

[DOCUMENT NO. VII.]

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN,

DECEMBER 19, 1831.

Report of the Committee on Streets, on the subject of Widening John-street.

B. CRANE, *Clerk.*

THE Street Committee to whom was referred the petition of S. Cowdrey and others, owners of property on John-street, to have said street widened, and more conveniently pitched and regulated,

REPORT,

That it has long been a desideratum to owners and occupants of houses in this street, and many efforts have been made, to carry this plan, as specified in the petition, as well as others, into effect. John-street, commencing at Broadway, is 30 feet in width, in its course to Pearl street it varies in different parts, and where it enters Pearl street is not over 21 feet; its course and general appearance is unseemly, both from its frequent deviations from a uniform line, as well as from the frequent projections of buildings along its whole extent. The improvement asked for in the petition, extends from Pearl to William streets on

the south west side, and embracing the removal of a building on the north-east corner of Pearl-street and John, so that the width of the street for that distance may be about 49 feet. The petitioners also request that the hill, which rises very abruptly from Pearl-street, may be differently pitched, so that the ascent may be less precipitous. Your Committee fully concur in the propriety of reducing the elevation of this hill, and of so arranging and regulating it, that the ascent from a point in the vicinity of Pearl-street may be gradual to some point near William-street.

In relation to widening John street, your Committee are unanimous in the opinion, which is also approved by the owners and representatives of a great part of that section of the street above William-street, that if any alteration is made in this respect, the improvement should commence at Broadway and extend through the whole length to Pearl-street. The street would in the event of this plan being followed, present an appearance at once imposing and elegant, and would doubtless soon be filled with handsome and expensive buildings, adding to the value of property in its neighborhood far more than the anticipated cost of its alteration. The Committee refer to a map in the Street-Commissioner's office for a Diagram of the alteration which they recommend, in which the whole plan is laid down, making a uniform width of 45 feet—and submit the following resolutions :

Resolved, That it is desirable for public convenience that John-street be widened from Broadway to Pearl-street, as projected in a map herewith submitted, and that the Counsel adopt the necessary measures for that purpose, and that all papers required therefor be authenticated in the usual manner.

Resolved, That the hill in John-street be pitched and regulated under the direction of the Street Commissioner, in such manner as to form a more gradual descent.

WM. W. HOLLY, *Ch.*

J. R. WHITING.

