THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF HARTFORD, FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1899

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Thirty-Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Hartford, for the Year Ending April 30, 1899 by Various

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RIVERSIDE PARK - WADING POND.

THIRTY-NINTH

ANNUAL REPORT

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OF THE

Board of Park Commissioners

CITY OF HARTFORD,

OF THE

FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1899.

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PARK COMMISSIONERS.

1899-1900.

HON. MILES B. PRESTON, (AS MAYOR), ex officio.

PATRICK GARVAN, Until May I, 1905.

CHARLES E. GROSS, Until May 1, 1903.

WM. DE LOSS LOVE, Until April 16, 1909,

FRANCIS GOODWIN, Until May 1, 1900.

GURDON W. RUSSELL, Until April 30, 1907.

GEORGE A. FAIRFIELD, Until April 17, 1908.

WILLIS I. TWITCHELL, Until May 1, 1901.

> GEORGE H. DAY, Until May 1, 1904.

LUCIUS F. ROBINSON, Until May 1, 1902.

CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER, Until May 11, 1906. .

OFFICERS.

UNTIL MAY 1st, 1899.

President, HON. PATRICE GARVAN, Vice-President, LUCIUS F. ROBINSON, Secretary, FRANKLIN G. WHITMORE.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

Pope Park, Commissioner DAV, May 10, 1899.

Riverside Park, Commissioner GARVAN. May 10, 1899.

Elizabeth Park, Commissioner ROBINSON, May 10, 1899.

South Park, Commissioner FAIRFIELD, May 10, 1899.

Bushnell Park (West Side), Commissioner GROSS, May 10, 1899.

Bushnell Park (East Side), Commissioner RUSSELL, May 10, 1899.

Sigourney, Tunnel, and Village Parks, Commissioner TWITCHELL, May 10, 1899.

South Green, Buckingham, Washington, Maple, and Franklin Avenue, Commissioner LOVE, May 10, 1899.

Parkways, Commissioner WARNER, May 10, 1899.

Finance, Commissioners GARVAN, DAY, ROBINSON and LOVE,

Employment, Commissioners TWITCHELL, FAIRFIELD and RUSSELL, May 10, 1899.

On Auditing, Commissioners GROSS and GOODWIN.

(For officers elected May 9, 1899, see appendiz.

FRANKLIN G. WHITMORE, Business Agent.

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THEODORE WIRTH, SuperIntendent.

OLASTED BROTHERS, Consulting Landscape Architects.

REPORT.

To the Honorable Court of Common Council:

GENTLEMEN:—The Board of Park Commissioners has the honor to submit herewith the Thirty-ninth Annual Report for the year ending April 30, 1899. It includes an account of the work done in the different parks during the twelve months, the financial report, the condition of the permanent funds, outlines of plans for improvements, and such general information and recommendations as may be of interest to the members of the Council.

PERSONNEL.

The Board remains the same as last year. The term of Commissioner William DeLoss Love expired April 16, 1899 He was re-elected a member for ten years. Judge Sherman W. Adams, Secretary and former President, died October 19, 1898. It was voted at a meeting of the Board November 7, 1898, that the Rev. Francis Goodwin and Dr. Gurdon W. Russell should draw up a suitable resolution to Judge Adams, to be entered on the records of the Park Commission. The minute is as follows:

The Board of Park Commissioners desires to express its high appreciation of the late Sherman W. Adams, who for many years was the active member of the Board, and attended to its business most faithfully and intelligently. With him it was truly "a labor of love," and accorded well with his strict ideas of business and his fine taste for landscape gardening. He was well acquainted with the various branches of natural history, and could converse pleasantly and familiarly upon the various subjects which interested him or were brought to his notice by others. The developments which were made in Bushnell Park were largely due to

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his practical and persistent industry. No one connected with the Board ever gave, probably, so much thought, or labor, or minute attention to its duties, as Judge Adams; he was as careful of its interests as if it had been his own.

When the enlarged system of parks for Hartford was established, he may have felt that he should have been connected with it; but his increasing feebleness from disease did not warrant this, and his own judgment confirmed the decision. His years were growing fewer in number, and his personal condition did not warrant any active labor.

He was a most lovable and uncomplaining man; slow of speech and motion naturally, but of good perception, sound judgment, and of a temper which seemed never to be irritated. He was never malicious, and desired to speak pleasantly of actions and of men. Kind and tender hearted, he wished to live in peace with all. His varied knowledge in historical matters, in natural science, in general literature, and in his profession of law, always made him a most valuable companion, either in his own room or in the many rambles in the fields and woods about the town.

Those who were intimate with him can best estimate his genial qualities, his unaffected modesty, his patience, and his great worth.

It is with him, as a Park Commissioner, that this Board is chiefly concerned, and suggests that this minute be placed upon our records, and that a copy of the same be sent to his family.