CITY GOVERNMENT.

Board of Aldermen.

OFFICIAL.] SPECIAL SESSION—NEW-YORK, Sept. 4, 1863.

The Board met pursuant to the following call:

NEW-YORK, Sept. 2, 1863.

D. T. VALENTINE, Clerk of the Common Council.

SIR: You will please notify the members of the Board of Aldermen to meet in special session in the Chamber of the Board in the City Hall, on Friday, the 4th inst., at 1 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of transacting such public business as may come before the Board.

PETER MITCHELL, Eighth District.
ANDREW FROMENT, Twentieth District.
WILLIAM WALSH, Second District.
JOHN HARDY, Eleventh District.
JOHN FOX, First District.
CHARLES J. CHIPP, Seventh District.
TERENCE FARLEY, Sixteenth District.
L. R. RYERS, Ninth District.
JOHN McCOOL, Fifth District.

Present—William Walsh, esq., President, Ald. Henry, Hall, Chipp, Mitchell, Ryers, Jeremiah, Hardy, Ottiwell, Froment, and Long.

The minutes of Aug. 26 and 31 were read and approved.

PETITIONS.

By Ald. RYERS—
Bill of Edward Van Ranst, for carriage hire, at the reception of the Sixth Regiment, New-York Volunteers.
Bill of Edward Van Ranst, for carriage hire, at the reception of the Thirty-sixth Regiment, New-York Volunteers.
Bill of Edward Van Ranst, for carriage hire, at the reception of the Fifteenth Regiment, New-York Volunteers.
Bill of Edward Van Ranst, for carriage hire, at funeral of Capt. E. C. Shine.
Which were severally laid over.

By Ald. MITCHELL—
Bill of Hill's brass band for music on the Fourth of July, 1863.
Which was laid over.

By Ald. LONG—
Petition for sewer in Ninetieth street, Fourth avenue, Third avenue and Ninety-second street.
Which was referred to Committee on Sewers.

By the PRESIDENT—
Memorial from Colonels of regiments now in course of formation in this city, in relation to bounties to be offered by the city to aid in completing their respective regiments.
Which was referred to Committee on National Affairs.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Ald. LONG—
Resolved, That the Comptroller be and he is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for proposals for a location for Hook and Ladder Company No. 15, the location to be in Tenth avenue, between One-hundred-and-fifty-seventh and One-hundred-and-fifty-ninth streets.
Which was referred to Committee on Fire Department.

By the same—
Whereas, a resolution was duly passed by the Common Council, and was approved by the Mayor on the 30 day of January, 1863, directing the Comptroller to pay John Jennings $200, but which failed to receive the number of votes which the Comptroller deems necessary to warrant him in paying the same, be it therefore
Resolved, That the Comptroller be and he is hereby authorized and directed to draw his warrant in favor of John Jennings for the sum of $200, to be in full for damage sustained by said Jennings in consequence of a fire adjoining his premises in Ninety-fifth street, between Ninth and Tenth avenues, and charge the same to its appropriate account.
Which was laid over.

By the same—
Resolved, That permission be and the same is hereby given to Josiah M. Fiske, to construct a bay window in front of his building in Fifth avenue and south-east corner of Twenty-seventh street, under the direction of the Street Commissioner.
Which was adopted.

By Ald. FARLEY—
Resolved, That Fifty-fourth street, from Second avenue to the East River, be paved with Belgian pavement, and the curb and gutter stones set and reset where necessary, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Board.
Which was referred to Committee on Roads.

By the same—
Resolved, That a sewer, with the necessary receiving basins and culverts, be built in Lexington avenue, from Sixty-third street, to connect with the sewer in course of erection in Sixty-ninth street, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Board.
Which was referred to the Committee on Sewers.

By the same—
Resolved, That Forty-third street, from Fifth to Sixth avenues, be paved with Belgian pavement, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Board.
Which was referred to the Committee on Roads.

By the PRESIDENT—
An ordinance to construct a receiving basin at the northwest corner of Broadway and Twenty-fifth street.
Which was laid over.

By Ald. FARLEY—
Resolved, That Fifty-eighth street, between Second and Third avenue, be paved with Belgian or clay block, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Board, and the accompanying ordinance, therefor, be adopted.
Which was laid over.

REPORTS.

The Committee on Assessments presented a report concurring with the Board of Councilmen to remit an assessment against Mr. Niles.
Which was laid over.

The Committee on Wharves, Piers and Slips presented a report amending report from Board of Councilmen, to rebuild bulkhead at the foot of Rivington street.
Which was laid over.

The Committee on Streets presented a report concurring to pave East Forty-sixth street, between Second and Third avenues, with Belgian pavement.
Which was laid over.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The following communication was received from the City Inspector, in relation to the abolition of Slaughter Houses, and the construction of Abattoirs in the city of New-York:

CITY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT, NEW-YORK, Sept. 2, 1863.

To the Honorable, the Common Council:

GENTLEMEN: The frequent application to this Department for such action as will remedy existing evils attendant upon slaughtering establishments as at present conducted, and its inability to afford such relief as the case imperatively demands, make it incumbent upon me to call your earnest attention to the subject of these complaints, and ask your co-operation in a system through which it is believed the remedy sought for may be thoroughly secured.

The attention of the Common Council has frequently been directed to the necessity of the adoption of some plan which, while it will free the city from the numerous slaughter houses existing in our midst, will at the same time give to our butchers greater facilities for the transaction of their business than they now enjoy. This necessity is daily increasing, with the increase of our population, until the subject has become of such vital importance—involving the health and comfort of the whole community—that a longer delay in remedying the evils so long complained of cannot with safety be endured.

It will be seen from the following details that there are at present 225 slaughter houses located in various parts of the city, of which number 50 are on the East side of the East side. In the Ninth Ward there are 36, in the Twenty-fourth Ward 21, and in the Twenty-second Ward 25. On the East side of the city the Seventeenth Ward has 26, the Eighteenth Ward 13, the Nineteenth Ward 18, the Twenty-first Ward 20. In all the other Wards, with the exception of the Eleventh, which has 16, the whole number of slaughter houses amounts to but 16, which are respectively located in the Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth Wards. It will be seen that the preponderance in number of these establishments is on the East side of the city, where the work of slaughtering is more extensively carried on than in any other section. This state of things is owing in a measure to the early location of slaughter houses in these places, while the city was yet in its infancy, and whatever may have been the cause for their original establishment in these localities, these laws of attraction which seem everywhere to govern in drawing together those engaged in any specialty of business, have prevailed in increasing the number of these establishments in the districts first selected, as such increase was demanded by the constantly growing wants of the city. In addition to the well ascertained facts of the injurious effects resulting from the nature of the business upon the health of that portion of the community residing within these neighborhoods, it is equally known that in these localities the value of real estate has fallen far below the prices which it would otherwise have commanded.

Another injurious result from this condition of things is made manifest in forcing a settlement in these localities—with some exceptions—of the poorer and less provided for of our population in such numbers and with such want of proper accommodations, as to render the usual sanitary precautions almost unavailing, more particularly during the Summer and sickly months. The Seventeenth Ward is an illustration of the correctness of this statement, and a similar illustration may be drawn from the condition of the adjoining Eleventh Ward. This state of things must continue, until the removal of the provoking cause, and the advantages of such removal will in a brief period be made manifest in the improved health of the inhabitants of those districts, and the increased value of real estate so long depressed from the causes above stated.

Apart from the evil results to the health of the city arising from this state of things, there are many inconveniences to those engaged in this class of business which they freely admit, and from which they would gladly be relieved. Such relief has thus far been considered almost as impossibility. Besides, it seems to have been considered that these nuisances—as more or less they must be as at present managed—are of less injurious effects to the public health when confined to certain localities, than if diffused and scattered over various parts of the city. There has thus been a general acquiescence in the continuance of these establishments in the localities where they have so long existed, rather than to have them extended to other neighborhoods. The inhabitants of the immediate vicinage of these sources of unhealthiness are presumed to have become so accustomed to them, that they do not suffer to the extent that would be the result of their introduction into other localities, unaccustomed to the atmosphere tainted by these sources of corruption. Under such views—however fallacious—it is not strange that so little should have been accomplished toward the amelioration of a condition of things which none regarded with satisfaction, but for an improvement of which so few measures of practical utility have thus far been suggested.

I now venture to propose a plan in place of the present system, which, in my opinion, will combine all that is essential to a complete removal of the evils now complained of, and will at the same time give increased facilities of business, with reduced expenses, to the butchers of our city. The plan proposed is similar to the one now in operation in Paris—which combines in itself a system the most perfect of any to be found in the world, and which is known by the name of abattoirs. I will briefly enumerate the principal points of the French system, the mere statement of which will at once demonstrate its great advantages over the one now in operation in this city.

There are five *abattoirs* in Paris, three in the northern and two in the southern limits of the city, which were constructed in accordance with a decree of Napoleon the First, in 1809, suppressing all the slaughter houses then in operation. It is only necessary for our present purpose to give a description of one of these five establishments, and the largest of the five, which is called the *Abattoir de Popincourt*. It consists of twenty-three distinct buildings, on a sloping ground, and within a walled inclosure 640 feet by 570 feet. In front of the abattoir is a small planted promenade. At the entrance are two pavilions, containing the offices of the administrator, and an *octroi*, or revenue office. To the right and left of the central court, 468 feet by 201 feet, are four slaughter-houses, separated by a road crossing the inclosure. They are each 141 by 86 feet, and include, respectively, a flagged court, on each side of which are eight slaughter-stalls for the use of butchers, sixty in number, by whom the keys are kept. Each one of the slaughter-stalls receives light and ventilation from arcades in the front walls. Above are spacious attics for drying the skins and preparing the tallow. To preserve a cool temperature, a considerable elevation and projection have been given to the roofs. Behind the slaughter-houses are two ranges of sheds, containing sheep pens, and at the extremities eight stables for about 400 oxen. Each of these buildings contains a loft for forage. At the end there is a watering place, and pens for cattle, beside two detached buildings, each traversed by a broad corridor which communicates with four melting-houses, below which are cellars containing coppers. Beyond these, and parallel with the outer wall, are two buildings, raised on cellars, in which the skins are kept; and near them in front of the entrance is a double reservoir for water 228 feet in length, built in solid masonry, and resting on arches which form stands for carts. There is also a "*tripierie*" for washing and boiling tripe and calves feet. Cattle and sheep on entering Paris are immediately driven to one of the abattoirs. The meat is taken to the shops during the night before 4 o'clock a.m., and the men employed in butchering and its accompanying labors are not allowed—partly from sanitary considerations—to appear in the streets of Paris in the clothes they wear at the abattoirs. The weekly average of animals slaughtered at this establishment is 800 oxen, 300 cows, 600 calves, and 3,000 sheep. The weekly average of animals slaughtered in New-York amounts to about 4,500 head of cattle, and 13,000 sheep, calves and hogs. The establishment is superintended by a resident inspector of the Police, and a market inspector. It gives employment and lodgings—independent of the butchers and their assistants, to eighteen officials and their assistants. The slaughter men at the abattoir—who are permanently employed—receive from one franc to one franc and a half for each animal, beside the entrails, brains and blood. The blood runs into a reservoir prepared for that purpose, and is removed therefrom by pumps, put into casks and sent to the different manufacturers who use it—such as chemists, sugar refiners, etc. The apparatus for slaughtering is uniform, and belongs to the establishment. The blood, offal and manure are removed daily. Diseased cattle are sent to the pound outside of the city, where after a time they are slaughtered, and the meat used for sundry chemical and other purposes.

Upon the completion of the abattoirs, they were handed over to the butchers, and private slaughter houses were suppressed. It is needless to add how complete has been the success of the experiment.

The above brief sketch of one of the Paris abattoirs, however imperfect it may be, will enable your honorable body to arrive at a general understanding of the system. There are, as we learn, but two indispensable conditions necessary to make a system of abattoirs a perfect success in this city, in both of which we enjoy great advantages over those possessed by Paris. These requisites are, first, a copious supply of good water; and secondly, facilities for carrying it away after having been used in the various processes of slaughtering the animals.

It is officially stated that a single abattoir in Paris requires about 45,000 gallons of water daily. This water is finally carried off into the Seine, or by public sewers, which empty into the river. It was the apprehension that these two essentials could not be obtained in sufficient quantity that created opposition to the change when first suggested by its originator. If then the plan at present in operation in Paris has proved so great a success, with a comparatively limited means of supply, what is there to prevent a still greater success in this city, with its superabundance of water, and with every facility for carrying it away after it has served the purposes to which it has been applied. When a change of system was first proposed in Paris, the opposition was obstinate on the part of the butchers, who saw, or thought they saw, an invasion of their rights, and the imposition of unnecessary restrictions upon their occupation. If the proposed improvement had not enjoyed the protection of the high authority of Napoleon for its adoption, it is questionable whether it could have resisted the opposition raised against it. However unpopular at first, it soon established itself in the good opinion of all classes of citizens, who found even on a short experience how much it contributed to their comfort and the improved sanitary condition of the city. A comparison of the mortality of the neighborhood where slaughter-houses were once found with the mortality of the same district, after their removal, showing a diminution of from 15 to 20 per cent, was an argument so potent that the public mind soon became adapted to a change productive of such favorable results. When a similar change was in contemplation in London, it encountered the strongest opposition on the part of the butchers, who regarded the old system as an inherent right, a venerable piece of antiquity, so sanctioned by custom that the Government would hardly dare to place the hand of innovation upon it. In spite of this assertion of long-established rights and customs, the reform was consummated, and so far as the City of London is concerned, it is now free from the nuisance of slaughter houses.

I have already spoken of the evil effects to the public health, arising from the existence of slaughter-houses in the heart of the city, and the conclusions to which I arrived were based upon an examination of our mortuary statistics, in those parts of the city where slaughter houses were most numerous. As like causes must produce like effects, it may not be uninteresting to produce the following abstract of evidence before the Select Committee in relation to Smithfield market, which testimony is worthy of consideration, as coming from a physician who has had extensive practice for fifteen years in the neighborhood of Smithfield. He says that slaughter-houses have a most injurious effect in generating fevers, and in rendering the most simple diseases malignant. "The stench is intolerable arising from the slaughtering of cattle and the removal of the foul matters, the gore, the blood, and the skins of animals. The doctor has patients in all these houses. They are never free from the effects of this stench, and when the people there are dangerously ill, he is without the hope, by any exercise of skill, of restoring them to health. The malaria which they are breathing from the foul air generated in these slaughter houses is a nare-tic poison, oppressing both body and mind before completing the work of death." This is simply the testimony of one of the examined witnesses, and equally sustained by the evidence of other eminent physicians who were summoned to attend.

There can be no question that this testimony has equal relevancy to a similar condition of things in our own city, and that our physicians would corroborate the experience of their professional brethren in London. Should any doubt exist upon this point, it may be easily settled by calling upon our physicians for their opinions. Even this, however, is unnecessary, as such testimony has been frequently referred to in the reports emanating from this Department.

Having, as I think, shown the necessity of some change in our present system of slaughtering establishments, I would suggest the erection of four abattoirs on the Island, two on the east and two on the west side of the city above Thirteenth street. The city is already the owner of plots of ground in these sections, which would admirably answer the proposed purpose. As to the sufficiency in the erection, subdivisions and other details necessary to the final and thorough arrangement of these establishments, there will be ample time to consider them when the Common Council shall have the subject fully under investigation. No doubt much information can be derived from the French system, solong in successful operation, by which new advantages may be availed of to the benefit equally of the butchers and the city at large. My object at present is simply to call the attention of your honorable body to the importance of the proposed measure, and to make such suggestions as seem to be proper to establish the practicability and the necessity of the contemplated change.

In this connection, in a few details of justice to the butchers of the city, as regards the results of the proposed change upon their immediate interests, may not be irrelevant. It is estimated that the yearly expenses of this class of our fellow-citizens, arising from rents and their many incidental expenses, and which expenses the proposed change would render unnecessary, amount to from $200,000 to $250,000. Many of our butchers own the property on which their slaughter-houses are erected, and in this estimate is included the probable rent which such buildings would command if let to third parties for the same purposes for which they are now used. It is also just to estimate the enhanced value of such property in the event of the introduction of the system of abattoirs. I am thus alluding only to the advantage to the butchers, resulting from the proposed change, without referring to the benefits to accrue to those other than butchers, who are property owners in these localities. There would seem to be hardly a question that, in a pecuniary point of view, the butcher would be largely the gainer, for it is not to be supposed that the yearly expenses collectively or individually under the plan suggested would approach the sum which they are now compelled to pay. In addition to this consideration, the necessity for the number of hands now required in the slaughter of animals would be dispensed under the regime which would be introduced in the abattoir. In point of market convenience, the advantages of the proposed plan over the existing mode of doing business, present themselves in so clear a light, that it is unnecessary to enter into details to prove their superiority.

I have thus set forth my views upon this subject in a brief and necessarily imperfect form. The main points to be considered are, whether the change is required by public necessity, and does it involve the risk of embarrassment and pecuniary loss to those engaged in the business? It is believed that there will be a general assent to the first proposition, not merely on the ground of general convenience, but on the higher ground of the preservation of the public health. As to its practicability, we have but to refer to the abattoirs of Paris, a city the natural advantages of which for the establishment of these great conveniences do not compare with those of New-York. The City of Paris is about fourteen miles from north to south, and sixteen miles from east to west, while New-York is from one to three miles in width, and, to the extreme point of the island, about ten miles in length, thus reducing the distance for the transportation of meats but a small proportion of the space to be traversed in the former city, and this distance will be still more reduced by the necessary establishment of uptown markets in place of many of those in the lower part of the city.

As to the immense saving to accrue to the butchers, a brief illustration would seem to settle that point beyond a question. The five abattoirs of Paris were constructed at the large outlay of about $3,500,000, and in 1862 the fees from the taxes paid to the city by the butchers amounted to about $400,000. The proposed abattoirs in this city would not, in all probability, exceed in cost one-third the amount of those in Paris, while the fees paid by the butchers need not be made to exceed $100,000 at most—a saving, by the change, of $150,000. By its adoption, in addition to the many benefits already enumerated, may be mentioned the exemption from the appearance in our streets of cattle, sheep, swine, &c., &c., the freedom from blood in the gutters, and the exposure from the public gaze of the offal and feed matter which is daily presented in open carts passing through our streets.

That slaughter-houses must cease to exist in the compactly inhabited portion of our city is a foregone conclusion. All temporizing laws for their better regulation must in the end give way to their entire abolishment. This abolishment, then, being but a question of time, there is no season more fitting than the present to take the preliminary measures toward the substitution of some plan adaptable to the constantly increasing wants of our constantly-increasing metropolis. The importance of the subject seemed to demand from me a special communication to your honorable body, and I have felt that I could not present such communication at too early a day. The consideration of the subject will require minute investigation, and much time may necessarily elapse before a suitable plan can be matured and acted upon. Whether the duty of carrying into effect either the plan suggested or some other plan more wisely considered, shall devolve upon yourselves or upon your successors, it is my conviction that the time has arrived when further postponement of a matter in which the interests of our entire city are involved, will prove detrimental to the public good, and I earnestly urge that the subject may receive that early action at your hands which its importance demands. There can be no question that the butchers of our city will willingly give the benefit of their experience and their views as to the most practical course to be pursued in regard to the details necessarily accompanying an undertaking of this magnitude. Many of our leading butchers have for years past been most active in urging a change from the present most imperfect system, and there can be no question of their readiness now as in former days to give aid in a work which gives promise so largely for the good of the city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
F. I. A. BOOLE, City Inspector.

While the paper was being read, Alderman HARDY moved that the further reading thereof be suspended, that the communication be published in all the corporation papers and the New-York Atlas, and that the paper be referred to a special committee of five.
Which was carried.
And the President appointed Aldermen Hardy, Mitchell, Ryer, Froment and Hall as such committee.
Ald. FROMENT asked to be excused from serving on such committee.
Which was granted.
And Ald. FOX was appointed in his place.
A communication was received from the Street Commissioner, with statement of apportionment of assessment in the matter of regulating and grading Fourth avenue, between Seventy-third and Seventy-ninth streets.
Which was received and ordered on file.
A communication was received from the Board of Metropolitan Police, relative to the Eighteenth and Twenty-third Precinct Station Houses.
Which was received and referred to Committee on Police.
A communication was received from the Comptroller, with an ordinance to provide for the redemption of the loan of $500,000, made in 1862, for the payment of bounties to volunteer soldiers.
Which was received and referred to Committee on Finance.
A communication was received from the Comptroller with statement of Treasury balance July 31, 1863.
Which was received and ordered on file.
A communication was received from the Comptroller, with statement of payments to families of volunteers for the fortnight ending July 25, 1863.
Which was received and ordered on file.
A communication was received from the Comptroller, with monthly statement of appropriations and expenditures to July 1, 1863.
Which was received and ordered on file.

MESSAGES FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR.

A message was received from His Honor the Mayor, transmitting the certificate, designating the New-York Dispatch and New-York Leader, as Corporation papers.
Which was referred to Committee on Printing and Advertising.

The following message was received from His Honor the Mayor, returning unapproved, resolution directing the Street Commissioner to advertise for proposals for building a steam fire engine, for the use of Hose Company No 26, similar to the one now in use by Engine Company No. 11.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, New-York, July 3, 1863.

To the Honorable the Board of Aldermen:

GENTLEMEN: I return, without my approval, the resolution directing the Street Commissioner to advertise for proposals for building a steam fire engine for the use of Hose Co. No. 26, similar to the one now in use by Engine Co. No. 11.

My objections to this resolution are the same as stated to both Boards of the Common Council, in my communication dated the 29th of May last, in which I recommended that we should refrain from authorizing the further purchase of steam fire engines during the present year. We have already eighteen of such machines, besides eighteen others authorized to be built. The work thus far authorized for fire machines and apparatus will exhaust the appropriation made for that purpose; but even were there a surplus sufficient to build additional steam fire engines, I am satisfied from information received from the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, that it would be at present unnecessary and injudicious to build them.

GEORGE OPDYKE, Mayor.

Which was received, directed to be laid on the table ten days, entered at length on the minutes, and published in all the papers employed by the Corporation.

A message was received from his Honor the Mayor, returning unapproved resolution and ordinance, that Forty-first street, from Eleventh to Twelfth avenues, be regulated, graded, curbed, and guttered; also, curb and gutter-set and sidewalks flagged in Eleventh avenue, between Forty-second and Forty-third streets.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, New-York, July 3, 1863.

To the Honorable the Board of Aldermen:

GENTLEMEN: I return without my approval the resolutions and ordinance "That Forty-first street, from Eleventh to Twelfth avenues, be regulated, graded, curbed, and guttered; also, curb and gutter stones reset, and the sidewalks flagged where necessary, in Eleventh avenue, between Forty-second and Forty-third streets," &c.

If my information is correct, and I do not doubt it, we have no right, as yet, to take the action here proposed. Chas. F. Appleby, esq., owns the land on the south side of Forty-first street, from the Eleventh avenue to the Hudson River or Twelfth avenue. The ground between the Eleventh and Twelfth avenues, at the locality mentioned in the ordinance, is made land, held under grants from the city. By these grants, the grantees are required to make the streets within a specific time after being required by the city to do so; and only in event of the grantee making default, after due notice, can the city regulate and grade the streets at his expense. I learn from Mr. Appleby that he has never been notified or required to do the work, but is ready to do it at once. I understand further that the Gas Light Company, who own the property on the north side of the street, are proceeding with their part of the work.

GEORGE OPDYKE, Mayor.

Which was received, laid on the table for ten days, directed to be entered at length on the minutes, and published in all the papers employed by the Corporation.

A message was received from his Honor, the Mayor, returning unapproved resolution directing the opening of Eighty-seventh, Eighty-eighth, Eighty-ninth, Ninetieth, and Ninety-first streets, from the Third avenue to the East River.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, New-York, July 3, 1863.

To the Honorable the Board of Aldermen:

GENTLEMEN: I return, without my approval, the resolution directing the opening of Eighty-seventh street, Eighty-eighth street, Eighty-ninth street, Ninetieth street, and Ninety-first street, from the Third avenue to the East River.

My objections are, that a full report of evidence before the Select Committee in relation to Smithfield market, which testimony is worthy of consideration, as coming from a physician who has had practice for fifteen years in the neighborhood of Smithfield. He says that slaughter-houses have a most injurious effect in generating fevers, and in rendering the most simple diseases malignant. "The stench is intolerable arising from the slaughtering of cattle and the removal of the foul matters, the gore, the blood, and the skins of animals. The doctor has patients in all these houses. They are never free from the effects of this stench, and when the people there are dangerously ill, he is without the hope, by any exercise of skill, of restoring them to health. The malaria which they are breathing from the foul air generated in these slaughter houses is a nare-tic poison, oppressing both body and mind before completing the work of death." This is simply the testimony of one of the examined witnesses, and equally sustained by the evidence of other eminent physicians who were summoned to attend.

There can be no question that this testimony has equal relevancy to a similar condition of things in our own city, and that our physicians would corroborate the experience of their professional brethren in London. Should any doubt exist upon this point, it may be easily settled by calling upon our physicians for their opinions. Even this, however, is unnecessary, as such testimony has been frequently referred to in the reports emanating from this Department.

Having, as I think, shown the necessity of some change in our present system of slaughtering establishments, I would suggest the erection of four abattoirs on the Island, two on the east and two on the west side of the city above Thirteenth street. The city is already the owner of plots of ground in these sections, which would admirably answer the proposed purposes. As to the sufficiency in the erection, subdivisions and other details necessary to the final and thorough arrangement of these establishments, there will be ample time to consider them when the Common Council shall have the subject fully under investigation. No doubt much information can be derived from the French system, solong in successful operation, by which new advantages may be availed of to the benefit equally of the butchers and the city at large. My object at present is simply to call the attention of your honorable body to the importance of the proposed measure, and to make such suggestions as seem to be proper to establish the practicability and the necessity of the contemplated change.

In this connection, a few details of justice to the butchers of the city, as regards the results of the proposed change upon their immediate interests, may not be irrelevant. It is estimated that the yearly expenses of this class of our fellow-citizens, arising from rents and their many incidental expenses, and which expenses the proposed change would render unnecessary, amount to from $200,000 to $250,000. Many of our butchers own the property on which their slaughter-houses are erected, and in this estimate is included the probable rent which such buildings would command if let to third parties for the same purposes for which they are now used. It is also just to estimate the enhanced value of such property in the event of the introduction of the system of abattoirs. I am thus alluding only to the advantage to the butchers, resulting from the proposed change, without referring to the benefits to accrue to those other than butchers, who are property owners in these localities. There would seem to be hardly a question that, in a pecuniary point of view, the butcher would be largely the gainer, for it is not to be supposed that the yearly expenses collectively or individually under the plan suggested would approach the sum which they are now compelled to pay. In addition to this consideration, the necessity for the number of hands now required in the slaughter of animals would be dispensed under the regime which would be introduced in the abattoir. In point of market convenience, the advantages of the proposed plan over the existing mode of doing business, present themselves in so clear a light, that it is unnecessary to enter into details to prove their superiority.

I have thus set forth my views upon this subject in a brief and necessarily imperfect form. The main points to be considered are, whether the change is required by public necessity, and does it involve the risk of embarrassment and pecuniary loss to those engaged in the business? It is believed that there will be a general assent to the first proposition, not merely on the ground of general convenience, but on the higher ground of the preservation of the public health. As to its practicability, we have but to refer to the abattoirs of Paris, a city the natural advantages of which for the establishment of these great conveniences do not compare with those of New-York. The City of Paris is about fourteen miles from north to south, and sixteen miles from east to west, while New-York is from one to three miles in width, and, to the extreme point of the island, about ten miles in length, thus reducing the distance for the transportation of meats but a small proportion of the space to be traversed in the former city, and this distance will be still more reduced by the necessary establishment of uptown markets in place of many of those in the lower part of the city.

As to the immense saving to accrue to the butchers, a brief illustration would seem to settle that point beyond a question. The five abattoirs of Paris were constructed at the large outlay of about $3,500,000, and in 1862 the fees from the taxes paid to the city by the butchers amounted to about $400,000. The proposed abattoirs in this city would not, in all probability, exceed in cost one-third the amount of those in Paris, while the fees paid by the butchers need not be made to exceed $100,000 at most—a saving, by the change, of $150,000. By its adoption, in addition to the many benefits already enumerated, may be mentioned the exemption from the appearance in our streets of cattle, sheep, swine, &c., &c., the freedom from blood in the gutters, and the exposure from the public gaze of the offal and feed matter which is daily presented in open carts passing through our streets.

That slaughter-houses must cease to exist in the compactly inhabited portion of our city is a foregone conclusion. All temporizing laws for their better regulation must in the end give way to their entire abolishment. This abolishment, then, being but a question of time, there is no season more fitting than the present to take the preliminary measures toward the substitution of some plan adaptable to the constantly increasing wants of our constantly-increasing metropolis. The importance of the subject seemed to demand from me a special communication to your honorable body, and I have felt that I could not present such communication at too early a day. The consideration of the subject will require minute investigation, and much time may necessarily elapse before a suitable plan can be matured and acted upon. Whether the duty of carrying into effect either the plan suggested or some other plan more wisely considered, shall devolve upon yourselves or upon your successors, it is my conviction that the time has arrived when further postponement of a matter in which the interests of our entire city are involved, will prove detrimental to the public good, and I earnestly urge that the subject may receive that early action at your hands which its importance demands. There can be no question that the butchers of our city will willingly give the benefit of their experience and their views as to the most practical course to be pursued in regard to the details necessarily accompanying an undertaking of this magnitude. Many of our leading butchers have for years past been most active in urging a change from the present most imperfect system, and there can be no question of their readiness now as in former days to give aid in a work which gives promise so largely for the good of the city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
F. I. A. BOOLE, City Inspector.

While the paper was being read, Alderman HARDY moved that the further reading thereof be suspended, that the communication be published in all the corporation papers and the New-York Atlas, and that the paper be referred to a special committee of five.
Which was carried.
And the President appointed Aldermen Hardy, Mitchell, Ryer, Froment and Hall as such committee.
Ald. FROMENT asked to be excused from serving on such committee.
Which was granted.
And Ald. FOX was appointed in his place.
A communication was received from the Street Commissioner, with statement of apportionment of assessment in the matter of regulating and grading Fourth avenue, between Seventy-third and Seventy-ninth streets.
Which was received and ordered on file.
A communication was received from the Board of Metropolitan Police, relative to the Eighteenth and Twenty-third Precinct Station Houses.
Which was received and referred to Committee on Police.
A communication was received from the Comptroller, with an ordinance to provide for the redemption of the loan of $500,000, made in 1862, for the payment of bounties to volunteer soldiers.
Which was received and referred to Committee on Finance.
A communication was received from the Comptroller with statement of Treasury balance July 31, 1863.
Which was received and ordered on file.
A communication was received from the Comptroller, with

Sales by Auction.

A. M. MERWIN, Auctioneer.

BY BANGS, MERWIN & Co., Irving Buildings, Nos. 504 and 506 Broadway.—Sales of Books, Stationery, Pictures, Works of Art, Fancy Goods, Furniture, &c.
MONDAY EVENING, Sept. 7, at 7 o'clock.
STANDARD and MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS, comprising a great variety of valuable LIBRARY Works and Miscellaneous Literature; also a collection of Scientific, Classical and School-Books, &c.
TUESDAY EVENING, Sept. 8, at 7 o'clock.
ASSIGNEE'S SALE of the stock of a Broadway store, consisting of Photographic Pictures, Stereoscopes, Stereoscopic Views, Card Photographs, Passe-Partouts, Frames, Pictures in rich Gilt and Walnut Frames, Photograph Albums, Engravings, and a variety of Fancy Articles, &c.; also, Fixtures.

ASSISTANT-QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE, Corner G and 22d streets, WASHINGTON, D. C., August 25, 1863.

PUBLIC SALES OF CONDEMNED ANIMALS will take place at the Corral, near the Observatory, in this city, on the 1st, 3d and 5th WEDNESDAYS of SEPTEMBER, 1863, being the 2d, 16th and 30th days of the month.
The property is condemned as unfit for public service.
Sales to commence at 10 o'clock a. m., of each day, and be continued from day to day until the number on hand shall be sold.
Terms cash, in Government funds.
C. H. TOMPKINS, Capt., A. Q. M., U. S. A.

DANIEL H. BURDETT, AUCTIONEER.

U. S. MARSHAL'S SALE.
By BURDETT, JONES & Co.
By virtue of a writ of vendition exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at PUBLIC AUCTION, on the 8th day of September, 1863, at 11 o'clock a. m., at the Southern Naval Store Yard, Brooklyn, the CARGO of the prize schooner HATTIE, consisting of 425 barrels Spirits Turpentine and 100 barrels Rosin. Also, at Union Stores, Brooklyn, — bales Cotton.—Aug. 27, 1863. R. MURRAY, U. S. Marshal.

DANIEL H. BURDETT, Auctioneer.

U. S. MARSHAL'S SALE.
By BURDETT JONES & Co.
By virtue of a writ of vendition exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at public auction, on the 8th day of September, 1863, at 12 o'clock at noon, on board thereof, the prize schooner HATTIE, her TACKLE, &c.
N. B.—The above vessel lies at the Union Stores, Brooklyn.
August 27, 1863. R. MURRAY, U. S. Marshal.

DANIEL H. BURDETT, Auctioneer.

U. S. MARSHAL'S SALE.—By BURDETT, JONES & Co.
By virtue of a writ of vendition exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at Public Auction, on the 10th day of September, 1863, at 11 o'clock a. m., at the Union Stores, Brooklyn, the following portions of the cargo of the prize steamer EMMA, to wit:
One hundred and twenty bales of Cotton.
Five half bales of Cotton.
Three bags of Cotton.
Two hundred and seventy-three boxes Tobacco (large).
One hundred boxes Tobacco (small).
Sixty drums Tobacco.
Also, at 12 o'clock, noon, on the SAME DAY, at the Southern Naval Store Yard, Brooklyn, the balance of said cargo, consisting of 267 bbls. Turpentine (about 50 bbls. are nearly empty, and 120 bbls. Rosin.
ROBERT MURRAY, U. S. Marshal.

DANIEL H. BURDETT, Auctioneer.

U. S. MARSHAL'S SALE.
By BURDETT, JONES & Co.
By virtue of a writ of vendition exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at public auction, on the 16th day of September, inst, at 11 o'clock a. m., at Wheeler's Stores, Atlantic Docks, Brooklyn, the CARGO of the prize steamer MEMPHIS, consisting of about 340 bales Sea Island Cotton, 500 bbls. Rosin, 1,195 bales Upland Cotton, 2 tierces Cotton Seed, 1 coil Wire Rigging.
AugustSep16

QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE, New-York, Sept. 3, 1863.

WILL be Sold at Public Auction, at Messrs. Felt & Nichols's Stables, in 27th st., near 7th av., at 10 o'clock, on SATURDAY, 5th inst., a number of CONDEMNED GOVERNMENT HORSES. Every Horse put up will positively be sold to the highest bidder. Terms cash in current funds, and the horse to be removed immediately after the sale.
STEWART VAN VLIET, Major and Quartermaster U. S. A.

Wants.

GOVERNESS—An English lady (resident until lately in London), accustomed to tuition, wishes to meet with an engagement for two or three hours daily. Acquirements, Music, French and Drawing, with the usual branches of a good English education. Highest references. Address "D. G.," Tribune office.

A GRADUATE of Harvard University desires a situation as PRIVATE TUTOR. Would at young men for College or instruct them in Collegiate studies. References—The Rev. Dr. DeWitt, Gen. W. S. Smith, esq., the Rev. Dr. Storrs, Brooklyn. Address S. F., Tribune Office, N. Y.

A BUNDANCE of GOOD SERVANTS at the large, first-class Servants' Institute, No. 139 11th st., corner 6th av. English, German, Irish, Scotch, American and Protestant help, civil and capable, to suit all. Also good places.

A NUMBER of well-recommended GERMAN GIRLS want situations as Cooks, Chambermaids, Laundresses, Nurses, Girls for General House-work, &c., &c., at MRS. LOWE'S German Institute, No. 17 Stanton st., near the Bowery.

A YOUNG MAN WANTED IN A BOOK STORE.—A young man 17 or 18 years of age, who understands the Book and Stationery business. Testimonials from his last employer required. Apply to
M. A. MACFARAND, No. 507 Broadway cor. 23d st.

A MAN about 48 years of age wishes a situation as GARDENER or COACHMAN. Understands horses of all kinds. Can give the best recommendations. Call for 3 days, at Henderson's Intelligence Office, No. 72 Nassau st.

BOY WANTED.—Wanted, a smart, active, and honest BOY at WATERS'S Music Store, No. 481 Broadway. None need apply but those who can bring good recommendations with them.

CRUCIBLE MAKERS.—Wanted, Two or Three Good Crucible Turners and Burners. Address Post office Box No. 2032.

GARDENER.—WANTED a SITUATION by a single man, English, who has been three years in the country. Well versed in all branches of the business. Address, for 3 days, D., Tribune Office.

LADIES' EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION.—Those wishing to employ ladies in any of the various departments of business, and those wishing positions as Salesswomen, Teachers, Housekeepers, Copyists, &c., are invited to communicate with the Secretary, at the office of A. C. Jones & Co., No. 713 Broadway, N. Y.

SEVERAL GIRLS WANTED,
At Mme. DEMOREST'S
EMPORIUM OF FASHIONS,
No. 473 Broadway.

TO DENTISTS—WANTED, an OPERATOR who understands mechanical dentistry. Mail applicants will state age, how long they have been dentists, in what branch they excel, and the wages required. Apply to FREYBERG BROTHERS, Dentists, No. 159