

Introduction.

As the subject of street pavements is one of great interest to the public of Winnipeg, and as the published documents and statements relative to it are difficult to procure, it has occurred to the undersigned that these reports, collected and published in pamphlet form, would be useful to those interested in the matter and would assist the public, in view of the agitation now being raised, to understand what has been done and the present position of our street improvements.

While admitting that our macadam has not been a perfect success as a pavement, I think it has come up, fully, to the expectations of those who, understanding the difficulties against which it had to contend, advocated its use. Its cost has been very reasonable, and its improvement, as extensions of pavement take place, is very apparent to those who use the streets.

The construction of macadam has been in accordance with the most modern and approved methods; and the best material at hand has been used.

The report of Mr. E. P. North, of New York, Vice-President of the American Society of Civil Engineers, a well-known author and expert on macadam road construction, bears out this contention.

It is to be regretted that Mr. A. W. Campbell, Road Commissioner of Ontario, who made a flying visit here some months ago, and who has now sent in a report on the lines indicated when he was here, had not made a deeper study of and obtained more reliable information with reference to the matter.

In the Annual Report of the City Engineer for 1898 I say:

"To ensure the success and permanency of macadam pavements, they should be protected from the sticky mud of unpaved streets and lanes. It is clear that this can be done only by covering all the streets and lanes in the thickly built up portions of the City. The streets are being paved as fast as can reasonably be expected. No provision has, however, been made, except in some special cases, to pave the lanes."

The same remarks, though not to so great an extent, apply to-day.

H. N. RUTTAN,
City Engineer.

Winnipeg, 20th Nov., 1900.