

the acceptance of this proposition, we beg to remain,
SALT LAKE STRADAMANT ASPHALT CO.

Councilman Hyde requested that the reports of Curtis Barker, engineer of the Leland Stanford, Jr., university, and C. A. Ogden, chemist of the board of supervisors of San Francisco, be read, which was done.

Committee on streets.

BIDS FOR FLAGSTONE SIDEWALKS.

The board of public works reported the following abstract of bids for laying 20,000 square feet of flagstone sidewalk pavements on Third South street, all of which greatly exceeded the estimate, before submitted.

THREE INCH.		Paving.	Grading.
F. G. Campbell and F. G. Palmer.	35	13	
Skinner & Co.	35	33	
Wm. Bastapa.	37	45	
Metropolitan Stone company.	40	--	
FOUR INCH.		Paving.	Grading.
Wm. Bastapa.	38	45	
Skinner, Tyne & Piduza.	40	35	
F. G. Campbell and F. G. Palmer.	40	43	
Metropolitan Stone company.	40	--	
FIVE INCH.		Paving.	Grading.
Wm. Bastapa.	45	45	
Metropolitan Stone company.	45	--	
F. G. Campbell and F. G. Palmer.	55	35	
Skinner & Co.	46	35	

The matter was referred to the board of public works.

THE NORTH BENCH WATER QUESTION.

The following report from the city engineer, submitted April 7th, brought forth a resolution by Councilman Anderson, authorizing the issuing of bonds to the amount of \$50,000, for the construction of the system:

"In accordance with instructions received from the City Council on March 19, of the present year, I have made and herewith submit an estimate of cost for constructing a reservoir and pipe line system for supplying water to those portions of the city known as the 'North Bench' and 'Capitol Hill.' To distribute the water as high as Thirteenth street, it will be necessary to locate the gatehouse 340 feet in elevation above the gatehouse of the present Twentieth ward system, and will require about 14,300 feet or two and three-quarters miles of main pipe, which I think should not be less than twelve inches. The cost of such a system will be about as follows:

For reservoir, gatehouse, etc	\$ 7,975 00
For 12-inch iron main	50,000 00
Total cost of system	\$58,025 00

Councilman Anderson—I renew my motion made one week ago for the adoption of the resolution authorizing the system to be put in.

Councilman James—I am emphatically opposed to the adoption of the resolution and can give you good reasons for my objections. They are these: It has been asserted that members of a former city council pledged themselves to supply the purchasers of the unimproved and uninhabited land on the north bench with water. If any such pledge or promise was made the information is certainly on file in the office of the recorder and should such be the case I will oppose the proposition no longer, for then are we bound to supply that portion of the town with water, otherwise not. (Addressing Recorder Jack) Are there any papers in your office containing such promise or pledge?

Mr. Jack—I know nothing of such papers.

Mr. James—Then I certainly shall

oppose the proposition because I think it is unjust. I have weighed the matter well and have carefully examined every detail, and enquired into the rights of the petitioners and the alleged obligation of the city. I have talked with ex-Mayor Armstrong, Messrs. Dooley, McCornick and Sharp, all members of the city council when that land was platted and sold and all of them are emphatic in their statements that there was no promise on the part of the city, either expressed or implied to supply it with water. Purchasers of lots probably expected that water would be obtained at sometime in the distant future, but they took their chances. I have recently visited and carefully inspected the grounds, which the petition, if granted, is calculated to benefit, and, to my surprise, there are, if I remember rightly, but four small, cheap wooden houses located above the present water limit. Below the limit is much valuable and unimproved land on which people could easily settle and be nearer the center of the city. The people on the bench, many of whom I talked with personally, informed me that while they did not have the water force that that exists below them, they had sufficient to sprinkle their lawns and water their trees. If the gentlemen who advocate the granting of this petition can produce one single convincing idea in favor of it I should like to hear it. So far they have, in my opinion, signally failed. An argument has been made in rebuttal of my position, by saying that the unoccupied land on the north bench if supplied with water, would be rapidly settled and soon begin to contribute revenue to the city in the shape of taxes. But there is much available land within the water limit to improve and from which taxes can be collected. Another thing is, we have many needed improvements to make and the city can ill afford to spare the money at this time.

Councilman Hyde—I am heartily in accord with the sentiments of Mr. James. While water is as plentiful as it has been this season and last, there might be water enough to supply the wants of people who may settle above the present water limit, but in such seasons as that of two years ago, they would have to go without. Besides, the water from City Creek belongs to another portion of the city. The old inhabitants have the first claim upon it. To take it from them would be wrong. Another thing, financially, I believe, the city is running close to the wind. Every good business man inquires carefully into the standing of his bank account; so, likewise, I believe we should understand the state of the city's finances.

Councilman Hardy—I do not think the City Council is under any obligation to grant the petition. I have a relative who purchased a great amount of land on the bench at the time of the public sale and he assures me that he received no promises from the city that he would be supplied with water, but that he took his own chances.

Councilman Pickard—I know that there were several hundred thousand dollars spent in the purchase of land there, with the implied promise that the city would furnish water.

Councilman James—Allow me to correct you, Mr. Pickard. I am able to do so as I have the figures to bear me out (producing a paper from his pocket). You certainly cannot mean hundreds of thousands of dollars as on this portion of the bench there was but \$44,520 worth of land sold above the water limit east of City Creek.

To this Mr. Pickard did not reply. Councilman Parsons—I believe that it was understood when this property was sold, that the city would furnish it with water as soon as it was able to do so. I further believe that the time has now arrived. The taxes would soon pay for the investment. The lots were last year assessed at \$1500 each. The revenue was considerable.

Councilman James—I arise to correct this statement.

Councilman Karrick—I object, Mr. Mayor, the gentleman cannot speak twice on the same subject without the permission of the council.

Mayor Scott—You are right Mr. Karrick.

Councilman Young—I move that the gentleman be given the privilege to speak. Carried.

Councilman James—The lots were not assessed at \$1500 each, nor yet one third of that amount. Here are the figures of the purchase price (again reading from a paper, showing that the lots were disposed of at prices ranging from \$250 to \$500.) It is not likely that they were assessed so much in excess of their real value.

Councilman Young—I agree that the land to be benefited by the granting of this petition is a very beautiful part of the city and will at some day when we can afford to improve it become very valuable and much sought after, but it seems to me that the council should confine itself to the field of improvement in which it is now operating. At a future day, when our finances will permit the proposition might be proper, but to-day, I do not think it is. I have the word of ex-Recorder Wells and others that the city did not bind itself to supply that property with water. I am not yet thoroughly acquainted with the financial condition of the city, but I apprehend that we have no money to spare, and am therefore opposed to the granting of the petition at this time.

The question was then put, the vote being as follows:

Ayes—Parsons, Pendleton, Spafford, Anderson, Pickard, Karrick and Lyon—7.

Nays—Heath, Hyde, Folland, Hardy, Tuddenham, Young and James—7.

Mayor Scott cast the deciding vote saying: "I shall vote for the adoption of the resolution."

INSPECTORS OF SIDEWALKS.

The Board of Public Works reported that they had appointed R. H. Ramsden, John Branton and S. H. Carlisle as sidewalk pavement inspectors at a salary of \$100 per month each. The appointments were confirmed.

LICENSE ORDINANCE.

The following communication from Treasurer Walden was read and referred to the license committee:

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

Gentlemen—I recommend the addition of the sub-joined section to the license ordinance: