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REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF METROPOLITAN PARK COMMISSIONERS.

JANUARY, 1904.

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CONTENTS.

OFFICERS.

Commissioners.

WILLIAM B. DE LAS CASAS, *Chairman.*

EDWIN B. HASKELL. EDWIN U. CURTIS.

DAVID N. SKILLINGS. ELLERTON P. WHITNEY.

Landscape Architects.

Advisory.

OLMSTED BROTHERS.

Engineer.

WILLIAM T. PIERCE.

Law and Claims.

GEORGE LYMAN ROGERS.

Secretary.

JOHN WOODBURY.

OFFICES, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT.

The Metropolitan Park Commission presents herewith its eleventh annual report.

It is particularly gratifying to be able to begin this report with the statement that at the close of the year 1903 the work of the Commission is well advanced and that its finances are in sound condition.

The first acquirement of land for metropolitan parks, or reservations, as they are more frequently called, was made in November, 1893, under chapter 407 of the Acts of that year. In the following year the Commission was given more explicit authority, by chapter 288 of the Acts of that year, to make acquirements for the specific purpose of connecting the reservations by parkways and boulevards. These two acts indicated the approval by the Commonwealth of the general features of the plan for a Metropolitan Parks System suggested by the preliminary Commission to the Legislature of 1893. They have been supplemented from year to year by acts in amendment and by further appropriations, and by a specific Act, chapter 464 of the Acts of the year 1899, directing and providing for the acquirement of Nantasket Beach. The acquirements have been made in gradual accomplishment of the plan approved ten years since, as follows: —

UNDER PARK ACTS.

Woods reservations: —	Acres.	Total.
Blue Hills,	4,855.51	
Middlesex Fells (in addition to 1,145.03 held by water boards),	1,883.16	
Stony Brook,	463.72	
Beaver Brook,	58.35	
Hart's Hill,	23.09	
Hemlock Gorge,	23.09	
		7,306.92