

1874.....	28,939 00
1875.....	35,902 17
1876.....	21,807 02
1877.....	21,129 80
1878.....	19,490 54
1879.....	12,801 15
1880.....	12,011 88

My impression is, that it will be impossible to reduce this estimate and maintain the necessary force as well as the necessary discipline. The men are certainly not paid sufficient to enable them to provide to any extent for the future; their lives are frequently in jeopardy, their whole time is demanded by uncertainty as to the hour or minute their services may be required, and it is to be regretted that the existing state of civic finances does not warrant a promise of any immediate increase of salaries.

CIVIC SALARIES.

The gross amount of salaries paid to officials connected with the City Hall during past years, and up to the present time, is as follows:—

1869.....	\$ 6,227 00
1870.....	6,388 00
1871.....	9,415 80
1872.....	9,912 20
1873.....	10,876 88
1874.....	13,930 13
1875.....	15,220 23
1876.....	16,730 19
1877.....	14,151 37
1878.....	16,092 89
1879.....	12,951 37
1880.....	13,464 76

The reduction is really greater in 1879 and 1880 than appears upon the record, as compared with preceding years. With certain reforms which I shall ask the Council to assist in introducing, my impression is that the services of the staff now employed can be advantageously utilized. In the department of the City Treasurer, the time of employees is fully occupied, Mr. Kirby, the Treasurer, who is an active, painstaking official, being in his department early and late, when Corporation matters require his attention.

CIVIC TAXATION AND POPULATION.

When the rates were \$1.77 on the \$100, ratepayers imagined they were comparatively cheaply governed, whereas they were paying quite as much, in consequence of inflated assessment values, and "floating-cheque" by-laws being voted, the interest on which is being paid to-day. The following have been the rates since 1876, after which, upon the new assessment system being introduced, Chairmen of Finance found themselves face to face with stern realities:—

Rate of 1876.....	\$1.77 per \$1.00
" 1877.....	1.95 "
" 1878.....	1.92½ "
" 1879.....	1.91 "
" 1880.....	1.92½ "