

CITY HALL.

Extension of Commonwealth Avenue.

The joint committee on streets gave another hearing, yesterday afternoon, to persons interested in the extension of Commonwealth avenue from West Chester park westwardly to the junction of the three roads, Brookline avenue, Beacon street and Brighton road. Mr. Whitney said that the land in Brighton and all around it will feel the benefit of the improvement. The question of parks will depend very largely upon it. The system will enhance the parks in Brookline, Belmont and other places having parks of their own. It is one of the best financial schemes of the city to build Commonwealth avenue. The people of Commonwealth avenue pay large personal property, real estate and corporation taxes.

Mr. George F. Richardson appeared for the trustees of the Boston Water Power Company. They own 536,200 feet of land bordering on Commonwealth avenue. The company is ready to fill in their unimproved land and go forward hand-in-hand with the city in this improvement.

Hon. D. N. Skillings of Winchelsea was strongly in favor of the extension, and was willing to do his part. He owns land in the vicinity.

Hon. William Wirt Warren said that the taxpayers of Ward 25 very generally desire to have this improvement carried out speedily. As one reason why the avenue should be extended, he compared the superior facilities which the residents of Ward 23, Jamaica Plain, have over those of Ward 25, Brighton, in getting back and forth from the city proper. He earnestly urged the extension.

Ex-Alderman John T. Clark said that public safety and accommodation required the extension. The investment will pay for itself in a very few years. In 1873 he advocated certain improvements on that avenue which now pay fifteen per cent. He had no pecuniary interest in the matter, but the loan and the labor can be accomplished now better than at any time hence. It will be guaranteed to pay in less than five years ten per cent.

Ex-Alderman Jarvis D. Braman said it was one of the real wants of Boston, and Mr. Henry D. Hyde advocated the improvement. In the course of the latter's remarks, he said that there are only about 100 lots on Commonwealth avenue now for sale. Fifteen lots were sold within a week.

The Extension of Weston Street.

The joint committee of the city council gave a hearing yesterday at 2 o'clock to parties interested in the extension of Weston street, from Cabot to Warwick streets. The hearing took place in the large committee-room.

Dr. Emery was the first witness who appeared in favor of the extension, and he did so because of its advantages in a sanitary and business point of view. He said it was opposed by those who advocated the extension of Sterling street, at an expense of \$82,000. The petitioner represent taxable property amounting to \$500,000. The doctor was corroborated by several citizens who favor the extension and an opening to Madison square.

Mr. Himmel reviewed the advantages in reaching the Sherwin school. From some points there would be a gain to young children of seven minutes. He was willing, if Weston street was not extended, to advocate the extension of Sterling street.

Norman Call appeared in remonstrance. He owns property at 117 Cabot street, and opposed the extension because the appropriation is so small, and for other reasons. He thought that the extra money which the city had to expend might be laid out on the abominable paving in some streets. There is a passageway eighteen feet wide 100 feet from Weston street. It is not a mud-hole. By widening this the property which it would damage would not exceed \$200. It would accommodate more children than Weston street, as it is midway from Cunard and Ruggles streets. The great opposition would come from those having to pay taxation and betterments.

Registration.

The following official statement is made by the chairman of the board of registrars, Hon. Joseph M. Wightman. It will be seen that not only is there no gain, as was to have been expected this year, but that the loss is considerable:

The number of registered voters on the list at the last state election was 53,353. The number of qualified voters on the printed list for the ensuing state election, as posted October 6, was 39,701. The number added to the printed list to the close of registration at 10 o'clock last evening, is 11,571, making the total number on the voting-lists entitled to vote at the state election, 51,272, being 2,081 less than in 1878. The number given of those added to the list may not be absolutely correct, but it will not vary materially from the above. A correct table of the vote in the several wards and precincts will be published in a few days.

Street Commissions.

A hearing being given upon the order of notice of the commissioners' intention to relocate Blue Hill avenue, between Warren and Elm streets, no person appeared to object thereto. A resolve and order for the laying out of Preble street, from Dorchester avenue to Rogers street, at an estimated expense of \$600, was passed. A petition was received from Martin Hayes and others for the acceptance of Essex place. After the examination of Girard street the commissioners have voted that it is inexpedient to take any action on the petitions before the board for the laying out of that street, from Sweet street to Norfolk avenue, until it is raised to a grade acceptable to the city.

The Committee on Bridges

have awarded the contract for rebuilding the Western avenue bridge to William A. Kenrick of East Boston, for \$6210, and the contract for building an abutment of said bridge to Patrick Kiernan of Chelsea, for \$3572. The same committee has awarded contracts for painting bridges as follows: Chelsea, W. A. Whitney, Boston, \$335; Congress street, M. J. Donnovan, Boston, \$249 38; Warren, Federal street and Meridian street, to M. A. Feeley of Cambridgeport, for the sum of \$745.

Another Statue.

A petition is to be presented to the board of aldermen next Monday asking for a location for a statue of Lief Ericson, the Norseman navigator, who, it is claimed, made the first discovery of America. The statue will be presented as the gift of private subscription if the location is granted, and the coveted place is Post Office square, it is said. The petition is headed by ex-Governor Alexander H. Rice.

The Wardens and Clerks

chosen at the last state election will serve according to chapter 103 of the acts of 1870 in their several precincts at the next state and city elections; and in Wards 23 and 24 the wardens and clerks will serve in the same numerical precincts to which they were chosen before the redvision of said wards into new precincts.

Improved Sewage Bid.

The conditional award for building the tunnel of the improved sewage system in Dorchester bay, is made to R. A. Malone of Lancaster, Penn. His bid was \$396,455, being the lowest but two.

Notes.

The number of poll taxes paid to the city collector from September 1 up to last night was 26,000, of which number 6500 were for \$1 only.

Fire alarm box No. 578 in Brighton has been placed at the corner of Brooks and Newton streets, and box 512 in West Roxbury has been changed to the corner of Centre and Spring Park streets.