

THE CITY'S PUBLIC PARKS

REVIEW OF THE IMPROVEMENTS MADE UPON THEM IN 1895.

The Commissioners' Seventh Annual Report submitted yesterday...

The seventh annual report of the commission of public parks...

In compliance with its annual custom, the commission of public parks...

Beginning with a balance from previous account of \$10,443.91, the cash receipts during the year from all sources aggregated \$28,225.76...

While the commissioners do not advocate any lavish expenditure in this matter of park development...

EAST ROCK PARK.

The principal new work undertaken has been the construction of a driveway which when completed, will be about a mile in length...

WATER STREET PARK.

The important work of filling in the mud flats has been steadily continued during the year...

WEST ROCK PARK.

The most important work on this during the past year has been that on the new road running from the main drive towards the top of the bold cliffs...

BEAVER PONDS PARK.

The work on this park has consisted almost entirely in filling and grading the swamp land bounded by Henry, Hudson, Goffe and County streets.

FORT HALE PARK.

Since the previous report many radical changes for the better have been carried out at this park by the sea.

Finally, the driveways have been kept in good condition, considerable earth being carted in for that purpose.

BAY VIEW PARK.

The principal improvement in this marine park have been as follows: Adding to the height of the wooden bulkhead along the beach...

EDGEWOOD PARK.

Since the previous report the work of laying out a park on the southern portion of this attractive possession has been vigorously prosecuted...

CLINTON PARK.

No work of any kind has been carried out at this, as thus far, unimproved park territory, it is not being deemed expedient so to do under existing conditions.

Sultan's Servants Unpaid.

London, Dec. 30.—The Times publishes a dispatch from Constantinople stating that Raif Pachia, the head of the customs department...

Horse Blocked Trains.

Maspeeth, Dec. 30.—Nine thoroughbred horses strayed from ex-Sheriff Garrett Furman's stock farm this morning.

Village Boundary War.

Oaxaca, Mexico, Dec. 30.—A pitched battle occurred on Wednesday between the inhabitants of the towns of Huizil and San Juan del Estado...

Steamship Disabled.

Halifax, Dec. 29.—The British steamship Massapequa, Captain Jenkins, from Rotterdam for New York...

Joined the Squadron.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The armored cruiser Maine joined Admiral Bunch's squadron at Hampton Roads today.

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out upon the rapidity with which the sanitary condition of that now unhealthy locality is improved.

PORT WOOSTER PARK.

The roadways have been worked, gutters for some distance cobbled, footpaths graded, a catch basin made midway the hill, from which a ten inch cement pipe extends to Townsend avenue...

The old magazine inside the ramparts of Fort Wooster has been repaired with a view to its preservation, while near at hand stands a flagstaff, donated free of expense...

QUINNIPIAC PARK.

A row of large elm trees has been planted along the Chapel street and James street fronts, a spacious rustic summer house built upon the knoll near the water side...

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SLICK SWINDLER STARR.

His Real Estate Operations Came to a Sudden Stop—Endeavored to Swindle Mrs. Frances D. Payne of Westville—A Prominent Boston Man Lost \$50,000 by Him—His Whomabouts Unknown—Said He Was Going to Start a Bicycle Factory.

Recent developments have shown that the transactions of John W. Starr, who came to this city with his family from New York last October, were fraudulent and that he had previously been concerned in fraudulent schemes on a large scale even than those he attempted here.

He said on coming to New Haven that he was looking for a site for locating a bicycle factory, and after a few days said that he had decided upon the old New Haven Nut company works at the corner of Main and Tryon streets, Westville, the property owned at present by Mrs. Frances D. Payne and her daughter, of Westville, but then owned by Samuel Hodgkinson, who came here from Ohio who under the firm name of the Yale Steel company attempted to make steel wire there.

After Hodgkinson's departure the property was decided back to Mrs. Payne Starr agreed to give her \$4,000 for it, but when the time came to pay the money he could not do so. He stated that he was a member of the Cambria Iron works, and had business connections of a high order in Boston. He wanted to sell the property so badly that he offered to take a bond for the deed, and give a note secured by bonds, but later he backed out of this proposition and wanted a deed, C. E. Thompson, the Orange street real estate dealer, who was handling the property for Mrs. Payne refused to let him have a deed unless the money for the property was paid.

About two weeks ago Starr again urged Mrs. Payne to sell to him and she was ready to make any reasonable concessions. Starr finally agreed to give a note endorsed by Luther R. Whipple of Boston for the full amount of the property, and would secure the note by \$6,000 worth of Edwards, Ill. Water works bonds and besides would give Mrs. Payne a mortgage for the full amount of the purchase price.

Mr. Thompson, the agent, advised, however, that the deed he had executed until the note and the bonds had been investigated, but Starr said that he must have the deed on a certain day, and threatened to throw up the transaction if the deed was not given to him. This was finally done, and the mortgage was at once taken to the town clerk's office with instructions to record it as soon as the warranty deed was presented.

A few days the deed came to the office accompanied by a mortgage deed according to which the property represented as being without encumbrance had been transferred to E. Brooks of Boston. Clerk Brethauer at once notified Mr. Payne and refused to record the documents. Mr. Thompson found on going to Boston that the note and bonds given were worthless. He called on Mr. Brooks, who is president of the Lowell and Nashua railroad. The matter was explained to Mr. Brooks, who after investigation admitted that he had been deceived by Starr.

The latter had been arrested and placed under bonds, and in order to get released turned over the Payne property deed with its detail of factory buildings, etc., which looked big, and Starr claimed that it was fully worth \$10,000. In addition to this Starr turned over his alleged interest in his father's estate in New Jersey, which he claimed was valued at \$25,000.

On investigation Mr. Brooks had just found that the Starr estate had been settled years ago. Mr. Brooks added that this deed was another of Starr's schemes.

President Brooks, who is several times a millionaire, has agreed to settle the matter without delay, and in order to make a clear record, a new deed is being drawn transferring the property back to Mrs. Payne. Mr. Thompson, who has always been suspicious of Starr, had arranged to have Town Clerk Brethauer enjoined from recording any transfer which Starr might attempt to make, so that Mrs. Payne's interest was in no way jeopardized.

Starr and his former partner, who was to be employed in the bicycle factory, left town about two weeks ago. Starr had an abundance of water works bonds at his command, and it is believed that he has inveigled several prominent financial men to these enterprises. He started negotiations with Attorney Burton Mansfield for the land adjoining the Payne property, and by the Ann M. Mix estate, but did not go very far with them. He was a glib talker and appeared to be thoroughly familiar with the bicycle business.

Town Clerk Brethauer's prompt action in this and other matters shows that he is a thorough and alert official and Agent Thompson has demonstrated his keenness in protecting the interests of his client.

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OLD SANTA CLAUS.

And His Visit to the Sailors' Home on Water Street—About Eighty Sailors Present.

Old Santa Claus bustling along his busy course, arrived on Friday evening at the Sailors' home on Water street. He must have previously dropped a cablegram among the board of managers, for they were quite prepared to further his efforts to give the sailors a merry Christmas.

About eighty men were on shore, and presented tickets to the festivities. The reading rooms were beautifully decorated by Mr. Bough, festoons of evergreens radiating from the center to the sides and corners of the ceiling, supplemented with boughs of laurel.

A delightful musical program was arranged by the entertainment committee, Miss Alice Cowles, chairman, and Miss Fellowes, Mr. Crabbe and Mr. Campbell lent their superior talent to charm ears all too used to harsh and terrific sounds. After the music Mr. Ball entertained the audience for an hour with his sleight-of-hand tricks. Mr. Ball's skill might easily challenge comparison with that of many prestidigitators of much wide fame. He does not shrink from proximity to his audience, and many of his tricks are quite new. The running mouthful chat with which he weaves together his magic kept the audience in hearty laughter.

After Mr. Ball had concluded, the men descended to the dining room, where a bounteous supper presented a most festive and appetizing sight. After supper the presents were distributed. Comfort bags, wristlets, mufflers and warm mittens were the articles given, and the men departed with the feeling that they have in reality a home dear to remembrance when far away from all who care for them, while wrestling with the hardships of their calling.

The ladies of the society desire to thank very warmly all those friends who aided in any way to make the Christmas of 1895 a glad experience and a blessed memory to the sailors at our "Home" on Water street.

The Transvaal Crisis.

Pretoria, Dec. 30.—The Transvaal government has ordered the Boer burghers to hold themselves in readiness to be called upon to suppress rebellion.

The trouble between the foreign residents of the Transvaal and the Boer government is increasing in intensity. The leading mines are closing, and the price of breadstuffs in Johannesburg has risen greatly. Trains leaving here are filled with refugees.

Extreme Prostration

From Fevers of every description, especially typhoid, is the doctor's fear and the patient's danger; medicine is of but little avail, sufficient nourishment to create new strength to carry the patient over the crisis is what is necessary, a persuading of the great machinery of the body to go on with its work is the end sought after; hence physicians recommend

THE POPULAR VERDICT

In old Elm City, from east to west, you cannot find a place to rest, Or get refreshments of the best.

No Bread is baked so fine and white, No Biscuits are so pure and light, No fancy Cakes give such delight.

No place can give you—so 'tis said— FOUR wholesome loaves Homemade Bread.

For just a quarter dollar "dead," LIKE FERRY'S The Ice Cream Soda's sure to cheer, And of the Root Beer have no fear, The Extracts are all pure and clear.

AT FERRY'S. All decent folks, of common sense, Know FERRY'S lunch is just immense, Likewise the Dinner for 30 cents.

AT FERRY'S. Good folks who come to town to shop, In this cosy place all drop, Because they know it pays to stop— AT FERRY'S.

46 to 50 Church Street.

STORAGE

FOR FURNITURE, PIANOS, and MERCHANDISE. Separate Moth Proof Rooms With Locks.

Competent men constantly in attendance, Packed Vans, Careful Handling.

SMEDLEY BROS. & CO., 171 Brewery Street, Office, 313 State Street.

"Use in Town Honey."

New York, Dec. 30.—The Massapequa sailed from Rotterdam on December 12, and is now about four days overdue at this port.

The Washington, which has the Massapequa in tow, is an oil tank steamship. She sailed from Hamburg on December 12 for New York.

Joined the Squadron.

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The Conn. Clothing Co

Half-Price Sale MILLINERY.

E. MOSES & CO. Successors to R. BALLERSTEIN & CO., 841 and 843 Chapel Street.

We shall commence on Friday of this week a general Clearing Out Sale of Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats and Bonnets at Half Former Prices.

150 Trimmed Veivet Hats, former price \$5.00 each, now \$3.25. 100 Trimmed Hats and Bonnets, formerly \$5.50, now \$2.75. 150 Trimmed Hats and Bonnets, formerly \$4.50, now \$2.24.

A variety of Evening and Theater Hats and Children's Millinery at same reduction.

FRENCH FELT HATS. All of our French Felt Hats, Black and Color, only new desirable shapes, at 75c each, formerly \$1.25 each. 50 dozen Trimmed Sailors and Walking Hats at 25c each, former price 75c.

RIBBON DEPARTMENT.

RIBBONS For Fancy Work. RIBBONS For Millinery. RIBBONS For Dress Trimming.

All at less than cost of production. Gros Grain Ribbons, Satin and Gros Grain, Persian, Roman and Dresden effects, in endless variety and all widths.

Our Satin and Gros Grain Ribbons for Fancy Work, while of superior quality, are lower in price than the inferior unreliable would-be Silk goods advertised about town as Ribbons, — in reality, only transparent strings.</