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VILLAGE OF SOUTH ORANGE.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

OF THE

PRESIDENT,

AND

Reports of Committees,

FOR

1891-'92.

Published by order of the Board of Trustees.
EDWARD P. CHURCH, President.
J. W. WILDEY, Clerk.

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Committees for 1891-'92.

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Finance and Accounts,	HARRITT BARNES, HARRITT
Lamps,	WRIGHT BARNES, TAYLOR.
Licenses,	WRIGHT, HARRITT, BARNES.
Ordinances,	BARNES, HARRITT, WRIGHT.
Police and Enforcement of Ordinances,	BARNES, HARRITT, BARNES.
Printing,	BARNES, TAYLOR, HARRITT.
Rooms,	HARRITT, BARNES, TAYLOR.
Streets and Highways,	TAYLOR, HARRITT, WRIGHT.
Water,	HARRITT, HARRITT, WRIGHT.
Sanitary,	BARNES, HARRITT, TAYLOR.
Misc.	HARRITT, HARRITT, WRIGHT.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

One of the duties of the President requires him "at least once a year" to communicate to the Board "in writing" a general statement of the situation and condition of the village in relation to its government, finances and improvements with such recommendations as he may think proper. It is with considerable satisfaction that I look back over the work done by this Board in the last year, in fact I think that it is a subject of congratulation to the residents and taxpayers of this village that the present Board have been able to its best advantage and in every sense that has been a business administration. Improvements have gone forward faster than in any year since this corporation was formed, and in an economical and careful manner.

The report of the Treasurer, herewith attached, shows that our expenses have been kept within the appropriations made for the year and also shows that for the year ending April 1, 1891, we expended for grading and laying stone sidewalks, seven thousand five hundred forty-nine and forty-two one-hundredths dollars (\$7,549.42) while for the year ending April 1, 1890, for the same purpose only eight hundred seventy-seven and eighteen one-hundredths dollars (\$877.18) were expended. As this work is all paid for by the property which it improves and not by general taxation, it shows a gratifying desire on the part of property owners to have those much needed improvements. The report of Committee on Streets and Highways, a detail of which is attached, shows several miles of new stone sidewalks laid this year, seven new streets graded, a good many thousand feet of broken stone laid, a number of cross walls laid, twelve new culverts finished, a number of small contracts completed, and the grading and putting in order of several new streets contemplated.

The Committee on Printing have nearly finished the important work of having the charter and the general ordinances of the village printed in a book, indexed so that it can be used as a reference book.

Village of South Orange.

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The Committee on Lamps have increased the number of lamps by adding new ones, making the total number in use—

The Committee on Rooms have greatly added to the comfort and convenience of the council room by furnishing and papering.

The Committee on Water have had a most important work before them the past year. A detailed report of that committee is attached. I am satisfied that they have done their work well and faithfully. They have completed, so far as possible, a water supply that I believe is unsurpassed in quality in the State and it has been done on such a basis that it ought not to cost the village a dollar. I think, if properly managed in the future, that the water works will not only pay for the plant, but in time will be a source of revenue to the village.

The annexation of the syndicate property on Centre street is a valuable acquisition to the village; while it gives to the Board additional responsibilities it adds materially to its assets and revenue.

In making up this general statement of improvements, I have, so far as possible, put them in a condensed form. The Committee on Police, Licenses and Ordinances and Sewerage, have all given time and labor to improve the different departments of the village and I think the new Board can do no better than follow the example of the old one in its close attention to the needs of the village. While it is with great satisfaction I look at what has been accomplished in the last year, when we look forward and see what has not been done and what ought to be done we will find more than work enough for the new board for the coming year. I respectfully make the following recommendations:

The Committee on Finance ought first to devise some plan for collecting the taxes in arrears. Over ten thousand dollars in back taxes is out of all proportion to our tax levy. I would advise that the salary of the Treasurer and Collector be increased, that he be required to give a larger bond, and an expert accountant examine the books at the end of each fiscal year. I believe that we have an efficient, capable and honest Treasurer, but his salary is insufficient to pay for the amount of work performed by him.

The Chairman of the Committee on Streets and Highways, who also serves as Overseer of the Highways, without any compensation and has spent his time on this work, and I believe has

President's Message.

faithfully performed his duties, yet I think the interest of the village would be better served if we had a paid Superintendent of Streets, giving the work out by contract, as far as possible, but have a Superintendent that shall see that the specifications of a contract are properly fulfilled. I also believe that with a paid Superintendent, who could, under the supervision of the committee, repair small damages before they became bad, save more than his salary to the village. Our streets are to-day probably in as good or better condition than any of the adjoining townships, but we ought to have them the best. The Committee on Police and Enforcement of Ordinances have a work before them that ought not to be delayed. The whole Police Department of this village needs to be renovated; we ought to have some place for a Police Justice to hold a Court; we need an increased police force; our jail needs renovating and after it is renovated, we ought to see that it is filled with that element in the village that for the last year have made a dangerous place for ladies and children to go out after dark, and have also made the night halloas in some localities by their noise and conduct. The Police Committee can improve this department and I trust they will. The President will give them all the assistance they need by appointing yet a policeman, if necessary.

The Committee on Licenses ought to see to it that those who are granted licenses conform to the law, and they ought not to recommend the renewal of a license if it is shown that the party having had a license has not lived up to the requirements of the law.

The Committee on Rooms ought to give the board, if possible, one or two committee rooms. A number of times in the past year, Board of Health meetings and Committee meetings have been called for the same evening.

The Committee on Water ought, as far as possible, to increase the pipe service so as to increase the number of consumers and the supply for fire protection; this ought to be done as fast as the funds will allow.

I would advise that a new permanent Fire Committee be appointed and that the Water Committee select two or three places in the village for fountains and watering troughs; this can be done at a very small expense.

I would recommend that a special committee be appointed to see if some arrangements cannot be made with the Railroad Com-

pany to prevent their drilling our across South Orange avenue or shipping trains across that avenue and delaying teams in crossing the track, and also asking the Railroad Company to devise some plan by which people can get into a car on the west track without being obliged to pull themselves up by the hands. If the Railroad Company declines to make these very necessary improvements, then I suggest that an ordinance be drawn and passed to conform to the village charter, compelling the railroad company to make these changes.

Probably the most important work to be done in the next year will be with the Sewerage Committee. I think it is almost unanimously conceded that having a water supply, sewerage is an absolute necessity. It is the duty of this board to see that sewerage is an accomplished fact before the year is out; first, on account of the health of the village; second, on account of its convenience, and third, on account of the increase in value to all the property in the village.

There have been several plans suggested, and the Sewerage Committee, I trust, will adopt the best and most economical.

There is an objection in the minds of many people to inland sewerage, believing, as they do, that the only safety is to go to tide water and empty our sewerage in the face of those who live along the shore. But when Paris, with its population of millions, takes care of over one-third of its sewerage with a sewerage farm, and Birmingham, with a population of over one hundred thousand, disposes of her sewerage on a farm which, they claim, will be a source of revenue to that city, it ought not to be difficult for South Orange to dispose of her sewerage inland for the next fifty years at a comparatively small expense.

Gentlemen of the Board, I desire to thank each and every member for the universal courtesy with which I have been treated in the past year, and to extend to you my thanks for the faithful and efficient manner in which you have performed your duties.

Financial Statement.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Annual statement of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Village of South Orange, for the year beginning March 1st, 1890, and ending March 1st, 1891:

RECEIPTS.

Balance of cash on hand March 1, 1890.	\$5,431.41
Tax collected on account tax levy 1890.	14,201.62
" " " previous years.	742.26
Assessments collected account stone sidewalks.	697.67
" " " grading.	1,445.29
Interest on taxes and assessments.	113.48
Unexpended balance from the fund appropriated for freight on water pipe.	61.62
Licenses.	453.00
Fines imposed by Police Justice.	152.00
Received for permit opening street for drain.	32.00
Streets and Highways, sale of broken stone.	72.79
Bills payable, "notes" accounted for.	12,855.18
	\$55,186.22

DISBURSEMENTS--EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

INCIDENTALS.

Auditor's allowance.	\$300.00
Printing and Advertising.	337.38
Electricity.	31.00
T. C. Baker, Assessor, 1890.	166.20
Board of Assessors.	493.00
J. M. C. Morrow, extra services.	253.50
John C. P. Bassett, Engineer, for services, on account of \$100.00.	1,100.00
Freight paid on water pipes.	185.00
J. B. Maxwell, Water Collector.	103.64
Rent of Council Room.	31.33
To Water Committee, for freight, by resolution.	30.80
Council Room, furniture, etc.	160.00
L. P. Taylor, surveying.	213.65
Forsage, stationery, etc.	114.40
Wildes, J. W., indexing ordinances.	50.00
Tax and check books.	16.25
Willey, J. W., extra services.	30.00
	\$4,137.10

Village of South Orange.

SALARIES.

J. W. Willey, Clerk.	\$798.98
E. A. Halliday, Treasurer and Collector.	100.00
J. McC. Morrow, Counsel.	132.50
	1,031.48

STREETS AND HIGHWAYS.

Timber stone.	2,742.42
Maintenance, stone.	351.00
Repairs.	3,759.49
	6,852.91
Boiler account, grading.	391.26
Church street, grading.	690.92
Third street, grading.	722.22
Fourth street, grading.	50.10
Rail-car avenue, grading.	418.33
Ridgewood track, grading.	218.00
Kalidon avenue, road grading and paving gutters.	332.00
Vote avenue, stone walks.	745.08
Stone street, stone walks.	118.75
Canal street, stone walks.	146.62
South Orange avenue, stone walks.	460.24
Second street, stone walks.	20.20
Madison avenue, stone walks.	1,413.56
Kalidon avenue, stone walks.	30.00
Church street, stone walks.	493.73
	7,526.42

LAMP ACCOUNT.

Citizens' Gas Light Co.	2,380.00
New Bridge.	2.80
	2,382.80

POLICE ACCOUNT.

Salaries to Marshal and Police.	1,891.55
Salaries to Police Justice.	121.02
Monthly Police Allowance.	280.00
Special Police.	370.00
Stables.	439.45
Extra weekly, money paid.	2,328.69
Discount on notes.	200.15
Discount on 1890.	235.44
Board of Health.	35.00
	5,960.88

Debit on Bond March 1, 1891.

	\$1,574.45
	1,574.45

ASSETS.

Water plant.	\$5,000.00
Land on hand.	1,581.72
Cases undelivered.	10,178.61
Property bought for unpaid assessments.	3,400.12
Vote avenue, grading.	1,130.30
Stone street, grading.	130.82
Various stone walks.	1,384.83
	\$30,106.22

7th. The proceeds from the sale of the Village Water Bonds, amounted to the sum of \$25,032.50.

8th. The character of the water as reported by Mr. Gideon Moore, Chemist, of New York City, and in accordance with respect to the same, is as follows:

	Parts per 100,000	Grains per U. S. Gal.
Free Ammonia	0.015	0.015
Albumenoid	0.005	0.005
Oxygen free	0.081	0.081
Nitric acid	0.000	0.000
Nitrites	0.000	0.000
Nitrate	0.000	0.000
Chlorine	0.000	0.000
Total hardness	4.139	4.139
Saline matters	0.000	0.000
Organic and volatile matter	0.000	0.000
	4.500	4.500

And that in all of these respects the water compares favorably with the best water supply of the United States.

9th. The engineer of the system, both in designing and supervising of the construction, was Mr. Cornel Ph. Bassett, of the city of Newark.

10th. The number of miles of water pipe laid or owned is 3.83.

11th. The pressure for fire purposes averages about one hundred (100) pounds throughout the village, being considerable more in the valleys, through which the railroad runs.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

HARMON H. HANT,
J. G. MORRISON,
H. E. HALSEY,

Committee.

The work done on the streams of the village for the past year has been as follows:

STREAMS GRADED.

South Church street, whole length.

Third street, from Valley to Ridgewood road.

Roland avenue, whole length.

Madison avenue, whole length.

Fourth street, from Prospect to Academy.

Scott and street, from Montrose avenue to Orange line.

Ridgewood road sidewalk, south side from South Orange avenue to Walton avenue.

Contracts for the grading of Burreas and Riggs streets have been awarded, but freezing weather stopped operations soon after they were commenced.

An ordinance has been passed to grade Ward lane, but the ordinance has not been advertised.

BROKEN STOPS

Ward avenue south from Randolph place	Feet.
Madison avenue	1,700
Montrose avenue, between Grove road and Highland road	780
Thelma avenue, whole length	336
Roland avenue	900
South Church street	1,450
Third street, from Valley street to Ridgewood road	400
Fourth street, from Prospect to Academy	1,450
Scott and street, relaying after grading	420
Valley street, relaying after grading	550

Line, by heavy coat stone.

Ridgewood road, repaired by stone near Richmond farm south.

These streets, with some scattering repairs, indicate where stone were used, excepting pipe culverts, where from three to five loads were used.

BLAST STONE SIDEWALKS

South Orange avenue, from Ward lane west	Feet.
Stoan street, from South Orange avenue to First street, east side	700
Comstock place, from Scotland street to Vose avenue, north	300
Rollison avenue, from Charleston to Vose avenue, north	239
South Orange avenue, Dodge property, north side	1,300
Montrose avenue, from Harford road to city line	203
South Orange avenue, from Harford road to city line	1,361
Second street, west of Valley	1,064
Ridgewood road, South Orange avenue to West End road	2,387
Church street, two sides	57
	1,000
	1,300

STONE CROSS WALKS—NEW

First street and Stoan.

Camden place and South Orange avenue.

Bowers place and South Orange avenue.

Riggs place and South Orange avenue.

Montrose avenue and Vose avenue.

Vose avenue and Randolph place.

Prospect street near M. E. Canal.

STONE CROSS WALKS RELAYED.

Scotland street and Ridgewood road, north side.

South Orange avenue and Ridgewood road, north side.

Voss avenue and Montrose avenue, south side.
Prospect street and Milligan place.
Prospect street and Third street, west side.

CULVERTS CONSTRUCTED DURING YEAR.

Milligan place and Prospect street.
Valley street near Cemetery.
Voss avenue.
Montrose avenue and Voss avenue.
North and Academy streets.
Howe's place and South Orange avenue.
Riggs' place and South Orange avenue.
Tilden's avenue and Irvington avenue.
Balston avenue and Grove road.
Roland avenue and Academy street.
First street and Sloane.

Some small repairs have been done to some half dozen old culverts.

The D. L. & W. Railroad have, at request of Street Commissioner, enlarged their culvert between First and Second streets to four times its former size, giving a full outlet for the water of those two streets.

EDGAR M. TAYLOR, Chairman.