

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*S. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

July 13th, 1897

The Honorable,  
 William L. Strong,  
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department, for the week ending 10th instant.

Riverside Park Improvement.

Between 96th and 129th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 92 men and teams.

Laying water pipe: Force of 20 men and teams engaged.

Filling and concreting Pool in Central Park: Force of 21 men and teams engaged.

Entrances to Central Park: Force of 18 men and teams at work.

The Metropolitan Street Railway Company have a force of 152 men and teams at work at the Circle, 59th Street and 8th Avenue.

Repaving walk adjoining Battery Sea-wall: Force of ten men and teams engaged on the work.

Paving with asphalt the sidewalks of Manhattan Square: Force of 18 men and teams at work.

Construction of Roadway in the Bronx & Pelham Parkway: Work in progress with a force of 75 men and teams.

Paving with Telford Pavement the Pelham Bridge Road: Work in progress with a force of 100 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Hiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

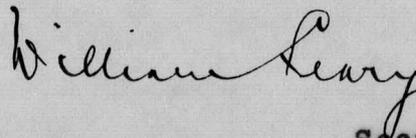
2

At the last meeting of the Board specifications for the improvement of the small park bounded by 7th, St Nicholas Avenues and 117th Street, were approved and the work ordered advertised.

Form of contract for making borings required for the examination of the foundations for the proposed Viaduct at Riverside Drive and 96th Street, were approved and ordered advertised.

Specifications and form of contract for the new south-west corner wing, or lecture hall building, of the American Museum of Natural History were approved and ordered advertised.

Respectfully,



Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

July 17th, 1897.

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel W. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

The Honorable

W. L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir,-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 17th inst.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Improvement between 96th and 129th Streets. Work in progress with a force of 87 men and teams. A force of 18 men and teams is engaged in laying water pipes.

ENTRANCES AND WALLS. CENTRAL PARK.

Work in progress with a force of 18 men and teams.

The work of filling and concreting the Pool, Central Park, was completed on the 15th inst.

The work of laying and adjusting the railroad tracks <sup>at 59 St. and 8 Ave.</sup> was to have been completed to-day.

The work of paving the Circle <sup>at 59 St. and 8 Ave.</sup> was resumed on the 15th inst. with a force of 13 men.

The work of repaving the walk adjoining Battery Sea Wall

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

-2-

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millon, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

is in progress with a force of 12 men and teams.

Paving with asphalt the sidewalks of Manhattan Square.

Work in progress with a force of 33 men and teams.

Paving with asphalt the sidewalks of Transverse Roads

Nos. 1, 2 and 3. This work was commenced July 15th, and is in progress with a force of 24 men and teams.

Construction of roadway in Bronx and Pelham Parkway.

Work in progress with a force of 49 men and teams.

Paving with Telford Pavement Pelham Bridge Road. Work

in progress with a force of 65 men and teams.

At a special meeting of the Board, held on Friday, the 16th inst., contract for the construction and improvement of a portion of St. Mary's Park was awarded to Edward A. McQuade at a cost of ~~\$18,110.70~~

The contract for painting Macomb's Dam Bridge was awarded to Wm. F. Flanagan & Company at a cost of ~~\$5,961.00~~:

Bids were opened for regulating and paving with Telford pavement the roadway of Prospect Hill Road, and the contract was awarded to Wm. P. Peck, the lowest bidder, for \$9,610.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruyer, Vice President.*  
*William A. Hiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

-3-

Bids for (1) regulating and paving with Telford Pavement a portion of the roadway of Mosholu Avenue, (2) regulating and paving with Telford Pavement certain roadways in Mosholu Parkway, (3) regulating and paving with Macadam Pavement the roadway of Boston Road in Bronx Park, were received. There being only one bid received for each of the foregoing they were rejected and ordered readvertised.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

July 27th, 1897

The Honorable,  
 William L. Strong,  
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 24th instant:

## RIVERSIDE DRIVE IMPROVEMENT.

Between 96th and 129th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 110 men and teams.

Laying water pipe: Force of 20 men and teams engaged.

ENTRANCES TO CENTRAL PARK: Force of 15 men and teams engaged.

PAVING CIRCLE, 59th STREET & 8th AVENUE: Work in progress with a force of 22 men and teams.

Work of laying and adjusting railway tracks by Metropolitan Street Railway Co. is practically completed.

REPAVING WALK ADJOINING BATTERY SEA WALL: Work in progress with a force of 11 men and teams.

PAVING WITH ASPHALT THE SIDEWALKS OF MANHATTAN SQUARE: Work in progress, with a force of 10 men and teams.

PAVING WITH ASPHALT THE SIDEWALKS OF TRANSVERSE ROADS 1, 2 & 3. Work in progress, with a force of 43 men and teams.

REPAIRING AND REPAVING WITH ROCK ASPHALT THE WALKS WITHIN AND AROUND THE CITY PARKS: Work was commenced July 20th.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 31 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Von Rensselaer Cruger, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: Work in progress, with a force of 38 men and teams.

At the meeting of the Board, held on the 19th instant, the plans and specifications and selection of architects for the New York Botanical Garden were approved and the Board of Estimate & Apportionment requested to authorize the Comptroller to issue bonds to the amount of \$500,000, as you have already been advised.

A communication from the National Sculpture Society, reporting favorably upon a new model of the de Peyster statue, to be substituted for the one now in place in Bowling Green Park, was accepted and referred to the Committee on Municipal Art.

A temporary roadway leading from 83rd Street and 5th Avenue to the Metropolitan Museum of Art was approved and the work ordered done, at a cost not to exceed \$100.

A plan showing the proposed widening of 110th Street, between 5th and 7th Avenues, was referred to the Board of Street Opening & Improvement.

The improvement of the territory extending northward from the Metropolitan Museum of Art to 85th Street, where the ground is low and the drainage imperfect, was ordered proceeded with.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruyer, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

3

A contract for paving Prospect Hill Road, between the Pelham Bridge Road and the northerly line of Pelham Bay Park, was awarded to William P. Peck, the lowest bidder, for \$9,610.00.

Bids were rejected for the following named works and ordered re-advertised, there being only one bid for each work:

- (1) Paving the Boston Road in Bronx Park.
- (2) Paving Mosholu and Grand Avenues.
- (3) Paving certain roadways in Mosholu Parkway.

The consent of the Department was given to the erection of projections on the proposed Hall of Records or Municipal Building, to be erected at the north-west corner of Chambers and Centre Streets.

The Superintendent of Parks was directed to prepare and submit a plan for the proposed improvement of Poe Park in the 24th Ward.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to appropriate, pursuant to the provisions of Chap. 633, Laws of 1897, the sum of \$25,000, for filling with clean earth the space indicated in an approved plan for a Colonial Garden in Van Cortlandt Park.

Respectfully,

*William Cary*

Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cuyler, Vice Presidents.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

August 2nd, 1897

The Honorable,  
 William L. Strong,  
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending July 31st:

## RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Between 79th and 129th Streets: A force of 117 men and teams is employed.

Laying Water Pipes: Work in progress with a force of 20 men and teams.

ENTRANCES TO CENTRAL PARK: Work in progress with a force of 12 men and teams.

PAVING THE CIRCLE 59th ST. & 8th AVENUE: Work in progress with a force of 18 men and teams.

REPAVING WALK ADJOINING BATTERY SEA WALL: Work in progress with a force of ten men and teams.

PAVING WITH ASPHALT SIDEWALKS OF MANHATTAN SQUARE: Work in progress with a force of 5 men and teams.

PAVING WITH ASPHALT SIDEWALKS OF TRANSVERSE ROADS 1, 2 & 3 in CENTRAL PARK: Force of 52 men and teams engaged on the work.

REPAIRING AND REPAVING ASPHALT WALKS WITHIN AND AROUND THE CITY PARKS: Force of 15 men engaged on the work.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 22 men and teams.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 15 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Miles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Eby.*

2

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 26th ulto., a communication from the National Sculpture Society, reporting unfavorably upon the proposition to transfer the Tombs Facade to the Central Park, was received and approved.

The 42nd St., Manhattanville and St Nicholas Avenue R. R. Co. have agreed to comply with the wishes of the Department in laying a new rail on their tracks on the Circle, at 59th St. & 8th Avenue.

A report from the Consulting Engineer, recommending that the Madison Avenue Bridge be closed, for a period not exceeding two weeks from August 8th, to admit of changes in the turning machinery, was approved.

Specifications and form of contract were approved and ordered printed for a quantity of mould, required for finishing the irregular areas on the 2nd Section of the Harlem River Driveway.

A report was received from the Engineer of Construction, estimating that the cost of proposed changes and alterations in the drinking fountain for horses on the northerly side of Union Square at \$450, <sup>was</sup> and approved, and the work ordered prodeeded with.

William Barclay Parsons, Engineer of the Rapid Transit Railroad Commissioners, appeared before the Board and submitted a plan, showing the proposed route of the Rapid Transit R. R. under Battery Park, which was laid over for future consideration.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millon, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

3

An application from the Union Railway Company for permission to open Mosholu Parkway, for the purpose of constructing a double track railroad, was referred to the Counsel to the Corporation.

A report from the Consulting Engineer, in relation to the character of the land under water on the site of the proposed new City Island bridge, and stating the price of 99 cents per lineal foot of soft material would not be unreasonable for the work of examination, was approved, and the work was ordered proceeded with at the price named.

The Secretary was directed to transmit to the Secretary of the Fine Arts Federation of New York, the following statement, in reply to Preamble and Resolutions passed by the Council of the Fine Arts Federation, at their meeting of July 1st:

This Department, realizing the importance of the subject, appointed a Committee of Experts to examine and report upon the general scheme for laying out the gardens, as prepared by the Board of Managers and Scientific Directors of the Botanical Society.

To the report of this Committee of Experts the Commissioners have given close attention and careful consideration before taking final action in the matter. The result has been a material modification of the original plan, in accordance with the views of the Experts, and the

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milson, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruyer, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

4

adoption by this Board of most of the recommendations and suggestions contained in their report.

A visit was made to Bronx Park, the several locations examined, and the Commissioners listened to the arguments of the Experts, represented by Mr. Olmsted, and of those of the Society, represented by several of its Directors. We were unanimously of the opinion that the proposed location of the Conservatory and Power House was objectionable on account of the beautiful landscape features of that region of the park.

In dealing with a problem of this sort, the Commissioners are charged with one serious duty, which must at all times be paramount to every consideration-- to preserve against every attempt at interference the natural scenery of the park. The primary purpose of a rural park within the reach of a great city is to maintain that rest and refreshment of mind and body which come from the tranquilizing influence of natural scenery. All other additions to the attractions of the people's place should be subordinate to the controlling purpose in a design and maintenance of such pleasure grounds. Any thing which interferes with the restful quality of the scenery in so far destroys the highest value of the park.

The most careful scrutiny is demanded of any proposition which calls for the erection of buildings on park spaces, the purpose of which is not absolutely material to the general scheme of park maintenance or is a necessary part of a special improvement, like the Botanical Garden.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

-5-

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

For this reason the Commissioners decided to modify the plan proposed by the Botanical Society, in so far as it provided for the erection of a Director's house, First Gardener's house and Second Gardener's house, and changed the proposed location of the Conservatory and Power-house.

The Commissioners, in changing the location of the Conservatory to the south side of the Southern Boulevard, have followed the recommendations of the Committee of Experts. No change in the location of the Museum has been made from the original plan prepared by the Board of Managers of the Botanical Society. The site selected is believed to be the best that could have been chosen. No valuable trees are sacrificed, and it gives to the Museum much more attractive surroundings without marring in the least the landscape features of the park.

When the Board decided to avail itself of the advice of experts it did not surrender the right of final judgment. We believe that the experts were wrong in their desire to place the buildings close together. If the garden, when completed, should become as popular as it is expected to be, the grounds immediately

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

-6-

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

around Bedford Park Station would be so congested as to make travel difficult.

The Commissioners thoroughly appreciate the work and purpose of the Fine Arts Federation of New York, and for that reason all the more regret that its Council should have passed resolutions condemning the action of this Board, which are not in accordance with the facts in the case.

Respectfully,

*William Cray*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*S. Van Rensselaer, Esq., Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City*

August 30th, 1897

The Honorable William L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 28th instant.

## RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

A force of 164 men and teams is engaged on this work.

ENTRANCES AND WALL TO CENTRAL PARK: Force of nine men and teams engaged on the work.

PAVING CIRCLE, 59th STREET & 8th AVENUE: Work in progress with a force of 44 men and teams. The 3rd Avenue Railroad completed their portion of the work on the 27th instant.

REPAIRING AND REPAVING WITH ROCK ASPHALT THE WALKS BOUNDING MORNING-SIDE PARK: A force of 29 men and teams is engaged at the work.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: 18 men and teams are engaged on the work.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: The work is in progress with a force of 95 men and teams, two locomotives and 45 cars.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: A force of 26 men and teams is at work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: This work was commenced on Thursday, the 26th instant.

At the meeting of the Board held on the 23rd instant, bids were received for furnishing all the labor and materials necessary to

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

-2 -

erect and complete as far as specified the new south-east corner wing or enlargement of the American Museum of Natural History and a contract was awarded to Thomas Cockerill & Son, the lowest bidder, for \$364,500.

Bids were also received for the improvement of Park bounded by 7th, and St Nicholas Avenues and 117th Street, and a contract was awarded to Patrick J. Kane, the lowest bidder, for \$2,183.50.

Proposals are being advertised for the improvement of St John's Park in the 9th Ward, to be opened on the 7th proximo.

William Barclay Parsons, Chief Engineer and David B. Ogden, of Counsel to the Board of Rapid Transit Railroad Commissioners, appeared and were heard regarding that portion of the proposed route to extend under Battery Park; they were requested to lay the matter before the Board in writing, in order that the same might be submitted to the Counsel to the Corporation for his opinion as to the legal status of the case as concerns the Park Commissioners.

Leave of absence was granted to such employees of the Department as are members of the G. A. R., as requested by you.

A report was received from the National Sculpture Society that the completed clay model for a statue of Gen. Simon Bolivar fails to reach

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*S. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely*

3

that standard of artistic excellence that entitles it to a place in any of the public grounds or parks of the City, which report was accepted.

A plan showing a proposed change of the line and grade of the roadway being constructed in the Bronx and Pelham Parkway, between the westerly line of Pelham Bay Park and the Baychester Road, was approved.

A recommendation of the Engineer of Construction that the contractor for building a roadway in the Bronx & Pelham Parkway be permitted to widen the embankment at least ten feet on the northerly side, without cost to the City, and that he be directed to lengthen the culverts under the said embankment, at a cost not exceeding \$500, to be paid for at the prices stipulated in his contract, was approved and adopted.

The following contracts were awarded:

For the erection of a sea wall, etc. along the easterly front of the extension of East River Park to John J. Hopper for \$39,393.00

For the construction and improvement of a portion of Cedar Parks in the 23rd Ward to Wm. H. Masterson, for \$9,606.25.

For constructing a roadway and appurtenances in Bronx Park, connecting the Bronx & Pelham Parkway with the Southern Boulevard at Pelham Avenue, to Wm. H. Masterson, for \$31,156.00.

For furnishing and delivering 900 tons of White Ash coal, to Wm. C. Moquin, for \$3,582.50.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, Resident.**L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.**William A. Stiles, Treasurer.**Smith Ely.*

4

The following bids, received on the 2nd instant, were rejected:

Regulating and paving with telford pavement the roadway of Mosholu Avenue between Grand & Jerome Avenues and Grand Avenue between Mosholu and Jerome Avenues, in Van Cortlandt Park.

2nd: Regulating and paving with telford pavement certain roadways in Mosholu Parkway between Van Cortlandt and Webster Avenues.

3rd: Regulating and paving with macadam pavement the roadway of the Boston Road between East 181 st Street and Bronx Park.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$2,500, required to complete the cost of borings, surveys and other work preliminary to the construction of a bridge over the Harlem River at or near 145th Street; also to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$3,000, for the purpose of reconstructing and repairing the drinking fountains for horses in Madison and Union Squares.

A contract was awarded to Thomas Cockerill & Son for 821 large cases and alterations to 14 old cases required by the American Museum of Natural History for \$64,930.54.

A report from Wm. H. Burr, Consulting Engineer, on jet borings made along the site of the proposed bridge across the Harlem River at 145th Street, was approved as was a report recommending that the contractor for the Second Section of the Harlem River Driveway be directed to complete the filling of the back bays on the Second Section at the

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Crozier, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

price of \$1.95 per cubic yard; that the contractor be directed to place garden mould along certain strips between Stations 55 and 85 at the same price and that a certain triangular space between about Station 100 and Station 106 be finished as a widening of the gravel sidewalk on the westerly side of the Driveway.

Further recommendations from the Consulting Engineer for building a retaining wall on the First Section of the Driveway and recommending that the contractor be authorized to construct the wall at a unit price of \$5.00 per cubic yard, as provided in the contract; also stating the necessity for constructing about 45 feet of 4 foot brick sewer on the First Section at the price of \$7.70 per lineal foot, were adopted.

A depression in Washington Bridge Park adjacent to the masonry wall supporting the westerly sidewalk of the Driveway was ordered filled with earth and garden mould at a cost not to exceed \$225.00.

The salary of the Director of the Menagerie was fixed at \$2,500 from January 1st next.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milken, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

Sept. 7th, 1897.

The Honorable,

William L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 4th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: Work in progress with a force of 173 men and teams. An additional force of 14 men and teams is engaged in laying water pipes.

ENTRANCES AND WALL, CENTRAL PARK: Work practically completed.

PAVING CIRCLE, 59th St. & 8th AVENUE: Work in progress with a force of 36 men and teams. The pavement, except on the southerly portion, in front of the Hotel Pomeroy, is completed.

REPAIRING AND REPAVING WITH ROCK ASPHALT THE WALKS AROUND MORNING-SIDE PARK: Work in progress with a force of 28 men and teams.

IMPROVING A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: Work in progress with a force of 28 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 92 men and teams, two locomotives and 60 cars.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: Work in progress with a force of ten men and teams.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress with a force of ten men and teams.

At the last meeting of the Board, held on the 30th ultimo, a report of the Consulting Engineer, with suggestions and recommendations for the modification of the proposed route for the Rapid Transit Railroad under

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

Battery Park was accepted and a copy sent to the Rapid Transit Railroad Commissioners, with a statement that in view of the facts as contained therein, this Board is unwilling to approve the plans as originally submitted.

The plan approved February 8th, 1897, showing Widening of the northerly sidewalk of Mail Street was so modified as to show a widening to 25 feet instead of 30 feet.

The Superintendent of Parks was directed to prepare and submit a map showing the number and location of Welsbach lamps required for the Circle at 59th Street and 8th Avenue.

The Engineer of Construction was ordered to prepare and submit specifications for laying strips of asphalt for bicyclists on either side of Cathedral Parkway west of Morningside Avenue; also

To prepare and submit specifications for repaving the northerly sidewalk of Transverse Road No. 3 in Central Park.

A resolution was adopted that the Commissioners certify to the Comptroller that the sum of \$910,000 is required for the purpose of the construction of a public driveway in the 12th Ward, known as the Harlem River Driveway and that he be requested to issue bonds for such amount, from time to time, in such sums as may be required.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Hiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

3

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$10,000, for the purpose of making surveys, etc., preliminary to the construction of a viaduct to carry the Riverside Drive over West 96th Street.

Messrs. Carrere & Hastings were requested to submit plans for the improvement of the new parks bounded by Pitt, Houston, Sheriff and Stanton Streets.

Messrs. Clinton & Russell, architects, were employed to prepare plans and specifications for the new bridge across the Harlem River at 145th Street.

Prof. Wm. H. Burr was employed to prepare plans and specifications for the construction of the new City Island bridge.

Plans, etc., as prepared by Howard & Cauldwell, architects, for cottages at Riverside Park and 72nd and 107th Streets were approved and the work of erecting the cottages ordered proceeded with forthwith.

Respectfully,

*William Beary*

Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

September 13th, 1897

The Honorable,  
 William L. Strong,  
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 11th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT. The work is in progress with a force of 201 men and teams. 22 men and teams are engaged in laying water pipes.

PAVING THE CIRCLE 59th STREET & 8th AVENUE: This work was completed on the 11th instant.

REPAIRING AND REPAVING WITH ROCK ASPHALT THE WALKS OF MORNINGSIDE PARK: Work in progress, with a force of 13 men and teams.

IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: Work in progress with a force of 30 men and teams.

REPAIRING WALKS IN CENTRAL PARK: This work commenced on the 10th instant, with a force of 8 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: The work is in progress, with a force of 85 men and teams; also 3 locomotives and 70 cars.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: The work is in progress, with a force of 22 men and teams

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: The work is in progress with a force of 20 men and teams.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE SMALL PARK BOUNDED BY SEVENTH AND ST NICHOLAS AVENUES AND 117th Street: This work was ordered commenced on the 15th instant.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

-2-

At the meeting of the Board, held on Tuesday, the 7th instant, bids were received for improving St John's Park, in the 9th Ward. Eugene Lentilhon was the lowest bidder. The amount of his bid was \$73,057.00. The bid was referred to the President, for inquiry into the responsibility of the bidder.

Specifications and form of contract were approved and the work ordered advertised for repaving with asphalt the northerly sidewalk of Transverse Road No. 3, crossing Central Park.

A plan for the construction of the small park north of 153rd Street, between 7th Avenue and Macomb's Dam Road, at an estimated cost of \$15,000 was approved and specifications for doing the work were ordered prepared. The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$15,000 to defray the expense of the construction of this park.

Specifications for making a topographical survey and map of all that portion of Bronx Park located on the southerly side of Pelham Avenue, were approved and the work ordered advertised.

The Engineer of Construction was directed to prepare and submit specifications for paving with asphalt a space 5 feet in width, adjacent to the Riverside Drive wall, between 79th and 96th Streets.

The Comptroller was requested to pay to the contractor for the 2nd Section of the Harlem River Driveway, J. C. Rodgers, the sum of \$75,000.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cropper, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

3

moneys retained on work performed under his contract.

Specifications for erecting an iron and mild steel railing along the Harlem River Driveway were approved and bids for the same ordered advertised.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$5,000, to defray the expense of making surveys and other work preliminary to the construction and improvement of the Spuyten Duyvil Parkway, as authorized by Chapter 301 of the Laws of 1897.

A plan, showing the entrance to the Harlem River Driveway at 155th Street, at its intersection with Edgecombe Road, was approved.

The Departmental Estimate for the year 1898, amounting to \$1,440,215 was adopted and ordered transmitted to the Board of Estimate & Apportionment.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
 Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely*

September 20th, 1897

The Honorable,  
 William L. Strong,  
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department, for the week ending with the 18th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: Work in progress with a force of 136 men and teams. A force of 21 men and teams is engaged in laying water pipe.

REPAIRING AND REPAVING WITH ROCK ASPHALT THE WALKS UPON MORNINGSIDE PARK: Work in progress with a force of 18 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: Work in progress with a force of 32 men and teams.

REPAIRING THE WALKS IN CENTRAL PARK: Work in progress with a force of 20 men and teams.

IMPROVEMENT OF PARK BOUNDED BY SEVENTH, ST NICHOLAS AVENUES AND 117th STREET: Work in progress with a force of 7 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 110 men and teams; 4 locomotives and 70 cars are also engaged upon this work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 22 men and teams.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 24 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: This work was ordered commenced on the 20th instant.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY AND APPURTENANCES IN BRONX PARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD AT PELHAM AVENUE: Work was ordered commenced on the 20th instant.

REGULATING AND GRADING AND THE ERECTION OF A SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF THE EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK, FROM 86th STREET TO THE END OF THE WALL NEAR THE NORTHERLY END OF

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milburn, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*William A. Hiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

2

89th STREET: This work was ordered commenced on the 15th instant.

At a meeting of the Board, held on Thursday, the 16th instant, specifications and form of contract for erecting lavatories on Riverside Park at 72nd and 107th Streets were approved and an advertisement was ordered, inviting proposals for doing the work.

The matter of erecting a cottage on Morningside Park was referred to the Engineer of Construction, to prepare plans and specifications therefor.

Plans and specifications for a pheasantry, to be erected in the vicinity of the Arsenal Building, were approved and an advertisement ordered, inviting proposals for the work.

Plans showing the proposed treatment of the territory of Riverside Park east of the westerly line of the drive, between 79th and 104th Sts. were approved.

A plan showing the proposed improvement of Poe Park in the 24th Ward was approved, and the Engineer was instructed to prepare and submit plans and specifications for doing the work, at an estimated cost of \$10,000.

Specifications and forms of contracts for laying asphalt strips on either side of the roadway of Cathedral Parkway, and also for paving with asphalt the walk adjoining the park walls on the westerly side of

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice Presidents.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

3

Riverside Drive, between 79th and 96th Streets, were approved, and an advertisement ordered inviting proposals for doing the work.

A recommendation of the Consulting Engineer on the application of the Aqueduct Commission, for permission to use a portion of the roadway of the Harlem River Driveway in facilitating the construction of a wall in connection with the Aqueduct at Washington Bridge, was approved and permission granted in accordance therewith.

A recommendation of the Consulting Engineer regarding the performance of certain additional work, at an expense of \$545, in connection with the work of repairing the turning machinery of the Madison Avenue Bridge, was approved.

A contract for the improvement of St John's Park was awarded to Eugene Lentilhon, the lowest bidder, at a cost of \$73,092.00.

A plan submitted by the Engineer of Construction for the improving of a portion of the Bronx & Pelham Parkway for its full width of 400 ft. was approved.

The compensation of George B. Post, for services as Consulting Architect, in connection with the construction of additions to the building of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, was fixed at \$2,500 per annum, during the progress of the work.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Croger, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

4

A plan submitted by the Gorham Manfg. Company, for a tablet to be erected near the Tomb of Gen. Grant, containing the address delivered by the Chinese Minister on the occasion of planting a tree near the Tomb was approved, at a cost not to exceed \$375.00.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$25,000, for the purpose of defraying the expense of constructing walks, drainage, grading and otherwise improving the territory of Riverside Park east of the westerly wall of the Drive, between 79th and 104th Streets, as shown on an approved plan.

The President laid before the Board a copy of a communication addressed to the President of the Rapid Transit R. R. Commissioners (a copy of which has already been sent you), in reply to the communication from the latter dated the 1st instant, which was approved and ordered spread upon the minutes.

Respectfully,

*William Cary*  
 Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Hiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

September 28th, 1897

The Honorable,  
 William L. Strong,  
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 25th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: Between 96th and 129th Streets, a force of 158 men and teams is engaged; A force of 21 men and teams is engaged in laying water pipes.

PREPARING AND REPAVING WITH ROCK ASPHALT THE WALKS UPON MORNINGSIDE PARK: A force of 18 men and teams is engaged upon the work.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: The work is in progress with a force of 19 men and teams.

REPAIRING WALKS IN CENTRAL PARK: Work in progress with a force of 18 men and teams.

IMPROVEMENT OF PARK BOUNDED BY SEVENTH, ST NICHOLAS AVENUES AND 117th STREET: Work in progress with a force of 18 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: This work was commenced on September 20th and is in progress with a force of 7 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 98 men and teams. Three locomotives and 70 cars are also engaged upon the work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 21 men and teams.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: The work is in progress with a force of 21 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

Bids will be received on Monday next, the 4th of October, at 2 P. M.  
for furnishing all the labor and materials necessary to erect and complete a new south-west corner wing or lecture hall of the American Museum of Natural History.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

Oct. 4th, 1897.

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice Presidents.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

The Honorable  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor,-

Sir,-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 2nd inst.

**RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT:** Work in progress with a force of 157 men and teams. A force of 21 men and teams is engaged in laying water pipe.

**REPAIRING AND REPAVING WITH ROCK ASPHALT THE WALKS UPON MORNINGSIDE PARK:** This work is now fully completed.

**CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST. MARY'S PARK:** Work in progress with a force of 48 men and teams.

**REPAIRING WALKS IN CENTRAL PARK:** Work in progress with a force of 16 men and teams.

**IMPROVEMENT OF PARK BOUNDED BY SEVENTH, ST NICHOLAS AVENUES AND 117TH STREET:** Work in progress with a force of 12 men and teams.

**CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK:** Work in progress with a force of 35 men and teams.

**CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY:** Work in progress with a force of 104 men and teams. 3 locomotives and 130 cars are also engaged upon this work.

**PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD:** Work in progress with a force of 18 men and teams.

**PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD:** Work in progress with a force of 23 men and teams.

**CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY AND APPURTENANCES IN BRONX PARK:** Work in progress with a force of 23 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

-2-

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*S. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday, the 27th ult. contract for regulating and paving with Telford pavement certain roadways in Mosholu Parkway was awarded to Wm. H. Masterson, the lowest bidder, for \$2242.30

Contract for regulating and paving with asphalt pavement asphalt strips for bicycles on either side of the carriageway on Cathedral Parkway was awarded to the Warren Scharf Asphalt Paving Company, the lowest bidder, for \$3969.40

Your communication in relation to the temporary use of a portion of Pelham Bay Park for cultivation for the unemployed in the City was referred to the Superintendent of Parks for report.

Specifications for the improvement of the park north of 153rd Street between 7th Avenue and Macomb's Dam Road were approved and the work ordered advertised.

Specifications were ordered prepared and printed for advertising, for improving for its full width of 400 ft. that portion of the Bronx and Pelham Parkway lying between the easterly line of Bronx Park and the easterly line of Bear Swamp Road.

Bids will be opened to-day for furnishing all the labor

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milham, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Hiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

and all the materials necessary to erect and complete the new southwest corner wing and lecture hall building of the American Museum of National History.

Proposals for the erection and completion so far as therein specified of the new Museum Building, Power House, Stables etc. in the Botanical Gardens in Bronx Park are to be opened on Monday next, the 11th inst.

Respectfully,

*William Cary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

Oct. 11th, 1897.

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milburn, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruyer, Vice-President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

The Honorable  
 William L. Strong,  
 Mayor.

Sir,-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending Oct. 9th.

**RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT:** Work in progress with a force of 172 men and teams; a force of 15 men and teams is engaged in laying water pipe.

**IMPROVEMENT OF PARK BOUNDED BY SEVENTH AND ST. NICHOLAS AVENUES AND 115TH STREET;** Work in progress with a force of 13 men and teams.

**LAYING ASPHALT STRIPS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ROADWAY OF CATHEDRAL PARKWAY:** Work in progress with a force of 20 men and teams.

**REPAIRING WALKS IN CENTRAL PARK:** Work in progress with a force of 21 men and teams.

**CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST. MARY'S PARK:** Work in progress with a force of 42 men and teams.

**CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK:** Work in progress with a force of 45 men and teams.

**CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY:** Work in progress with a force of 136 men and teams. Three locomotives and 136 cars are also engaged upon this work.

**PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD:** Work in progress with a force of 15 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Hiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

-2-

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 20 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY IN BRONX PARK: Work in progress with a force of 46 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 4th inst., permission was granted to the Commissioner of Public Works to construct a public comfort station within the boundaries of City Hall Park.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.) for the purpose of filling in certain lands in Van Cortlandt Park, to be used for the purpose of a Colonial Garden

A plan, submitted by William H. Burr, Consulting Engineer showing the proposed location of the new City Island Bridge, was approved.

Rules and regulations for the Golf Grounds in Van Cortlandt Park were adopted.

Specifications and form of contract for planting on Riverside Park, between 79th and 86th Streets, were approved, and an

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millant, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer, Cruyer, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Eby.*

-3-

advertisement ordered inviting proposals for doing the work.

The following resolution was adopted:-

RESOLVED, That this Department hereby approves, as required by Constitution, act 3, section 17, Laws of 1891, chapter 4, section 5, as amended, Laws of 1895, chapter 519, section 2, of that portion of the General Plan of the Rapid Transit Railway Commission, covering the route of the Rapid Transit Railroad running under streets, parks and public places under the jurisdiction of this Department;

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That all questions of detail in the construction of the Rapid Transit Railroad under streets, parks and public places under the jurisdiction of this Department, such as the depth of the said road under the surface at any point, its method of construction, its relation to park or other property under the jurisdiction of this Department, the damaging of such property by the said construction, the periods for which the said property shall remain open and its restoration, shall be submitted to this Department for approval before the construction of the said railroad shall be undertaken, and no such construction shall be begun until the said working plans are approved by this Department.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
 Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

## COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*S. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.*  
*William A. Stiles, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

October 18th, 1897.

The Honorable,  
 William L. Strong,  
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 16th instant.

## RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT:

Between 96th and 129th Streets; work in progress with a force of 160 men and teams.

Laying water pipe; 21 men and teams are engaged at this work.

IMPROVEMENT OF PARK BOUNDED BY SEVENTH AND ST NICHOLAS AVENUES AND 117th STREET: Work in progress with a force of 7 men and teams.

LAYING OF ASPHALT STRIPS ON EITHER SIDE OF ROADWAY OF CATHEDRAL PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 14 men and teams.

REPAIRING WALKS OF CENTRAL PARK: Work in progress with a force of 26 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: Work in progress with a force of 41 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: Work in progress with a force of 27 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 115 men and teams. Three locomotives and 130 cars are also engaged on this work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 14 men and teams.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 27 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY IN BRONXPARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD: Work in progress with a force of 45 men and teams.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: This work was commenced on the 11th instant.

At a meeting of the Board held on the 11th instant, a plan for a fountain in the small park on East 42nd Street, at an estimated cost of \$900, was approved, and the Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$1,500 for this purpose, and also for the purchase of settees for the same park.

A plan for the construction of a property road on Riverside Drive, between 113th and 114th Streets, was approved.

A plan showing a proposed walk connecting Avenue B, opposite 85th Street, with a portion of the East River Park reserved for a childrens' play ground, was approved.

Specifications and form of contract for improving the Bronx & Pelham Parkway for its full width, between Bronx Park and Bear Swamp Road, were approved and an advertisement was ordered published, inviting proposals for doing the work.

Specifications and form of contract for the improvement of Poe Park, at 192nd Street and Kingsbridge Road, were approved and an advertisement was ordered published, inviting proposals for doing the work.

A plan and estimate of the cost of enclosing Hancock Park, at 123rd. Street and St Nicholas Avenue and the improvement of the sidewalks surrounding the same, were approved, and the Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$3,500, for the purpose of carrying out the work.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$3,000, for repaving Paradise Park,

with asphalt, including the replacing of the old curb stone with new and the re-establishment of the fountain.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$5,000 to provide for the expense of making alterations and improvement in the lines of the roadways and walks at the entrance to Central Park at 59th Street and 8th Avenue.

A plan and map of location for the proposed new City Island Bridge was approved and it was ordered that when the same shall have received the approval of the Secretary of War, that the plan be forwarded to the Board of Estimate & Apportionment for its approval.

Plans for the bridge across the Harlem River at 145th Street, were approved and ordered forwarded for the approval of the Secretary of War, and when so approved, to be forwarded to the Board of Estimate & Apportionment for the approval of that Board.

The compensation of Clinton & Russell, architects, for drawing the plans and specifications and supervising the work of constructing a bridge over the Harlem River at 145th Street, including the services of William H. Burr, as Consulting Engineer, was fixed at 5% of the cost of the said work.

A contract for erecting a south-west corner wing and lecture hall and enlargement of the American Museum of Natural History building, was awarded to James Baker Smith, the lowest bidder, for \$362,500.

A contract for making a topographical survey and map of certain lands in Bronx Park was awarded to Stone & Thurston, for \$1,311.75, they being the lowest bidders.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

October 26th, 1897

The Honorable  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 23rd instant:

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENTS: Work in progress with a force of 131 men and teams. 16 men and teams are engaged in laying water pipe.

IMPROVEMENT OF PARK BOUNDED BY SEVENTH AND ST NICHOLAS AVENUES AND 117th STREET: This work is nearly completed.

REPAIRING WALKS IN CENTRAL PARK: This work is nearly completed.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 31 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 44 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: The work is in progress with a force of 106 men and teams; three locomotives and 150 cars are also engaged upon this work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: This work has been completed.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: The work is in progress with a force of 42 men and teams

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN BRONX PARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD: The work is in progress with a force of 49 men and teams.

ERECTION OF A SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING IN EAST RIVER PARK: The work is in progress with a force of 16 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 18th instant, bids were

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Eby.*

2

received for the erection of a Museum Building, Power House, etc. for the Botanical Gardens in Bronx Park. The John H. Parker Company were the lowest bidders, at \$354,400.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of cleaning and repairing the ornamental stone work on the Terrace in Central Park.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment were also requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$7,500, to defray the expense of laying asphalt walks, leveling the play ground, etc., in East River Park.

Plans for a Viaduct at Riverside Drive and 96th Street and approaches thereto were approved and ordered forwarded to the Board of Estimate & Apportionment, with a request that an issue of bonds to the amount of \$145,000 be authorized, to meet the expense of constructing the said Viaduct.

Commissioner Edward Mitchell was appointed a member of the following Committees: Audit; Down Town Parks and Aquarium; Uptown Parks and Harlem River Driveway.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$6,000, for the purpose of providing for the expense of repairs and alterations to the frame building on the Harlem River Driveway, near 175th Street.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was also requested to

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruger, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

3

authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$50,000, to provide for the expense of improving for its full width of 400 feet that portion of the Bronx & Pelham Parkway lying between the easterly line of Bronx Park and the easterly line of Bear Swamp Road.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was also requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$8,000, for the purpose of defraying the expense of constructing approaches to the Harlem River Driveway near 175th Street.

Commissioner Edward Mitchell was elected Treasurer of the Board.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*

Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milburn, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

November 1st, 1897.

The Honorable,  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department, for the week ending with October 30th:

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: This work is in progress with a force of 133 men and teams; 4 men and teams are engaged in laying water pipe.

IMPROVEMENT OF PARK BOUNDED BY SEVENTH & ST NICHOLAS AVENUES AND 117th STREET: This work was completed on October 28th.

LAYING ASPHALT STRIPS ON EITHER SIDE OF ROADWAY OF CATHEDRAL PARKWAY: This work was resumed on October 28th, with a day force of 13 men and teams and on October 29th, with a night force of 43 men and teams.

REPAIRING WALKS OF CENTRAL PARK: This work was completed on October 27th.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 30 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: Work in progress with a force of 48 men and teams.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: This work was completed October 23rd.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 88 men and teams; three locomotives and 150 cars are also engaged on this work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD. Work in progress with a force of 35 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY AND APPURTENANCES IN BRONX PARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD: Work in progress with a force of 38 men and teams.

ERECTION OF A SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 20 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cuyper, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday, October 25th, your communication calling attention to Chapter 523 of the Laws of 1894, an Act providing for the erection of a monument in Battery Park to honor the historical event of the evacuation of the British Army from that point in 1783, was referred to the Committee on Down Town Parks.

A plan showing proposed changes in the line and grade of the westerly sidewalk of the First Section of the Harlem River Driveway, was approved.

Commissioner Mitchell, to whom was referred the application of the contractor for the Second Section of the Harlem River Driveway for a payment on account of the moneys retained under his contract, made a verbal report and offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"On the report of Prof. William H. Burr, Consulting Engineer of this Department, dated October 25th, 1897, that the contract of J. C. Rodgers for the construction of the second section of the Harlem River Driveway, dated April 10th, 1894 and amended July 22, 1894 and June 24, 1896, has been fully and completely executed by said J. C. Rodgers, in accordance with the terms thereof, and on the consent of the American Surety Company and the United States Guarantee Company, sureties on said contract, dated October 25, 1897, and after reading the opinion of the Counsel to the Corporation, dated October 4, 1897, addressed to the Comptroller in regard to this matter, and after the members of this Board have themselves driven over the said section of the said driveway.

RESOLVED, That this Board approves the request of the said J. C. Rodgers, dated October 16, 1897 that he be paid the additional sum of \$75,000 out of the retained percentage on that contract."

A proposed plan, submitted by Hugh Stevenson for the laying out of

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruger, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

3

of a street adjoining High Bridge Park was approved and the report and recommendation ordered presented to the Board of Street Opening and Improvement, with a request for the laying out of such proposed street.

A plan submitted by Augustus St Gaudens, showing a proposed site for the statue of Gen. Sherman, was ordered returned to Mr. St Gaudens for correction, the lines of the road as shown thereon being faulty and not in accordance with the existing conditions of the locality.

A petition of A. F. Jaccaci, Montgomery Schuyler, J. B. Bristol and others, recommending that one of the new parks to be laid out be named after the late Commissioner William A. Stiles, was referred to the Committee on Down Town Parks.

Respectfully,

*William Cary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milham, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice-President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

November 8th, 1897.

The Honorable,  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending November 6th:

RIVERSIDE DRIVE IMPROVEMENT: Work in progress with a force of 145 men and teams. A force of 3 men and teams is also engaged in laying water pipe.

LAYING OF ASPHALT STRIPS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ROADWAY OF CATHEDRAL PARKWAY: This work is completed with the exception of the removal of the surplus materials.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: Work in progress with a force of 48 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 87 men and teams. Three locomotives and 150 cars are also engaged upon this work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 37 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 31 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY IN BRONX PARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD: The work is in progress with a force of 54 men and teams.

ERECTION OF A SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: The work is in progress with a force of 20 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday, the 1st instant, bids were received for supplying and erecting wrought-iron or steel railing and granite posts on the Harlem River Driveway: for the construction,

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milken, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice-President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

building, <sup>and</sup> finishing complete a public lavatory for men on Riverside Drive near 72nd Street; and for repairing and repaving with rock asphalt the northerly sidewalk of Transverse Road No. 3, crossing Central Park. Awards on these works will be made at the meeting to be held on Monday, the 8th instant.

A plan showing proposed arrangement of walks around the De Peyster statue at Bowling Green Park was approved.

A plan for the improvement of Claremont Park in the 23rd Ward was also approved.

A resolution was adopted, of which you have already been advised, that no action by the Board of Parks is required or suitable until after the Board of Estimate & Apportionment shall have exercised its discretion in appropriating \$50,000, to provide for the erection of a monument in Battery Park, in honor of the evacuation of the City of New York by the British Army in 1783.

The Engineer of Construction was directed to prepare specifications and forms of contracts for the improvement of Paradise Park in the 6th Ward and Hancock Park in the 12th Ward.

A resolution was adopted, requesting the Comptroller to issue bonds or stock to the amount of \$5,000, to provide for the expense of making certain plans and other preliminary work for the improvement and construction of parks bounded, one by Pitt, Houston, Sheriff and Stanton

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cuyper Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith, City.*

3

Streets, and the other by Hester, Essex, Canal, East Broadway, Jefferson, Division, Suffolk and Norfolk Streets.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$15,000, for the purpose of defraying the expense of improving Claremont Park.

The following named persons were employed as Park Policemen, on probation:

Henry N. Boerner  
Daniel Harnett  
John J. Clark  
Wm. F. Doubleday  
Wm. F. Aiken  
Thos. J. Harrington  
Gustavus Felleman  
Patk. F. Walsh  
John L. Cavanagh  
J. Henry Schappert

Wm. Mc Cracken  
Edward Baldauf  
Fredk. W. Klemm  
Patk. J. Murray  
John W. Donnelly  
John J. Dundon  
Dennis H. Anderson  
John J. Ryan  
John Boyd  
Wm. T. Mc Donough.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruger, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Eby.*

November 16th, 1897.

The Honorable,  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department, for the week ending with the 13th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: Work in progress, with a force of 133 men and teams. A force of 8 men and teams is also engaged in laying water pipes.

LAYING ASPHALT STRIPS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ROADWAY OF CATHEDRAL PARKWAY: This work has been completed.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 35 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 24 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: This work is in progress with a force of 65 men and teams; 3 locomotives and 40 cars are also engaged upon this work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: This work is in progress with a force of 25 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING ROADWAY AND APPURTENANCES IN BRONX PARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD: This work is in progress with a force of 49 men and teams.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 21 men and teams.

REGULATING AND PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT CERTAIN ROADWAYS IN MOSHOLU PARKWAY: This work was commenced on November 6th and is in progress with a force of 16 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Croger, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday, the 8th instant, the entire work of the Second Section of the Harlem River Driveway, completed by J. C. Rodgers, contractor, was accepted.

Plans for regulating, grading, etc. a Telford roadway in the Spuyten Duyvil Parkway, were approved, and the Board of Estimate & Apportionment requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$145,000 for doing the work.

The matter of setting aside a tract in a portion of Pelham Bay Park to be used for cultivation by the unemployed of the City was referred to the Committee on Uptown Parks, with power.

Specifications and form of contract for the removal of the temporary Macomb's Dam Bridge were approved and ordered advertised.

A contract for erecting a public lavatory on Riverside Park, near 72nd Street, was awarded to George Telfer, at \$10,773, and for repairing and repaving the northerly sidewalk of Transverse Road No. 3, to the Sicilian Asphalt Paving Company for \$1,534.50.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to include in the appropriation for the coming year the sum of \$20,000, to provide for sewer and water pipes for the Botanical Gardens in Bronx Park.

A plan for the reconstruction of the park enclosing wall on 5th Avenue between 90th and 96th Streets was approved and the Board of Estimate & Apportionment requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cuyper Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith City.*

3

amount of \$5,000 for doing the work.

Specifications and form of contract for constructing a bridge to connect Pelham Bay Park with City Island were approved and ordered forwarded to the Board of Estimate & Apportionment, with a request to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$234,000 for doing the work.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*

Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

Nov. 22nd, 1897

The Honorable,  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department, for the week ending with the 20th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: This work is in progress with a force of 102 men and teams. Two men and teams are engaged in laying water pipe.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: This work is in progress, with a force of 26 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 27 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: A force of 96 men and teams is engaged on this work. Three locomotives and 40 cars are also engaged upon the same.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: This work is in progress with a force of 37 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY IN BRONX PARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD: This work is in progress, with a force of 44 men and teams.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: Nineteen men and teams are employed upon this work.

REGULATING AND PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT CERTAIN ROADWAYS IN MOSHOLU PARKWAY BETWEEN VAN CORTLANDT AVENUE AND WEBSTER AVENUE: This work is in progress with a force of 17 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday, the 15th instant, all the bids or proposals received on the 18th ultimo for the erection of a Museum Building, Power House, etc. in the Botanical Garden grounds on Bronx Park, were rejected, in accordance with an opinion of the Counsel to the Corporation, and the work ordered re-advertised.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milburn, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Croger, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

That portion of the Harlem River Driveway known as the Second Section, between High Bridge and Dyckman Street, was ordered opened for public use on and after Wednesday, the 17th instant.

Plans and specifications for the alteration, construction and improvement of Cooper Union Park were approved and an advertisement was ordered inserted in the City Record, inviting proposals for doing the work.

Bids will be opened at the meeting to be held at 2.30 o'clock today for the following named works:

Furnishing all the labor, etc. necessary to erect complete the new east wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

For supplying and erecting wrought iron or steel railing and granite posts on the Harlem River Driveway.

For furnishing all labor and materials required to complete the plumbing and gas fitting necessary for the new east wing and extension of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

For furnishing all labor and material required to complete the electric light wiring system for the lighting of the same building.

For furnishing the complete installation of an electric lighting plant, for the same.

For furnishing all labor and material required to complete the steam heating and ventilation work of the same.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

3

For performing all the work of removing the old temporary swing bridge of the temporary Macomb's Dam Bridge.

For repaving walks with rock asphalt, setting new curb stones and improving Paradise Park.

For the improvement of Hancock Park, bounded by St Nicholas Avenue, Manhattan Street, Manhattan Avenue and 123rd Street.

Bids will be opened on Monday, November 29th, for the following:

For furnishing all the labor and materials necessary to erect, so far as specified, in the Botanical Garden in Bronx Park, a new Museum Building, Power House, etc.

For constructing and improving a portion of the Bronx & Pelham Parkway for its full width of 400 feet, between Bronx Park and the Bear Swamp Road.

For regulating, grading, etc. the Edgar Allen Poe Park.

For the improvement of the Park bounded by 153rd Street, 7th Avenue, River Street and Macomb's Dam Road.

For the iron work, etc. for pheasant yards near Arsenal.

For furnishing all the labor, etc. necessary to erect and complete a public lavatory for men on Riverside Park near 107th Street.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

November 29th, 1897

The Honorable,  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 27th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: Work in progress with a force of 94 men and teams. The work of laying water pipes has been completed.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: Work in progress with a force of 21 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: Work in progress with a force of 25 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 59 men and teams. Three locomotives and 40 cars are also engaged upon this work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress, with a force of 35 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN BRONX PARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD: Work in progress, with a force of 34 men and teams.

ERECTION OF A SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: Work in progress with a force of 30 men and teams.

REGULATING AND PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT CERTAIN ROADWAYS IN MOSHOLU PARKWAY BETWEEN VAN CORTLANDT AND WEBSTER AVENUE: Work in progress with a force of 18 men and teams.

PAVING WITH ASPHALT THE SIDEWALK OF TRANSVERSE ROAD NO. 3: Work in progress with a force of 12 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millam, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely*

2

At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday the 22nd instant, bids were received for the following named works:

For supplying and erecting wrought iron or steel railing and granite posts on the Harlem River Driveway.

Furnishing all labor and materials to complete the plumbing and gas fitting necessary for the new east wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Furnishing all labor and materials to complete the electric light wiring system for the same building.

Furnishing all the labor and materials to complete the installation of an electric lighting plant for the same.

Furnishing all labor and materials required to complete the steam heating and ventilation work of the same.

For erecting the new east wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

For performing all the work of removing the old temporary Macomb's Dam Bridge.

These bids will be awarded at the meeting to be held this day.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$12,000, the proceeds to be placed to the credit of the fund for the completion, etc. of Riverside Drive.

The final plans for the development of the Zoological Garden in Bronx Park, as presented by the N. Y. Zoological Society, were approved.

An application of the Postmaster and custodian of the P. O. Building, desiring the consent of the Department to begin work on the proposed improvements on Mail Street before Congress takes action on the extension of the sidewalk adjoining the park, was denied.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice-President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

3

The Aquarium was ordered to be kept open daily to the public; on Mondays and Tuesdays between 12 o'clock, noon, and 1 P. M. and on all other days, between 10 A. M. and 4 P. M.

Plans, specifications, etc. for constructing a bridge across the Harlem River from 145th Street to 149th Street, were approved and the Board of Estimate & Apportionment respectfully requested to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$1,246,000 for the construction of the said bridge and its approaches.

Bids or estimates for the following named works will be opened at the meeting to be held today:

Furnishing all the labor, etc. to erect and complete a Museum Building, Power House, etc. in the Botanical Gardens in Bronx Park.

For constructing and improving a portion of the Bronx & Pelham Parkway for its full width of 400 feet, between Bronx Park and Bear Swamp Road.

For regulating, grading and improving the Edgar Allan Poe Park, 192nd Street and Kingsbridge Road.

For the improvement of the Park bounded by 153rd Street, 7th Avenue, River Street and Macomb's Dam Road.

For the iron work, etc. for pheasant yards near the Arsenal.

For furnishing all the labor, etc. necessary to erect a public lavatory for men in Riverside Park, near 107th Street.

Respectfully,

*William Cary*

Secretary.

*City of New York*  
*Department of Public Parks*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel McMillan, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruyer, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

December 7th, 1897

The Honorable,  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department, for the week ending with the 4th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: This work is in progress, with a force of 117 men and teams.

PAVING WITH ASPHALT THE SIDEWALK OF TRANSVERSE ROAD NO.3: Work in progress with a force of 8 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: Work in progress with a force of 24 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: Work in progress with a force of 33 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 69 men and teams. Three locomotives and 40 cars are also engaged upon the work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 12 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY IN BRONX PARK: Work in progress with a force of 36 men and teams.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL ON THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: Work in progress with a force of 21 men and teams.

REGULATING AND PAVING CERTAIN ROADWAYS IN MOSHOLU PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 26 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millon, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

At a meeting of the Board, held Monday the 29th ultimo, bids were received for the following:

For Museum Building, Power House, etc. in the Botanical Gardens, Bronx Park, John H. Parker Company, lowest bidder, \$347,019.00.

Iron work for pheasant yards, Smith & Ryan, lowest bidders, \$2,175.

Public lavatory for men in Riverside Park near 107th Street, John F. Johnson, <sup>lowest bidder</sup> \$9,733.

Improvement of park at 153rd Street and 7th Avenue, Charles L. Doran, lowest bidder, \$9,585.75.

Construction and improvement of a portion of the Bronx & Pelham Parkway for its full width of 400 feet, John B. Mc Donald, lowest bidder, \$46,560.

Specifications and form of contract for draining and grading the grounds south of the Van Cortlandt Mansion in Van Cortlandt Park were approved and the work ordered advertised.

Specifications and form of contract for furnishing mould and top soil on St John's Park were approved and ordered advertised.

The design for the Soldiers' & Sailors Monument, as prepared by C. W. & A. A. Stoughton and approved by the Soldiers' & Sailors' Memorial Monument Commission, was referred to the National Sculpture Society, for report as to its artistic merit.

The plans for constructing bicycle and bridle paths on the Bronx & Pelham Parkway, from Bear Swamp Road to Baychester Avenue, were approved and the Board of Estimate & Apportionment requested to <sup>authorize an</sup> issue bonds to the amount of \$75,000 for doing the work.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was also requested to <sup>authorize an</sup> issue bonds to the amount of \$30,000, to provide for the expense of improving a portion of Crotona Park.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*  
Secretary.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millars, President.*  
*S. Van Rensselaer Crayer, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

December 14th, 1897

The Honorable  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 11th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: Work in progress with a force of 73 men and teams.

PAVING WITH ASPHALT THE SIDEWALKS OF TRANSVERSE ROAD NO.3: Work in progress with a force of 7 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: Work in progress with a force of 30 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: Work in progress with a force of 29 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 43 men and teams. Three locomotives and 48 cars are also engaged on the work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 10 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY AND APPURTENANCES IN BRONX PARK: Work in progress with a force of 40 men and teams.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: Work in progress with a force of 24 men and teams.

REGULATING AND PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT CERTAIN ROADWAYS IN MOSHOLU PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 37 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 6th instant, bid for regulating, grading, etc. Edgar Allan Poe Park was awarded to Charles L. Doran, the lowest bidder, at \$7,645.25.

Permission was granted to the North River Electric Light and Power Company to erect poles and run wires on Washington Bridge and on the Harlem River Driveway, on condition that the wires shall be placed under

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cuyler, Vice-President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

ground and the work to be done without expense to the Department.

Specifications and form of contract for the construction of approaches to the Harlem River Driveway opposite 175th Street, were approved and ordered advertised.

Specifications and form of contract for regulating, grading and constructing the Spuyten Duyvil Parkway were approved and ordered advertised.

Specifications and form of contract for constructing a roadway and appurtenances in Pelham Bay Park, extending the Bronx & Pelham Parkway from the Baychester Road to the Eastern Boulevard, were approved and ordered advertised.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize an issue of bonds to the amount of \$13,000, the proceeds to be placed to the credit of the account for completing the construction of Riverside Park and Drive.

Plan for that portion of Crotona Park bounded by Third Avenue, 177th Street, Arthur Avenue and 175th Street, was approved.

A preamble and resolutions submitted by the Trustees of the New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations were adopted, together with a form of Articles of Agreement, as submitted to and approved by the Counsel to the Corporation, to be executed by the Department on behalf of the City.

The action of the Board of May 9th, 1894, in granting an application of the Union Railway Company for permission to construct and operate a railroad upon, along and across the Bronx & Pelham Parkway was rescinded.

Preamble and resolutions, directing the Superintendent of Parks to remove the railroad tracks on Broadway west of Van Cortlandt Park were sent to the Counsel to the Corporation, for his opinion as to the extent of the powers and duties of the Board in the matter.

The following contracts were awarded:

- 1- Erecting an iron railing, etc. on the Harlem River Driveway  
to R. H. Hood - - - - - \$41,663.00
- 2- Improving a portion of the Bronx & Pelham Parkway,  
John B. Mc Donald - - - - - 46,560.00

*City of New York*  
*Department of Public Parks*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millon, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cuyler, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely*

3

3-	Iron work, etc. for pheasant yards, Smith & Ryan - - - - -	\$ 2,175.00
4-	Lavatory on Riverside Drive near 107th St., J. F. Johnson - - - - -	9,733.00
5-	Museum building, power house, etc., New York Botanical Gardens, John H. Parker Co. - - -	347,019.00

That portion of Riverside Drive lying west of the westerly curb, running from 104th to 120th Streets, was designated as a bicycle path, restricted to the use of bicycle riders only.

A recommendation of the Consulting Engineer of the Harlem River Driveway, under the interpretation of Clause C. of the Contract for the Second Section of the Harlem River Driveway, in reference to the filling of the back bays, that the volume of filling in question be paid for at the regular contract price of fifteen cents per cubic yard, was approved.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*

President.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

33

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Milham, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Crozier, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Samith Eby.*

December 21st, 1897.

The Honorable  
William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending with the 18th instant:

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: The work is in progress with a force of 87 men and teams.

PAVING WITH ASPHALT THE SIDEWALK OF TRANSVERSE ROAD NO.3: The work has been completed with the exception of curb setting.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF ST MARY'S PARK: Work in progress with a force of 35 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF CEDAR PARK: Work in progress with a force of 27 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: This work is in progress with a force of 28 men and teams. Three locomotives and 50 cars are also engaged upon the work.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE ROADWAY OF PROSPECT HILL ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 6 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY IN BRONX PARK, CONNECTING THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY WITH THE SOUTHERN BOULEVARD: Work in progress with a force of 22 men and teams.

REGULATING AND PAVING CERTAIN ROADWAYS IN MOSHOLU PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 16 men and teams.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL AND IRON RAILING ALONG THE EASTERLY FRONT OF EAST RIVER PARK: Work in progress with a force of 24 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY FOR ITS FULL WIDTH OF 400 FEET: Work commenced December 15th, with a force of 24 men and teams.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millars, President.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Croyer, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

2

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 13th instant, the action of the Board of Trustees of the New York Public Library, in the appointment of the following Consulting Engineers, for the construction of the proposed new library building, was approved:

Theodore Cooper, structural work and foundations.  
Alfred R. Wolff, heating and ventilating machinery.  
Pattison Bros., electrical installation.

The plans and specifications for the improvement of the park at Houston, Stanton, Sheriff and Essex Streets were approved, and the work ordered advertised.

An application of the Dry Dock, East Broadway and Battery R. R. for consent to a change of their motive power, was denied.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to issue bonds to the amount of \$15,000, for the construction of driveways and paths in the Botanical Garden Grounds.

A plan for gutter outlets for the approaches to the new City Island bridge was approved.

A resolution was adopted, certifying that the sum of \$5,000 was necessary in the year 1897 for the purposes set forth in Chapter 670 of the Laws of 1897, for the keeping, repairing, etc. of the Tomb of Gen. Grant.

Sealed bids or estimates for the following named works will be received on Monday, the 27th instant:

- 1- For regulating, etc. the low grounds southerly from the Van Cortlandt Mansion for Colonial Garden in Van Cortlandt Park.
- 2- For the improvement of park at 153rd St. and 7th Avenue.
- 3- For constructing a roadway and appurtenances in Pelham Bay Park, extending the Bronx & Pelham Parkway to the Eastern Boulevard.
- 4- For the improvement of Hancock Park at St Nicholas Avenue and 123rd St.

*City of New York.*  
*Department of Public Parks,*  
*The Arsenal, Central Park.*

COMMISSIONERS.

*Samuel M. Millan, Resident.*  
*L. Van Rensselaer Cruger, Vice President.*  
*Edward Mitchell, Treasurer.*  
*Smith Ely.*

3

- 5- For granite and bronze work around Hancock Square.
- 6- For repairing walks with rock asphalt and otherwise improving Paradise Park.
- 7- For furnishing and delivering mould or topsoil in St John's Park.
- 8- For constructing a roadway etc. from the Harlem River Driveway to roadhouse opposite 175th Street.
- 9- For regulating, grading, etc. a roadway and otherwise improving the Spuyten Duyvil Parkway.
- 10- For the improvement of park at Houston, Sheriff, Stanton, Pitt, and Willet Streets.

Sealed bids or estimates for the following, will also be received on Monday the 27th instant:

- 1- For the construction of a bridge over the Harlem River at 145th Street.
- 2- For constructing a bridge and approaches, etc. between Pelham Bay Park and City Island, in the 24th Ward.

Respectfully,

*William Leary*

Secretary.