and the Boulevard, \$3,126.

A. C. Chenowith: For sewer in Naegle Avenue, between Dyckman Street and Kingsbridge Road, \$4,802.55.

The Barber Asphalt Paving Co: For asphalt on the present pavement on Madison Avenue, from 125th Street to the Harlem River Bridge, with six courses of granite blocks along rail-tracks, \$3.83 per square yard.

I have rejected the bids received for the following improvements because only one bid was received for each work:

Paving with asphalt blocks 93rd Street, between West End Avenue and Riverside Drive; 98th Street, from the Boulevard to West End Avenue, and 99th Street, from Park to Madison Avenue.

The old Croton Aqueduct has been temporarily closed for the purpose

of making necessary changes in connection with the construction of the Jerome Park Reservoir. In the meantime the entire Croton water supply is received through the new Aqueduct.

The average daily consumption of water was 130,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$23,962.88.

Collections for vault permits, \$5,686.01.

Collections for sewer permits, \$244.80.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$939.50.

Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$7.25.

Changes in the working force: Appointed--2 Assistant foremen and 3 foremen. Removed, in making necessary reduction of force: 1 Bricklayer, 1 carpenter, 2 foremen, 4 masons, 1 painter, 5 teams, 3 horses and carts, and 15 laborers. Deceased: 1 Laborer.

Your attention is especially invited to the enclosed very gratifying letter from Engineer Stevenson Towle.

Charles H. D. Collins
Comr.

*Department of Public Works,
Water Purveyors Office,*

34 Chambers St. Room 1734.
150 NASSAU ST. ROOM 1734.

New York, Nov. 9th 1896.

Gen. Chas. H. T. Collis,

Commissioner of Public Works.

Dear Sir:-

The City is to be congratulated on the result of the suit of McLaughlin for extra work claimed to have been done on the Boulevard Lafayette. You will remember that the contractor in this case claimed to have placed 37,640 cubic yards of filling in a swamp. This claim was thought by the Department to be excessive, and the contractor refused to make any reduction, and it was disallowed.

The jury has allowed 16,000 cubic yards of filling, which is 21,640 cubic yards less than the amount claimed. The total verdict was \$10,729.69, and of this amount \$7,429.48 was admitted by this Department as being fairly due. The verdict of the jury was only \$3,300. in excess of this admission, so this verdict is a great victory for the City, because heretofore, in almost every instance, the contractor has been allowed his full claim on account of the difficulty and the imperfect methods used to determine the quantity of such sinkage. These claims have aggregated hundreds of thousands of dollars in past years, and most of which have been allowed.

The success is due to your suggestions as to the necessity of

*Department of Public Works,
Water Purveyors Office,*

31 Chambers St. Room 4.
150 NASSAU ST. Room 1734.

New York, _____ *189*

2

actually determining the amount that had been placed in the swamp, by the most improved methods, and especially by excavating directly through the embankment. This latter method was indisputable, and won us the day. In future the question of settlement cannot arise, as in the specifications that you have made, the contractor is now compelled to bid a lump sum for the amount of filling that may settle below the surface line shown on the plan. This method meets the approval of all fair-minded bidders, for the reason that the contractor is the best judge of the amount required, for he is the only one that has knowledge of the kind of material he will use in this filling, whether stone, earth or ashes; the quantity of material that will settle in the swamp will be in proportion to the weight of the material. It will take more stones on account of the extra weight, than earth, and more earth than ashes, which is very light. The new specification has met with the approval of the Counsel to the Corporation, and in future the contractor can make no extra claim for such work.

Yours respectfully,

Stearns Towle
Consulting Engineer.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending November 14, 1896

A new lease for two years ending May 1st, 1898, of the lands occupied for approaches to the temporary bridge over the Harlem River at Third Avenue, as authorized by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, has been executed and placed on record.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 228,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$41,856.46.

Collections for vault permits, \$9,319.00.

Collections for sewer permits, \$467.40.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,567.50.

Collections for permits for sidewalk-sheds, \$15.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$48.50.

Changes in the working force: Reinstated--1 horse and cart, 1 assistant foreman, 6 laborers, 1 paver. Removed--3 laborers.

The asphalt pavement has been laid on 5th Avenue, between 43rd and 45th Streets. Negotiations are pending with the Post Office Department to utilize the old lamp-posts in certain localities for letter-box posts. A sample may be seen at 78th Street and Madison Avenue.

Charles A. T. Collins
Com

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... November 21st, 1896.

Under the advice of the Counsel to the Corporation, a permit has been granted to the Third Avenue Railroad Company to lay a double rail-track on Kingsbridge Road, from Amsterdam Avenue to the Harlem Ship Canal, with a line of poles between the tracks for carrying electric wires.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 228,000,000 gallons.

Notices have been issued to the Department of Street Cleaning and the Police Department prohibiting the use of fire-hydrants from December 1st to March 1st, except by the Uniformed force of the Fire Department and the repair force of this Department.

Collections by the Water Register, \$46,647.18.

Collections for vault permits, \$3,642.48.

Collections for sewer permits, \$523.46.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$2,607.75.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$5.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$11.50.

Changes in the working force: 1 gardener, 1 male cleaner and 4 laborers appointed; 1 paver and 21 male bath attendants discharged; 1 janitor deceased.

Measures have been taken for the full enforcement of the charges for vaults in sidewalks, within areas and stoop-lines, provided by the City ordinances, which have hitherto been exempt from such charges under a misconception of the ordinances.

Charles A. D. Lewis
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending November 28, 1896

Plans, estimates and form of contract and specifications for additional water-mains to extend and enlarge the distribution of water through the City, as authorized by Chapter 669 of the Laws of 1896, have been submitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for approval, the estimated cost being \$420,000. This is the extension, to the south, of the work now being done on 5th Avenue.

A permit has been issued to the Postmaster of the City to change all unused gas lamp-posts to which letter boxes are attached by cutting them down to the proper height and slope for letter-box posts. This is to be done without cost to the City.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 228,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$35,152.91.

Collections for vault permits, \$2,347.03.

Collections for sewer permits, \$308.15.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,770.00.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$15.00.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$9.50.

Changes in the working force: 2 laborers appointed; 1 skilled laborer promoted to foreman and 1 rammer promoted to paver; 1 paver and 1 laborer resigned.

The work on 5th Avenue has not been materially interfered with by the storm. The rock excavations are still being made. The attention of the Park Commissioners should be called to the fact that next Spring I shall tear up 5th Avenue pavement from 59th Street to 82nd Street to lay two four-foot water-mains. This will afford them an opportunity of repaving with asphalt to 90th Street, where they have already laid an asphalt pavement northward, thus making a continuous smooth and noiseless pavement on 5th Avenue from the Washington arch to the Harlem River.

Charles A. T. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending December 5, 1896.

Several contractors for building sewers have applied for and received permission to continue masonry work after December 1st, when the temperature permits the proper performance of such work.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 230,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$50,505.45.

Collections for vault permits, \$127.50.

Collections for sewer permits, \$209.20.


Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,046.00.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$30.00.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$2.50.

Changes in the working force: 5 teams, 18 laborers and 1 rockman discharged; 1 skilled laborer promoted to foreman, and 1 rammer promoted to paver.

At 3 p. m. yesterday the concussion of a blast in excavating rock to lay a 48-inch water-main on the east side of 5th Avenue, between 49th and 50th Streets, broke the old 36-inch main laid in that avenue in 1840 to convey water from the old reservoir in Central Park to the 42nd Street reservoir. The water was shut off as soon as practicable and will be kept shut off until the blasting of rock is completed, when the main will be repaired and again put in service.



Deputy and Acting Commissioner of Public Works.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending December 12, 1896

At a public letting on Tuesday, the 8th inst., P. F. Curran was the lowest bidder for the contract for building a reservoir, dam, etc., at Byram Pond, for \$57,555, and John McQuade for building keeper's house at Muscoot and East Branch reservoirs, for \$11,500. The bids have been transmitted to the Comptroller for approval of the sureties.

At midnight of Thursday, the 10th inst., the 36-inch main on the west side of 5th Avenue, between 49th and 50th Streets, broke, flooding the neighborhood. It was shut off by 1:30 a. m. The break was no doubt caused by blasting for the sewer trench. Both the 36th inch mains on 5th Avenue are now shut off, which will cause a fall in the pressure of water of 7 to 10 feet in a large section of the City, and scant supply in the upper stories of houses. It is expected that these mains will be repaired during the present week, and the normal water pressure restored.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 231,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$56,334.31.

Collections for vault permits, \$380.

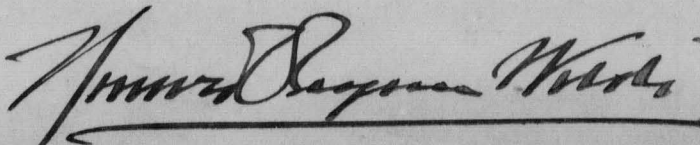
Collections for sewer permits, \$344.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,282.75.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$5.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$67.25.

Changes in the working force: 4 laborers, 1 mason, 1 rodman, 1 cleaner and 1 foreman appointed; 1 laborer promoted to assistant foreman and 1 laborer to rammer.


Deputy and Acting Commissioner of Public Works.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending December 19, 1896.

By the death of Charles T. McClenachan, Chief Bookkeeper, on Saturday, the Department has lost its oldest officer and a most faithful and valued servant. With the exception of one year's service in the war of the rebellion, he was continuously in the service of the City--as Clerk of the Board of Assistant Aldermen from 1852 to 1861, and as Chief Bookkeeper of the Street Department and this Department from 1862 until his death.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 235,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$50,014.18.

Collections for vault permits, \$2,287.

Collections for sewer permits, \$120.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$798.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$5.

Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$9.

Changes in the working force: One laborer promoted to rammer; one foreman appointed.



Deputy and Acting Commissioner of Public Works.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending December 26, 1896.

Average daily consumption of water for the week, 236,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$22,120.81.

Collections for vault permits, \$1,532.25.

Collections for sewer permits, \$366.48.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$3,897.00.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$10.

Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$34.50.

Changes in the working force: On laborer reinstated.

Charles A. D. Collins
Commr

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending January 2, 1897

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 236,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$52,261.66.

Collections for vault permits, \$1,807.

Collections for sewer permits, \$130.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$475.50.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$10.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$11.

Changes in the working force: 1 carpenter appointed, 1 laborer reinstated and 1 horse and wagon employed.

Charles H. T. Collis

57

Reprints

1.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending January 11, 1897.

The bid of the L. W. Ahrens Stationery and Printing Co. for furnishing stationery, printed matter, etc., for the use of the Supreme Court, being the lowest received for that contract at public letting on the 31st ultimo, has been transmitted to the Comptroller for approval of the sureties thereon.

The Corporation Attorney has been requested to prosecute the 34th Street Railroad Company for sprinkling salt on its rail-tracks, in violation of City Ordinances.

All contract work on pavements, laying water-mains and masonry work for sewers, has been suspended for the winter season.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 236,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$66,335.81.

Collections for vault permits, \$3,823.10.

Collections for sewer permits, \$216.95.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$775.50.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$20.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$9.

Changes in the working force: 3 laborers reinstated; 1 fireman deceased; 1 assistant foreman resigned; 2 cleaners and 1 fireman appointed.

Fifth Avenue was opened to the public on the 8th inst.

Charles A. D. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending.....*January 16, 1897.*

The lowest bids for contracts let on December 28th ultimo have been transmitted to the Comptroller for approval of the sureties as follows:

Alterations to sewer in 64th Street, between 5th and Madison Avenues, \$12,737.

Regulating and grading 139th Street, between 5th and 7th Avenues, \$7,744.51.

Regulating and grading 180th Street, between Amsterdam Avenue and Kingsbridge Road, \$9,652.74.

Regulating and grading 188th Street, between Audubon and Wadsworth Avenues, \$7,126.80.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 234,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$36,691.07.

Collections for vault permits, \$257.00.

Collections for sewer permits, \$210.00.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,105.10.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$15.00.

Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$17.25.

Charles H. T. Collis
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending January 23, 1897.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 234,000,000 gallons. Water is now for the first time received from the Byram River through a channel and tunnel to the Kensico Reservoir, supplementing the supply from the Bronx River.

Collections by the water Register, \$45,578.56.

Collections for vault permits, \$5,388.10.

Collections for sewer permits, \$277.28.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$3,070.50.

Collections for permits for sidewalk-sheds, \$10.

Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$8.50.

The Counsel to the Corporation has been requested to draft bills for submission to the Legislature to amend the Act of 1896 for the construction of a bridge over Spuyten Duyvil Creek at Kingsbridge Road, to bring the cost within the limit of \$100,000 appropriated, and for an additional appropriation for laying large water-mains and erecting pumping stations to extend and improve the distribution of water north of the Harlem River.

Changes in the working force: 1 meter inspector and 1 laborer appointed.

The Park Department having excavated the rock north of Shaft No 25, New Aqueduct, for a ^{Speedway} ~~driveway~~ and sidewalks, and the trend or inclination of the seams of the rock being to the west, the frost and drainage caused it to move and fall into the driveway as excavated. It has not injured the shaft or its masonry--only some of the filling and the temporary wall east thereof. The Aqueduct Commissioners still have charge of Shaft No 25. In consequence of the fall of rock referred to, it will be necessary to build a heavy masonry wall in front of the shaft, extending north and south to solid rock.

Charles A. T. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending January 30, 1897

A list of thirty-three streets or parts of streets, covering 152,809 square yards, has been recommended to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for repaving with asphalt on the present pavement, at an estimated cost of \$504,269.70.

The average daily consumption of water for the week rose to 242,000-000 gallons, which is an increase of 8,000,000 gallons over the preceding week, due to waste in houses by keeping faucets open day and night to prevent freezing in the pipes. On the coldest day, Tuesday, the consumption rose to \$250,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register,	\$56,930.87.
Collections for vault permits,	600.00
Collections for sewer permits,	294.60
Collections for restoring pavements,	1,700.50
Collections for sidewalk sheds,	5.00
Collections for redemption of obstructions,	5.00

The Chief Engineer of the Croton Aqueduct and the Chief Engineer of the Aqueduct Commission both reported to me that they do not apprehend any danger to Shaft 25, at the new pumping station at Highbridge, owing to the landslide which took place about ten days ago. Nevertheless I have deemed it wise to have appliances constructed so that the old aqueduct, which at present is ^{not} in use, can be availed of in a few hours. To accomplish this I have written a letter to the Aqueduct Commissioners requesting them to have the necessary material on hand at Jerome Park to construct a wooden flume, to take the place, if necessary, of the masonry which is at present disturbed.

Charles H. T. Collins

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending February 6, 1897.

The following contracts have been awarded to the lowest bidders:

For asphalt pavements: To the Warren-Scharf Asphalt Paving Co., 3rd and 4th Streets, from 2nd Avenue to Lewis Street, \$2.89 per square yard--\$82,030.30; to the Sicilian Asphalt Paving Co., 22nd Street, between Lexington and 6th Avenues, \$3.05 per square yard--\$24,417.50; 76th Street, between Avenue A and 5th Avenue, \$3.05 per square yard--\$29,342.50; to the California Asphalt Paving Co., 63rd Street, between Avenue A and Park Avenue, \$2.91 per square yard--\$24,100.

For furnishing coal for High Service Pumping Stations: To William Moquin, \$28,800. Prices per ton: At Highbridge, \$4.34; at 96th St., \$4.20; at Washington Bridge, \$4.04. Last year's prices were: \$4.27, \$4.23 and \$4.79 respectively.

For furnishing ice to public offices: To William Scott, \$1,951.

For furnishing and delivering water-pipes and special castings (3 contracts): To the Warren Foundry and Machine Co., at \$16.10 per ton for straight pipe and \$33 for special castings--total, \$54,720.10. These are the lowest prices obtained in 20 years. Last year's prices were \$19.20 for straight pipe and \$36 for special castings, per ton.

For furnishing and laying water-mains in 10th Avenue and in 29th Street: To J. R. Cosgrove, \$28,282.50. The engineer's estimate was \$29,025.00.

For furnishing and laying water-mains in Amsterdam, St. Nicholas, Gerard and other Avenues and Streets: To J. S. Rogers, for \$27,521; engineer's estimate, \$34,475.

For regulating, grading, etc., Audubon Avenue, from 165th to 175th Street: To Reilley and Mahony, for \$29,669.14; engineer's estimate, \$29,037.25; 163rd Street, from Amsterdam Avenue to Edgecombe Road: To Reilley and Mahony, for \$5,954.59; engineer's estimate, \$6,843.69.

For sewers--In 139th Street, between 7th and Lenox Avenues: To Thomas Murray, for \$3,018; engineer's estimate, \$3,850--In 148th Street, between Hudson River and Boulevard: To Patrick Casey, for \$3,028.50;

engineer's estimate, \$3,979--In 7th Avenue, between 146th and 147th Streets: To Thomas Murray for \$3,432.25; engineer's estimate, \$2,889 --In East Street, between Water and Rivington Streets, etc: To Patrick Casey for \$64,032.25; engineer's estimate, \$69,004.50.

The Aqueduct Commissioners have turned over to the care and control of this Department the new reservoir M on the Titicus River, a tributary to the Croton. The capacity of this reservoir is six thousand million gallons.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 239,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$63,293.52.

Collections for vault permits, \$2,403.66.

Collections for sewer permits, \$226.00.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$2,911.75.

Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$9.

Changes in the working force: 2 carpenters, 1 fireman, 1 mechanical engineer and 2 laborers appointed; 1 cart and 2 teams employed; 1 cart and 1 team discharged for cause; 1 mechanical engineer deceased.

At the request of this Department a bill for an additional appropriation of \$2,000,000 for repaving streets and avenues has been introduced in the Legislature to enable the Department to lay new pavement on about 32 miles of streets where the Metropolitan Street Railway Company will this year change the motive power and reconstruct the car tracks, and will join the Department in laying the new pavement within, between and two feet on each side of their tracks, if the appropriation is obtained.

By a transfer of \$87,000 from the unexpended balance of the repaving appropriation for 1895 to the present appropriation, the Department has been enabled to award contracts for new asphalt pavements on 22nd Street, from Lexington to 6th Avenue; 76th Street, from Avenue A to 5th Avenue; and in 63rd Street, from Avenue A to Park Avenue, enumerated above.

Charles H. D. Collis
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending February 20th, 1897.

The Aqueduct Commissioners have turned over to the care and control of this Department the land bordering on the new double reservoir I in the Croton Basin.

The average daily consumption of water during the week was 235,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$49,559.67.

Collections for vault permits, \$6,316.66.

Collections for sewer permits, \$820.80.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,732.50.

Collections for temporary sidewalk sheds, \$20

Changes in the working force: 1 leveller appointed; 1 keeper of reservoir deceased.

Charles H. D. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... February 27, 1897.

Two employees of the Continental Iron Works, who were engaged in repairing the gearing of the movable gas tank on the bridge over the Harlem Ship Canal, were killed on Wednesday at 5 p. m., by the breaking of tackle and falling of the iron counterweight. No officer or employee of this Department was concerned in the accident, and no damage was done to City property.

A communication has been addressed to the Board of Aldermen, urging the importance and the adoption of the amendments, drafted by the Counsel to the Corporation, to the ordinance relating to plumbers' excavations for house connections with sewers and water-mains, to enable the Department to place the work under proper inspection.

Maps have been filed in the Department establishing new streets as follows: 169th, 170th and 171st Streets and Haven Avenue, west of Kingsbridge Road; new street east of Amsterdam Avenue, from Washington Bridge to 188th Street.

In continuing the improvement of the park plots on the boulevard, 100 American Elm trees have been planted. The trees were taken from land owned by the City in the Bronx River water-shed, and planted at a cost of \$1.50 each. If obtained by purchase the cost would be \$7 per tree and upwards. The plots have also been thoroughly fertilized and their improvement will be continued while the season for tree planting lasts. *John Simpson, Supt Streets & Roads has resigned*

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 235,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$44,044.26.
Collections for vault permits, \$6,316.68.
Collections for sewer permits, \$416.74.
Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,573.25.
Collections for temporary sidewalk sheds, \$35.
Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$28.25.

Charles A. D. Collins

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending March 6, 1897

The engineers who have been in the service of the City in this Department for many years inform me that there are fewer street openings this winter than there have been in any previous winter within their knowledge. This is owing to the rigid enforcement of my rule that the streets shall not be opened by gas, electric light and steam companies between the first day of December and the 15th day of March, unless in cases of dangerous leaks.

I deem it appropriate at this time to make a comparative statement of the amounts paid to the City for vault permits from August 1st, 1896, when I established an increased charge per square foot, to March 6th, 1897, and the receipts for the corresponding periods in the two preceding years:

Aug. 1, 1894, to March 6, 1895, for	91,248.28 sq. ft.	\$68,981.50
" 1, 1895, " " 6, 1896, "	95,295.37 " "	71,491.32
" 1, 1896, " " 6, 1897, "	64,133.18 " "	93,442.59

Decrease in area August 1st, 1896, to March 6th, 1897, from corresponding period of preceding year, 31,162.19 square feet; increase in receipts, \$21,951.37.

In connection with this matter I would call attention to an amendment to the vault ordinance, now pending in the Board of Aldermen, by which it is proposed to exempt the area space on sidewalks from charges for vault privileges, which space has, under the present administration of the Department, been held subject to the charge. The effect of the exemption would be to diminish the revenue from vault privileges by about one-third, and I believe that this would be contrary to Section 173 of the Consolidation Act, which prohibits the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty from making any changes tending to diminish the revenues of the sinking fund and the general fund.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 255,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$29,810.56.

Collections for vault permits, \$12,951.54.

Collections for sewer permits, \$1,702.59.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$2,268.50.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$5.

Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$34.75.

Changes in the working force: 1 clerk of 1st grade,
1 fireman and 1 laborer appointed.

Charles A. T. Collis

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending March 13, 1897.

The cash collections by the Water Register from water rents for January and February last amount to \$411,957.25, which is an increase of \$38,666.61 over the same two months of 1896 and \$122,603.07 over those of 1895.

The lowest regular proposals for contracts, received at public letting on the 3rd inst., have been transmitted to the Comptroller for his approval of the sureties thereon, as follows:

De Witt C. Bouker, jr.,

For 1,000 cubic yards of broken stone and
2,500 cubic yards of gravel screenings, \$3,500.

J. Frank Quinn,

For 2,500 cubic yards gravel and 2,500 cubic
yards of gravel screenings, \$9,850.

Walter J. Ford,

For sewer in 111th Street, between Amsterdam
Avenue and Riverside Drive, \$8,247.50.

M. J. Conley,

For sewer in 182nd Street, between Amsterdam
Avenue and Kingsbridge Road, \$10,047.50; sewer in
112th St., bet. Riverside Drive & Boulevard, \$3,461.25

Cunningham and Kearns,

For sewer in 5th Avenue, between 54th and 55th
Streets, \$2,141.50.

Walter J. Ford,

For alterations to sewer in Park Avenue, between
66th and 70th Streets, etc., \$12,306.

The work of laying the large water-mains in 5th Avenue has been resumed, commencing at 50th Street, on the east side, and proceeding northward.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 234,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$39,229.44
Collections for vault permits, \$7,333.46.
Collections for sewer permits, \$573.48.
Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$30.
Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$31.
Collections for restoring pavements, \$938.25.

Changes in the working force: 1 clerk of 1st grade resigned; 1 laborer appointed.

Charles S. T. Veltie

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending..... *March 22,*..... *1897*.....

I have submitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment an additional list of streets under the appropriation authorized by Chapter 475, Laws of 1895, including the renewal of the Macadam superstructure on Seventh Avenue, north of Central Park--82,100 square yards at an estimated cost of \$66,790; and 44,820 square yards of asphalt, to be laid on the present pavements, at an estimated cost of \$155,450.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 230,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$53,369.30

Collections for vault permits, \$2,862.36.

Collections for sewer permits, \$686.36.

Collections for restoring pavements, \$2,812.25.

Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$15.00.

Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$26.75.

Changes in the working force: 1 junior clerk, 1 caulker and 1 fireman appointed.

Charles H. D. Collis

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending March 27, 1897.

The lowest bids for the following contracts have been transmitted to the Comptroller for his approval of the sureties thereon:

For repairing the free floating baths--Thomas Dwyer, \$3,875.

For regulating and grading Edgecombe Avenue, from 155th to 175th Street--The Warren-Scharf Asphalt Paving Co., \$92,125.81.

For regulating and grading Naegle Avenue, from Kingsbridge Road to 10th Avenue--A. C. Chenowith, \$30,450.20.

For asphalt block pavement on concrete foundation--The Hastings Pavement Co: 93rd Street, between West End Avenue and Riverside Drive, \$2.88.8 per square yard; 98th Street, from the Boulevard to West End Avenue, \$2.84.1 per square yard; 99th Street, from Madison to Park Avenue, \$2.94 per square yard; 98th Street, from Lexington to Park Avenue, \$2.95.8 per square yard.--Clark and Co: Park Avenue, east side, from 97th to 100th Street, \$2.96.9 per square yard.

The above prices average 28 cents per square yard less than the average prices of last year (\$3.20) for asphalt block pavement on concrete foundation. They are all for assessment work, with five years' guarantee of maintenance, the kind of pavement being designated in the ordinances.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 229,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register,	\$31,642.60
Collections for vault permits,	972.23
Collections for sewer permits,	583.30
Collections for restoring pavements	3,057.85
Collections for permits for side-walk sheds,	20.00
Collections for redemption of obstructions,	20.50

Changes in the working force: 1 engineer-inspector, 2 water-meter inspectors, 1 timekeeper, 5 laborers, 1 male cleaner and 2 female cleaners appointed.

* This block pavement is giving so much satisfaction by reason of its non-slipperiness, and it enters into such close competition with sheet asphalt that I think seriously of allowing these contractors to bid on streets of heavier traffic than they have been allowed to do heretofore

38th St. Jan 10th to 71st Ave

Charles S. T. Collins
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending.....April 3,.....1897.

The lowest regular bids for the following contracts have been transmitted to the Comptroller for his approval of the sureties thereon:

For lockers in Squadron A Armory; Benjamine Hellerstein, \$1,000.

For desks, chairs and camp chairs for armories; Robert C. Ogden, \$1,278.08.

For 4,600 tons white ask coal, and five tons Cannel coal; W. D. Bruns, \$19,610.

For laying water-mains in Pleasant, First, Wendover and other avenues and streets; John Cornwell, jr., \$21,704.55.

For laying water-mains in 3rd, 4th, Lispenard, Walker and other streets; John Cornwell, jr., \$104,315.55.

For laying water-mains in 11th and West End Avenues, from 96th to 38th Street, etc; John Cornwell, jr., \$106,445.54.

For furnishing tapping cocks, boxes, etc.; Fox and Engel, \$2,092.60.

For furnishing stop-cocks, hydrants, boxes, etc; The Kennedy Valve Manufacturing Co., \$8,500.

For furnishing white wood plugs, hydrant guards, etc; Fox and Engel, \$2,445.89.

For furnishing stop-cocks, hydrants, hydrant boxes, stop-cock boxes, etc; The Kennedy Valve Manufacturing Co., \$4,275.60.

For alterations and improvement to sewer in 64th Street, between Madison and 5th Avenues, etc; Frank Frost, \$13,900.50.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 224,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$52,339.11
Collections for vault permits, \$4,351.16
Collections for sewer permits, \$459.38
Collections for restoring pavements, \$1,892.75.
Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$35
Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$18.75

Changes in the working force: 1 steam engineer and 1 inspector on laying pipes appointed.

Charles W. T. Collins

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending April 10, 189

A permit was issued on the 6th inst. to the Metropolitan Street Railway Company to open the pavements and excavate the streets on the route of the 8th Avenue Railroad, from the Harlem River to Church and Vesey Streets, for the purpose of converting the line from a horse railroad to an electric road. On the 7th inst. Justice Beekman of the Supreme Court granted an order, temporarily enjoining any action under the permit, and to show cause on the 12th inst. why the injunction should not be made permanent.

The lowest regular bids for the following contracts have been transmitted to the Comptroller for his approval of the sureties thereon:

The Barber Asphalt Paving Co.,

Paving with asphalt 4th Street, from 2nd Avenue to Broadway, \$3.03 per square yard; Waverly Place, from 6th Avenue to Christopher Street, etc., \$3.39 per square yard; 39th Street, from 1st to 4th Avenue, \$2.97 per square yard; 5th Street from Avenue C to Avenue D, \$3.03 per square yard; 11th Street, from Avenue D to 2nd Avenue, \$3.07 per square yard.

The Sicilian Asphalt Paving Co.,

Paving with asphalt 30th Street, from 6th to 10th Avenue, \$2.94 per square yard; 36th Street, from 6th to 9th Avenue, \$2.94 per square yard; 41st Street, from 8th to 11th Avenue, \$2.94 per square yard; 39th Street, from 8th to 11th Avenue, \$2.94 per square yard.

The Warren-Scharf Asphalt Paving Co.,

Paving with asphalt 129th Street, from the Boulevard to Manhattan Street, \$3.08 per square yard; intersection of West End Avenue with 100th and 104th Streets, \$3.08 per square yard; 126th Street, from St. Nicholas Avenue to Lawrence Street, etc., \$3.08 per square yard.

The California Asphalt Paving Co.,

Paving with asphalt Avenue D, from Houston to 11th Street, \$3.35 per square yard.

The Barber Asphalt Paving Co.,

Repairing and maintaining the asphalt pavement in Chambers Street, from Broadway to Centre Street, for ten years, 25 cents per square yard per year.

The Frum Bantrecht Company was excluded, in reasons personally communicated to you -

The Sicilian Asphalt Paving Co.,

Repairing and maintaining the asphalt pavement in 75th Street, between Columbus Avenue and Central Park West for ten years, 9 cents per square yard per year; completing and maintaining the asphalt pavement in Lexington Avenue, between 21st and 23rd Streets, \$507.66 per year until 1905.

Bart Dunn,

Improving centre parkways on the Boulevard, from 63rd to Manhattan Street, where not already done, \$9,208.85.

The foregoing prices for new asphalt pavements average 12 cents per square yard less than the average of last year's prices, - \$3.20.

The contract for maintaining the asphalt pavement on Chambers Street, between Broadway and Centre Street, is an exceptional case. This is the first asphalt pavement laid on one of the business streets in 1886 and was guaranteed for ten years. The wagon traffic on the street, which connects two important ferries on the East and North Rivers respectively, is unusually heavy. Since 1886 important improvements have been made in the composition of asphalt pavements, which greatly diminish the cost of maintenance. These circumstances account for the comparatively high cost of keeping this pavement in repair for the next ten years under the lowest bid-- 25 cents per square yard per year.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 224,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$31,250.76.
Collections for vault permits, \$4,956.55.
Collections for sewer permits, \$907.97.
Collections for restoring pavements, \$2,796.75.
Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$40.
Collections for redemption of street obstructions, \$21.

Charles A. T. Collins

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending April 17, 1897.

The contract for improving the centre parkways of the Boulevard will be let at a price which will give me a handsome margin for shrubbery, flowers and fountains .

The Dingley Tariff Bill contains an item placing a tariff of $\$1.50$ per ton on asphaltum, which heretofore has always been on the free list. I very much fear that the revenue required by the government from the imposition of this tax will have to be largely paid by the City of New York, but whether any steps should be taken by the municipal government in opposition to the proposed measure is a matter more for your consideration than for mine .

The present ornamental street corner lamps cost \$19.40 each. At a recent letting this price was reduced to \$15.08 owing to competition, notices having been sent to 46 persons engaged in the business of manufacturing lamps, and attention having been called to the proposal in all the daily newspapers in the City.

At the public letting on the 15th inst. bids were received for 21 asphalt paving contracts. A new firm presented bids for three of the contracts as an additional competitor, and was the lowest in each case. The lowest bids for all the contracts range from \$2.98 to \$3.89 per square yard, and average \$3.30 for the whole. This is an increase of 10 cents over the average for the year 1896, and 22 cents over the average for 13 contracts which were let on the 1st inst, only two weeks prior to the last letting. All the bids are still held under consideration at this office.

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 220,000,000 gallons.

Collections by the Water Register, \$24,667.23.
Collections for vault permits, \$10,000.68.
Collections for sewer permits, \$685.40.
Collections for restoring pavements, \$3,081.75.
Collections for permits for sidewalk sheds, \$25.
Collections for redemption of obstructions, \$17.

Changes in the working force: 1 engineer-inspector on regulating and grading streets appointed.

Charles H. Collins

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MAYOR.

Week ending April 24th, 1897.

The semi-annual auction sale of unredeemed articles seized as street obstructions was held at the Corporation Yards on the 19th inst. The Auctioneer's returns have not yet been received, but I am able to state that by good management better prices have been obtained than at former sales. The market for iron, especially old, is very low, and the sale of different lots at from \$6.50 to \$7.25 per ton, is considered good under the circumstances. About ten tons of old iron were withheld to await a better market. It is intended to give these sales greater publicity hereafter by advertising in several of the preceding Sunday papers, so as to reach the whole class of second-hand dealers.

On the 15th instant bids were opened for repaving twenty-one different streets with asphalt. One new competitor, William Booth (or Kelly & Booth) having complied with the prerequisite conditions, was admitted. These are the same people who last year failed to make themselves eligible and my rejection of their bid was sustained by Judge Smyth. Of these twenty-one, in fourteen cases the lowest bid is so near the estimate of my engineer that I have awarded the contracts to them as follows

Exchange Place to the Barber Co.	at \$3.57--seven cents above estimate.
Bleecker St. " "	at \$3.53--three cents " "
58th Street " "	at \$3.13--twelve cents " "
85th Street " "	at \$3.15--ten cents below estimate,
Columbus Ave. to the Sicilian Co.	at \$3.39--eleven cents below estimate,
47th Street " "	at \$3.11--eleven cents above estimate,
52nd Street " "	at \$3.24--one cent below estimate,
32nd Street, Warren & Scharf Co.	at \$3.19--six cents below estimate,
90th Street " "	at \$3.24--one cent below estimate,
29th Street, California Co.	at \$3.38--thirteen cents above estimate,
43rd Street, " "	at \$3.13--twelve cents above estimate,
104th Street, William Booth	at \$2.99--fifty-one cents below estimate,
120th Street, " "	at \$2.98--twenty-seven cents below "
137th Street, William Booth	at \$3.04--twenty-one cents below "

And I have not yet awarded the contract in the following cases because the lowest bid is greatly in excess of the Engineer's estimate:-- Another careful estimate of cost is being made and unless it proves that the bids are reasonable, they will be rejected:--

15th Street, Barber Co.	at \$3.17--seventeen cents above estimate
83rd Street, " "	at \$3.19--nineteen cents above estimate
Roosevelt Street, Sicilian Co.	at \$3.77--twenty-seven cents above "
Market Street-Warren & Scharf	at \$3.84--fifty-nine cents above "
11th Street, " "	at \$3.24--twenty-four cents " "
Jay Street, California Co.	at \$3.89--sixty-four cents " "
19th Street " "	at \$3.19--nineteen cent " "

The average daily consumption of water for the week was 221,000,000. gallons.

Collections by the Water Register-----	\$32,102.35
" " for vault permits-----	2,325.18
" " for sewer permits-----	374.19
" " for restoring pavements-----	2,183.25
" " for permits for sidewalk sheds-----	20.00
" " for redemption of obstructions-----	38.50

Changes in the working force: 7 Engineer Inspectors on paving and grading contracts; 1 paver, 1 patrolman on aqueduct; 1 caulker and 13 laborers appointed-

Charles H. D. Hollis
Comm-