

City of New York.
Department of Public Parks.
~~*49 and 51 Chambers St.*~~
The Arsenal, Central Park.

November 30th, 1896

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.

The Honorable,
William L. Strong, Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this Department for the week ending November 28th, 1896:

Number of men employed.....	3
Number of men discharged.....	25
Resignations.....	1
Reinstatements.....	1

Specifications and form of contract for paving the slope of the Pool near 102nd Street in Central Park have been prepared and referred to the Superintendent of Parks for report;

Also a plan of proposed grade of that portion of the Bronx and Pelham Parkway lying between the Eastchester Avenue (or lane) and the Eastern Boulevard, Pelham Bay Park, the improvement of which was not included in the existing contract for the parkway.

The Comptroller has been notified of the readiness of this Department to proceed with the construction, improvement and embellishment of the public park at the junction of East 192nd Street, Kingsbridge Road and the Grand Boulevard or Concourse, in the 24th Ward.

The work of tree planting and ornamentation at Morningside Park is being proceeded with, by the working force of the Department, and will be finished in about 10 days.

The entire work for the improvement of Mulberry Bend Park has been completed.

The work of re-grading the railroad tracks of the Metropolitan St. Ry. Co. and the Third Avenue Ry. Co. at the Circle, 59th St. and 8th Ave. is being proceeded with preparatory to the paving of the Circle with asphalt by the Sicilian Asphalt Paving Company, the contract for which was executed November 20th, 1896; contract price \$29,654.69.

City of New York.
Department of Public Parks.
~~*60 West 57th Street.*~~
The Arsenal, Central Park.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.

Hon. W. L. Strong, Mayor---2--

A contract for constructing parapet wall on westerly side of Riverside Drive, from 86th to 88th Streets, was executed November 23, 1896; contract price \$2,699.70.

Proposals are now being advertised for repairs to the Madison Avenue Bridge, bids to be opened on Monday, December 7th.

Respectfully,

William Leary

Secretary.

City of New York.
Department of Public Parks.
49 and 51 Chambers St.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.

December 5th, 1896

The Honorable,

W. L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this Department for the week ending December 5th, 1896:

Number of men employed.....1.
" " " discharged.....0.

The repairs to the Washington Arch, Washington Square, have been completed.

The work of paving and repaving with asphalt the walks of Central Park is being proceeded with.

At the Circle, 59th Street and 8th Avenue, the Metropolitan Railway Company have adjusted the southerly and westerly portion of their tracks and are repaving with old blocks the tracks adjusted.

The work of repairing and repaving with asphalt the walks of the city parks other than Central Park is being proceeded with. The walks in Mount Morris Park were completed on the 4th inst.

The grading and construction of sub-structure of the walk at the entrance at Manhattan Avenue and Cathedral Parkway is being prosecuted by men in the employ of the Department, and asphalt has been laid on the platforms of the stairway at the 120th Street entrance.

On the 1st and 2nd Sections of Riverside Park, between 79th and 120th Streets, the shaping of grounds and covering with top soil and the laying of asphalt on walks is being prosecuted.

On the 3rd Section, and the grounds surrounding the tomb of Gen. Grant, telford foundation for widening the roadway has been laid, as have been gutters on telford foundation, setting curb stones, constructing rubble stone foundation of walks and foundation for steps, coping and posts around the tomb. The grounds are being graded and drain pipe

Hon. W. L. S. --2--

laid .

The work of grading and construction of the culverts on the Bronx and Pelham Parkway has been in progress, with a force of 72 men and teams.

The work of regulating and paving with telford pavement the Pelham Bay Road, between Eastchester Bay and the northerly line of Pelham Bay Park was commenced on December 1st and the grading is in progress, with a force of 18 men and teams.

Surveys are in progress for the extension of the Bronx and Pelham Parkway through Bronx Park to the Southern Boulevard, and surveys for the erection of the new bridge have been commenced.

Considerable tree and shrub planting has been done in Central Park during the week.

The work of removing the snow in the City Parks on Monday last was finished by 10 A. M. on that day.

Wednesday next, the 9th inst. has been fixed for opening the Aquarium. An invitation to luncheon at the Aquarium at 1 P. M. on that day will be sent to the heads of the Departments of the City Government, and it is hoped that your Honor will be present on that occasion.

Respectfully,

William Leary
Secretary.

City of New York.
Department of Public Parks.
~~*42 and 51 Chambers St.*~~
The Arsenal, Central Park.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.

December 12th, 1896

The Honorable,

W. L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this Department for the week ending December 12th, 1896:

Number of men employed..... 1.
" " " discharged..... 1.

REPAIRS TO THE MADISON AVENUE BRIDGE: At the last meeting of the Board bids were received for repairs to this bridge and the contract awarded to Augustus Smith for \$6,470. Proposals for this work were advertised early in November and at the meeting held on November 16th, only one bid was received, that of Joseph Edwards & Co., for \$10,880. This bid was rejected, the Board deeming it to the interests of the City so to do.

PARK ENCLOSING WALLS, 97th to 110th STREETS: The construction of the Park enclosing walls and entrances on 5th Avenue from 97th to 110th Streets is nearing completion.

CIRCLE, 59th STREET & 8th AVENUE: The work of excavation, laying of concrete, rolling and preparation of foundation of the section on the south-west side is being prosecuted.

PAVING AND REPAVING WITH ASPHALT THE WALKS OF CENTRAL PARK: The walks from the Concourse near 105th Street and 8th Avenue to the East Drive and 7th Avenue have been completed and work is now in progress on walk west of the Terrace.

GREELEY SQUARE, 32nd STREET, 6th AVENUE & BROADWAY: The laying of the asphalt walks surrounding this square will be finished next week.

SEA WALL ON THE NORTHERLY SIDE OF EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK: The work of preparation of foundation for masonry is in progress.

RIVERSIDE PARK: The work for the week has been as follows:

1st Section, 79th to 96th Streets: delivering and spreading top-soil and laying foundation and concrete for walks at entrances.

2nd Section, 96th to 120th Streets: Shaping, delivering of mould and spreading; laying sods; building foundations and setting rustic steps; building foundations for walk and laying asphalt on walks; the delivery of cast iron water pipe was begun today.

3rd Section, surrounding Tomb of General Grant: Laying Telford foundation and gutters for drive; setting curb stones around Tomb; excavation for foundation and construction of rubble masonry foundation; filling; laying drain pipe; rolling the foundation for pavement of Avenue.

BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY: The work of grading and construction of culverts is in progress with a force of 98 men and teams.

PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD BETWEEN EASTCHESTER BAY AND THE NORTHERLY LINE OF PELHAM BAY PARK: This work was commenced on December 1st and the grading is in progress with a force of 22 men and teams.

AQUARIUM: The building was opened to the public on Thursday last, the 10th inst., and between twelve and fifteen thousand persons have visited it daily since its opening. By a resolution of the Board, the building is to be open to the public between the hours of 10 A. M. and 4 P. M., excepting Sundays and Mondays. It is the intention of the Board to open the building on Sundays immediately after January 1st next.

Respectfully,

William Leary
Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

December 19th, 1896

The Honorable,

William L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this Department, for the week ending December 19th, 1896:

Number of men employed.....4---Policemen.

The storm and heavy snow fall on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 15th and 16th inst., with the freezing weather, prevented the prosecution of all masonry work, laying of asphalt and work of a similar character in this Department.

The work of paving and repaving with asphalt the walks of Central Park was completed on the 15th inst.

The relaying of the walks at the triangle, 35th Street, Broadway and 6th Avenue was completed on the 19th inst., and that triangle completes the work under the contract requiring repairs and repaving in good condition the walks in the following named parks: Tompkins, Stuyvesant, Washington, Bryant, Greeley, East River, Extension to East River, Triangle at 32nd Street, 6th Avenue & Broadway, and Mount Morris Park.

The snow on the walks of the parks other than Central Park was removed with all possible speed by an "emergency gang" sent from the Labor Bureau of the Civil Service Commission. The total time expended on this work was 3288 hours at 22 cents per hour.

City of New York.
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COMMISSIONERS.

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

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Bids will be opened on Monday, the 21st inst. for -

- 1: Furnishing and delivering hay, straw, oats, grain and bran.
- 2: Furnishing and delivering garden mould where required in Central Park north of 97th Street---10,000 cubic feet.
- 3: For erecting an iron fence around the deer paddock near the Arsenal Building, Central Park.

Respectfully,

William Cary

Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millan, Resident.
J. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice President.
William A. Stiles, Treasurer.
Smith City.

December 28th, 1896.

The Honorable,

William L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this department for the week ending December 26th, 1896:

No men were employed or discharged during the week.

Proposals for the following named works were received at the meeting of the Board, held on the 21st inst., and were awarded as follows:

For furnishing and delivering 10,000 cub. yards
of garden mould where required on the Central Park
north of 97th Street, to J. Frank Quinn, at \$1.29
per cubic yard.....\$12,900.

For erecting an iron fence around the deer pad-
dock near the Arsenal building, in Central Park,
to A. & F. E. Ruhling..... 1,298.

For furnishing and delivering hay, straw, oats,
corn and bran for the next six months, to
Charles B. Morris..... 6,522.50

The form of lease as prepared by the Counsel to the Corporation, granting to the Society of Colonial Dames of the State of New York the use of the Van Cortlandt Mansion in Van Cortlandt Park, was approved and the President was authorized to execute the same for and on behalf of the Department.

The Engineer of Construction has been directed to make the necessary

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel McMillan, Resident.
L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.
William A. Stiles, Treasurer.
Smith Eby.

Hon. W. L. S. (2)

December 28th, 1896

surveys and soundings to determine the proper location for the proposed new bridge over the Harlem River at 149th Street and to prepare a plan showing such location, for the approval of the War Department.

Professor Henry F. Osborn of the New York Zoological Society appeared before the Board and submitted a memorandum of the proposed occupation of a portion of Bronx Park for the purposes of said Society. January 4th, 1897, at 3 P. M. was fixed as a time for a hearing to be given on the subject.

Postmaster Dayton, as custodian of the Post Office Building, has been requested to submit a plan showing an additional width of 15 feet in the northerly sidewalk of Mail Street, thereby doing away with the sidewalk on the southerly side, opposite the Post Office Building.

The extreme cold weather and the snow fall on Wednesday, the 21st inst. prevented the general prosecution of work of all kinds during the week.

Respectfully,

William Leary

Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millan, Resident.
J. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice President.
William A. Stiles, Treasurer.
Smith City.

January 2nd, 1897.

The Honorable,

William L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this Department for the week ending January 2, 1897:

No men were employed or discharged during the week.

CONSTRUCTING UPPER PORTION OF PARK ENCLOSING WALLS, ETC., BETWEEN 97th and 110th STREETS ON FIFTH AVENUE.

COMPLETING PARK ENCLOSING WALL FOR ENTRANCES AT 5th AND 8th AVENUES AND 59th STREET.

The work being prosecuted under these two contracts was suspended for the season on December 29th, by reason of the condition of the weather.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL ON EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK.

The concreting in foundation and the building of the wall has been prosecuted when the weather would permit.

CONSTRUCTING A ROADWAY, ETC., IN THE BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

The earth and rock excavation for the grading is in progress with a force of 80 men and teams.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Mallam, Resident.
S. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice Resident.
William A. Hiles, Treasurer.
Smith City.

Hon. W.L.S., Mayor -2-

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENTS.

PARAPET WALL BETWEEN 86th AND 88th STREETS.

Work suspended for the season December 29th.

FIRST SECTION, BETWEEN 79th AND 96th STREETS.

Work is nearly completed; the work required to finish cannot be prosecuted until the frost is out of the ground.

SECOND SECTION, BETWEEN 96th AND 120th STREETS.

A small force is at work completing walks at 115th Street and on foundation of walks; also in securing completed work from damage by the weather.

THIRD SECTION, BETWEEN 120th AND 129th STREETS.

No work has been done.

GROUND SURROUNDING THE TOMB OF GEN. U.S. GRANT.

The work of filling and erection of foundation walls for steps and coping has been prosecuted with a fair force.

Respectfully,

William Cary
Secretary.

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

Jan. 9th, 1897.

COMMISSIONERS.

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

The Honorable

William L. Strong, Mayor.

Sir,-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this Department for the week ending Jan. 9th, 1897.

Number of men employed 9; Policemen on probation.

The pay of E. R. Sampson, Skilled Laborer at the Aquarium was increased from \$75. to \$100 per month, and that of L. B. Spencer, Skilled Laborer at the Aquarium, from \$100. to \$125. per month

Wm. B. Taylor was promoted from the grade of Chainman to that of Rodman, at \$75. per month.

The temporary appointments of James F. Marion and Christopher A. Farrell, Axemen, were extended to April 1st, 1897.

Topographical maps of Claremont and Crotona Parks and the necessary surveys covering the improvement of those parks have been ordered.

The Gas Commission has been requested to properly light Transverse Road No. 4 crossing Central Park.

The report of the Treasurer for the month of December

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

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COMMISSIONERS.

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

shows that \$4763.62 was received and deposited in the City Treasury

It has been ordered that hereafter the Aquarium shall be opened to the Public daily, excepting Monday and Tuesday of each week.

The Committee on Railroads of the Board of Aldermen appeared before the Board at the meeting on Jan. 4th, and submitted a plan calculated to lessen the dangers to the public safety and traffic facilities arising from the railway curves at or about Union Square.

A Committee from the New York Zoological Society also appeared and were heard with reference to the proposed use of a portion of the Bronx Park for the purposes of said Society.

Erection of Sea Wall, East River Park:-

The work is being prosecuted by a force of about 35 men when the weather will permit.

Construction of roadway in Bronx and Pelham Parkway, -

The work of earth and rock excavation is in progress with a force of 105 men and teams.

Riverside Park improvement:-

First Section, 79th to 96th Streets, work suspended on

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

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COMMISSIONERS.

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

account of the weather.

Second Section, 96th to 120th Streets, completed.

Third Section, 120th to 129th Streets, - the work of setting granite curb in vicinity of Grant's Tomb is being proceeded with.

Grounds surrounding the Tomb of Gen. U. S. Grant, - the work of filling and constructing foundation for parapet walls and steps is being proceeded with.

Respectfully,

William Cary

Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

January 16th, 1897.

The Honorable,
W. L. Strong,
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this Department for the week ending January 16th, 1897:

Number of men employed, 1. (Laborer at Aquarium).

At the last meeting of the Board, held on Wednesday, 13th inst., the matter of the proposed removal of the sidewalk on the south side of Mail Street and the widening of the walk on the north side was referred to the Engineer of Construction for report.

The Captain of Police was instructed to allow all persons to cross the Central Park after the hour of closing at night by entering and leaving at the East and West 72nd Street entrances and taking the most direct route from one to the other.

Proposals for Central Park restaurants, etc. were received at the meeting and laid over until Monday, the 18th inst.

ERECTION OF A SEA WALL, EXTENSION TO EAST RIVER PARK:

The excavation, preparation of foundation and building of masonry is in progress with a force of about 30 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY:

The necessary excavation of rock and earth is in progress with a force of 95 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.

Hon. W. L. Strong, Mayor----2----

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT: GROUNDS SURROUNDING THE TOMB OF GEN.

U. S. GRANT:

The construction of foundation walls, delivery of filling and of top soil or mould is in progress, with a force of 26 masons and laborers and 45 teams and the delivery of the granite steps has been commenced.

All work upon the construction of the Park has been suspended.

Very respectfully,

William Barry
Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

January 23rd, 1897

The Honorable,

William L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report of this Department for the week ending January 23rd, 1897:

Erection of sea wall, extension of East River Park.

Work upon the excavation and trimming of rock for the preparation of foundation and putting in concrete, is in progress, with a force of 20 men.

Regulating, grading, etc. for the widening of 153rd Street, between 7th Avenue and Macomb's Dam Road.

A small force is at work excavating tree holes.

Riverside Park Improvement.

Third Section (120th to 129th Streets). Excavation for and construction of foundation of walks and setting granite curb stones near the Tomb of Gen. Grant, is in progress, with a force of 18 men and teams.

Grounds surrounding the Tomb of Gen. U. S. Grant. The work of filling for walks and ground exterior is being proceeded with, with a force of 72 men and teams and the rubble stone foundation walls are being

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The Arsenal, Central Park.

COMMISSIONERS.

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S. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice-President.
William A. Hiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

Hon. W. L. S. --2--

built, with a force of 12 masons.

Construction of roadway in the Bronx & Pelham Parkway.

The excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress, with a force of 81 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday, the 18th inst., Messrs. Osborn, Hornaday and Barnes, representing the New York Zoological Society, appeared and were heard relative to the proposed occupation of a portion of Bronx Park for the purposes of that Society.

The President read a memorandum, setting forth objections to the proposed agreement, as submitted by the Society. An amended draft of the agreement was then submitted and further consideration of the matter was laid over until the next meeting of the Board.

A plan and specifications of the Peter Cooper Monument was submitted by Hon. Franklin Edson at the meeting and the matter was referred to the President for examination and report.

The privilege of conducting the sale of refreshments at the Casino in Central Park was awarded to G. Dorval, for five years, at \$9,000 per annum; the privileges of conducting the sale of refreshments etc. in the Dairy and Skate Building, the restaurant near the Arsenal and the sheds adjacent to the Casino were awarded to Daniel Hurley, at

City of New York.
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Smith Ely.

Hon. W. L. S. --3--

\$7,400 per annum for the three. This is a total of \$16,400 per annum for five years for these privileges. The late licensee conducted them for five years on a percentage basis; he paid the Department, for the year 1895 about \$7,000; for the year 1896, about \$6,000. The new arrangement will increase the amount received for these privileges over \$10,000 per annum.

Respectfully,

William Cary
Secretary.

City of New York.
Department of Public Parks.
49 and 51 Chambers St.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.

January 30th, 1897.

The Honorable,

William L. Strong,
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to advise you that the extreme cold weather and heavy snow fall during the week has prevented the prosecution of all the works and but little progress has been made.

At the meeting of the Board, held on the 25th inst., a copy of the plans and specifications for museum building, power-house, stable, etc. of the New York Botanical Garden, was submitted by the Secretary of the Board of Managers and was referred to the President for examination and report.

J. A. Goulden, representing the Taxpayers' Alliance appeared before the Board and urged the granting of the petition of the New York Zoological Society to occupy a portion of Bronx Park for the purpose of a zoological garden.

A communication from the President of the American Museum of Natural History, proposing to co-operate with this Board in securing an appropriation for the improvement of the grounds of Manhattan Square, was referred to the President.

The Engineer of Construction was directed to proceed with the work of making the necessary surveys and soundings to determine a proper location for the proposed new bridge connecting City Island and Pelham Bay Park, the construction of which was authorized by Chap. 507, Laws of 1896.

The matter of the opening and extending of Crotona Park East, from Prospect Avenue to the Southern Boulevard in the 23rd and 24th Wards, was approved and ordered communicated to the Board of Street Opening and Improvement.

Respectfully,

William Levy 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. Miles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

Feby. 8th, 1897.

The Honorable,

William L. Strong,
Mayor.

Sir:-

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

The snow and frost of the past week has prevented the general prosecution of work of all kinds.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL, EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK.

The masonry work was prosecuted for about four days, with a force of about 25 men.

GROUNDS SURROUNDING THE TOMB OF GEN. U. S. GRANT.

The work of filling and masonry has been prosecuted with a force of about 50 men and teams. The progress of the granite work has been to set about 250 lineal feet of of steps, ^{and} about 250 square feet of platform, with sufficient granite upon the ground to complete two flights of steps about 50 feet in width.

It is reported that 90 tons of granite were received at the yard on the 3rd inst., and is being dressed with a force of 30 men.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

The excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress, with a force of about 50 men and teams.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

Hon. W.L. Strong, Mayor--2-- 2/8/97.

Owing to absence of a quorum no meeting of the Board was held on
the 1st instant.

Respectfully,

William Cary
Secretary.

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

Feb. 15th, 1897.

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millan, Resident.
L. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, 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 Feb. 13th.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL, EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK.

Work in progress with an average force of 35 men and teams for 4 days. The heavy snow storm on the 12th inst. prevented any work on the 12th and 13th.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT, Third Section.

Between 120th and 129th Streets a force of men have been at work grading for roadway near 122nd Street.

GROUNDS SURROUNDING THE TOMB OF GEN. U. S. GRANT.

The work of filling has been prosecuted with a large force and when the weather would permit, upon the rubble foundation walls. The walls are nearly completed.

The two flights of steps (50 ft. in width) together with the setting of the posts and coping have been completed, and work upon the flight (25 ft. wide) is in progress.

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

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COMMISSIONERS.

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

Granite received at the yard for dressing on the 13th is 217 lineal feet for coping. The work was suspended on account of heavy snow storm.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

The excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress, with a force of about 116 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 8th inst., it was decided to procure the consent of the owners of the property abutting on 96th[^] Street to the change of grade which will be necessitated by the construction of the viaduct on that Street.

The plans and specifications for the excavation necessary for the foundations of the new wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art were approved and ordered printed.

The Superintendent of Parks and Engineer of Construction were directed to report as to the advisability of extending Bainbridge Avenue across Mosholu Parkway.

The drinking troughs on Fifth Avenue at 96th, 98th and 106th Streets were ordered to be removed.

A map or plan submitted by the Custodian of the Post Of-

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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Samuel M. Millant, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Esq., Vice President.
William A. Stiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

fice, showing proposed changes on the southerly side of Mail Street and the widening to 30 ft. of the sidewalk on the north side of that Street, was approved.

The two tracks of the 8th Ave. R. R. Company and connections at the Circle at 8th Ave. and 59th Street, were ordered to be placed on the westerly side of the space occupied by the Columbus Statue.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment was requested to give its consent to the erection of a new bridge connecting Pelham Bay Park with City Island as provided by Chapter 507, Laws of 1896, amending Chapter 638 of the Laws of 1894, and was requested to authorize and direct the issue of bonds to the amount of \$249,000, as provided by that Act.

Respectfully,

William Barry
Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

Feby. 23rd, 1897

The Honorable,
William L. Strong,
Mayor.

Sir:-

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

ERECTION OF SEA WALL, EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK:

Work in progress with a force of 35 men. The stone is not being dressed upon the work but at the quarry and the force engaged upon that work is not known.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT:

Grounds surrounding Tomb of Gen. U.S. Grant; the construction of the foundation wall, basins, drainage and setting of granite has been prosecuted when the weather would permit; 42 stone cutters are now engaged in dressing the granite.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY:

The excavation of earth and rock required for regulating and grading is now in progress, with a force of about 123 men.

Owing to illness of Commissioner Stiles and absence of Commissioner Ely, no meeting of the Board was held on Monday, the 18th inst.

Monday, the 22nd, being a legal holiday, the next meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, the 24th instant, at 2 P. M.

Respectfully,

William L. Strong

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

Feby. 27th, 1897.

The Honorable,
William L. Strong,
Mayor.

Sir:-

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

ERECTION OF SEA WALL, EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK.

Work in progress with a force of 52 men; the stone is not dressed on the work but at the quarry and the force engaged is not known.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Surrounding Tomb of Gen. U.S. Grant; force of about 30 men and teams at work grading, shaping, putting on top-soil and drainage; the setting of the granite is in progress with a force of 10 men and about 40 stone cutters at the stone yard.

Third Section between 120 th and 129th Streets; excavating and putting in substructure for walks, etc., with a force of 18 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

The excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress with a force of about 61 men and teams.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millin, President.

J. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.

William A. Stiles, Treasurer.

Smith Ely Hon. W. L. Strong, Mayor----2----

At a meeting of the Board, held on Wednesday, the 24th instant, the matter of the extension of 135th Street from St Nicholas Avenue to St Nicholas Terrace, was brought to the attention of the Board. The President had already communicated with the Counsel to the Corporation and opposed the bill, in view of the difference in grade between St Nicholas Avenue and St Nicholas Place. The action of the President, in opposing the bill, was approved by the Board.

Respectfully,

William Barry

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.

March 8th, 1897

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit report of this Department, for the week ending with the 6th instant.

ERECTION OF SEAWALL EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK:

The work is in progress with an average force of 38 men; stone is being dressed at the quarry, force unknown.

RIVERSIDE PARK, IMPROVEMENT OF:

Grounds surrounding the Tomb of Gen. U. S. Grant. Regulating
and grading grounds and substructure of walks is in progress with a force of 28 men and teams. The setting of the granite steps, coping, etc. is being prosecuted;----- about 35 stone cutters are at work at the granite yard.

Third Section, between 120th and 129th Streets: 33 men and
teams are engaged on grading telford pavement and gravel road, etc.

WIDENING 153rd Street BETWEEN 7th AVENUE AND MACOMB'S DAM ROAD:

A force of 14 men and teams is at work regulating and grading and excavating for tree holes.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice President.
William A. Hiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

Hon. W. L. S. --2--

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY:

The excavation of the earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress, with a force of about 28 men and teams.

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD, HELD ON THE 1st INSTANT:

A plot of ground at High Bridge Park was ordered to be set apart for the use of the Department of Public Works, as a nursery.

The following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, That this Board approves of the designation of the southern portion of Bronx Park as a suitable location for the Zoological Garden and that copies of the letters of February 4th and 14th, from the Zoological Society, together with memorandum of the proposed agreement, be referred to the Counsel to the Corporation, with a request that he inform this Board whether, in his opinion, the interests of the City are properly protected.

Respectfully,

William Henry
Secretary.

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. Hiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

March 15th, 1897

The Honorable,
 William L. Strong,
 Mayor.

Sir:-

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

ERECTION OF SEA WALL EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK.

The work is in progress with an average force of 28 men; the stone
 is being dressed at the quarry; force of men unknown.

RIVERSIDE PARK, IMPROVEMENT OF.

GROUNDS SURROUNDING THE TOMB OF GEN. U.S. GRANT. Regulating
 and grading grounds and substructure of walks is in progress, with a
 force of 47 men and teams; setting granite steps, coping, etc. is being
 proceeded with; the stone is being cut at the yard, with a force of from
 30 to 40 men.

SECOND SECTION, BETWEEN 120th and 129th STREETS. About 40 men
 and teams are employed on grading, telford pavement, gravel roads, etc.

WIDENING 153rd street BETWEEN SEVENTH AVENUE AND MACOMB'S DAM ROAD.

The work of regulating and grading and excavating of tree holes is being
 proceeded with.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

The excava-
 tion

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

(2)

of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress, with a force of about 45 men and teams.

At the meeting of the Board, held on the 8th instant, it was

RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of Public Works be requested to repave that portion of Fifth Avenue under the jurisdiction of this Department with asphalt, in order that the roadway of said avenue may be continuously asphalted for its entire length, provided the work be done without expense to this Department.

The Engineer of Construction was directed to prepare plans and specifications for laying 10 feet strips of asphalt pavement on the easterly and westerly sidewalks of Manhattan Square.

A design was ordered prepared for an additional entrance on the westerly side of Central Park, between 64th and 72nd Streets.

A plan showing proposed location of lights on Morningside Park, at 116th and 120th Streets, was forwarded to the Gas Commission, with a request that provision be made for the placing of lights on that park, as indicated on the plan.

The following contracts were awarded:

1. Facing with rubble stone and rock work the walls of the slope of the Pool, Central Park, to Bart Dunn, \$1,800.
2. Furnishing and delivering gravel on Central and Riverside Parks, to J. Frank Quinn, \$18,700.

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. Stiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely

(3)

3. For an addition to the cottage on the east side of Central Park, near 65th Street, to Thomas Brennan, \$1,190.
4. For excavating and other work of improvement, Cathedral Parkway, to Benj. J. Tuite, \$4,352.
5. For furnishing and delivering garden mould where required on the parks, to J. Frank Quinn, \$6,650.

The bid of Joseph K. Smith (amounting to \$17,100) for furnishing and delivering manure on the parks, was rejected, it being the only bid received for the work.

Respectfully,

William Leary
Secretary.

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

March 22nd, 1897

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millam, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, 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 March 20th.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL, EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK.

Work in progress with an average force of 30 men on site of work. Wall nearly completed.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT, - SURROUNDING TOMB OF
 GENERAL U. S. GRANT.

Regulating and grading grounds and substructure of walks in progress with a force of 47 men and teams. On setting granite steps, coping, etc. a force of 13 men, with a force of from 30 to 40 stone cutters at work at the Granite Yard.

THIRD SECTION BETWEEN 120th and 129th STREETS.

Force employed on grading Telford pavement, gravel road, etc. 36 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

The excavation of earth and rock required for the regula-

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

-2-

ting and grading is in progress, with a force of about 21 men and teams.

Respectfully,

William Seary
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.

March 29th, 1897

The Honorable,
William L. Strong,
Mayor.

Sir:-

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

ERECTION OF SEA WALL, EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK.

Work in progress with an average force of 30 men.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

SURROUNDING THE TOMB OF GEN. U. S. GRANT. Regulating and grading grounds and substructure of walks in progress, with a force of about 35 men and teams. A force of about 30 men is engaged in laying concrete walks.

THIRD SECTION, BETWEEN 120th and 129th STREETS. About 70 men and teams are at work grading telford pavement, gravel roads, etc.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

Excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress with a force of about 13 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held Monday, the 22nd instant, contract was awarded to William Young, for 200,000 square feet of sod, to be delivered on Central, Morningside, East River and Mount Morris Parks and City parks below 59th Street, for \$3,500.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel W. Millant, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice President.
William A. Miles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

(2)

Specifications for painting the Washington Bridge across the Harlem River were approved and ordered advertised.

An application from the Chamber of Commerce, in relation to a statue of Gen. W. T. Sherman, was referred to the National Sculpture Society, for report as to its merits as a work of art.

An application from the Art Societies of New York, in relation to a memorial proposed to be erected to the late Richard Morris Hunt, was referred to the same Society.

A number of requests to be heard before the granting of any application of the 6th, 8th or 9th Avenue Railroad Companies or the Central Park North & East River Railroad Company or the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, for consent to a change of motive power, were received and filed.

Specifications were received from the Engineer of Construction and were ordered printed and advertised, for repaving with concrete and mortar the walk adjoining the Battery sea wall; also for paving with asphalt the unpaved portions of the sidewalks of Transverse Roads Nos. 1, 2, and 3, crossing the Central Park.

A plan for the improvement of the small triangular park at 7th and St Nicholas Avenues and 117th Street, was approved.

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.

April 5th, 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 3rd instant.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL, EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK.

Work in progress with an average force of 32 men.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Surrounding Tomb of Gen. U. S. Grant: Regulating and grading grounds and substructure of walks, setting granite steps, coping, etc. and sodding in progress with a force of 96 men and teams.

Third Section, between 120th and 129th Sts.: 126 men and teams engaged on grading, telford pavement, gravel road, setting curb, laying concrete and granite block pavement and concreting walks.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

The excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress, with a force of 57 men and teams.

Respectfully,

William Leary
 Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Milam, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, Vice-President.
William A. Miles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

April 12th, 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 10th instant:

RIVERSIDE PARK, IMPROVEMENT OF.

Work was resumed on April 5th on the construction of the First Section, between 79th and 90th Streets and the erection of parapet wall from 86th to 88th Streets, on the Second Section.

Third Section, 120th to 129th Streets: Work now being prosecuted is the laying of granite block pavement, laying of concrete for same and for walk pavement, curb setting, laying Telford foundation, rubble stone superstructure for walks, and laying Croton water pipes. The force employed is about 150 men and teams.

GROUNDS SURROUNDING TOMB OF GEN. U.S. GRANT: The work in progress has been the laying of walk pavement with concrete and mortar, shaping and sodding and granite masonry. Force employed about 77 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF PARK ENCLOSING WALL 5th AVENUE, 8th AVENUE, and 59th and 110th STREETS: Work upon the foregoing was resumed on the 5th inst.

ERECTION OF SEA WALL, EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK: The mason work is completed and the railing only remains to be done.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress with a force of 41 men and teams.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD BETWEEN EASTCHESTER BAY AND THE NORTH END OF PELHAM BAY PARK: Work resumed on the 5th inst. with a force of 40 men and teams.

At the meeting of the Board, held on the 5th instant, specifications and form of contract for the improvement of a portion of St Mary's Park were approved and ordered printed; as were specifications for repairing and repaving with rock asphalt the walks in and around city parks other than Central Park.

The Engineer of Construction was directed to prepare a plan, showing an extension of the sea wall along the easterly side of the extension of East River Park, from its present terminus at 89th Street to 86th Street and adjoining walks and improvements connected therewith and when such plan is completed, the same to be forwarded to the Board of Estimate & Apportionment, with the request that an issue of bonds to the amount of \$55,000 be authorized for the purpose of carrying out the said work.

The plan submitted by the Peter Cooper Monument Committee was approved and the Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize the expenditure of a sum, not exceeding \$7,000, for the purpose of carrying out the improvement, said sum to be taken from the balance remaining of the amount appropriated by the said Board on the 30th of June, 1896, under the provision of Chap. 194 of the Laws of 1896, for the construction of enclosing walls, posts, etc., for entrances to Central Park.

The work of making borings for the proposed bridge connecting City Island with Pelham Bay Park was ordered proceeded with.

Respectfully,

William Leary

Secretary.

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.

April 19th, 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 17th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

1st Section, 79th to 86th Streets: The work of putting topsoil in place and construction of walks is in progress, with a force of 33 men and teams.

Parapet wall, 86th to 88th Streets: Excavating for and building rubble stone foundation with a force of 13 men.

2nd Section, 96th to 120th Streets: The work of shaping grounds, construction of walks and foundation masonry and steps in progress with a force of 72 men and teams.

3rd Section, 120th to 129th Streets: The work in progress is construction of gravel roads, construction of walks and laying of asphalt adjacent to the grounds of the Tomb, laying granite block pavement in Avenue from 124th to 129th Streets and laying of water pipes. Force employed 121 men and teams.

Grounds adjoining tomb of Gen. U. S. Grant: This work was completed on Thursday, 15th instant.

C. R. 4-300

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

2

Construction of enclosing walls and entrances to Central Park.
Work in progress at 106th, 99th and 79th Streets and Fifth Avenue, with a force of ten men.

Facing slopes of Pool in Central Park: Stone is now being delivered for this work.

Extension of East River Park sea wall. Masonry work completed, and erection of railing in progress.

Construction of roadway in the Bronx & Pelham Parkway: The excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress, with a force of 50 men and teams.

Paving with Telford Pavement the Pelham Bridge Road between Eastchester Bay and the northerly end of Pelham Bay Park: Work in progress with a force of 46 men and teams.

At a special meeting of the Board, held on the ^{14th} ~~12th~~ instant, it was
RESOLVED, That the Department of Public Parks will issue permits for the erection of such platforms or stands on slopes too steep to stand on, provided that each applicant shall guarantee to the Department that no greater charge than fifty cents be made for each seat and that persons granted such permits agree to remove the stands on or before May 1st and immediately thereafter make good any damage done to the ground.

An advertisement to this effect was inserted in the City Record,

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.

3

"Press", "Tribune", "Evening World" and "Commercial Advertiser" three times. The matter of granting these permits was referred to the President with power.

The President was also authorized to arrange for the necessary railings on the northerly and westerly sides of Riverside Drive.

Respectfully,

William Leary
Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millant, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Esq., Vice President.
William A. Stiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

May 3rd, 1897

The Honorable,
 W. L. Strong,
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department,
 for the week ending May 1st.

Riverside Park Improvement.

Between 79th and 96th Streets. Work completed.

Parapet Wall, 86th to 88th Streets. Work in progress with a force
 of 11 men and teams.

Between 96th and 120th Streets. Work in progress with a force of
 88 men and teams.

Between 120th and 129th Streets. Work temporarily suspended, by
 reason of parade stands, etc.

Facing slopes of "Pool" in Central Park.

Stone facing completed and surplus of material removed on Apl. 30th.

Extension of East River Park.

The iron railing is being erected.

Construction of roadway in the Bronx & Pelham Parkway.

Excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading
 is in progress, with a force of 78 men and teams.

Paving with Telford pavement the Pelham Bridge Road
 from East Chester Bay to the Northerly line of Pelham
 Bay Park.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel McMillan, Resident.
L. Van Rensselaer Cruyer, Vice-President.
William A. Hiles, Treasurer.
Smith Eby.

2

Work in progress with a force of 70 men and teams.

Bids will be opened at the meeting today for concreting the Pool in Central Park; also for furnishing all labor and materials required for the installation of a refrigerating plant in the Aquarium.

Bids are being advertised to be opened on Monday, May 10th, for the following named works:

Furnishing all labor required to complete excavations for the foundations of the new east wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

For furnishing labor required to complete excavation near Station 67, Section 2 of the Harlem River Driveway and

For painting the iron work of the bridge crossing the Harlem River, known as Washington Bridge.

Respectfully,

William Leary
Secretary.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

May 10th, 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 8th instant.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Between 79th and 96th Streets: Asphalt walks completed.

Parapet wall, 86th to 88th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 15 men.

Between 96th and 120th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 67 men and teams.

Between 120th and 129th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 30 men and teams.

153rd ST. WIDENING TO CENTRAL BRIDGE.

Work in progress with a force of 15 men and teams.

EXTENSION OF EAST RIVER PARK SEA WALL.

Iron railing is being erected.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX AND PELHAM PARKWAY.

The excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress with a force of 79 men and teams.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

--2--

May 10th

PAVING WITH TERFORD PAVEMENT PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD BETWEEN EAST-CHESTER BAY AND THE NORTHERLY END OF PELHAM BAY PARK.

Work in progress with a force of 78 men and teams.

PAVING CIRCLE AT 59th STREET and 8th AVENUE.

Railway Companies commenced adjusting their tracks on the 6th inst and contractors began adjusting grade on the 7th instant.

At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday, the 3rd instant, a contract for placing stone filling and concrete in the bottom of the Pool near 102nd Street and 8th Avenue, was awarded to the Aetna Construction Company; amount of contract \$3,115.

Proposals were ordered advertised for making excavations for the foundation of a new wing for the Metropolitan Museum of Art building; also for paving roadways in the parks north of the Harlem River, as follows: Mosholu Parkway from Grand Avenue to Jerome Avenue; Grand Avenue from Mosholu Parkway to Jerome Avenue; Van Cortlandt Avenue crossing Mosholu Parkway; the old Williamsbridge Road between 203rd Street and Van Cortlandt Avenue; Bussing Lane crossing Mosholu Parkway from Bainbridge to Perry Avenue and roads between Bussing Lane and Webster Avenue; Prospect Hill Road in Pelham Bay Park and the old Boston Road from East 181st Street to the easterly line of Bronx Park.

A topographical survey of Bronx Park was ordered.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

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The Sicilian Asphalt Paving Company was ordered to resume forthwith the paving of the Circle at 8th Avenue and 59th Street and the Metropolitan Street Railway Company and the Third Avenue Railroad Company were notified to proceed at once with the work of resetting their tracks at that point.

The Board of Estimate & Apportionment was requested to authorize the issue of bonds from time to time as may be required, to the amount of \$100,000, as provided by Chapter 417, Laws of 1892 as amended by Chap. 609, Laws of 1896.

Respectfully,

William Henry

Secretary.

C.R. 4302.
City of New York.
Department of Public Parks,
The Arsenal, Central Park.

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millan, Resident.
L. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice-Resident.
William A. Hiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely

May 17th, 1897

The Honorable,
William L. Strong,
Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending May 15th.

Riverside Park Improvement.

Parapet wall, 86th to 88th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 14 men.

Between 96th and 120th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 48 men and teams.

Between 120th and 129th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 35 men and teams.

Enclosing wall and entrances to Central Park.

At 110th Street and 8th Avenue: Excavation and putting in foundations in progress

Widening the roadway of 153rd St. to Central Bridge.

Contractor setting curb, etc., with a force of 30 men and teams.

Extension of East River Park sea wall.

Iron railing being erected.

Paving the Circle, 59th St. & 8th Ave.

Railway companies adjusting tracks; contractor adjusting curb and paving walk around Circle, with a force of 14 men; paving of Circle to be commenced as soon as railway companies' tracks are adjusted.

C.R. 4300.
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 City.

2

Construction of Roadway in the Bronx & Pelham Parkway.

The excavation of earth and rock required for the regulating and grading is in progress with a force of 101 men and teams.

Paving with telford pavement the Pelham Bridge Road, between Eastchester Bay and the Northerly end of Pelham Bay Park.

Work in progress with a force of 80 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 10th instant, the following officers were elected:

Samuel Mc Millan,	President.
S. V. R. Cruger,	Vice-President.
William A. Stiles,	Treasurer.

Bids were opened for the following named works: Furnishing all labor required to complete excavations for new east wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art; furnishing all labor required to remove slide of rock near Station 67, Section 2 of the Harlem River Driveway; for painting the iron work of Washington Bridge.

Contract for refrigerating plant at the Aquarium was awarded to the Newburgh Ice Machine and Engine Company at \$3,722.

The Consulting Engineer of the Harlem River Driveway was directed to prepare plans showing the additional work required in connection with the Harlem River Driveway not provided for in the contract.

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. Stiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

3

It was ordered that the sum of \$350 be expended to make the necessary repairs to the gas tank on the new Macomb's Dam Bridge.

Specifications and form of contract were ordered prepared for topographical surveys of Bronx and Van Cortlandt Parks.

Carrere & Hastings were employed to prepare plans and specifications for the improvement of St John's Park.

Contract for the removal of the rock slide from the 2nd Section of the Harlem River Driveway was awarded to J. C. Rodgers at \$1.75 per cubic yard (Total amount, approximately \$7,350).

A plan submitted by the Superintendent of the Aquarium for the completion of the gallery railing at the Aquarium was approved and an order for doing the work was authorized to be issued.

Respectfully,

William Beary
Secretary.

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. Hiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

May 24th, 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 22nd instant.

Riverside Park Improvement.

Parapet wall, 86th to 88th Streets: Work in progress.

Between 96th and 120th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 51 men and teams.

Between 120th and 129th Streets: Work in progress with a force of 41 men and teams.

Filling and concreting the Pool in Central Park: 18 men and teams engaged on this work.

Paving the Circle at 59th Street and 8th Avenue: A large force of men and teams are engaged in raising the curb and putting in concrete adjoining the old rails.

Widening of roadway of 153rd Street to Central Bridge: Work of setting curb, etc. in progress, with a force of 25 men and teams.

Construction of roadway in the Bronx and Pelham Parkway: Work in progress with a force of 87 men and teams.

Paving with Telford pavement Pelham Bridge Road between Eastchester Bay and the Northerly end of Pelham Bay Park: Work in progress with a force of 72 men and teams.

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

2

At the meeting of the Board, held on the 17th instant, plans prepared by Cady, Berg & See, architects, for the erection and equipment of additions to the building of the American Museum of Natural History were approved and ordered forwarded to the Board of Estimate & Apportionment, for their concurrence, and with the request that the issue of bonds not to exceed \$500,000 in amount be authorized to meet the expense of the work.

The compensation of Messrs. Cady, Berg & See was fixed at 5% of the cost of the work.

A plan showing modification of plan for constructing and improving Riverside Park between 120th and 129th Streets by alterations of the drives and walks was approved, as was a plan showing proposed extension of the roadway of the Bronx & Pelham Parkway westerly through Bronx Park to the Southern Boulevard, connecting with Pelham Avenue.

A plan showing proposed improvement of small parks on East 42nd Street was approved.

Permission was granted to the "Evening Telegram" to hold a bicycle parade on Riverside Drive north of 108th Street on June 5th.

Specifications and forms of contracts for painting the iron and wood work of the Macomb's Dam and Madison Avenue bridges were approved.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

3

Contracts were awarded for the following named works, bids for which were received on the 10th instant:

For excavations for foundations of the new east wing and extension of the Metropolitan Museum of Art building to W. H. Masterson for \$18,745;

For painting the iron work of the bridge across the Harlem River known as the Washington Bridge, to Peter Mc Cormick & Sons for \$7,950.

Bids for the following named works are to be opened at the meeting of the Board to be held at 2 P. M. today:

For paving with asphalt the unpaved portions of the sidewalks of Transverse Roads Nos. 1, 2 & 3, crossing Central Park.

For paving with asphalt the sidewalks adjoining Manhattan Square on Central Park West and Columbus Avenue between 77th and 81st Streets.

For repaving with concrete and mortar of Portland Cement the walk adjoining the Battery sea wall.

Respectfully,

William C. Cuy
 Secretary.

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. Stiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

June 1st, 1897

The Honorable,
 William L. Strong,
 Mayor.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith report of this Department for the week ending May 29th:

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Parapet wall, 86th to 88th Streets: Force of 18 men and teams at work.

Between 96th and 120th Streets: Force of 46 men and teams at work.

Between 120th and 129th Streets: Force of 26 men and teams at work laying water pipes.

FILLING AND CONCRETING POOL IN CENTRAL PARK: This work is in progress with a force of 19 men and teams.

PAVING THE CIRCLE AT 59th ST. & 8th AVE.: The work upon paving has been suspended until the 8th Avenue and 59th Street tracks have been laid and adjusted. The Metropolitan Street Railway Company have a day force of 136 men and teams, and a night force of 16 men and teams at work on the 59th Street and 8th Avenue tracks and adjoining the Circle.

WIDENING ROADWAY OF 153rd STREET TO CENTRAL BRIDGE: Setting curbing, etc., in progress with a force of 21 men and teams.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IN THE BRONX & PELHAM PARKWAY: Work in progress with a force of 60 men and teams.

PAVING WITH TELFORD PAVEMENT THE PELHAM BRIDGE ROAD: Work in progress with a force of 109 men and teams.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millan, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice-President.
William A. Miles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

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At a meeting of the Board, held on Monday, the 24th ult., contracts were awarded as follows:

For paving the unpaved portions of the sidewalks of Transverse Roads Nos. 1, 2 & 3, crossing Central Park, to the Warren-Scharf Asphalt Paving Company for \$5,931.25.

For paving the easterly and westerly sidewalks of Manhattan Square, to the Warren-Scharf Asphalt Paving Company, for \$3,650.

For repaving walk adjoining Battery sea wall, to Cornelius O'Grady, for \$2,960.

The following arrangement of park concerts for the coming season was approved:

<u>Park.</u>	<u>Band.</u>	<u>Concerts.</u>	<u>Day.</u>
Central,	7th Regt.	30	Saturday & Sunday afternoons
Tompkins Sq.	Squadron "A".	13	Wednesday evenings.
East River,	12th Regt.	13	Thursday evenings.
Washington Sq.	8th Regt.	13	Monday evenings.
Battery,	69th Regt.	13	Friday evenings.
Mount Morris,	71st Regt.	13	Tuesday evenings.
Abingdon Sq.	Old Guard.	13	Wednesday evenings.
Madison Sq.	Di Matteo's.	13	Thursday evenings.
Paradise,	Bent Bros.	7	Tuesday evenings.
Mulberry Bend,	do	6	Tuesday evenings
Corlears Hook,	Berlinghoffs & Wagner's	13	Monday evenings.
St Mary's	Hager's	10	Saturday afternoons.
Claremont,	9th Regt.	10	Saturday afternoons.
Van Cortlandt	Sause's	10	Saturday afternoons.
Bronx,	Lind's	10	Saturday afternoons.
Crotona,	Weber's	10	Saturday afternoons.
Cedar,	Kenn's	10	Saturday afternoons.

The band employed in Central Park to contain 34 musicians, leader and soloist. All other bands to consist of 22 musicians, leader and soloist.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

3

A resolution was adopted requesting the Board of Estimate & Apportionment to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$25,000 for the improvement of Riverside Park between 79th and 96th Streets.

A study for the proposed colonial garden near the Van Cortlandt Mansion in Van Cortlandt Park was approved.

Sealed bids will be received on Monday, June 7th, for the following named works:

For the construction and improvement of a portion of St Mary's Park.

For repairing and repaving with rock asphalt the walks within and around the city parks other than Central Park.

For painting ^{the} ~~and~~ iron and wooden work of the bridge across the Harlem River known as the Macomb's Dam Bridge.

For painting the iron and wooden work of the bridge across the Harlem River known as the Madison Avenue Bridge.

Respectfully,

William Leary
 Secretary.

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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.

June 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 12th instant:

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Parapet wall, 86th to 88th Sts: Work completed except cleaning up.

Between 96th and 120th Sts.: Force of 17 men and teams at work.

Between 120th and 129th Sts. Force of 31 men and teams employed.

Laying water pipes: Force of 12 men and teams employed.

Filling and concreting Pool in Central Park: Work in progress
 with a force of 10 men and teams.

Paving Circle, 59th St. & 8th Avenue: Work upon paving has been suspended until the 8th Avenue and 59th Street tracks are adjusted. The Metropolitan Street Railway Company has a day force of 164 men and teams and a night force of 13 men and teams on the 59th Street and 8th Avenue tracks and adjoining Circle.

Widening roadway of 153rd Street to Central Bridge: Work in progress with a force of 18 men and teams

Construction of roadway in the Bronx & Pelham Parkway: Force of 36 men and teams are engaged upon this work.

Paving with telford pavement the Pelham Bridge Road: Work in progress with a force of 125 men and teams.

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. Miles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

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At the meeting of the Board held on Monday, the 7th instant, a contract for repairing and repaving with rock asphalt the walks in and around the City Parks was awarded to the Sicilian Asphalt Paving Co., for the sum of \$7,940.

The bids received for painting the Madison Avenue Bridge were referred to the President with power.

Specifications and form of contract for the improvement of St John's Park in the 9th Ward, were approved and ordered printed.

It was ordered that the Aquarium in Battery Park be opened to the public on all legal holidays.

A resolution was adopted, requesting the Board of Estimate & Apportionment to authorize the issue of bonds to the amount of \$75,000, for the completion and improvement of Riverside Park; also to authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$2,500, for the improvement of the small park at 117th Street, 7th and St Nicholas Avenues.

Specifications, etc., submitted by the Engineer of Construction for the construction and improvement of Cedar Park in the 23rd Ward, were approved, as was a plan showing proposed treatment of the small park in Fulton Avenue near 169th Street.

Respectfully,

William Henry
 Secretary.

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

June 21st, 1897.

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millan, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Cruger, 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 with the 19th inst:

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Between 96th and 120th Streets: Force of 13 men and teams.

Between 120th and 129th Streets: Force of 58 men and teams.

Laying water pipes: Force of 23 men and teams.

Filling and concreting "The Pool" in Central Park: Work in progress with a force of 23 men and teams.

Paving the Circle, 59th St. and 8th Avenue: The Metropolitan Street Railway Company have a day force of 145 men and teams and a night force of 17 men and teams at work on the 59th Street and 8th Avenue tracks and adjoining Circle.

Widening roadway of 153rd Street to Central Bridge: Contractor setting curb, etc. with a force of 21 men and teams.

Repaving the walk adjoining Battery Sea Wall: Work of excavation commenced on the 14th inst. with a force of 11 men and teams.

Paving with asphalt the sidewalks of Manhattan Square: Work commenced on the 18th inst. with a force of 24 men and teams.

Construction of roadway in the Bronx and Pelham Parkway: Work in progress with a force of 50 men and teams.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Millam, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, Vice President.
William A. Hiles, Treasurer.
Smith Ely.

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Paving with telford pavement the Pelham Bridge Road: Work in progress with a force of 115 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 14th inst., the report of Messrs Sargent, Hastings, Olmsted and Parsons was received and ordered printed as a document of the Board.

It was also ordered that a special meeting of the Board be held on the 18th inst. to take action on the plans of the New York Botanical Garden.

Plans prepared and submitted by the Aqueduct Commission, showing a heavy masonry wall proposed to be constructed along the sidewalk on the west of the Driveway, were approved, as were the recommendations of the Consulting Engineer that the elevation for cutting off the vertical piles be raised 6 inches, and the offer of the Contractor for the Second Section to supply clean filling required for the back bays at 25 ¢ per cu. yd.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment were requested to transfer the sum of \$6000. from the unexpended balance for Central Park enclosing walls, etc. to the fund provided for the improvement of St. Mary's Park, which is insufficient.

The specifications and form of contract for erecting

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

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COMMISSIONERS.

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

the new southeast wing for the American Museum of Natural History, were approved and ordered printed.

At a special meeting of the Board, held on Friday, the 18th inst., an amendment to the original plan filed by the New York Botanical Society was received; also an amended plan from the Committee on Experts.

It was ordered that a complete plan be submitted to the Board, on Monday, the 21st inst. for final action.

Respectfully,

William Leary

Secretary.

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

June 28th, 1897.

COMMISSIONERS.

Samuel M. Milam, President.
L. Van Rensselaer, Engineer, 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 with the 26th inst.

RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Between 96th and 120th Streets; force of 13 men and teams. Between 120th and 129th Streets; force of 102 men and teams. Force of 23 men and teams are engaged in laying water pipe.

The work of filling and concreting "The Pool" is in progress with a force of 31 men and teams.

Paving the Circle at 59th Street and 8th Avenue; the Metropolitan Street Railway Company have to-day a force of 165 men and teams.

Widening the roadway at 153rd Street; Contractor setting curb, etc. with a force of 10 men and teams.

Repaving the walk adjoining Battery Sea Wall; work in progress with a force of 20 men and teams.

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

COMMISSIONERS.

-2-

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

Paving with asphalt the sidewalks of Manhattan Square;
 work in progress with a force of 40 men and teams.

Construction of roadway in Bronx and Pelham Parkway;
 work in progress with a force of 55 men and teams.

Paving with Telford pavement Pelham Bridge Road; work
 in progress with a force of 106 men and teams.

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 21st inst., the
 contract for paving and repaving with asphalt the walks of the
 Central Park was awarded to the Silcilian Asphalt Paving Company
 at a cost of \$6465.

The Board of Street Opening and Improvement was requested
 to take the necessary steps to acquire the property on the water
 front of Corlear's Hook Park.

The work of laying asphalt strips on the Plaza at 110th
 Street and 5th Avenue, connecting the asphalt ~~strips on the pavem~~
 ments north and south of the Plaza, was authorized.

The plans as prepared and submitted by the Board of Man-
 agers of the New York Botanical Garden, showing proposed buildings
 to be erected on the grounds allotted for the use of the New York

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

COMMISSIONERS.

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

-3-

Botanical Garden in Bronx Park, were approved, the Board reserving the right to determine as to a Driveway entrance at Scott Avenue.

Respectfully,

William Leary
Secretary.