

future, as in the past, they will continue to be a source of revenue to the city, and, at the same time, be enabled to support themselves.

It is claimed that the public markets return to the city a large revenue, we believe nine per cent. per annum, on the capital expended on them; and it cannot be denied that at the present tax on private butchers' stalls, they are also a source of profit to the city, producing a revenue of twenty thousand eight hundred dollars, being a tax of two hundred dollars on one hundred and four shops. This is a gain of the amount of the tax and this simply because they happened to be occupied by butchers, and not by drapers, grocers, or any other industry. They contribute this sum, and the only charge on the city is the small cost of inspection, a portion of the time of the Inspector, whose salary is six hundred dollars. These stalls were first taxed at five hundred dollars, which was subsequently reduced to the present amount. It has always been claimed by the Corporation that these taxes were placed in the interest of the city to protect the capital it had expended in the public markets. What has the result been? It has brought ruin on the butchers who remained in the public markets, contributing to the large return that has been obtained on this expenditure in them.

Such is now the position of matters that the city cannot continue to reap the large profits it has done from both sources of revenue, the public markets and the private stalls.

In presenting our case, we would particularly desire to be understood as not