

Valley	\$2.43	Waverly	\$1.00
Wall	4.50	West	29.64
Warren	71.69	White	1.40
Washington	11.00	Woodman	1.00
Water	37.84		

COST OF PATCHING STREETS WITH CRUSHED STONE.

Bridge	\$0.40	State	\$37.69
Green	22.40	Turnpike	5.10
Main	46.20	Thompson	4.00
Park	2.00	Warren	1.00
Pleasant	15.00		

COST OF PATCHING STREETS WITH STONE CHIPS.

Gully hill	\$29.75	North State	\$37.15
Granite avenue	12.00	Ferry	10.70
Loudon road	18.00		

COST OF PATCHING STREETS WITH CINDERS.

Turnpike	\$14.71
--------------------	---------

COST OF PATCHING STREETS WITH BRICKBATS.

Turnpike	\$26.10
--------------------	---------

There has been paid to the city treasurer the sum of \$1,108.87 collected of abutters for their proportion of concrete sidewalks as follows :

Frank Tallant	\$4.17
W. G. Shaw	12.18
Daniel Wyman	36.96
James Burbeck	11.48
Julia Halpin	8.01
Frank Adams	28.73
H. G. Sargent	103.04
Jerry Follansbee	9.74
Howard A. Dodge	4.88
Boston & Maine Railroad	34.12
George W. Brown	49.55
Abial Rolfe	50.00

J. B. Dodge	\$6.10
O. E. Smith	8.45
Emily J. Elliott	8.60
Charles Abbott	3.85
Lyman K. Hall	12.63
G. S. Locke	12.20
St. Mary's Church	20.70
J. C. Farrand	22.93
School District No. 20	54.00
Charles N. Bean	20.15
J. C. Bowen	13.95
Ellen Fury	20.00
Wendell P. Ladd	27.22
Benj. L. Blackwood	19.62
Walter S. Blanchard	12.80
Geo. L. Danforth	17.05
St. Paul's School	100.00
Woodworth, Ranney and Thayer	45.55
F. N. Ladd	50.37
J. H. Holland	25.19
J. L. A. Chellis	9.34
C. H. Thompson	13.25
D. F. Woods	8.68
Geo. B. Quimby	8.07
Henry Kimball	8.07
Forest Wellman	7.00
B. E. Badger	7.00
W. E. Adams	8.53
C. W. Drake	8.60
Daniel Flanders	8.03
Mrs. Frank Patterson	7.64
J. B. Walker	72.99
C. E. Otis	25.20
Arthur Sanborn	18.38
Geo. B. Lauder	24.76
E. W. Quimby	8.22
W. D. Thompson	10.81
	<hr/>
	\$1,108.87

CONCRETE BILLS REMAINING UNPAID.

A. O. Mansur	\$10.39
T. Murphy	18.22
Howard Trevette	21.11
Mrs. C. G. Blanchard estate	149.72
D. W. Shallies	11.51
John Haley	7.60
F. C. Coates	8.33
C. S. Woods	6.77
Jackman and Hall	47.96
James Coleman	16.96
Geo. W. Brown	10.00
W. C. Davis	10.91
F. N. Marden	11.32
	<hr/>
	\$330.80

Paid to the city treasurer money received for labor, crushed stone, etc.:

Concord Light and Power Company, repairs	\$1.75
W. H. Hammond, hay	9.35
Park commissioners, clearing pond	18.00
Concord Water-Works, repairs	2.00
Sprinkling precinct, labor	9.60
J. A. Cochran, labor and stone	25.53
Louis A. Blay, crushed stone	1.50
Millville cemetery, labor	6.89
City of Franklin, use of roller	173.09
N. H. Asylum for Insane, crushed stone	30.00
Fire department, horse	75.00
Frank Tallant, labor	3.55
Balance unexpended returned to treasurer	4.67
	<hr/>
	\$360.93

SEWERS AND DRAINS.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SEWERS AND DRAINS.

To the City Council :

The committee on sewers and drains herewith submits its annual report of petitions presented and action taken thereon, and of the receipts and expenditures for the present year.

Permits issued, 86.

Petitions presented and action taken :

Edson J. Hill and others, Warren street, granted and built.

Robert Hall and others, Kimball street, granted and built.

Solon A. Carter and others, Thompson and South State streets, granted and built.

J. G. Taylor and others, rear of High street, granted and built.

J. G. Leighton and others, Tremont street.

Charles Fairbanks and others, referred to next city government.

John B. Lemay and others, Rumford street, granted and built.

John B. Collins, for extension in Curtice avenue.

A. J. Bath and others, Wyman street, granted and built.

Susan H. Edmunds, Mills street, granted and built.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

CITY PRECINCT.

Appropriation	\$5,000.00
Special appropriation	500.00
Rent of pumps	6.00
Sale of old materials	2.28
Sale of pipe	43.84
Labor and materials at White Park	17.30
	<hr/>
Total credits	\$5,569.42
Total expenditures	5,276.33
	<hr/>
	\$293.09

WEST CONCORD PRECINCT.

Balance on hand January 1, 1896	\$1,191.26
By rent of pump	11.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,202.26
Expended 1896	6.25
	<hr/>
Unexpended balance December 31, 1896	\$1,196.01

EAST CONCORD PRECINCT.

Unexpended balance January 1, 1896	\$201.16
Total expenditure 1896	41.00
	<hr/>
Unexpended balance December 31, 1896	\$160.16

The clerk of the committee holds receipts from the city treasurer for the sum of \$58.42, to the credit of the city precinct, and the sum of \$11.00 to the credit of the West Concord precinct.

HENRY ROBINSON,
W. A. LEE,
HOWARD A. DODGE,
LOUIS A. ENGEL,
EDDIE C. DURGIN,

Committee on Sewers and Drains.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF ELECTRIC WIRES.

To his Honor the Mayor and the City Council :

I have the honor to submit herewith my second annual report. The work done during the past year, under the supervision of this department, by the several electric companies has been gratifying and cannot but be a benefit to the parties interested and to the city. While there has been considerable done in the way of improvements, there still remains much to be done under the resolutions passed by the city government December 29, 1894. In many cases this is being carried forward willingly by the officials of the different companies.

CONCORD LAND AND WATER POWER COMPANY.

The work done by this company since January 1, 1896, has been very largely in the direction of improving the insulation and the mechanical strength of overhead construction. There has been a shortening of the total length of their circuits some seven miles, by the removal of wire which, while not dead, was unnecessarily long. A large amount of the defectively covered wire has been taken in and what remains will be removed after more urgent matters have been considered. The arc circuits have been divided into a large number of sections, to the end that an open circuit may be quickly located, and, while search for it is in progress, the service can be maintained in the remainder of the circuit. Work for a time has been mainly directed to the rearrangement of the triphase distributing apparatus, looking to the removal of the possibility of crosses between the primary and secondary circuits, and considerable has been accomplished in this direction.

The reels used in lowering and hoisting the street lamps are in many cases attached to polls too near the ground, making them dangerous to the public where they become charged with heavy currents of electricity through the accidental loosening of the wires. I hope, with your co-operation, to have these put in a safe condition as soon as possible. There still remains a large number of dead or abandoned poles in the streets, which should be removed either by the Concord Land and Water Power Company or by the city. A large number of wires attached to trees yet remain, which carry heavy currents for the arc lights. My attention is frequently called to these by property owners, who have spent a long time growing the trees for shade and beauty and who feel that they should have some protection from the ruin of fire caused by the crossing of wires not properly insulated, in wet weather. In my opinion these wires should all be removed and placed on substantial poles. I recommend that the company be asked to make such changes within a reasonable time.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH CABLE COMPANY.

During the year 1896, this company has rebuilt its line, putting in new poles and wires from Nashua to Concord, and changing its line from the state camp ground by taking the southern side of the road, which will lessen the liability of coming in contact with Concord Land and Water Power Company wires. The Postal Telegraph Cable Company has placed substantial structures on the iron bridge. A cable box has been placed on a pole on Bridge street and a cable 1,600 feet long carries the wires from this box south on North Main street to a local office situated in Smith's block. I consider the work this company has done from the state camp ground to its office one of the best and most substantial pieces of electrical engineering in the city. The company has some changes yet to make in its call box system, which, when done, will place it in the front ranks of efficiency.

CONCORD STREET RAILWAY.

This company has maintained its system of wiring to a fair degree of efficiency. There has been during the year a large number of old poles removed that had become unsafe to carry the heavy wires, required for work and strong new ones have been substituted in their place. Almost all the guard wire system has been overhauled and put in a fair condition. There have been new guard wires placed on Liberty street to protect the fire alarm from possible contact.

FIRE ALARM SERVICE.

This part of our wire system has been maintained in its usual fine state of repair and everything is being done to keep Concord ahead of anything of a like nature in the state.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

The plant of this company has been kept in its usual good condition. There seems at this time nothing for me to recommend in connection with its maintenance.

CONSOLIDATION OF POLES.

I suggest that some arrangement be made so that one large pole could take the place of from two to six small ones. In this manner, all parties could occupy the same pole, thus doing away with such needless trouble and annoyance, as in the case of Mrs. Peter Sanborn on South Main street, or as shown at the corner of Freight and South Main streets, or at other places to which your attention might be called.

In conclusion, I think, as a whole, our electric service and construction will compare favorably with that of any other in the state. I wish to acknowledge that whatever success I may have had in the discharge of my duties as inspector is due largely to the kind support that I have received from his honor the mayor.

F. W. LANDON,
Inspector of Electric Wires.

REPORT OF COLLECTOR OF TAXES, 1896.

Resident list as committed	\$259,654.42
Errors and omissions (resident list)	2,673.74
	<hr/>
Resident list as corrected	\$262,328.16
Non-resident list as committed	934.63
Interest collected	37.72
	<hr/>
	\$263,300.51 *
Cash paid treasurer	\$218,856.79
Discounts	3,611.31
Abatements	4,773.02
Cash in office	1,013.97
Uncollected	35,045.42
	<hr/>
	\$263,300.51

WENDELL P. LADD,
Collector.

CITY ENGINEER.

REPORT OF CITY ENGINEER.

OFFICE OF CITY ENGINEER,
CONCORD, N. H., December 31, 1896.

To the City Council:

In accordance with the ordinance creating this department, I herewith present the fourth annual report for your consideration, together with a statement of the work done under its supervision, for the year ending December 31, 1896.

The cost of all sewers constructed during the past year, the repairs made and cost of same, will be found upon the following pages.

Plans for the work in hand have been made as required, the sewer plans revised, additions made, and all errors found in locations corrected. There yet remains much to do upon these plans to show the sewer system of the city as it should be. Many details were left off the plans under the old methods, which we now endeavor to show and which will be of great service in the future.

All work called for by the heads of departments has been disposed of as required.

A contour map of Rollins Park has been made, to assist the park commissioners in their system of development at this park.

Considerable time was spent at Blossom Hill Cemetery in connection with the grading done this season.

Plans for the masonry and superstructure of the Soucook River bridge, on the Pittsfield road, were made, and the bridge built jointly by the city of Concord and the town of

Pembroke. A statement of the expense attending the same will be found in the report of the commissioner of highways. The "Twin bridge" at Penacook should receive your early attention, as it has passed the stage of economical repairs and is in worse shape than it was before repairs were made on it in 1894.

The map of the city has been completed from Bow line to the cemetery in West Concord. This winter we expect to plot the territory from the West Concord cemetery to the Boscawen line, giving a continuous map from Bow line to the Boscawen line and from the Merrimack river to the westerly end of Penacook.

Such time as could be spared from the work under way was devoted to the extension of the city survey.

The employés of this department for the past year have been: Frank W. Brown, assistant engineer; Carl Huntington, Fred W. Lang, transitmen; Charles H. Chandler and Joseph Odlin, rodmen, who have rendered valuable assistance in their different positions.

I wish to express my appreciation for the support given me by the mayor and the members of the city council during the past season.

The expenses of this department for the year 1895 are as follows:

Paid for salaries	\$2,503.88
car fares and livery	164.16
supplies	135.44
rent	204.00
repairs	21.00
gas	1.44
	<hr/>
	\$3,029.92
Appropriation	\$3,000.00
Special appropriation	50.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,050.00
Total expenditure	3,029.92
	<hr/>
Balance	\$20.08

STREETS LAID OUT, 1896.

Kimball street, from Humphrey street to Pillsbury street.
 Pillsbury street, from Broadway to South street.
 Langdon street, from Turnpike street to land of the Boston
 & Maine Railroad.
 West Washington street, from Holt to High street.
 Engel street, West Concord.
 Ridge road, from Centre street northerly.
 Park ridge, from Centre street to Ridge road.
 Park avenue, from Broadway to Bow street, southerly side of
 Rollins Park.

GRADES ESTABLISHED, 1896.

South sidewalk, Warren street from Pine street west, 172 feet.
 East sidewalk, Pine street from Warren street south, 129.5 feet.
 East sidewalk, Lyndon street from Washington street north,
 196.6 feet.
 South sidewalk, Warren street from Pine street east, 119 feet.
 West sidewalk, Lyndon street from Beacon to Tremont street.
 North sidewalk, Knight street, West Concord, from West
 State street to the easterly line of the school house lot.
 West sidewalk, Pine street from Warren street south, 113 feet.
 North sidewalk, Church street from Rumford street east, 323
 feet.
 North sidewalk, Cross street, Penacook, from Summer street
 southerly.
 South sidewalk, Summer street, Penacook, from Cross street
 westerly, 139.5 feet.
 East sidewalk, Bradley street from Franklin street north, 423
 feet.
 North sidewalk, School street from Giles street to Fruit street.
 North sidewalk, Jackson street from Beacon street north, 148
 feet.
 North sidewalk, Franklin street from Bradley street east,
 315.6 feet.
 West sidewalk, Giles street from School street to Centre
 street.

Bradley street, from Franklin to Church street.
 Pillsbury street, from Broadway to South street.
 North and south sidewalks, Pillsbury street from Broadway
 to South street.
 West sidewalk, Pierce street from Perley street north, 44 feet.
 North sidewalk, Perley street from Pierce street west, 91 feet.
 East and west sidewalks, Ridge road.
 West sidewalk, Park ridge.
 North sidewalk, Hopkinton road, opposite Mr. John F.
 Kent's.
 South sidewalk, Allison street from Broadway to Kimball
 street.
 West sidewalk, Broadway from Allison street to Pillsbury
 street.
 West sidewalk, Auburn street from High street north.
 East sidewalk, Auburn street from Franklin street to Granite
 street.
 North and south sidewalks, Engel street, West Concord.
 East sidewalk, Morton street from West to Harrison street.
 West sidewalk, Turnpike street from Pillsbury street south.
 North sidewalk, Court street from North State street east, 178
 feet.
 East sidewalk, Fisherville road, opposite state prison.
 West sidewalk, Turnpike street from West street south.
 South sidewalk, West street from Turnpike street west, 159
 feet.

COST OF SEWER WORK, 1896.

SOUTH STATE STREET, NORTH FROM THOMPSON STREET.

200 feet 10-inch Akron pipe.

Paid for labor	\$181.60
pipe	43.93
cement.	3.60
wrought iron . . . . .	.32
trucking	15.00

Paid for concrete repairs	\$5.04
sand . . . . .	.42
oil . . . . .	.72
flusing	2.75
	<hr/>
	\$253.38

Average cost per foot, \$1.266.

Material excavated, gravel and hard-pan.

RUMFORD STREET, SOUTH FROM ALBIN STREET.

265 feet of 8-inch Akron pipe.

Paid for labor	\$134.13
pipe	38.76
brick	6.75
cement	4.80
castings	4.64
wrought iron . . . . .	.47
trucking	7.25
oil . . . . .	.36
	<hr/>
	\$197.16

Average cost per foot, \$0.744.

Material excavated, gravel.

WARREN STREET.

450 feet of 24 x 36-inch brick.

Paid for labor	\$1,619.54
pipe	40.36
brick	257.35
cement	88.80
castings	46.82
wrought iron . . . . .	.26
trucking	151.85
lumber	145.94
sand	9.35
hardware	14.06

Paid for pump and repairs	\$83.06
coal	19.50
miscellaneous supplies	25.16
concrete repairs	9.10
blacksmith	7.67
Gas Co. for repairs to main	44.87
	<hr/>
	\$2,563.69

Average cost per foot, \$5.699.

Material excavated, gravel, sand, and clay.

This sewer was enlarged and lowered to take the increased flow, of sewage, in this district and to reach the deeper basements.

The old 20 x 32-inch sewer was too small to accommodate the area added since its construction.

The work was done under the supervision of Lyman R. Fellows.

THOMPSON STREET (FROM SOUTH MAIN STREET TO SOUTH STATE STREET).

357 feet of 10-inch Akron pipe.

Paid for labor	\$332.36
pipe	90.05
brick	20.25
cement	7.20
castings	8.86
trucking	17.50
sand . . . . .	.85
oil	1.08
blacksmith	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$483.15

Average cost per foot, \$1.353.

Material excavated, gravel and hard-pan.

IN REAR OF HIGH STREET (FROM VALLEY STREET).

238 feet of 8-inch Akron pipe.

Paid for labor	\$87.86
pipe	40.17
brick	6.75
cement	5.20
castings	4.68
trucking	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$149.66

Average cost per foot, \$0.628.

Material excavated, gravel and small boulders.

CHESTNUT COURT (EAST FROM AUBURN STREET).

230 feet of 8-inch Akron pipe.

Paid for labor	\$143.85
pipe	43.56
cement	1.20
castings . . . . .	.87
trucking	5.50
blacksmith	6.68
concrete repairs	2.10
	<hr/>
	\$203.76

Average cost per foot, \$0.885.

Material excavated, hard-pan.

KIMBALL STREET (FROM HUMPHREY TO PILLSBURY STREET).

680 feet of 8-inch Akron pipe.

Paid for labor	\$207.79
pipe	137.01
cement	3.60
castings . . . . .	.85
trucking	14.75
hardware	2.09
	<hr/>
	\$366.09

Average cost per foot, \$0.538.

Material excavated, sand.

WYMAN STREET (WEST FROM RUMFORD STREET).

275 feet of 8-inch Akron pipe.

Paid for labor	\$59.38
pipe	38.75
brick	6.75
cement	2.40
castings	4.65
trucking	4.35
oil . . . . .	.36
	<hr/>
	\$116.64

Average cost per foot, \$0.424.

Material excavated, sand.

MILLS STREET (SEWER EXTENDED BETWEEN ALLISON AND WEST STREETS).

65 feet of 8-inch pipe.

Paid for labor	\$13.74
pipe	11.22
cement	1.20
castings . . . . .	.45
trucking	2.00
oil . . . . .	.36
	<hr/>
	\$28.97

Average cost per foot, \$0.445.

Material excavated, gravel.

REPAIRS, 1896.

Centre street	\$14.62
Railroad street . . . . .	.60
South end sewer	3.50
Rumford street	17.40
North State street	74.41
Fremont street	5.75
Tremont street	27.55
North end sewer	34.45
Ferry street	1.25

Outlet third division	\$3.50
Prospect street outlet	150.34
Freight street	66.20
Depot street outlet	34.60
Brook sewer	25.20
Downing street	6.13
South Main street	11.75
Washington street	45.25
Prison outlet	21.73
	<hr/>
	\$544.23

FLUSHING.

The small laterals, in the sewer system, have been thoroughly cleaned and flushed, the expense attending this work is \$178.72

Tools	126.56
Printing	14.50
	<hr/>
	\$319.78

NEW WORK.

South State street	\$253.38
Rumford street	197.16
Warren street	2,563.69
Thompson street	483.15
High street	149.66
Chestnut court	203.76
Kimball street	366.09
Wyman street	116.64
Mills street	28.97
	<hr/>
	\$4,362.50
Repairs	\$544.23
Flushing	178.72
Tools	126.56
Printing	14.50
Pipe on hand	49.82
	<hr/>
	\$5,276.33

Appropriation	\$5,000.00
Special appropriation	500.00
Rent of pumps	6.00
Sale of old materials	2.28
Sale of sewer pipe	43.84
Labor and materials at White Park	17.30
	<hr/>
Total credits	\$5,569.42
Total expenditure	5,276.33
	<hr/>
Unexpended balance December 31, 1896	\$293.09

Sewers built in City Precinct to December 31, 1896.

8-inch pipe	17,469 feet.
10- "	40,913 "
12- "	35,133 "
15- "	9,934 "
18- "	4,622 "
20- "	3,434 "
24- "	1,749 "
30- "	969 "
Brick, 12 x 14-inch	2,758 "
" 16 x 24- "	1,848 "
" 14 x 22- "	350 "
" 20 x 32- "	2,527 "
" 24 x 36- "	17,937 "
" 28 x 48- "	883 "
" 30-inch circular	86 "
" 38-inch circular	4,080 "
	<hr/>
Total	144,692 feet.
Total miles in city precinct to date, 27.403.	

WEST CONCORD PRECINCT.

No new sewers have been constructed in this precinct the past season, a small amount has been expended for flushing, as stated below.

Paid for flushing	\$6.25
-----------------------------	--------

Unexpended balance January 1, 1896	\$1,191.26
Credit, rent of pump	11.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,202.26
Total expended, 1896	6.25
	<hr/>
Unexpended balance December 31, 1896	\$1,196.01

Sewers built in this Precinct to December 31, 1896.

10-inch pipe	5,633 feet.
12- "	6,544 "
15- "	2,164 "
	<hr/>
Total	14,341 feet.

Length in miles, 2.716.

EAST CONCORD PRECINCT.

No new branches have been constructed in this precinct, and only a small amount has been expended for repairs; the amount expended was for damage at the outlet, caused by the spring freshet and settlement on the line of the ditch.

Paid for repairs	\$21.00
American Bank Note company, for bonds	20.00
	<hr/>
Total amount expended	\$41.00
Unexpended balance January 1, 1896	\$201.16
Total expenditure 1896	41.00
	<hr/>
Unexpended balance December 31, 1896	\$160.16

Total length of sewers in this precinct:

10-inch pipe	1,766 feet.
------------------------	-------------

An inventory of all property in the hands of the city engineer has been made by the auditor and will appear in his report.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. HOWE,

City Engineer.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES.

To the City Council:

The trustees of the Public Library herewith transmit the report of the librarian of that institution and ask your attentive consideration of the information and suggestions therein contained.

The report is so comprehensive and exhaustive that supplementary remarks of our own would seem to be superfluous and quite unnecessary. You will correctly infer from a perusal of this report that recent accessions to the library have established for it a high standard of excellence in almost every department of literature.

It is believed that no scholar, student, artisan, or workman, will fail to find upon its shelves information, more or less extensive, upon every subject he may desire to examine; and the unprecedented circulation of books during the last year furnishes conclusive evidence of the high appreciation by our people of the benefits which the library confers.

We cannot doubt that a liberal appropriation by the city government will enable us to continue and maintain the inestimable advantages to the community which the library affords.

In submitting this report, the trustees cannot omit to record their high appreciation of the untiring industry united to an enthusiastic zeal of the librarian and her assistants, and to make thankful mention of the unvarying courtesy and kindly patience with which the wants and the very numerous inquiries of the patrons of the library have been served.

CHARLES H. SANDERS,
JOHN E. FRYE,
PAUL R. HOLDEN,
WM. L. FOSTER,
AMOS J. SHURTLEFF,
JAMES S. NORRIS,
WM. W. FLINT,
EDSON J. HILL,
MOSES H. BRADLEY.

CONCORD, February 7, 1897.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

To the Board of Trustees of the Concord Public Library :

GENTLEMEN,—The fortieth annual report of the library is herewith presented.

A few statistics will best outline the year's growth; they are as follows :

Volumes added during 1896 :

By purchase	916
By gift	50
Periodicals bound	100
	— 1,066
Number of volumes delivered in 1896	90,306
Average per day	248
Largest number any one day	759
“ “ “ month	9,388
Number of cards issued to new borrowers	625
Worn out books removed from circulation	168
Given to health officer to be burned	4
Increase in circulation over 1895	3,184

Of the 916 volumes purchased, many have been to replace long-lost copies, a large number to supersede those unwholesomely dirty, a score or more at the recommendation of teachers for their class work, and many after consultation with specialists in all lines, from theology to stone-cutting. There has been a steady endeavor to bring the department of science more up to date. The accessions of new books have been published by the *Monitor* and the *Patriot* with unvarying courtesy.

In the 90,000 books mentioned as delivered during 1896 are *not included* those hundreds constantly selected and taken to applicants in the reference room, or those frequently handed out to be perused in the reading room.

The increase in circulation is especially gratifying in a year when campaign clubs and bicycles were in competition with our shelves.

Concord has always had the reputation of having the largest circulation of any city in the state, exceeding Dover in 1895 by 10,000, and Manchester by 25,000, and it is to be presumed that the gain of 3,000 this last year will enable it to still keep the lead in number.

With this circulation of over 90,000 only five books have been lost and not paid for. This showing has not been reached without great effort. For example, to secure one overdue book the weekly dun by postal card was sent for a month, then a messenger dispatched twice, then the librarian went once to the boy's house and four times to his place of business. Miles have been walked and letters written even to California to trace families who have moved without keeping their written promise to give immediate notice at the library of any change of residence. The five books for which it has been impossible to get satisfaction have all been lost by persons who have simply vanished from town.

The large number of new borrowers (625) does not include transient applicants or those from out-of-town who pay for the privilege of taking books.

The chief event of the year has been the recovery of the library from what Eugene Field calls catalogitis; for July 1 the card catalogue was finished, in half the twenty-four months estimated the work would require, notwithstanding that with the shelf list or inventory made at the same time, over 50,000 cards were written. These are housed in three fine oak cases furnished by that base of supplies, the Library Bureau on Franklin street in Boston. It has already been stated that each book has its author and subject, or if fiction, its author and title card, and there are manifold cross-ref-

erences which direct a person looking at the subject electricity, for instance, to look also under the subjects electromagnets, dynamos, etc.

The card catalogue is most helpful to the library staff, and is already consulted by the public even beyond our hopes.

The pressure of work is now transferred to rearranging the volumes upon the shelves so that books relating to any one subject shall be shelved together, arranged alphabetically by the authors' names, and all the novels of any one writer will stand together in alphabetical order. This classifying requires that every one of the 20,000 volumes be taken down, its old label scraped off, a new one put on, and its new call number written three times — once on the outside label, once on the inside pocket, and once on the book slip; and the book, having been dusted, is then carried to a new shelf which has been washed.

We began this rearranging in October and are doing it without withdrawing any sections from circulation, with only an occasional extra helper, and along with our heavy winter work; and we sometimes stop to hunt for a specially demanded book among hundreds piled on the floor, but we expect by February 1 to have the whole library in order.

Another item of work accomplished has been the erasing of the old penciled call-numbers from the 35,000 cards in the catalogue.

The public will be greatly benefited by this new arrangement, for the quicker an assistant can gather an armful of books which will answer one question, the quicker she can turn to the next applicant, or the applicant himself may step in to the shelf where he will find all the resources of the library on the subject he is investigating; and the most nearly allied subjects will precede and follow.

In adopting the Dewey system of classification we fall into line with the best and largest libraries in the United States, in which it has been tried for seventeen years. The broad divisions of the system are:

0. General Works,
1. Philosophy,
2. Religion,
3. Sociology,
4. Philology,
5. Natural Science,
6. Useful Arts,
7. Fine Arts,
8. Literature,
9. History.

But each class has sub-divisions; for example: 500 will be the classification number for works on all the sciences, but 510 for those on arithmetic, 520 for astronomy, 530 for physics, 540 for chemistry, 550 for geology, 560 for paleontology, 570 for biology, 580 for botany, 590 for zoology.

Accompanying this class number is the *book* number which prevents confusion of different works on the same subject. And the initial letter of the author's name will be the initial letter of the book-number, so that, for instance, the *total* call-number of a work on botany by Gray would be

580
G79.

The expansiveness of this Dewey system is such that an indefinite number of books can be added or the entire library moved without making void these new call-numbers which tell of each book what it is and where it is.

To ease the books from the crowded condition which they were in, the old book-cases in the upper stack room have been drawn into the middle of the floor and new shelves run along the side walls. This uses up all the available shelf space in the building. All borrowers have been given new cards suited to the putting down of these call-numbers, and a catalogue containing them will soon be printed of all the fiction in the library.

In order to induce people to read something besides novels, a student's card will be allowed each borrower on which he may take out one work of non-fiction at the same time he has

out a story on his other card. Another year we shall have the data wherewith to register the circulation of books by classes, and can then see whether the Concord public reads more biography, science, history, or religion.

The joy the librarian feels when a child aspires or can be led to something better in his reading is as keen as that felt by a parent or teacher over an upward step, and it is an equally great pleasure to have an adult seek and find on our shelves the literary tools he craves to make him a cleverer artisan or a more profound thinker.

The confidence and kindness of the trustees and the cheerful co-operation and very arduous work of the assistants are most gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,

GRACE BLANCHARD,

Librarian.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

REPORT OF BOARD OF HEALTH.

To his Honor the Mayor and the City Council:

GENTLEMEN,—The board of health respectfully submit herewith the report of their executive officer, which summarizes the department's work during 1896. The board have held regular meetings each Saturday afternoon during the year at their office in Dutton's block. Careful attention has been given to all matters presented. Especial pains has been taken to keep Concord abreast with sanitary progress and to secure an efficient administration of the rules and regulations provided by state and municipal enactment for the protection of the public health. The board were especially interested in the conference of sanitary officers held in this city in October, and believe the state association then formed will accomplish much toward securing better enforcement of the sanitary laws as well as improvement of the code. The annual meetings of the association will be held in our city, and we wish those who feel an interest in the subject of sanitation would make an effort to be present at some or all of the sessions. As in former years, the board have been placed under great obligation by the courtesy and co-operation of his honor the mayor and the members of the city council.

The board again desire to record their appreciation of the work done by the executive officer of this department, Charles E. Palmer, whose interest in his work and his especial fitness for it make his services to the public each year more valuable. The board feel that his fellow-citizens appreciate his efficiency, for on many occasions unsolicited

spoken or written testimonials have been given, but they wish to call especial attention to his work during the past year as shown by the records of the department. Mr. Palmer in the twelve months of 1896 investigated 538 complaints of nuisances; inspected 712 blocks, houses, etc.; supervised the making of 83 connections with the sewers; placarded 577 cases of contagious diseases, and made 1,411 visits thereto; attended eight funerals; fumigated 150 rooms and five carriages; burned 47 pieces of bedding; issued 399 burial permits; gave 249 permits for children to return to school, and made 14 plumbing tests. The above facts show how industrious the health officer has been: we would add our testimony to the efficiency with which all of these manifold duties have been performed, and congratulate the city on having so competent and faithful an official in a position which means much to the welfare of a community. The board would especially commend Mr. Palmer's firmness in securing compliance with the regulations of the department. The public generally cooperate heartily with the officials in a careful observance of the city's sanitary code. The exceptions are very few in the course of a year. One of the most notable is the objection sometimes made to fumigation, although no duty is more clearly prescribed by the sanitary regulations than this. It has been the constant aim of the board to treat all fairly, in this matter as in all others.

DIPHTHERIA.

Our plan of microscopical examination in the diagnosis of diphtheria, inaugurated last year, met with the very hearty approval of the physicians and has been continued with great satisfaction this year. Prior to this innovation, a benign inflammation was not infrequently diagnosed as diphtheria with the consequent placarding of the house, quarantine, and discomfiture of the family; again, the malignant throat was not recognized until the unexpected death happened,—then the neighborhood was alarmed and our board unjustly criticised because isolation was not enforced. All this may now be obviated by making use of this method of diagnosis freely

placed at the disposal of the profession. Dr. A. K. Day has very acceptably attended to our bacteriological work since July 1. Very few outside the medical fraternity understand the meaning of rubbing a piece of wire across the inside of the throat, and it may be well to state its meaning. Diphtheria is now believed to be due to a characteristic bacillus: the wire introduced into the throat or nose comes in contact with the germs; it is then drawn across a nutrient medium in the glass tube wherein the germs develop and under the microscope are recognized. We are hereby enabled within twenty-four hours to know the nature of the membrane and, if the bacilli are not present, are assured of the person's right to mingle with others. We hope the public appreciate how much this means to them; chance has given place to certainty and a diagnosis made as accurately as science of to-day will allow.

We are rejoiced to note the more general use of antitoxine in the treatment of this disease and are able to say its results have been gratifying; out of the fifty-five cases reported to us during the year, it was used in twenty-five of them with a mortality of one, or four per cent. In the thirty cases not treated by antitoxine there was a mortality of seven, or twenty-three and one third per cent. The death-rate of all cases was fourteen and one half per cent. The cases where antitoxine were used were not selected cases but were of the usual order; in fact, the serum therapy was not resorted to in some of them until it seemed they were about to prove fatal and in the only death under its use the parents of the child refused to allow the attending physician to make the injection until it was almost certain death would ensue.

This experience is certainly worthy of publicity. The figures cannot be disputed; this so-called new treatment, other things being equal, has in our city during the past twelve months proven to be six times as efficacious in the saving of lives as the old treatment. The experimental stage has passed; its standing in medicine to-day is pronounced; our physicians are alive to the advancements of the times and are to be congratulated on their interest taken in this question.

MEASLES.

While along certain lines our work has become more scientific and effective, as in the management of diphtheria and scarlet fever, on the other hand the present methods in caring for measles seem to be of no avail in controlling the disease. If we are ever to obtain satisfactory results from our labor, the same rigid system must be followed as in the more severe ailments.

TUBERCULOSIS.

An examination of our vital statistics reveals the deplorable fact that eight and one half per cent. of our loss has been due to this most deadly of all preventable diseases, the subject of study of medical men and sanitarians everywhere. This, of all infectious diseases, is the most amenable to hygienic measures for its prevention—now our only resource. The encouraging feature is, that statistics show a decreasing mortality, due doubtless to an ever increasing general knowledge of the sources of danger and the true nature of the disease. The public know that to produce it, the tubercle-bacillus, the germ, must find lodgment in the human body. This may be through the air we breath, poisoned by sputa from a tuberculous subject, which has been allowed to become dry, and if pulverized floats as dust. The remedy is, to never allow it to dry in spittoons, on cloths, or in any other way. Moisture holds the germs and prevents absolutely their diffusion in the air. Attendants in sick rooms, or wherever such disease is suspected, should remove all dust from furnishings with a damp cloth and not simply float it in the air for inhalation or redistribution. Another source of danger, a very grave one, is our food supply, such as milk from tuberculous cows. This has become more criminally inexcusable now that the disease is so readily detected; but whatever general legislation is proposed there should be coupled with it certain requirements in the care of stock, pertaining to light, ventilation, etc. Dark, damp, ill-ventilated, crowded quarters favor

the growth of the tubercle-bacillus in man or beast. Instruction in our public schools on this subject would greatly aid in its limitation and soon prove that the disease, terrible though it be, is not a necessary evil.

In case of death, apartments, furnishings, clothing, etc., should be thoroughly fumigated and cleaned under the direction of the health officer. In nearly all cases it is being done but there is no ordinance requiring it.

FUMIGATION.

Sulphur fumigation is possessed of so many disagreeable features, that we were deeply interested in the proposed use of formic aldehyde gas for the purpose, and in conjunction with Dr. Watson, of the state board of health, and our bacteriologist, Dr. Day, a series of experiments were conducted to test its efficiency.

Cultures of the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus, the germ of diphtheria, were used, but while the gas was generated in the strength supposed to be requisite, and was found far more agreeable than sulphur fumes, and harmless to everything in the room, it was also ineffective on the germs. It is hoped that by perfection of this method or some other equally unobjectionable one, sulphur fumigation may soon be relegated to the past.

PLUMBING.

The board would renew its recommendations of past years in regard to an inspector of plumbing, but the experience of our sister cities would seem to show that general legislation is needed as well as municipal ordinance.

E. A. CLARK, M. D.,
D. E. SULLIVAN, M. D.,
E. N. PEARSON,

Board of Health.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Board of Health:

GENTLEMEN,—I submit herewith my annual report, together with the vital statistics for the year ending December 31, 1896. The report deals in detail with the work done for the past year. It is the aim of this department to pay strict attention to all matters affecting the public health, and the department has been reasonably successful in bringing about good results, as this report will show. The number of requests for investigation, and complaints for existing nuisances, and those found by house inspection, are shown by the following summary:

Accumulation of decayed fruit, coal ashes, etc.	28
Bad well water	3
Bad sink drainage	19
Broken sewer traps.	23
Catch basins, not trapped	33
Dead animals	33
Decayed meat and fish	4
Defect in house sewers	10
Dumping rubbish	5
Dropping manure in street	2
Defective plumbing.	38
Filthy stables	23
Filthy cellars	33
Filthy swill barrels	9
Filthy back yards	27
Filthy alleyways	5
Foul and offensive cesspools	7
Keeping hogs.	16
Keeping hens	5
Offensive manure heaps	11
Offensive privy vaults	19

Offensive odors in houses	13
Offensive odors from stables	10
Privy vaults full	24
Private sewers obstructed	7
Sinks found without traps	9
Sewer gas in houses	8
Stagnant water on vacant lots	4
Street sewer obstructed	5
Sewer not properly ventilated	10
Surface sink drains	13
Throwing swill in alleyways	7
Throwing swill in ash barrels	4
Throwing coal ashes in street	5
Throwing slops in catch basin.	4
Throwing slops in street	3
Water-closets without water supply	12
Water-closets not ventilated	17
Water-closets foul and offensive	21
Water-closets out of repair	9
Total	<u>538</u>

The above complaints have been duly inspected, and when justifiable an order has been issued. As a rule these orders are well complied with; the exceptions are reported to you at your weekly meetings, and an order of the board issued.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

This work has been extended during the past year over sections of the city contiguous to those inspected in 1895, and has included the business and tenement blocks in the compact part of the city. The method of carrying out this work and recording results has been the same as that instituted last year. This systematic plan of work is of great value to the board, in that it enables it to act impartially and not feel obliged to wait until someone enters a complaint, which, though often just, is sometimes made from other motives than those of sanitary reform. The following table will give the amount of work done in this connection :

Dwelling-houses inspected	.	.	.	.	105
Tenement houses	"	.	.	.	246
Stores	"	.	.	.	196
Stables	"	.	.	.	67
Meat markets	"	.	.	.	7
Hotels	"	.	.	.	3
School houses	"	.	.	.	11
Business blocks	"	.	.	.	11
Offices	"	.	.	.	72
					<hr/> 712

SEWER INSPECTION.

In compliance with the city ordinance I have endeavored to perform my duty as regards the enforcement of the rules and regulations relative to sewers and drains. In three cases parties have attempted to make connections with the main sewer without having the same inspected, but in each case they have been made to conform to the regulations, as soon as the fact became known. During the year, eighty-three sewer connections have been made, a complete record filed in the office of the board of health, and copies sent monthly to the city council. The following table shows the various sizes and kinds of pipe used:

100 feet of 10-inch Akron pipe.	
228 " 6-inch "	
3,322 " 5-inch "	
769 " 4-inch "	
365 " 5-inch iron pipe.	
315 " 4-inch "	
70 " 6-inch "	

A total of 5,179 feet, or an average of 62 feet for each lateral sewer. This amount of drainage has been furnished to the following classes of buildings:

Private dwellings	46
Tenement houses	27
Business blocks	4
Stables	2
Surface drains.	2
Factories	1
Churches	1
Total	<u>83</u>
Number of water-closets put in during year .	145
Number privy vaults removed	91

It would be of much benefit if such change could be made in the city ordinances as would place the granting of permits to enter the sewer in the direct control of the inspector's office, in order that he might be informed in season to make inspection as occasion may require.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the city during the year 1896 has compared favorably with previous years, the number of deaths being 343, a mortality of 14.5 per 1,000 inhabitants. The mortuary table furnishes nearly all the information that could be desired.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases of diseases dangerous to the public health which have been reported to the board during the year can be seen in the following table. In the control of this public danger I have endeavored to strictly enforce the rules which were revised and adopted in 1895. The school pamphlets have been found of great service, and the thanks of the board are due the teachers in the public schools for a faithful compliance with the conditions of admitting children who have been kept out of school by reason of contagious disease.

Summary of contagious diseases and deaths from the same, for the year 1896, arranged by months.

1896.	DIPH- THERIA.		SCARLET FEVER.		TYPHOID FEVER.		MEASLES.	
	No. cases reported.	No. deaths.	No. cases reported.	No. deaths.	No. cases reported.	No. deaths.	No. cases reported.	No. deaths.
January.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
February.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
March.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	5	.....
April.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	26	.....
May.....	9	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	47	.....
June.....	4	1	.....	.....	1	1	23	.....
July.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
August.....	9	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
September.....	7	3	1	.....	2	1	22	.....
October.....	6	1	.....	.....	4	1	100	.....
November.....	7	.....	.....	.....	4	1	184	.....
December.....	7	1	1	.....	1	.....	44	.....
Total.....	55	8	4	.....	15	5	452	.....

RECORD OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES BY WARDS.

WARDS.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total.
Diphtheria.....	.....	.....	.....	16	3	15	10	11	.....	55
Scarlet fever.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Typhoid fever.....	.....	.....	.....	6	3	2	4	.....	.....	15
Measles.....	2	29	7	179	82	49	76	9	19	452

Weekly reports of the contagious diseases existing in the city have been prepared, and sent to the state board of health, also to the United States Marine Hospital Service at Washington, D. C.

DIPHtherIA.

It will be seen by the above table that 55 cases have been reported with a fatality of 8, as compared with 35 cases in 1895, with the same fatality. Sixty bacteriological examinations have been made which have enabled physicians to make as early a diagnosis of the disease as possible. Of the 60 examinations 24 proved to be negative, which cases would have been held and treated as true diphtheria under the old system. Thirty-two re-examinations have been made to determine the time when it was safe to discharge the diphtheritic patients from isolation. Antitoxine has been used to some extent with excellent results in reducing the percentage of deaths to the number of cases. In only a single instance has death resulted where antitoxine has been used. The expense of the bacteriological examinations has been \$212 for year 1896.

SCARLET FEVER.

There have been but four cases of scarlet fever reported during the year, none proving fatal, as compared with 44 cases in 1895, with a fatality of 8. All cases were promptly isolated and its spread was thus prevented.

MEASLES.

Four hundred and fifty-two cases of measles have been reported to the board during the year. Between the months of September and December we experienced the greatest epidemic of this disease known in the history of the board. While no deaths resulted, many classes in school were sadly depleted. It is difficult for the board to prevent the spread of this disease on account of its extreme contagiousness and from the fact that many people look upon it as one of the necessary ills to which children are exposed, and oftentimes object to taking the necessary precaution to prevent infection, some persons even going so far as to expose their children voluntarily to the disease in order to get over with it.

TYPHOID FEVER.

This disease has declined in the past year; 15 cases were reported to this office during the year and 5 deaths resulted. Eight of the cases were imported, that is, the disease had been contracted elsewhere and manifested itself shortly after the patient reached our city. In only two instances where the disease existed have I found defective plumbing and general unsanitary condition of premises. In this connection, I would call attention, as in other years, to the importance of a code of plumbing rules, under the care of an inspector of plumbing.

SUMMARY.

Houses placarded in case of contagious disease	511
Visits made	1,411
Funerals attended :	8
Rooms fumigated	150
Carriages fumigated	5
Pieces of bedding destroyed	41
Pounds of sulphur used in fumigating	520
Burial permits issued	399
Certificates issued to children to attend school	249
Peppermint tests of plumbing made	14

MONTHLY REPORT.

Monthly statements have been prepared, giving the number and causes of death, death-rate per thousand, locality, sex, color, condition, age, place of burial, also number of marriages and births. These statistics have been furnished the daily papers, and sent in exchange to nearly one hundred cities in the United States and Canada.

I hereby extend sincere and heartfelt thanks to all who have aided me in the work of this department, and especially to the members of the board of health who have so ably directed my efforts.

Respectfully submitted,
 CHARLES E. PALMER,
Sanitary Inspector.

Mortality Report. — Concluded.

Sex.	Months.												Ages.										Whole number.			CAUSES OF DEATH.					
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Unknown.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	60 to 70.	70 to 80.	Over 80.		Unknown.	Males.	Females.	Unknown.	Totals.
M.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	10	Premature births.....	
F.								1											1								1	1	1	Purpura (Scurvy).....	
M.							2	1	1	2									2	2	1	1				6	6	6	Railroad accident.....		
F.											1																1	1	1	Rheumatism.....	
F.	1																										1	1	1	Sarcoma of hip.....	
M.	1																										1	1	1	Septicæmia.....	
F.				1																							1	2	2	Septicæmia, fol'ng accident.	
F.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2																8	8	8	Still-born.....		
M.	1	1	2	1	2	1	1		2																	10	18	10	Still-born.....		
M.																											1	1	1	Suicide.....	
M.																											2	2	2	Thrush.....	
F.	2	1	1				3	3	1		2	1														14	14	14	Tuberculosis, pulmonary.....		
M.	1	1	3				2	1		1	1	1														10	24	24	Tuberculosis, pulmonary.....		
M.				1																						1	1	1	1	Unknown.....	
F.							1																			1	1	1	1	Uterine fibroma.....	

REPORT OF THE CITY PHYSICIAN.

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council:

The undersigned respectfully submits his annual report for the year ending December 31, 1896.

Office consultations	3
Insane persons examined	7
Whole number of visits	46
School children vaccinated	59

Respectfully submitted,

N. W. McMURPHY,
City Physician.

CONCORD, N. H., January 1, 1897.

POOR DEPARTMENT.

TWENTY-NINTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1896.

To the City Council:

GENTLEMEN,—The undersigned herewith submits the twenty-ninth annual report of expenditures for the poor, including Wards 1 and 2, for the year ending December 31, 1896, as follows:

Families and individuals having a settlement in the city have been aided, in part or in full, during the time, to the amount set opposite their respective names.

Ernest Beliveau, paid State Industrial	
School	\$78.00
Thomas H. Clark	39.96
James Clinton	91.00
Lydia S. Couch	110.78
Mrs. Charles Dennen	142.20
Dennis Donovan	72.00
Mary Keenan, paid St. Patrick's	
Orphanage	195.00
Peter Keenan	112.50
John Murphy	5.00
William S. Page	90.00
Elmer S. Quimby	23.33
William Sheffield	2.00
Thomas Spaulding	3.00
Glanville Tonkin	30.00
Samuel Truett	142.74
	<hr/>
	\$1,137.51

COUNTY POOR.

Sarah Abbott, Ward 9	\$48.00
Sarah Abbott, Ward 2	74.32
Frank Ash	2.00
George N. Ash	8.75
Joseph Benoit	47.73
Frank Bordeau	21.00
John Boyce	33.10
Coleman Bray	178.38
Mary Byrne	84.00
Armina Caples	10.00
John Carroll	28.03
Joseph Champagne	8.75
Bridget Collins	63.52
Mary Collins	33.75
Helen Cotter	7.15
James H. T. Craigue	128.59
John Doherty	94.62
Mary Dorgan	3.25
Kate Dornan	109.02
James B. Fraser	19.63
Mrs. Ella Friend	20.72
Nancy Guild	4.00
Sally Haines	22.00
Sarah J. Hall	3.63
Mrs. George E. Hannaford	6.00
Clarence E. How	14.37
Melinda Howard	98.85
Mrs. A. E. Hoyt	190.26
Mrs. William Hunneymen	188.85
John Lacey	102.66
Chester F. Laird	18.48
A. Lapierre	14.00
George H. Lougee	21.65
Mrs. Joseph Lucier	51.63
Albert Mason	2.00
Mrs. J. Melanson	170.95