

With the permission of the members of the Council, I will refer to civic outlays in various departments for the past eleven years, taking first

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

1869	Police Department cost	.....	\$ 9,025 27
1870	“ “	.....	11,134 44
1871	“ “	.....	10,448 00
1872	“ “	.....	12,538 21
1873	“ “	.....	13,758 05
1874	“ “	.....	15,527 50
1875	“ “	.....	17,699 03
1876	“ “	.....	19,135 22
1877	“ “	.....	20,075 76
1879	“ “	.....	19,397 41
1880	“ “	.....	17,304 13
		.....	16,686 30

With reference to this department, which is controlled by a Board of Police Commissioners, I am of opinion that the statute should be so amended as to allow the City Council to appoint two of its aldermanic representatives as a Police Committee to act in conjunction with the Mayor and the other two Commissioners, these latter being the Senior Judge of the County Court and the Police Magistrate. Questions of vital importance, affecting expenditure of money, as well as administration of municipal law, frequently arise, and I can truly say, in so far as expenditures are concerned, the two gentlemen with whom I have acted since presiding over this Council, have always kept steadily in view the financial position of the city: nevertheless my opinion is, that it would prove more satisfactory if representatives chosen by the people were permitted to participate in the deliberations of the Commissioners. The Police Force is at present efficient and active, although not so liberally remunerated as might be desired. I am of opinion that a smaller body of men, with better pay, would result in prompting its members to devote themselves in every way to the public, thus becoming a standing force, thoroughly disciplined and earnestly devoted to the discharge of their arduous duties.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Perhaps in no city in Canada is there a more active, spirited and trustworthy body than the Fire Department of Ottawa. The splendid fire system introduced in 1874 and 1875 (which accounts for exceptionally heavy expenditures during those years) has been greatly improved the men are sober, ready, reliable, and entrusted as they are with the important duty of protecting property, and frequently life, the cost of maintenance is small as compared with other cities and the distances between various business portions of Ottawa. The cost of the Fire Department since 1868 was as follows:

1869	.....	\$5,134 95
1870	.....	5,834 24
1871	.....	5,698 82
1872	.....	5,464 00
1873	.....	6,386 04