THE COMMON COUNCIL.

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN.

TUESDAY, 25th March, 1856.

The Board met this day pursuant to adjournment.

Members present: Hon. E. L. Tracy, President; Messrs. Banister, Barbarin, Benit, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Fabre, Guyol, Howell, Kelly, McKnight, Rusha, Stith, Thayer and Violett—16.

On motion of Mr. Fabre, Chas. W. Hopkins was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*

The reading of the journal was, on motion, dispensed with.

Mr. Stith moved to take up the unfinished business of the last meeting. Carried.

POLICE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Guyol, on behalf of the above Committee, offered the following report, which was read and adopted:

The Committee on Police, to whom was referred the following, beg leave to report:

1st. Upon the communication of B. Planchard, keeper of the police jail, reporting the slave boy Sam, who was arrested on the 17th of November, 1854, and which was advertised in accordance to law, and no person having claimed said negro, is, by law, forfeited to the city. A resolution is presented authorizing the Comptroller to sell said negro.

2d. Upon the petition of N. D. Marvell asking to be allowed to construct a blacksmith shop, your committee report favorably.

3d. On the petition of Jacob Fay, asking the privilege to erect a blacksmith shop on Prytania street, in vicinity.

4th. On the petition of A. Thompson, asking to be allowed to erect a steam engine on his property, situated on Ferdinand street, Third District, laverably.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY GUYOL,
J. L. FABRE,
C. BANISTER.

The following resolutions, accompanying the foregoing report, were read, the rules being suspended, and adopted:

Resolved, That the City Comptroller be and he is hereby authorized to sell to the highest bidder, after thirty days notice in the official journal, according to law, the negro boy "Sam," said negro having been forfeited to the city, said sale to be made for cash and subject to the approval of the Common Council.

Yeas—Messrs. Banister, Barbarin, Benit, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Fabre, Guyol, Kelly, McKnight, Rusha, Stith, Thayer and Violett—14.

Nay—Mr. Howell.

Resolved, That permission be, and the same is hereby given to N. D. Marvell, to erect a blacksmith shop on Apollo, between Third and Fourth streets, the same to be erected agreeably to existing ordinances, and to remain during the pleasure of the Common Council.

Resolved, That permission be, and the same is hereby given to Jacob Fay, to erect a blacksmith shop on Prytania street, provided the same be fire-proof and subject to be removed when the Common Council may deem the same necessary.

Resolved, That permission be, and the same is hereby granted to A. Thompson, to erect a steam engine on his property situated on Ferdinand street, Third District, in accordance and agreeably to law, the same to remain during the pleasure of the Common Council.

JUDICIARY.

Mr. Bouny, on behalf of the above committee, offered the following report, which was read and adopted:

The Judiciary Committee beg leave to report upon the following matters referred to them:

Upon the resolution authorizing the Assistant City Attorney to cancel a judgment obtained against Wm. R. Thompson. Ordinance No. 2415, approved October 22d, 1855, empowers the Assistant City Attorney to cancel judgment in such cases.

Upon the resolution adopted by the Board of Aldermen on the 14th of February, 1856, and instructing the City Attorney to commence suit against the city of Baltimore for one-half of the amount paid by the city of New Orleans toward employed to sustain the will of the late John McDonogh, your committee would recommend that the same be concurred in.

Upon the petition of widow Dimitry, asking to be paid for damages to her property by the fire which occurred in Charters street on the 29th of September last, your committee report adversely. Respectfully submitted.

E. BOUNY,
W. CHAMBERS,
T. A. BARTLETTE,
A. CHIAPELLA,
J. L. FABRE.

Messrs. Bartlette and Bridge took their seats.

The following resolution adopted by the Board of Alderman was read, the rules being suspended, and concurred in as recommended in the foregoing report, by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Banister, Barbarin, Bartlette, Benit, Bridge, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Fabre, Howell, Kelly, Rusha, Stith, Thayer and Violett—16.

A resolution instructing the City Attorney to institute suit against the city of Baltimore for the recovery of $50,000—being one-half the amount paid to counsel employed to sustain the will of the late John McDonogh.

FIRE.

Mr. Stith, on behalf of this committee, offered the following report, which was read and adopted:

The Committee on Fire, to whom was added three members of this Board, for the purpose of examining and adjusting the claims against the Fire Department of the city, have the honor to report: That they have thoroughly investigated the different accounts and bills and are of the opinion that the city will be liable for them, inasmuch as said bills were contracted by the Chief of the Fire Department, and approved by His Honor, the Mayor, during the late disbandment of said Fire Department; at the same time your committee would state, that a number of these bills are unaccompanied by the proper vouchers for such expenditures; but as the Mayor of the city was duly authorized to take such steps as would secure a proper protection, not only of the city, but to protect the city property, your committee to avoid litigation and expense, report the necessary resolution to pay said accounts. Respectfully submitted,

GERARD STITH,
B. W. HERBARD,
AMADEO LANDRY,
WEBSTER LONG,
L. McKNIGHT.

The following resolutions accompanying the above report were read, the rules being suspended, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Comptroller warrant the Treasurer in favor of James H. Wingfield for the sum of four hundred and eight 25-100 dollars; amount of sundry expenses of the Fire Department, during disbandment, approved by His Honor the Mayor, and which amount has been paid by the Treasurer, for said purpose.

Yeas — Messrs. Banister, Barbarin, Benit, Bridge, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Fabre, Guyol, Howell, Kelly, Rusha, Stith and Thayer—14.

Nay—Mr. Violett—1.

Resolved, That the Comptroller warrant on the Treasurer in favor of the following persons, the same being for sundry expenses incurred during disbandment of the late Fire Department:

To L. Thomas & Brown for cleaning and keeping apparatus of engine No. 15, for seventeen days $68 00
To Daniel Neal, for twenty-two days' services rendered in the care of the steam engine 27 50
To Rose McMillan, for twenty-two days' services rendered in the care of the steam engine 27 50
To Edward Rusk, for twenty-two days' services rendered in the care of the steam engine 27 50
To Joseph Baker, for twenty-two days' services rendered in the care of the steam engine 27 50
To James Munn, for twenty-two days' services rendered in the care of the steam engine 27 50
To Parry Lyons, for twenty-two days' services rendered in the care of the steam engine 27 50
To Thomas Dunham, for twenty-two days' services rendered in the care of the steam engine 27 50
To James Rusk, for twenty-two days' services rendered in the care of the steam engine 27 50
To Lieutenant Fremaux, Second District Police, for sundries furnished the Fire Department during disbandment 28 00
To John Adams, for sundry expenses incurred and by him paid at a fire which occurred on December 8th, 1855, as per vouchers 72 50
To P. F. Folger, for sundries furnished the Fire Department 85 20
Yeas—Messrs. Banister, Barbarin, Bartlette, Benit, Bridge, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Fabre, Howell, Kelly, Rusha, Stith, Thayer and Violett—15.

Nay—Mr. Guyol—1.

WORK-HOUSE AND PRISONS.

Mr. Kelly, on behalf of the above committee, offered the following report, which was read and adopted. The rules being suspended, the resolution accompanying the same was read and adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Banister, Barbarin, Bartlette, Benit, Bridge, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Fabre, Howell, Kelly, Rusha, Stith and Thayer—14.

The Committee on Workhouses and Prisons beg leave to report, also, to annex a statement of the work of the City Workhouse for the last quarter, ending February 29th, 1856. The amount of work done for the Public Schools, Street Commissioner's Department, Surveyor's Department, Police Department and City generally, including articles manufactured to order, which are cash, viz: such as packing boxes, oakum, etc., etc., amounting to fifteen hundred and forty-five dollars and eighteen cents. The amount of expense of keeping up the said institution being about three thousand four hundred and twenty-four dollars and fifty-two cents. It must also be borne in mind that the average number of prisoners has been two hundred and fifty, a great number who are totally unable to perform any kind of labor, from the fact that a great majority are worthless vagrants who are committed to the workhouse, who have no other mode of living and are a great expense and burden to the city. Such as are able to work or do mechanical duty are set to work and kept steadily at it until the time expires for which they may be committed.

Your committee have examined the accounts and bills for provisions and materials for the use of the City Workhouse, and find the same correct as per requisitions signed by the committee, together with the Finance Committee. They therefore present a resolution appropriating the amount to pay said bills and accounts. Respectfully submitted,

HANSON KELLY,
R. M. RUSHA,
WEBSTER LONG,
C. BANISTER.

Resolved, That the sum of three thousand four hundred and twenty-four 52-100 dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the payment of the bills of the City Workhouse, for provision and materials furnished during the months of January and February, 1856.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. Fabre, on behalf of the above committee, offered the following report, which was read and adopted; the rules being suspended, the resolution accompanying the same was read and adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Banister, Barbarin, Bartlette, Benit, Bridge, Chambers, Chiapella, Fabre, Guyol, Kelly, Rusha, Stith, Thayer and Violett—16.

Nay—Mr. Eager—1.

The special committee to whom was referred the resolution relative to the erection of a railing around the statue of Gen. Andrew Jackson, on Jackson Square, have the honor to report that they have had under consideration the several plans submitted to them, and are of the opinion that the plan submitted by Louis H. Pilie, Esq., City Surveyor, is the best and most economical plan that can be adopted; the said plan of Mr. Pilie being the exclusion of two thousand dollars less. And in addition, your committee report that the contractor of the statue, Mr. Clark Mills, approves of the plan above mentioned. They therefore present a resolution authorizing the Comptroller to sell the said contract.

Respectfully submitted. J. L. FABRE,
W. CHAMBERS.

Resolved, That the Comptroller be, and he is hereby authorized to sell, after five days' notice, the contract for the erection of the railing around the statue of Gen. Andrew Jackson, on Jackson Square, said sale subject to the approval of the Common Council, and in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Surveyor.

The following message from the Mayor was read, and on motion, referred to the Police Committee:

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS,
City Hall, March 25, 1856.

To the Presidents and Members of the Common Council:

GENTLEMEN: Owing to the fact that the Legislature has passed a new charter for the city, by which the election for city officers was fixed for the first Monday in June next, I did not cause to be published the ordinance fixing the places for holding the election, which otherwise would have taken place on the fourth Monday of this month.

The uncertainty as to whether the new charter would go into effect before the election ordered under the charter of 23d February, 1853, has prevented me (owing to the shortness of the time) until now, from acting under the recent act of the Legislature, vesting the Mayor with the appointment and control of the Police.

The following resolution adopted by your honorable body, was referred by this Board:

A resolution authorizing the Comptroller to sell the contract for altering the grade of the gutters and centre of Girod street, from the Levee to Magazine street.

Respectfully,

CHAS. CLAIBORNE, Sec'y.

The following resolution adopted by this Board and rejected by the Board of Aldermen, was, on motion, persisted in, and Messrs. Rusha, Chambers and McKnight, were appointed a committee of conference on the subject, on the part of this Board:

A resolution authorizing the Comptroller to sell the contract for altering the grades of the gutters and center of Girod street, from the levee to Magazine street.

The following resolutions, adopted by the Board of Aldermen, were read, and on motion, concurred in.

A resolution authorizing the City Attorney, together with the counsel employed on the part of the city, in the matter of the City of New Orleans and the Pontchartrain Railroad Company, to take steps to carry into effect the compromise made with said Company.

A resolution requiring the Street Commissioner to report under what authority he has caused the lamps of the Fourth District to be replaced, and also the number of lamps thus replaced.

A resolution instructing the Street Commissioner to report to the Council the number of lamps necessary to be replaced, and the cost required.

The following resolution, adopted by the Board of Aldermen, was, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee:

A resolution authorizing the Comptroller to warrant on the Treasurer in favor of the Directors of the Public School Lyceum and Library Society, for such sum as may appear upon the Books of the Treasury, to the credit of said Society.

The following resolution, adopted by the Board of Aldermen, was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Streets and Landings:

A resolution authorizing the Street Commissioner to grade Perilliat street, from the intersection of Girod to St. Paul streets.

By a message, this Board was informed that the Board of Aldermen had adopted the following substitute for the resolution, "authorizing the Comptroller to sell the contract for repairing certain streets, according to specifications to be furnished by the Committee on Streets and Landings:

Resolved, That the Surveyor be and he is hereby authorized, under the advice and direction of the Committee on Streets and Landings, to repair the plank roads of the city, by taking up the worst portion of the plank roads and substituting shell roads in their stead, and using the old lumber taken from such portion taken up in repairing the balance of the plank roads, provided that the amount so expended shall not exceed the sum provided for the repairs of plank roads in the budget of 1856.

The yeas and nays being called for on the concurrence in the foregoing substitute, resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Barbarin, Benit, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Guyol, Kelly, Rusha, Stith, Thayer and Violett—11.

Nays—Messrs. Banister, Bartlette, Bridge and Fabre—4.

The chair decided the substitute rejected.

Mr. Bartlette moved to persist in the original resolution. Carried.

On motion, Messrs. Bartlett, Fabre, Thayer, Bridge and Howell, were appointed as a committee of conference on the subject, on the part of this Board.

By message, this Board was informed that the Board of Aldermen had adopted the following substitute for the resolution, "allowing a reward of $500 to Capt. Bowditch and A. F. Moynan, for arresting W. H. Garland, late Treasurer of the City."

Resolved, That the Comptroller warrant on the Treasurer in favor of Capt. Bowditch for the sum of $250, the same being as a reward for arresting W. H. Garland, late Treasurer, while attempting to abscond from the city.

On motion, the foregoing substitute was laid on the table, and the original resolution persisted in, whereupon Messrs. Guyol, Stith and Bouny were appointed a committee of conference on the subject on the part of this Board.

By message this Board was informed that the Board of Aldermen had persisted in the resolution authorizing the Treasurer to receive from P. Casenave, agent of G. W. Johnson, one-half the amount of taxes payable in 1855, on two lots, with the buildings thereon, situate on Toulouse street.

On motion, the Finance Committee was appointed a committee of conference on the subject on the part of this Board.

[The quarterly reports of the public schools of the First and Fourth Districts were ordered to be published, and will be found in another column of this paper.]

PETITIONS.

The following were referred to the Finance Committee:

Of N. O. Picayune, asking payment of bill.

Of C. G. Mather, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the Fourth District, asking to be furnished with a standard set of weights and measures.

Of J. Delhomme, collector of licenses on coffee-houses, cabarets, etc., for the Third District, asking to be paid his commission on bills handed to him which had already been paid to the late Treasurer.

Of J. C. Morgan, asking that his bill for sundry articles furnished to the Public School Board, Second District, be paid.

The following were referred to the Committee on Streets and Landings:

Of residents and property-holders on Magnolia street asking that a plank road be constructed on said street from the New Basin to Felicity road.

Of property holders on Lafayette street, between Magnolia and Galvez streets, asking that lamps be placed on said street.

Of N. Fitzsimmons, complaining of the bad condition of the streets in the vicinity of the Jackson Railroad Company, and of the neglect of the contractor for cleaning and repairing the streets in said vicinity.

Of P. O. Laville and L. Burthe, Public School Directors of the Third District, asking that the lot on Bagatelle street, where a school house is now being built, be filled up by the Street Commissioner.

The following were referred to the Police Committee:

Of occupants of stalls in the Meat Market, Second District, complaining of certain grievances and asking relief.

Of C. O. Daubert, asking payment of his salary as policeman for time lost by being suspended.

The following were referred to the Judiciary Committee:

Of A. P. Moynan, late Chief of Police, claiming his salary up to the 1st of May next, the time for which he was elected.

Of Margaret Pitt Hardenbrook, asking to be refunded amount of tax paid by her in error.

Of P. Rochford, asking that a certain judgment obtained against him for taxes of 1854 be cancelled.

The following letter from Clark Mills was ordered to be published:

NEW ORLEANS, 25th March, 1856.

To the honorable President and Members of the Common Council—

GENTLEMEN: Having been solicited by several members of your honorable body to give my opinion in relation to the construction of an iron railing around the Equestrian Statue of Gen'l Jackson on Jackson Square, I would now take the liberty of suggesting that in order to carry out that necessary improvement and embellishment, an iron railing should be put up at a distance of 25 feet from the pedestal; to be oval shaped and perfectly simple in appearance. It should moreover be on a perfect level with the Square.

In order to produce the proper effect, I would also advise that the earth outside of the fence be removed, and made a perfect level; whilst inside the railing there should be a gradual slope from the pedestal down to the fence.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
CLARK MILLS.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee:

Resolved, That the Board of Commissioners of the Fire Department be and they are hereby authorized to appoint a suitable person to act as Secretary for said Board to discharge the duties of the Fire Department, at a salary of three hundred dollars per annum, payable monthly.

The following preamble and resolutions were read, the rules being suspended, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That permission be and is hereby given to G. W. Smith and Thos. McCoy, to have constructed a plank road on Broad street from Dumaine to the new Canal, provided the whole expense be borne by the applicants and to be constructed according to the plan submitted by the Surveyor.

Inasmuch as there are many complaints from the citizens of different parts of our city of the inefficiency of the contractors for cleaning and repairing our streets, or a proper attention of the Street Commissioner to the duties required of him by the ordinance, and as the utmost vigilance of said officer is required to remove all offensive matter and cause to be kept in a cleanly condition all our streets at this season of the year, therefore be it

Resolved, That a joint committee, consisting of the chairmen of the Finance Committee, the Committee on Streets and Landings, the Committee on Police, and on Health of the Board of Assistant Aldermen, and members of the Board of Aldermen, be and are hereby authorized to inquire into and report to this Council whether the said neglect has been caused by the want of the proper attention of the Street Commissioner or the contractors for cleaning and repairing the streets; and that they be fully authorized to use for persons and papers, and report such report as they may deem necessary to remedy the evil.

Resolved, That a joint committee of two members of each Board of the Common Council be appointed, and that said committee be and are hereby authorized to have printed one thousand copies of the new charter of the city, together with the laws equalizing taxation and defining the duties of Mayor.

On motion, Messrs. Eager and Stith were appointed on the committee asked for in the foregoing resolution.

Mr. Fabre was called to the chair.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Eager, on behalf of the above committee, offered the following report, which was read and adopted:

The Committee on Finance have the honor to report upon the several matters referred to them as follows:

Upon a communication from the Comptroller advising of the adjudication, on the 17th instant, of the contract for running the draining machine of the 3d section, at $4,700 per annum, to Henry Diamond, your Committee offer the necessary resolution approving the same and accepting the securities offered.

Upon a resolution authorizing the Treasurer to pay sundry bills, amounting to $3,145 98, for expenses incurred digging the artesian well, adopted by the Board of Aldermen, March 11th, 1856, your Committee recommend nonconcurrence.

Upon a resolution to pay sundry fire companies for balance due on yearly appropriation to close the disbandment, amounting in all to the sum of $400, your committee recommend the adoption of said resolution.

Your committee offer a resolution to pay sundry bills, duly examined by them.

Respectfully,

J. EAGER, Chairman,
A. CHIAPELLA,
J. BRIDGE,
S. HOWELL.

The following resolution, adopted by the Board of Aldermen, was read and concurred in as recommended in the foregoing report:

A resolution authorizing the Treasurer to pay sundry bills.

Yeas—Messrs. Tracy, Banister, Barbarin, Bartlette, Benit, Bridge, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Howell, Kelly, Rusha, Violette and Fabre—14.

The following resolutions, accompanying the above report, were read, the rules being suspended, and adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Tracy, Banister, Barbarin, Bartlette, Benit, Bridge, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Howell, Kelly, Rusha, Violett and Fabre—14.

Resolved, That the adjudication made by the Comptroller on the 17th March, 1856, of the contract for running the draining machine of the 3d section, for the sum of four thousand seven hundred dollars per annum, to Henry Diamond, be approved and the Comptroller, viz: Wm. McCullock and James Davern are hereby accepted.

Resolved, That the Comptroller warrant on the Treasurer in favor of Messrs. Jackson Duplessis, Paul Deverges, Eugene Delacroix and Lawrence Adams, for the sum of three thousand dollars, being for services rendered in the Comptroller in opening the Ledgers and preparing the Indexes for the Taxes of 1855, as also making out the tax bills and registering the same, say for three and a half months service from December 1st, 1855, to March 15th, 1856.

A resolution to pay sundry Fire Companies balance due on yearly appropriations.

Resolved, That the Comptroller warrant on the Treasurer for payment of the following bills:

L. H. Pilie, for expenses in making an examination of the levee from Kenner's plantation to the city $16 00
New Orleans Bee, for the following advertising:
Advertising notice of election, January 29, 1856 ..... $30 00
Advertising notice of Assessment Rolls, Fourth District, October 9, 1855 ..... 30 00
Advertising notice of Postal Committee, October 24, 1855 ..... 30 00
Advertising, for Report Finance Committee, F. and L, Feb. 2, 1856 ..... 98 00—207 00
New Orleans Crescent, for the following printing, as the Official Journal, for January and February, 1856:
Comptroller's office, sales under ordinances, etc. $21 55
Board of Police, proceedings 22 20
Board of Assistant Aldermen, proceedings 212 85
Mayor's office, ordinances, etc. 86 10
Street Commissioner's office, Public Pounds, etc. 202 75
Street Commissioner's office, notices ... 4 50
Treasurer's office, notices and extract of ordinance 12 60
Advertising notice of election, January 16, 1856 ..... 32 50—575 05
Tremaille, expenses in searching for a man supposed to have been murdered, John Brandenburg, repairing pump in Magazine market, different times, to Feb. 8, 1856 ..... 18 50
J. M. Dirhamuner, for making copy of inventory of McDonogh estate 100 00
E. Johnson & Co., binding inventory of the McDonogh estate 5 00
Crozier & Wing, bill repairs to Engine House, dated March 15, 1856 ..... 2,645 68
A. Gerard, for this amount, being for the price of a mule, sold by order of the Street Commissioner, and paid into the Treasury, but which sale was subsequently proven to have been wrongfully made 96 00
Luzenberg Hospital, for medical attendance of one small pox patient from January 31st to February 8, 1856, 9 days at $3 ..... 27 00
Orphans' Pay Roll for March, 1856 ..... 221 00
S. P. Anchanaty, salary as Secretary Committee on Finance, one month, to March 28, 1856 ..... 125 00
Clerk of Supreme Court, for following costs:
No. 3516, A. and P. Perry vs. Mundelpaty $30 20
No. 4305, City vs. Heirs of P. A. Guillotte 14 10— 44 30
D. O. Nadaud, services as Commissary of Vegetable Market for January and February, 1856, at $10 ..... 20 00
Fenner Brothers, for repairs to iron columns, etc., at Vegetable Market June 25, 1855 ..... $15 00
Sundry repairs to Police Jail, Feb. 3, 1856 44 00— 79 00

On motion, the Board adjourned.

CHARLES W. HOPKINS, Sec'y pro tem.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

TUESDAY, March 25th, 1856.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Members present—Hon. J. J. Lugenbuhl, President; Messrs. Bailey, Culbertson, Durell, Denegre, Gillmore, Dupre, Prague, Price and Tompkins—10.

The reading of the minutes was, on motion, dispensed with.

The following message was read and referred to the Police Committee:

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS,
City Hall, March 25, 1856.

To the Presidents and Members of the Common Council:

GENTLEMEN—Owing to the fact that the Legislature had passed a new charter for the city, by which the election for city officers was fixed for the first Monday in June next, I did not cause to be published the ordinance fixing the places for holding the election, which otherwise would have taken place on the fourth Monday of this month.

The uncertainty as to whether the new charter would go into effect before the election ordered under the charter of 23d of February, 1853, has prevented me (owing to the shortness of the time) until now, from acting under the recent act of the Legislature, vesting the Mayor with the appointment and control of the Police.

That matter having been disposed of by the passage of the new charter, I shall as fast as possible inspect and remodel the present force.

In making changes and removals, it will no doubt become my painful duty to remove worthy, respectable and needy men, who, from their age, infirmities or other incompetency, are unable or unfit to discharge efficiently and with justice to the public, the arduous and trying duties of the Police.

I am, however, determined to purge the department of all improper material, and protect it from being rendered a sinecure and retreat for pensioners upon the city.

I shall also, strenuously endeavor, by every means in my power, to eradicate every political feature from the department.

Character, capacity and a determined willingness to perform, fearlessly and without distinction of persons, nationalities, political opinions or creeds, their several duties, will be strictly required and rigorously enforced.

While recognizing in its entirety, the right of every member to entertain and express, at the ballot box, such political opinions and preferences as his judgment may dictate, yet, when he enters the service he must divest himself of all native partisanship. This shall be a cardinal principle with me in appointing and managing the force, and from which I will not deviate, a violation of which, when brought home to any party, shall be visited with an immediate dismissal from the service.

As an inducement to decent, able-bodied and efficient men to enter the service, I would strongly recommend an increase of pay, for the smallness of the present pay no doubt prevents many, who otherwise would be an acquisition, from seeking employment in that line; and besides, compels many of those heretofore on the police, and having families to support, to follow other occupations, such as the day policemen officiating as special officers at Theaters, Balls and other places of public amusement; and the night watchmen devoting portions of their time to other occupations by which interfering with their regular and necessary rest, and rendering them, to a great extent, unfit, from physical exhaustion, from applying their whole time and energies to their official duties. The pay should be of an amount sufficiently reasonable and just as to render the position desirable and sought after by men of respectability and capacity, who would be required to devote their whole time to the service and not allowed to follow any other occupation.

The present force is notoriously too small and inadequate for a city of the population and extent of New Orleans. An increase of one hundred and fifty men (150) is earnestly recommended. With that number added to the present force, I hope and trust, in a short time to be enabled to establish a new state of things in this city; add to this, the support and countenance of your Honorable Body, and that of my fellow-citizens, and I will guarantee it without hesitation. Without both, and that cheerfully and honestly afforded, all my efforts at reform in the service, will be useless and vain; without it, far better that the whole department be at once disbanded as a useless appendage and expense, and the citizens left to take care of themselves.

Under the late act of the Legislature, relative to the powers and duties of the Mayor of the city of New Orleans, it is made my duty in case of the removal of an officer to communicate the fact to your Honorable body, at its first meeting thereafter. I have to inform you accordingly, that on yesterday I have appointed and qualified William H. James as Chief of Police of the City of New Orleans, vice, Alexander P. Moynan, removed; and have also this day appointed and qualified as Lieutenants of the Police of the City of New Orleans, John Morrill and John F. Gruber, vice, Lucien Adams and Thomas T. Kearney, removed.

As soon as I shall have had time to examine patriotically into the present organization and distribution of the force, and make such changes as I deem proper and necessary, I shall hasten by the whole matter before you more in detail, with such other recommendations as I may deem hereafter necessary to make. Respectfully submitted.

JNO. L. LEWIS, Mayor.

The following communication from the Comptroller was read, and on motion referred to the Finance Committee:

[The statements referred to in the communication will be found in another column of this journal.]

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
New Orleans, March 25, 1856.

To the Honorable the Common Council:

GENTLEMEN: On the 24th inst., according to previous notice, I adjudicated the contract for repairing and keeping in repair all the shell roads of the city, for three years, to William Garland; securities, Alexander Pentland and Henry Collas, at $7,260 per year.

I herewith transmit to you the statement required by resolution of the Common Council, No. 2694, approved 27th February, 1856.

Yours, respectfully,
O. DEBUYS, Comptroller.

The following weekly report from the Treasurer was, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee:

TREASURER'S WEEKLY REPORT.

FROM 17th TO 22d MARCH, 1856, INCLUSIVE.

	Dr.	Cr.
To Cash.		
To balance on hand	$93,422 21	
Printing	6 00	
Law Changes	66 50	
Interest	472 43	
Interest on Railroad Bonds	1,593 75	
Consolidated Loan Tax, 1854	5,590 05	
City Tax of 1854	3,081 45	
Merchants	8,870 00	
Peddlers	30 00	
Coffee-houses	2,850 00	
Family Groceries	1,300 00	
Drays, Carts, etc.	102 00	
Cabs and Carriages	200 00	
Market Carts	18 00	
Oyster licenses	90 00	
Interest on Pontchartrain Railroad Bonds	519 25	
Balls	75 00	
Interest on Railroad Bonds, 1855	578 00	
Consolidated Loan Tax of 1855	1,222 20	
City Tax 1855	438 40	
Powder Magazine	195 16	
Fines	50 00	
Street Exhibitions	20 00	
Notes Receivable	62 00	
Paving Reimbursements	72 17	
	$73,919 38	
By Cash		
Consolidated Loan Tax, 1852	8 10	
" " " 1853	554 50	
Interest on Railroad Bonds	1,391 15	
Interest on Pontchartrain Railroad Bonds	609 10	
Consolidated Loan Tax, 1854	2,929 64	
House of Refuge for Girls	10 50	
Judgments	826 14	
Merchants	220 00	
Military Companies	30 00	
Streets	3,790 98	
Consolidated Loan Tax, 1855	1,222 20	
Courts	163 00	
Opening Streets	321 44	
Balance—Deposited in Branch La. State Bank	62,222 63	
	$73,919 38	

ADAM GIFFEN, Treasurer.

New Orleans, March 22, 1856.

The following letter from the Treasurer was read, and, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee:

[The statements referred to in the letter will be found in another column of this journal.]

TREASURER'S OFFICE,
City of New Orleans, March 25, 1856.

To the honorable President and members of the Board of Assistant Aldermen:

GENTLEMEN: I beg leave to lay before you the number of licenses which have been issued from this office from the 17th to the 22d March inclusive, with the name of the party to whom issued, and the amount received for the same. The number issued is as follows, viz:

19	coffee-house licenses,	
26	family grocery do.	
9	wholesale merchant licenses,	
1	restaurant do,	
20	commission merchant do	
47	retail do do,	
1	cotton pickery do,	
2	lumber yard do,	
2	auctioneer do,	
1	undertaker do,	
1	printing office do,	
1	retail cigar store do,	
1	mineral water factory do,	
2	circus do,	
1	private banking house do,	
1	exchange broker do,	
1	ship broker do,	
1	produce broker do,	

BRASS CARTS, ETC.

4 licenses, First District,	
5 do do do, Second do,	
7 cab and carriage licenses,	
3 market carts do.	

Very respectfully,
ADAM GIFFEN, Treasurer
of the city of New Orleans.

A communication from the Street Commissioner was read, in regard to the bad condition of Lafayette street, from St. Charles to Locust street, and on motion the same was referred to the Committee on Streets and Landings.

The following message was read:

BOARD OF ALDERMEN,
March 10th, 1856.

To the President and Members of the Board of Assistant Aldermen:

GENTLEMEN: The following resolutions, adopted by your honorable body, were concurred in by the Board of Aldermen:

A resolution granting permission to Nicholson & Co. to erect a blacksmith shop on their property, corner of Magazine and Robin streets.

A resolution requiring the commissary of St. Mary's market to act as commissary of the Triangle market, and the commissary of the Vegetable market, Second District to act as commissary of the Fruit Market.

A resolution to pay sundry persons, adopted March 11th, 1856.

A resolution authorizing the Street Commissioner to make certain changes in the specifications for running a stone ferry from Canal street, Second District, and at Jackson street, Fourth District.

A resolution granting an extension of time to August Miller for the removal of his slaughter house.

A resolution authorizing the City Attorney to discontinue all proceedings against Alfred Lovell.

Resolutions requiring the Surveyor to make certain bridges, and requiring the Street Commissioner to erect a lamp-post at the corner of Claiborne street and St. Bernard avenue.

A resolution authorizing the City Surveyor to have the polls properly constructed for the election of the 24th instant.

A resolution fixing the polls for the election to be held on the 24th instant, for a Mayor, Treasurer, Comptroller, Surveyor, Street Commissioner, four Recorders, one from each District, seven members of the Board of Aldermen, and twenty-seven members of the Board of Assistant Aldermen.

The following resolutions, adopted by your honorable body, were taken up separately; the first was concurred in, and the second laid on the table:

Resolutions authorizing the Street Commissioner to allow the contractor for lighting the lamps of the Fourth District the certificate for the deduction made in December last, and authorizing the Street Commissioner to replace such lamps as may be unfit for use.

The following resolution adopted by your honorable body, was rejected by this Board:

A resolution authorizing the Comptroller to sell the contract for altering the grade of the gutters and centre of Girod street, from the Levee to Magazine street.

Respectfully,

CHAS. CLAIBORNE, Sec'y.

The following resolution adopted by this Board and rejected by the Board of Aldermen, was, on motion, persisted in, and Messrs. Guyol, Stith and Bouny were appointed a committee of conference on the subject on the part of this Board:

A resolution authorizing the Comptroller to sell the contract for altering the grades of the gutters and center of Girod street, from the levee to Magazine street.

The following resolutions, adopted by the Board of Aldermen, were read, and on motion, concurred in.

A resolution authorizing the City Attorney, together with the counsel employed on the part of the city, in the matter of the City of New Orleans and the Pontchartrain Railroad Company, to take steps to carry into effect the compromise made with said Company.

A resolution requiring the Street Commissioner to report under what authority he has caused the lamps of the Fourth District to be replaced, and also the number of lamps thus replaced.

A resolution instructing the Street Commissioner to report to the Council the number of lamps necessary to be replaced, and the cost required.

The following resolution, adopted by the Board of Aldermen, was, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee:

A resolution authorizing the Comptroller to warrant on the Treasurer in favor of the Directors of the Public School Lyceum and Library Society, for such sum as may appear upon the Books of the Treasury, to the credit of said Society.

The following resolution, adopted by the Board of Aldermen had adopted the following substitute for the resolution, "authorizing the Comptroller to sell the contract for repairing certain streets, according to specifications to be furnished by the Committee on Streets and Landings:

Resolved, That the Surveyor be and he is hereby authorized, under the advice and direction of the Committee on Streets and Landings, to repair the plank roads of the city, by taking up the worst portion of the plank roads and substituting shell roads in their stead, and using the old lumber taken from such portion taken up in repairing the balance of the plank roads, provided that the amount so expended shall not exceed the sum provided for the repairs of plank roads in the budget of 1856.

The yeas and nays being called for on the concurrence in the foregoing substitute, resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Barbarin, Benit, Chambers, Chiapella, Eager, Guyol, Kelly, Rusha, Stith, Thayer and Violett—11.

Nays—Messrs. Banister, Bartlette, Bridge and Fabre—4.

The chair decided the substitute rejected.

Mr. Bartlette moved to persist in the original resolution. Carried.

On motion, Messrs. Bartlett, Fabre, Thayer, Bridge and Howell, were appointed as a committee of conference on the subject, on the part of this Board.

By message, this Board was informed that the Board of Aldermen had adopted the following substitute for the resolution, "allowing a reward of $500 to Capt. Bowditch and A. F. Moynan, for arresting W. H. Garland, late Treasurer of the City."

Resolved, That the Comptroller warrant on the Treasurer in favor of Capt. Bowditch for the sum of $250, the same being as a reward for arresting W. H. Garland, late Treasurer, while attempting to abscond from the city.

On motion, the foregoing substitute was laid on the table, and the original resolution persisted in, whereupon Messrs. Guyol, Stith and Bouny were appointed a committee of conference on the subject on the part of this Board.

By message this Board was informed that the Board of Aldermen had persisted in the resolution authorizing the Treasurer to receive from P. Casenave, agent of G. W. Johnson, one-half the amount of taxes payable in 1855, on two lots, with the buildings thereon, situate on Toulouse street.

On motion, the Finance Committee was appointed a committee of conference on the subject on the part of this Board.

[The quarterly reports of the public schools of the First and Fourth Districts were ordered to be published, and will be found in another column of this paper.]

PETITIONS.

The following were referred to the Finance Committee:

Of N. O. Picayune, asking payment of bill.

Of C. G. Mather, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the Fourth District, asking to be furnished with a standard set of weights and measures.

Of J. Delhomme, collector of licenses on coffee-houses, cabarets, etc., for the Third District, asking to be paid his commission on bills handed to him which had already been paid to the late Treasurer.

Of J. C. Morgan, asking that his bill for sundry articles furnished to the Public School Board, Second District, be paid.

The following were referred to the Committee on Streets and Landings:

Of residents and property-holders on Magnolia street asking that a plank road be constructed on said street from the New Basin to Felicity road.

Of property holders on Lafayette street, between Magnolia and Galvez streets, asking that lamps be placed on said street.

Of N. Fitzsimmons, complaining of the bad condition of the streets in the vicinity of the Jackson Railroad Company, and of the neglect of the contractor for cleaning and repairing the streets in said vicinity.

Of P. O. Laville and L. Burthe,