

Mr. LEWIS—The Committee will endeavor to have that carried out.

Mr. TWEED—It is necessary that I should have this assistance to aid me in examining the records. Part of the time we paid every two weeks, part of the time every month. My private pay-roll I don't think I can do much with until Mr. King returns. Perhaps the prosecution will let me have him to talk to ; I don't know.

Mr. COLE—Now, you have testified on several occasions that during the existence of the Ring, it was the custom to use money in order to effect desired legislation ?

A. I have ; yes, sir.

Q. Well, now, was that state of things generally understood ?

A. It was generally supposed, and generally commented upon as being the fact.

Q. Were the principal agents—lobbyists—that you employed in Albany, commonly known to be such ?

A. Not particularly for me ; they were employed by everybody.

Q. Well, I say, commonly known to be lobbyists ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was it common report around the State-house, and in Albany generally, that certain men made it their special vocation to see members, and to control their votes by giving them money ?

A. Yes, sir ; and it was understood in the Lower House that there was an organization, formed of men of both parties, Republicans and Democrats, called the Black Horse Cavalry, composed of twenty-eight or thirty persons, who would all be controlled by one man, and vote as he directed them. Sometimes they would be paid for not

voting against a bill, and sometimes they would not be desired, if their votes were not necessary. When the vote was called, they would step into the ante-room of the lobby, and if their vote was required, some one would step out, and have them vote ; if they wasn't, they wouldn't come in at all.

Q. Do you know who composed that brigade—that Black Horse Cavalry ?

A. No ; they kept changing all the time ; every year they had a new leader. They generally quarrelled at the end of the session, and started the new year fresh.

Q. If this was a matter of public repute, how could it possibly go on so long ? What did you do to keep public sentiment suppressed ?

A. Well, we used money wherever it was necessary.

Q. But you couldn't buy all the people of the State ?

A. Buy the representatives up there, as a general thing.

Q. Well, now, how about the public press ? Were they with you or against you ?

A. Well, they were generally against us in private, and with us in public.

Q. What do you mean by that ?

A. I mean we had to subsidize them. I mean the press of Albany when I speak now of the press. *The Argus* was with the Democrats, as a general thing. We used to have inserted in the tax levy what was called a budget—what they required to have paid for printing. *The Albany Evening Journal*, which was a Republican paper, and run in the interest of the Republican party, and controlled by a gentleman named George W. Demers, was opposed to us, and had to be subsidized. Mr. Demers was an invalid, and a man who didn't go about much.

He did his business through a man named S. C. Hutchings.

Q. What do you mean by "subsidizing" those papers?

A. Giving them money.

Q. Giving money to whom?

A. To their representatives.

Q. To whom did you give any money?

A. I gave money to Mr. Hutchings. He was the responsible man of the paper.

Q. What for?

A. For articles we desired to have put in the paper. Sometimes they would bring us an article which was very strong against us, and containing some things we wouldn't very much care to have made public, and we would pay to have them stricken out, and they would be stricken out.

Q. Did you ever pay any money to the *Argus* for any such purpose?

A. I never gave any money to the *Argus*, but we were always ready to help the *Argus* in any way. We helped them by inserting items in the tax-levy, called the budget—their bills for printing, advertising, etc.

Q. Were those items *bona fide* items?

A. We didn't inquire about that.

Q. It didn't make any difference to you whether they were right or wrong?

A. No; they were brought to us, and we put them in for them. My relations with the *Albany Evening Journal* continued all the while I was there.

Q. What other papers up there did you—

A. There were no other papers there at that time that amounted to anything. The paper called the *Express* was edited by a man named Smith, but it wasn't of much importance.

Q. One on one side, and one on the other in political questions?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you subsidized both of these papers?

A. Yes, sir; one we subsidized with money, and the other we subsidized by putting in their items in the tax-levies. Those items had a foundation, probably; it might be a very slim foundation. We couldn't find out, if we desired, probably, from them.

Q. Well, now, you say you paid money; did you pay any large sums of money?

A. Oh, sometimes \$5,000, sometimes \$1,000, sometimes \$500. It was a general dribble all the time.

Mr. COLE—I should think that was a pretty large stream—these payments of \$5,000 and so forth.

WITNESS—I have checks that I find, paid to some of these papers, that I can produce.

Q. Were these payments made directly to the editors?

A. Let me tell you how it was. Shall I tell the story as it was?

Q. Yes, sir.

A. When I first went to Albany as a Senator—it was 1868. In that year the fight came up between the Erie and the Hudson River Railroad Company, in which I was retained by the Erie, and acquired rather a notoriety, that brought men who were looking after money to me. Among others who came there was a Mr. S. C. Hutchings, who was then an associate editor or reporter for the *Albany Evening Journal*. That was the republican organ for the State, as it had been for many years. That paper was attacking me, and Mr. Hutchings came to me

and told me he could have those attacks much modified—have them smoothed down, and that the paper could finally be brought round to support me politically, and enter into all my measures, which were not entirely political, and that I would never be attacked in that paper in a way that would amount to anything. I thought to myself that was a very good thing—a very desirable arrangement, and I asked him in what manner that could be done. He said he would bring me in communication with Mr. Demers, who was then living in Troy, and who was then the responsible editor of the *Evening Journal*. He did bring me in communication with Mr. Demers, and I paid Mr. Demers, through the *Albany Evening Journal*, for his support, or not to attack my measures. That went on all that year, and the next year it was the same. In 1870 came up the charter, when we had a bolt from the Democracy, and it was necessary we should have all the strength and support we could get. In the mean time, I had had several interviews with Mr. Demers in the city. I think I met him first in the New York Hotel. I met him by appointment made through Mr. Hutchings, and was introduced to him by Mr. Hutchings. After that I frequently saw Mr. Demers, and had interviews with him. He came to my rooms sometimes, but that was very seldom. He was an invalid, and didn't go out much. He was a man who had one foot in the grave already, and, in fact, did die shortly after. Sometimes I would go with persons to see Mr. Demers in the middle of the day, or the middle of the night, or any time. Frequently Mr. Hutchings would bring me articles in my private room—I had a private room up there in the Delavan House—articles in proof, against us, prepared for the newspaper. I would talk them over with Mr. Hutchings

and Mr. Sweeney, or Mr. Hall and others, and show them the articles ; and we would talk it over and fix it to suit ourselves, and it would appear as we altered it, either that day or the next day, as the case might be. We would fix them so that they wouldn't appear as an attack against us ; or, even if it did attack us, it would attack us in such a way that we could answer and disprove it. It was really our own article. Sometimes I would go to Mr. Demers' house in Albany. I can't remember the house. It is down south of State street two or three streets. I could pick the house out exactly that I went to. I went there a number of times, and had the articles written out, and would submit them and then take them down to the office. Whatever I wanted put in the paper was put in. Hutchings was the go-between. I paid for it as I went along—sometimes \$5,000, sometimes \$1,000, sometimes less, as the necessities were.

Q. Did you ever pay them in checks ?

A. They would never take checks. Mr. Manning was at that time the reporter of the Democratic journal, *The Argus*, in the Senate, and my relations with him became very intimate. He used to inform me of what *The Argus* wanted, and I would have it done for them. The tax-levies or State budget originated in the Lower House--the Assembly ; while the Democrats had power, I generally had control of the Committee on Ways and Means as much as any man on it, and generally had control of it also when the Republicans had power. Mr. Manning would hand me the article he wanted put in, and I would go down to the Committee and tell them I wanted it put in. With the others he would have had to pay to have it put in, and with me he didn't have to pay. In that way I always got their support.

Q. And this Democratic journal supported you, and was paid for it in this way?

A. Yes, sir; no understanding about it, that was the understanding--that I would do anything for them they wanted done.

Q. Did you, or any of the ring, ever write editorials for that journal or fix them up?

A. No, sir; we never found it necessary. Mr. Manning would sometimes bring me an article, and I would revise the article.

Q. And if it met your approval it was put in?

A. Yes, sir; although it never happened, that it didn't go in because I didn't want it to. I think I could have done anything with Mr. Manning at that time that I wanted to, although I didn't try it, it wasn't necessary. I might mention in this connection, that when I kept the Police Commissioner, Mr. Disbecker, on my pay-roll, it was for services he rendered me at Albany. He was correspondent of the *World* and the *Staats Zeitung*, part of the time.

Q. Can you give me any idea of the amount of money that was put into the tax levies during your time, in behalf of the *Albany Argus*?

A. I couldn't, and, if I could, I wouldn't dare to. It would be a frightful amount.

Q. Is there any way by which you can ascertain that?

A. By the Journal of the Proceedings.

Q. I wish you would do so, and give me some idea of the amount of money that was given to that journal at that time, and I would also like you to refresh your memory as to what you paid to the other journals also.

A. I don't know that I could, because I was paying all the time.

Mr. TOWNSEND—May I ask that these questions shall be sent to me? As I stated before, I have received three different promises at different times.

WITNESS—I don't know that I can give you every item that was inserted for the *Argus* on any other paper. They were put into the Tax Budget of the State—the tax-levy—the printing deficiencies and the other deficiencies. I think I can get them, however, but I shall have to look through the records, and, to do it, I want the Laws of 1868, 1869, 1870, and 1871, the four years that I was in the Senate. I think I have them. You have given me a great deal of work to do after this meeting, and you must give me a clerk to render me the assistance I need.

Mr. COLE—Mr. Tweed, I want you to give me as far as you can, the names of those persons who, from the beginning of the fraudulent percentage arrangement under the old Board of Supervisors, running down through the settlement of adjusted claims, and afterwards through the Board of Audit, who were perfectly—all that time cognizant of the way in which the Supervisors or the Comptroller or the Board of Audit were doing these things?

A. I think I have mentioned all the names heretofore.

Q. You have named a great many men who came in at different times; I want to know now who were in the confidence of the members of the Ring from the beginning all the way through?

A. You recollect there never was a Ring until after Connolly became Comptroller.

Q. Under the Board of Supervisors.

A. You want all that received money?

Q. In the Board of Supervisors. Then those who were

cognizant of illegal practices under the settlement of adjusted claims, and going through the Board of Audit?

A. I think, in the Supervisors' business, if I could have the assistance of Mr. Woodward, I could give the names of every man. I have been unable to do it, though I have tried to do that. The prosecution has it in their hands. I have found it impossible to have an interview with him. If they want a third party to be present at our interview let them have him there. I have written probably a thousand letters.

Q. How could Woodward help you in that matter?

A. He could help me in that matter very much. He knows as well as I do. I could say: "Here is this bill; do you know what this bill was for?" His memory is much clearer than mine. He was only in one matter and I was in a thousand matters of the kind.

Q. Have you made any effort to get Mr. Woodward to come to you?

A. I have tried to get him to come to me.

Q. Where is he?

A. He is in town every day. I think that if Mr. Peckham or the Attorney-General should say: "Go see Mr. Tweed," he would come, and if they want a third party there I am perfectly willing they should have one; in fact I would prefer it.

Q. There were some questions which have been sent me by Mr. Demas Barnes, with regard to the Brooklyn bridge.

A. I presume it was a copy of the same as was sent to me.

Mr. COLE—Yes; I know it is the same thing.

WITNESS—I would like, gentlemen of the committee,

that Mr. Demas Barnes' questions should be asked, because I want to show that a man that helps me is appreciated.

Mr. SLEVIN—Mr. Tweed, can you give the names of the Black Horse Cavalry of 1870?

A. I don't think I could, sir.

Q. Could you by refreshing your memory?

A. No, sir; I had but little dealings with the House down stairs. All the business I had with the lower House was through my agents to influence the members, and the Committee of Ways and Means.

Q. Have you any means by which you can find out the names of the persons who composed the Black Horse Cavalry?

A. No, sir; my direct connection was only with the Committee of Ways and Means and the Senate.

Q. The Committee of Ways and Means in the Senate?

A. No, sir.

Q. In the Assembly?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Could you remember any of the names of the persons who composed the Committee of Ways and Means?

A. I think Mr. Jacobs was Chairman. If you had the Manual here for 1870, I could tell in two minutes—the Red Book.

Mr. COLE—Will the Committee direct that the Manual be sent for?

Mr. TOWNSEND—Gentlemen of the Committee, I would like to state that I have papers occasionally handed to me, with questions and suggestions that Mr. Tweed should answer certain things. I have to state, publicly, that I

am not here for any such purpose. Mr. Cole and the Committee are here for such purposes. I don't want to be put in the position of acting in that way, for the reason that it is not so.

WITNESS--I have received communications anonymously—a great many of them. I will publicly notify those gentlemen that if they put their names to those communications, I shall be very happy to have them come here, and have them tell it themselves.

MR. COLE--The Committee have already announced that any person, or any journal, that will ask or suggest pertinent questions, they will be asked, but the Committee have also announced that they will not take notice of anonymous questions or innuendoes.

MR. COWING—Mr. Tweed, do you now remember anything of an association existing in the City of New York called the Citizens' Association, when you were in power?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any personal knowledge of that association, and its members?

A. No personal recollection.

Q. Do you know the prominent members of that association, who composed it?

A. I know there were only three members who appeared to do the work.

Q. Were they politically opposed to you for a portion of the time after they started out?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were you able to convince them, after a time, of your way of thinking?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. By what means did you effect that change of sentiment?

A. I think we took care of most of them.

Q. Can you now state the names of any of the members of the Citizens' Association who were taken care of?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Tell them.

A. Nathaniel Sands was taken care of as Tax Commissioner, at fifteen thousand dollars a year; Mr. Henry was made Dock Commissioner; Joseph F. Daly was made a judge, at fifteen thousand dollars a year, for fourteen years.

Q. And that was done for the purpose of convincing them?

A. Yes, sir; after they had been with us a great while.

Q. The association finally came over and joined with you, and helped manage the affairs of the city?

A. I don't think there were many members, except those three—except contributing members.

Q. These offices, will you now state, were given to them for the assistance rendered to you in the association?

A. Not with the understanding that such was the case, but because they were strong men, and could help us in every way. No other understanding with them, but that was the result.

Q. Do you remember in the city election of 1868—I think it was gubernatorial—wasn't that the year that John T. Hoffman was elected? You were in power in the city of New York then, were you not?

A. I was; yes, sir.

Q. Have you a definite recollection of the facts which took place in that election?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you remember anything about that election at all?

A. Yes, sir; I know that there was an election.

Q. Do you know whether that was the election in which John A. Griswold was nominated, and ran as Republican candidate?

A. I recollect that Mr. Griswold was up for the office.

Q. Who had the control of the political machinery at that election—the Inspectors of Election, and the other machinery incident to an election.

A. I think the Police Commissioners appointed that year.

Q. Was it under your personal control and supervision?

A. I don't think that it was.

Q. Do you remember the evening of that election, after the polls were closed?

A. Yes, sir, I remember where I spent that evening very well.

Q. Where?

A. In the Metropolitan Hotel.

Q. Do you remember who were present?

A. Yes, sir. Prominent ones in the party.

Q. Name them, if you please.

A. Mr. Sweeney was there: Mr. George W. McLean, Mr. Connolly, and Mr. Hall; Governor Hoffman, I think.

Q. Do you remember that evening of a telegram being sent out in reference to sending out reports?

A. That was done in the day time.

Q. Do you know personally of its being done?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And for what purpose it was done?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And who did it?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who did do it?

A. Mr. Hall.

Q. Have you any knowledge that any one else knew what it was sent out for?

A. Mr. Hugh Smith knew it.

Q. What was that telegram sent out for?

A. To keep the telegraph lines busy.

Q. Can you state now, at this time, whether the election which took place in the City of New York at that time was a fair and honest election?

A. I have not the details of it in my memory.

Q. What is your best impression?

A. I don't think there is ever a fair or honest election in the City of New York?

Q. Do you think that applied particularly to that year?

A. I think so. I think that was the year in which a great many people were naturalized.

Q. Can you give any percentage? What was the real vote in that election?

A. It would need a man higher up in arithmetic than I am to do that.

Q. Was that the year the Inspectors of Election lumped the vote and declared them without counting the vote?

A. I shouldn't be surprised if it was.

Q. What is your impression?

A. I think it was.

Q. So that the aggregate of the vote which was announced for the City and County of New York, instead

of the rightful vote, was a vote obtained by the inspectors. What I desire to find out, is whether or not the vote which was given in the City of New York wasn't made so as to get some way or other of off-setting the vote which was given from the rest of the State?

A. I do not know that. I know we took means to prevent them from doing what they wanted to do.

Q. And what were the means you took?

A. Well, one of the means, I know, was to get entire possession of the telegraph wires and keep them busy, one of us proposed to telegraph the whole Bible over them, if it was necessary.

Q. Then the vote that was cast was not the electoral vote of the city?

A. I think very probably.

Q. Isn't that your best judgment?

A. I say it is probable.

MR. LEWIS—Didn't it apply to other parts of the State as well as New York?

A. Oh, yes; especially in St. Lawrence County, where I know they polled three votes against us where there was one for us.

MR. COWING—Are you giving the Committee your impressions about St. Lawrence County?

A. I am giving my impression.

Q. Don't you claim to have some personal knowledge of the transactions here, as to the matter of elections?

A. I don't; I don't know. If you will give me the County Officers I will speak more definitely concerning the transactions.

Q. Do I understand you that what you said in reference to St. Lawrence County was founded on positive knowledge or hearsay?

A. I am giving my impression.

Q. You were not present when this transaction you speak of took place?

A. No, sir.

Q. And you have no personal knowledge of it?

A. No, sir; nor of a thousand things that took place in New York that you have questioned me about. I have the names of the Committee, Gentlemen of the Committee. Mr. Jacobs, of Kings was chairman. That is, the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means for 1870. Mr. Banker, of Schenectady, Mr. Bergen, of New York. Mr. Dodge, of Clinton, Mr. William D. Murphy, of Albany, Mr. Coon, of Schuyler, Mr. Husted, of Westchester. Mr. Littlejohn, of Oswego, Mr. Selkreg, of Tompkins. Mr. Jacobs, of Kings, generally was my friend, and generally helped me. Mr. Bergen, of New York, and Mr. Murphy, of Albany, used to help me in most everything. Mr. Jacobs was the principal man I went to and had these things done.

Q. Those names were the only ones whom you controlled for a consideration?

A. I didn't control them for a consideration, I only required their votes and was of service to them up stairs on bills. My services up stairs were always freely given to them for anything they desired to have. I must apologize to the reporters for speaking so fast, but it is my nature when I get excited. It has caused me more trouble than it has anybody else.

MR. TOWNSEND—Mr. Chairman, it is rather a delicate thing for me to speak about at this time, but it seems to me we have got a great ways from the purpose of the original resolutions creating this Commission, and if we continue in this same style as we are doing now, it seems

to me we will open a tremendous field, and never know when to close. Mr. Tweed sits here to answer questions, and he will answer all such questions, as long as you think they are within your reach. But it does seem to me that you ought to take that into consideration, and consider how far you are to go, or enabled to go, into this investigation.

Mr. COLE--I have used my utmost endeavors to keep very fairly within the resolution, and I think your remarks are very pertinent.

Mr. COWING--I have asked these questions to-day because it has been intimated by some of the press that I wanted to suppress certain parts of the evidence, and anything that you can get out I am perfectly willing to have out, that is if it come within the scope of the resolution. The question as to newspapers, or question in regard to their subsidizing, is simply a question whether they are to be defamed.

Mr. COLE--If, for instance, a journal should have been paid money from the tax-levy--fraudulently taken from the tax-levy--it seems to me that the people could recover that money from the journal.

Mr. LEWIS--The meeting stands adjourned until Saturday next, the 6th prox., at ten o'clock A. M.

ELEVENTH DAY

October 9th, 1877.

Present—Alderman SLEVIN,
“ LEWIS,
“ COWING.

MR. TWEED—I will ask first, gentlemen of the Committee, as a matter of justice to myself, that I may be permitted to make a few remarks. A great many of the persons mentioned by me in my testimony before the Committee at the last meeting have come out with long articles in the papers denying the statements which I made concerning them. Now I have evidence in my possession to show that what I said was true, and I propose, with the consent of the Committee, to bring it forward. I propose to take them up *seriatim*, and I shall start first with the Attorney General.

MR. COLE—I suppose, Mr. Tweed, that the statement you are now about to make will be confined to the corroboration of the statement you have already made, and to substantiate the truth of what you have already said.

MR. TWEED—Nothing else. No new matter will be introduced.

MR. COLE—This is copied, as I understand, from the written statement you handed some time ago to the Attorney General.

Alderman LEWIS—I understood Mr. Tweed to say that, at the conclusion of the examination, he would furnish the Committee with a copy of that entire statement.

Mr. TWEED—Yes, sir, that is my understanding, and my statement. In an article published in the *New York Times*, of October 1st, he says there is nothing in Tweed's statement to me about subsidizing the *Albany Evening Journal*, or any mention made of E. K. Apgar.

[Mr. Tweed then handed to Mr. Edelsten, one of his counsel, the following, which was read by that gentleman to the Committee, being a portion, as he alleged, of his statement to the Attorney General:]

“Mr. Tweed agrees to hold himself in readiness upon notice that his presence is required, to go to any place designated by the Attorney General, for the purpose of giving evidence on behalf of the people and to testify there to any and everything within his knowledge relating to his past transactions in defrauding or aiding to defraud the State or any part of it, or any person or persons, and to give evidence and testify in detail, so far as he can, to any and everything that he knows in regard to any and all persons with whom he has heretofore had illegal connections, affecting any public or private interests, and will reserve nothing, nor will he decline to testify against anybody with whom he has been so connected, whether he may have been his most intimate friend or not. In writing the letter which he did, on the 6th of December last, to Mr. Charles O'Connor, believing him to be at that time in full charge of what is known as the Ring suits, Mr. Tweed was fully cognizant of the fact that he thereby committed himself fully to a most

thorough and exhaustive statement of his connection with the Ring matters, should such a demand be made upon him as a condition of his release. Mr. Tweed has been given to understand by the Attorney-General that under no other condition can he be released from imprisonment. He accepted the situation, and intends to comply, as he thinks he has fully done, with the demand so made, but holds himself entirely willing to disclose any and every other matter, which may at present have escaped his remembrance, if his attention is called to the subject." This, continued Mr. Tweed, is an extract from the document which I handed to the Attorney-General and which was handed back to me. The Attorney-General is wrong in his statement, for among the checks set forth in the statement was one made January 19, 1871, by Mr. Tweed, for \$4,000, and indorsed by Wm. Cassidy, as President, and Daniel Manning, as Attorney, of the *Argus* Printing Company.

Mr. TOWNSEND here exhibited the check—payable to the order of the National Commercial Bank for \$4,000, and indorsed by Mr. Cassidy, President, and Daniel Manning, Attorney of the *Argus* Printing Company.

Mr. TWEED—The Attorney-General is correct in stating that I did not mention specifically Mr. Apgar or the *Albany Evening Journal* in the statement I made to him. These were matters which, if I had been then questioned about, I should testify to as I do now. In my testimony on the last day of the examination I mentioned the name of Mr. Hutchings, now of the *Argus* and formerly of the *Evening Journal*, and in connection with him spoke of Mr. Demers, who was then proprietor of the *Evening Journal*. Since then, Mr. Hutchings in the

Argus, of which he is now associate editor, has thought proper to deny any intimacy or association with me beyond that which he says he was induced to do through Mr. George Dawson, now editor of the *Evening Journal*. In justice to Mr. Dawson I will state that I never, to my knowledge, had any conversation with him, and never had any business relations with him whatever. To confirm my statement in reference to Mr. Hutchings and Mr. Demers I offer these two letters, both of which are in the handwriting of Mr. Hutchings; also two checks—one dated 16th September, 1867, for \$1,000, made by me to the order of G. W. Demers, and indorsed by him March 4, 1868, for \$2,000. I was under the impression at my last examination, and so stated, that my transactions with those two gentlemen were always in cash, but I was mistaken; I also offer two letters of Mr. Van Vechten, of Albany, one dated May 1, 1867, and the other dated July 25—1867, in both of which reference is made to my connection with Mr. Hutchings.

[The following letters were then read by Mr. Tweed's counsel.]

ALBANY, July 25, 1867.

DEAR TWEED—I have just seen Barber, and at his request I write you. The Committee on Cities have not yet reached any point as far as I can judge. You have no cause for apprehension. I go to Lake George this afternoon. Hutchings is coming up here to-morrow to stay over Sunday, and I shall come down with him on Monday. I will then have an opportunity of finding out all he knows, and I shall be in New York on Wednesday. Probably I will see you. I cannot see any sort of use of your being here next week. If I do I will let you know. I

am pretty well satisfied that the majority of the Republicans in the convention are disposed to let the people of New York govern themselves. The former Legislature has badly damaged the party, and they are not disposed to weaken it any more by their action.

Yours, truly,

A. VAN VECHTEN.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, NEW YORK. }

Hon. WM. M. TWEED:

DEAR SIR—If it is possible for you to see me before I leave the city, please send note to Astor House. I must return to-morrow afternoon.

Respectfully, yours,

S. C. HUTCHINGS.

Indorsed.

“ Answered December 20, 1870.”

(Confidential.)

OFFICE OF ALBANY EVENING JOURNAL, }
ALBANY, November 11, 1867. }

DEAR SIR—At our last interview in this city you signified a desire to form the acquaintance of Mr. Demers. Business will call him to New York this week or next. If you will designate the hotel, day, and hour where he can meet you, it will afford him pleasure to fill such an appointment. The time is fully at your own option. Allow me to congratulate you on your own personal success, and also on the triumph of your party. It is a complete victory for the Democracy, and a good thing for us, as we

will show you "next time." We now know where our weakness lies.

Respectfully, yours,
S. C. HUTCHINGS.

The following check was then read :

NEW YORK, January 10, 1871.

Tenth National Bank, pay to the order of National Commercial Bank of Albany four thousand dollars.

\$4,000.

WM. M. TWEED.

Indorsed.

WM. CASSIDY, President.

DANIEL W. MANNING, Attorney.

So far for the *Evening Journal*. In these matters I desire it to be understood that I have no personal animosity toward any gentleman. I am doing this as an act of justice to myself and the community. Men whom I have benefited in every way think that I am not able to defend myself, but I want them distinctly to know that I am—and that I am going to do it. Mr. Apgar has published a statement denying my testimony, and stating that he was appointed by Mr. Hoffman. To refute this statement of Mr. Apgar I desire in the first place to say that he never was recommended to me by Mayor Hoffman, but was recommended as a person who might be of service to me by Mr. George McGee. He may be correct as to the amount he received in all—that I cannot say, because the records of some of my private pay-rolls cannot now be found. I have a letter which I now offer, written by him in December 5th, 1868, in which he appears to ac-

knowledge the reception by him of many past favors, and in which he asks me to find some one to advance him some money. I also find a check, dated 23d December, 1868, drawn by me to cash for \$55, on the back of the check in pencil in the manner usual with the paying teller of the bank, I find the name of E. K. Apgar. If the Committee will send for the teller of the bank at that time and question him, they will find that the money was paid to him personally.

Whereupon Mr. Townsend read the following letter:

63 WALL STREET, NEW YORK, Dec. 5, 1868.

MY DEAR SIR—Will you be kind enough to write me a line informing me, if you can, how soon you will be able to see me? I would not write but that for the reason I have mentioned to you, I am in very urgent need of money. If there is any way in which I could discount my back pay, I should be glad to do so; but I know of no one likely to do this. The State Committee seems to be unable to do anything in my case, notwithstanding I am in debt largely on their account. I am at present in debt for board, clothes, and money borrowed to pay my expenses during the campaign—between four and five hundred dollars—which I had expected and promised to pay long ago, and some of which is really needed by those to whom I owe it. I hope you will feel that it is only the embarrassment of my present position that impels me to trouble you again. If you know of any way in which I can secure the advance of my back pay, and will inform me of it, you will add another to the very great favors already bestowed upon

Yours, very truly,

EDGAR K. APGAR.

TO HON. WM. M. TWEED.

Mr. Tweed then produced a check dated Dec. 23, 1868, drawn by himself in "cash," for \$55, on the back of which appeared the pencilled memorandum, made by the bank's paying-teller, of the name of E. K. Apgar as the person to whom the money was paid.

"I have not," said he, "any animosity toward any of the gentleman whose names I have mentioned here in the course of this examination. I am simply doing this as an act of justice to myself and the community. I have no ill-feeling, and there is no name I have mentioned that I would not rather not have mentioned if I had had the power to avoid it. But men who think because I cannot get out to go around and see the people to verify my statements, and cannot get papers, and that I am not able to defend myself, will find that I am going to show that I am still able to do that."

MR. TWEED—I will now go to the *Argus*. That paper in its issue of September 30, contained a long article of which the following was the conclusion, which was read by Mr. Townsend :

"Neither the *Argus* Company, nor any member of said company, ever received as much as one dollar or any valuable thing whatever, at any time, from Mr. Tweed or any one on his behalf, for any purpose whatever. No pecuniary or other benefits were received by any member of the *Argus* Company from Mr. Tweed or from any one on his behalf. Mr. Tweed never had the benefit or use of the columns of the *Argus* at any time, and no member of the *Argus* Company was ever indebted to him for a favor of any description."

In reply to this I submit to the Committee five letters

written by Mr. William Cassidy, President of the *Argus* Association, in the years 1867, 1868, and 1869—in all of which he asked favors from me. I again refer to the check mentioned in my statement to the Attorney-General heretofore referred to, dated January 19, 1871, for \$4,000, indorsed by both Wm. Cassidy, president, and Daniel Manning, attorney. In further answer to the *Argus* that no favors had been received from me by any member of that company, I refer to Sheet No. 1 of Pay-roll of Officers and Appointees in the Street Department of the City of New York, during the month of February, 1870. In that pay-roll will be found a receipt from A. S. Cassidy (a brother of William) who was the third general clerk to the Street Commissioner, to R. B. Connolly, Comptroller of New York, for \$166.66, for the month of February, 1870, being the monthly payment for his salary at the rate of \$2,000 per annum. He held this position for years, and in this pay-roll, which I submit, he is charged to the *Argus* in the handwriting of Mr. King. I hand this to the Committee in the same condition as received from the Department under the orders of your Committee. Mr. Wm. E. King was then first general clerk to the Street Department. A. S. Cassidy was at one time removed, when his brother William called on me and I had him reinstated, and afterwards, at the further solicitation of William Cassidy, for favors received, and after the passage of the Charter of 1870, I increased his salary from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per annum.

[Under one of these letters was a direction in the handwriting of Mr. Tweed to one of the clerks in his office, to have Mr. Cassidy's wishes complied with.]

“That will show,” continued Mr. Tweed, “that they

never asked any favors, of course." He then proceeded as follows :

As compensation for favors had from the *Argus* Company and at their request I was instrumental in having inserted in the Session Laws of 1870, page 1,095, chapter 492, the following provision :

"The contract with the *Argus* Company for legislative printing shall be extended for three years, provided the Comptroller shall deem it for the interests of the State."

I further present, for the consideration of the Committee, the many resolutions for printing passed during that year, and the succeeding year, 1871, with a copy of the numbers called for under their contract, showing the number of copies called for beyond the contract order. On the 1st of October I addressed a communication, of which the annexed is a copy, to Mr. Olcott, the State Treasurer, to which I have received no reply :

No. 70 LUDLOW STREET, }
NEW YORK, 1st October, 1877. }

T. W. OLCOTT, Jr., Esq. :

SIR—Will you please have prepared and forwarded to me, for use in my evidence before a Committee of Board of Aldermen of this city, the amounts paid the *Argus* and the *Argus* Company [by that name or any other], during the years 1868-69-70-71-72, in detail, with the authority by which such payments were made, also a copy of the contract for printing made by the State with the *Argus* Company in 1869-70. I ask this information for the benefit of the public, and not for mere curiosity. Any expense incurred in collating and copying, I will pay on presentation of the bill.

Yours, respectfully,

WILLIAM M. TWEED.

“I find, however, in the *Express* of October 1 the following report of the legislative printing, showing the amounts received by the *Argus* Company for that work, as shown by the Comptroller's books during the years 1868-69-70-71-72-73-74-75, amounting, in all, to \$778,450, of which \$384,500 was received during the years 1870-71, while I was in the Senate.

“The amount paid the *Argus* Company for printing (not including advertising), as shown by the Comptroller's books, was as follows :

1868.....	\$5,000
1869.....	80,500
1870.....	176,600
1871.....	207,900
1872.....	136,400
1873.....	138,850
1874.....	23,200
1875.....	10,000
Total.....	<u>\$778,450</u>

“You will perceive how the bills drop off as soon as I left the Senate. The bills for 1872 and 1873 were the drippings of the big years.

“I can substantiate,” continued Mr. Tweed, “all I have said in relation to the subsidizing of the press.”

[Here he produced the following check, dated January 10th, 1871, (heretofore referred to) for \$4,000, paid by him to the Albany *Argus* by William Cassidy, President of the *Argus* Company and Daniel Manning, Secretary].

NEW YORK, Jan. 10, 1871.

Tenth National Bank pay to the order of National Commercial Bank of Albany four thousand dollars.

\$4,000.

W. M. TWEED.

“Now, I come to Senator Woodin again, although I had hoped I had done with him. In a published statement he says he never had any dealings with me of any kind, and stigmatizes my entire statement as false. I find the appointment of James J. Weed as clerk in the office of Water Register, Aug. 1, 1870. He drew back pay for July, 1870, being too big to come down and be regularly entered on the pay-roll, and he retained his office until July, 1871, at \$3,000, when he was removed, because Republican Senators made a party question on the passage of the tax levy of that year. On the private records of the Department he is charged as having been appointed at the solicitation of Senator Woodin, and was known as ‘Woodin’s man from the country.’ He performed no services, not even drawing his pay, but assigned it. It was drawn by the assignee, as a general thing. Now, that I have paid my respects to these gentlemen, let me turn to the Tenth National and its President, Mr. Ackerman, who defends Mr. Palmer, the late President, and who states that Palmer knew nothing about the transactions I referred to. I assert that at the time Ackerman was only an employee of the bank and never had any dealings with the management at all. I am prepared to prove that Palmer not only knew of some of these transactions going on, but at different times received telegrams from Albany directing him to keep the bank open until long after bank hours—until four and five o’clock. He kept the bank open until these hours, and from there money was sent to Albany. He must have known that something was wrong, or at least unusual, for he cannot but remember that he was required to wait until long after bank hours until a messenger came down from Albany and he would then have to give that messenger the amount I sent for.

I find an article in the *Commercial Advertiser* of October 1, 1877, quoting a statement from another journal—I believe the *Argus*—stating that the “Boss is an infamous liar,” and remarking, “that Tweed is getting it all round.” Whether or not I was right in regard to my statements, and whether Mr. H. J. Hastings told the truth or not in denying any association or intimacy with me, I offer to submit to the Committee the following letters:

Counsel for Mr. Tweed then read the following letters:

WASHINGTON, January 17, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR—I am in a tight spot here and want your aid. You have, no doubt, seen Brooks’s speech. The poor devil, before commencing his attack on me, went about the House insinuating among Republicans that I was in the employ of Tammany Hall to secure the secrets of the Republicans. He done this to get up a prejudice against me. In his speech he held up the *Commercial Advertiser* in a melodramatic way, exclaiming, “Here is the evidence that he is a hired spy and informer of the Democratic party.” In his printed speech it is Tammany Hall; in his public address it was the Democratic party. I wish you could reach Kerr, who is on the committee. It can only be effectual to-morrow morning, as I expect to be brought before the House for contempt. You will have seen the nature of my objections before the committee. I did not open my case to show my hand, what I propose to prove. Brooks could take advantage of it. Can’t you telegraph him? Do what you can for our friend. John Schumaker or some of the boys will add the balance. I am rather suspicious that Fox put up Brooks to make the intimation, or rather the charge, about being an informer. I may be locked

up in twenty-four hours. Think of me looking through the grates in the basement of the Capitol. Won't I be a devil of a fellow in a small way for a very small time? Yours in tribulation, but courageous,

HUGH.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER OFFICE,
CORNER FULTON AND NASSAU STREETS, }
NEW YORK, January 23, 1871.

MY DEAR FRIEND—Your letter directed to me at Washington failed to reach me there. I found it at my office this morning. The warm sentiments of friendship expressed in it have bound me to you forever. If I have one virtue among the many that most people boast of, that one is *gratitude*—never to forget a friend, never to go back on a man, woman, or child who does a favor. These are not empty words. I write through a fulness of heart when I say, through sunshine and adversity, through good and evil report, no matter what may occur, rely upon me to go to the end in your behalf. Command me at any time. Pardon me for being so expressive. Your kind offer in your letter is so generous that I cannot resist opening my heart to you, and say in addition, God bless you and yours. Brooks said to John Schumaker that he desired to have everything drop after the report of the committee. John came to me and informed me of Brooks's wishes. Of all things distasteful to me is law-suits, and seeing my name in the papers. I have got heartily sick of it, even if it is complimentary, and I presume you must feel pretty much that way yourself. Before leaving Washington, Schumaker saw Brooks and gave me to understand that hostilities had ceased. I will be up

Tuesday night of this week. Again thanking you for your kindness, believe me, ever yours,

H. J. HASTINGS.

To Hon. WM. M. TWEED.

Mr TWEED (continuing)—I have other letters of his that can be produced, all of the same kind ; but I thought these had better be shown, so that it might be proved that he was on intimate terms with me at that time. But it was only one of the many dirty things that Hasting had done to me.

Mr. COLE inquired if that was the whole of the statement ?

Mr. TWEED—Yes ; but I may get another page or two ready. I believe I have got other documents in my possession which will further corroborate what I have stated ; but it requires time and labor to get at them. I would state here that the statement I have just had read to the Committee, was prepared with a great deal of labor and I would ask that it be handed back to me again when the Committee have done with it.

Mr. COLE—These are the interrogatories which Mr. Demas Barnes—

A. I haven't had time to look at them during this week, but I guess I can answer them. Week before last I looked at them, but this last week I have been occupied in looking up the *Argus* and *Albany Evening Journal* business, and in paying my respects to those gentlemen. They paid me their respects, and I thought it was right for me to pay them my respects.

Q. You have stated that sixty-five thousand dollars were paid to certain Aldermen to induce them to appropriate \$1,500,000 for the Brooklyn Bridge? how much of this money was reimbursed to you?

A. I believe I put a written answer to that; I did, I know.

Q. You have some written memoranda in pencil?

A. Well, I stated it was all, except a few thousand dollars, in the first place, handed to me by Mr. Henry C. Murphy; I am inclined to think it was short about fifteen thousand dollars, but I don't know exactly; that was subscribed equally by Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Hugh Smith, and myself. That money was paid back to me afterwards by Mr. Kingsley.

Q. You say the money that you and Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Smith advanced was paid back to you by whom?

A. By Mr. Kingsley. I think we each took a quarter of our shares off, and gave them to Connolly. I think Sweeney received his shares mainly of myself and Smith.

Q. Were you a member of the Executive Committee of the Bridge Company?

A. I was.

Q. Who composed that committee?

A. Mr. Murphy was one, General Slocum was one, Mr. Smith was one, Mr. Stranahan was one.

A. The memoranda by Mr. Barnes says: Henry C. Murphy?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. S. L. Husted?

A. There was a Mr. Husted, but I don't recollect his first name.

Q. Mr. Smith and you; is that correct?

A. Yes, sir. General Slocum was a member of the committee at some time ; I think at that time.

Q. Do you recollect who introduced — There was a resolution introduced and passed by the Executive Committee, on the fifth of July, 1870, as follows :

“ Resolved, That fifteen per centum of the amount of
 “ the expenditures for the construction of the foundation
 “ of the towers of the bridge, on both sides of the river,
 “ up to high water mark, including the payments for
 “ land, be paid W. C. Kingsley, the general superinten-
 “ dent, for his services and advances on behalf of the com-
 “ pany, up to the completion of such foundation ;” and
 the record says that that resolution was offered by you.
 Have you any recollection about it ?

A. I think that it was. My memory has been refreshed by that paper of Mr. Barnes. It is my present conviction that I offered it.

Q. Do you recollect that it was offered and passed ?

A. I do.

Q. Were all the members of the committee present at that time ?

A. That I am not sure about.

Q. Was the resolution unanimously agreed to by the members who were present ?

A. That I am not sure about, but I think so.

Q. What advances did you refer to in that resolution ?

A. I understand it cost something to get the appropriation through the Common Council ; I know it cost something to get it through the New York Common Council ; and expense incurred in going to Albany and to Washington, and getting the passage of the law itself, authorizing the crossing of the river ; all those little incidental expenses.

Q. Did you intend that resolution to cover, among other things, the money which had been paid through you to the New York Common Council?

A. I did, sir; I think it did cover it. I think about that time it was, for I got my money back, whatever it was.

Q. Do you know who prepared that resolution?

A. I do not.

Q. Do you recollect who handed it to you?

A. William C. Kingsley handed it to me, and I think he prepared it; although I don't know.

Q. Now, the resolution, I am informed by Mr. Barnes' memoranda, has been altered on the record, so that the word "fifteen" has been erased, and the word "five" written over it; which appeared by a microscopic inspection of the paper itself. Are you quite sure that the resolution, as offered by you, provided for the payment of fifteen per centum upon the amount of expenditures and advances?

A. I am positive of it; and I am also positive of it from the fact that Mr. Kingsley called upon me, and asked me what was my recollection of the fact, and I said whatever it was upon the minutes at the time.

Q. What is your independent recollection at this time?

A. I know it positively—that it was fifteen per cent.; I don't think anything about it; I know it positively.

Q. Well, was any portion of this fifteen per centum on expenditures and advances actually paid?

A. I only know by reference to the books which Mr. Barnes gives you there, sir.

Q. You have no independent recollection?

A. No, sir; and no reference to the books, except what Mr. Barnes gave me there. Those questions are in reply to a private communication I addressed to Mr. Barnes,

asking him to give me the information. I knew he had been chairman of the Investigating Committee, from the fact that he had sent me a long printed statement; and when Mr. Kingsley partially denied the facts, I then prepared myself to show that what I said was correct.

Q. This memorandum states that on the first of January, 1871, the expenditures amounted to \$1,179,531; and that some one had drawn from the treasury, on authority of this resolution, fifteen per centum of that amount, one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, and that that amount was charged to general account, and afterwards charged to special expenses account, and again transferred to the lumber and material account, under the head of the construction account. Now, do you know anything about that matter?

A. I know nothing about that whatever. I suggest Mr. Barnes be called in reference to the Brooklyn Bridge. He knows all about those detail matters. He has been the Chairman of the Committee of Investigation, and has made them a study.

Q. What I want to know now, Mr. Tweed, is whether you know anything about these matters?

A. I do not.

Q. Now, was the whole of this fifteen per centum actually to be paid to Kingsley?

A. It was.

Q. Was no one to share it with him in any way.

A. He was to pay back the moneys we had advanced.

Q. That you had advanced——

A. In money, etc., and was to pay the balance of my stock, which I had paid twenty per cent. on.

Q. That was an understanding between you and Kingsley, was it?

A. Between Kingsley and myself.

Q. How much was it calculated by the board of directors that the company would have to pay for land taken for the approaches?

A. The details I don't recollect; I think the entire amount, as submitted by the elder Mr. Roebling, was \$3,500,000; the amount submitted by the younger Mr. Roebling was six millions.

Q. That included the approaches to the bridge, and the construction of the bridge up to high-water mark? The entire completion, or the land for approaches simply, and the piers up to high-water mark?

A. To a certain distance, and the approaches. I was under the impression at one time that that meant the whole thing, but I think it didn't.

Q. This resolution is to the effect that fifteen per cent. shall be paid to Mr. Kingsley, on expenditures and advances for the construction of the foundation of the towers of the bridge on both sides of the river, up to high-water mark, including the payments for land. Now, these estimates that you speak of now, were they estimates for these two items, or did they include the entire bridge? What is your impression?

A. My impression is that that resolution intended to cover six millions of dollars, but how far it reached I don't know that I was very thorough in.

Q. Well, now, the fifteen per cent. was understood to cover alone the cost of material and construction, salaries to officers and wages to laborers, and the land for approaches?

A. Every expenditure incurred, of every nature.

Q. Was it part of the plan that that fifteen per centum

should continue to be paid for subsequent expenditures, made necessary by the further progress of the bridge?

A. I don't think they entered into the consideration of it at all. I don't think that subject was ever spoken of at all.

Q. How much was it calculated at that time that the whole bridge was intended to cost?

A. I don't know; I think six millions. I thought, at the time, that was intended to cover everything.

Q. Well, now, did you, and the others who were with you in this arrangement, expect to make any money out of the bridge, further than came from Kingsley's fifteen per cent., and the stock which had practically been given to you?

A. We expected to have a good dividend out of the stock, and expected to have the control of a great many laboring men; and I expected Kingsley to pay the balance of my stock.

Q. Was there any understanding at all between you and Mr. Kingsley with regard to that matter?

A. No direct understanding—a talk about it being a great deal of money—which was virtually assented to, without a direct assent. It was proposed to divide it, not to leave it in the hands of one man. Kingsley entertained the proposal, and didn't deny it. He had at that time expended one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in some way or another, and I know that, when Henry C. Murphy brought me the checks to pass the resolution in the Common Council, there was either one or two or more checks of Kingsley there. Was it Kingsley's or Keenan's name was on them?

Q. Did he ever go into details as to how he had expended that much money?

A. Never asked him ; no, sir.

Q. Do you know whether any members of the management were interested in, or controlled, or held contracts with any stone or granite quarries ?

A. I think Mr. Kingsley was interested in a stone quarry—a granite quarry. I know once I wanted to get the stone put there from a quarry I was interested in, and found it impossible ; he was in the way.

Q. Do you know what quarry ?

A. No, sir ; I was connected with so many myself for furnishing material to the city, that my memory is confused with regard to them.

Q. As to lumber, do you know whether any of the managers had any interest in a saw-mill or lumber company ?

A. I don't know.

Q. As to other material—wire and cables—do you know anything about them at all ?

A. I never knew anything about them at all.

Q. With regard to the land which was to be taken for the approaches to the bridge—do you know whether any members of the management had any interest in that land in any way ?

A. I don't know ; I don't think they had ; we selected very excellent persons to appraise the lands, and were governed by their opinion.

Q. Now as to the caissons from Webb & Bell ?

A. That was given to them after an open competition, I think. First our circulars were sent out, and we had the bids from three, I am sure, and from five or six, I think.

Q. Was that *bona fide* ?

A. That was *bona fide*, as far as I know.

Q. Were there any other commissions, or any other purchases, coming back to the managers, or any of them?

A. None that I know of, sir; I think not. Mr. Kingsley had it under control. He was the autocrat, and did as he pleased.

Q. What, if anything, do you know about the following resolution: "Executive Committee Meeting, June 20, 1870. *Resolved*, That seventy thousand dollars be proposed to owners of residue of southerly half of Pier No. 29, New York."

A. I have no recollection of it at all, sir.

Q. You know nothing about that at all?

A. I have no recollection of it at present.

Q. The following resolution; have you any recollection of it? "Executive Committee, September 6, 1870. *Resolved*, That the Committee accept the report of the Committee of Appraisers, etc., and pay one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, for one hundred and fifty-five feet of Pier No. 29, New York."

A. I recollect something of the kind; I don't recollect the resolution direct, but I recollect a resolution of that nature.

Q. Was there anything about that transaction which put money into anybody's pocket, except into the Treasury of the County of New York?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. Do you consider that was *bona fide*?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now as to the following resolution, passed September 6, 1870, to the effect "That the company approve and adopt a contract made with the owners for the purchase of residue of land required for tower on the New York

“side of the river, at the price of seventy thousand dollars.” Do you know anything about that?

A. I do not, sir; I recollect that before that time we appointed appraisers, and were governed by their opinion, I think; I don't know who the gentlemen were.

Q. Do you know of any person making money out of those transactions?

A. I do not, sir.

Q. What do you know with regard to the following: “March 6, 1871. President Murphy reported that he had negotiated with New York for land, etc., for tower on the New York side, which was complicated by lease to Roosevelt Street and South Seventh Street Ferry Company, and for which special damages were asked, appraised at eighty-two thousand dollars.” Do you know anything about that?

A. No recollection of that; I presume it was done, however.

Q. Who drew the New York Bridge Company's charter; do you know?

A. I think Mr. Murphy; I don't know, but I think so.

Q. Did you ever hear any one say so?

A. I don't know that I did; that was my impression at the time and afterwards.

Q. You don't recollect now from what circumstances that impression was created?

A. I do not; that was done long before I had any connection with the bridge.

Q. Did you understand that by that charter the managers were responsible to any one, or restricted in any way in contracts they should make?

A. I think not, sir; I understood it was an open charter.

Q. Now, Mr. Tweed, generally do you know of any

other matters connected with the Brooklyn Bridge Company, or the management thereof, which was improper in any way?

A. I do not.

Q. With regard to the presents that Jones & Company and Rogers & Company were in the habit of giving employees of the city government and county government, and afterwards charging against the city and county as stationery, I asked you if you would refresh your memory, so as to be able to state the names of any persons who so received such presents.

A. I stated last week that myself, Mr. Peter B. Sweeney, Mr. Connolly, Mr. King, and I thought pretty much all public officers, received presents; Mr. Hayes also.

Q. What position did he occupy?

A. Supervisor Hayes, I mean. What I have asserted Mr. Jones and Mr. Rogers both told me—that they were giving presents. I know they were to me, and I believe they were to most every one in the city departments.

Q. Can you remember any one else?

A. I can't remember any one else. If you will furnish me the official records of 1870 and 1871, and give me a clerk, also, to assist me, I can give you the names, or a great many of them.

Q. I asked you, with regard to your private pay-roll, to furnish me the names of all persons upon it, who held sinecures, and who were paid money from the public treasury for services which they didn't render. Are you prepared to answer that question?

A. I am not prepared to answer that, for I expect Mr. King to return to the city, and I presume, with the help of the prosecution, I can tell most every one on it; but I

don't know that I could in any case tell them all, because sometimes fictitious names were used on the pay-roll.

Q. Are you prepared to answer it in part?

A. With the assistance of the two gentlemen from the Department of Public Works, I have made a cursory inspection of the pay-rolls of the Street Department during my connection with it. Although I am satisfied that there are many persons on those pay-rolls who never rendered any service for their pay, who received it I am unable to distinctly recollect. The pay-rolls for inspectors in the Department of Public Works during the years 1870 and 1871, are, to my belief, and best of my recollection, composed entirely of such persons. The names of some persons are on the pay-roll for \$1,200, \$1,500, and \$2,000. Many of these were not residents of this city. They were appointed about July, 1870, at a salary of about \$2,000 apiece. Those appointments were made to oblige some of the Republican senators, who aided in the passage of the charter. I am confident there are many others, like the above, who received their pay without performing any services for it, but I can't specify them now. The pay-rolls and papers are still at my disposal, and I will endeavor to further carefully examine and investigate, and will report to your honorable Committee the result, if not fully, to a very much larger extent. Let me say right here, that sometimes there would the same name appear half a dozen times on the pay-rolls, of different men, and I can't individualize the men, nor the services they performed.

Q. Consider that that question is still before you, Mr. Tweed?

A. I would ask the Committee to let that question stand until Mr. King returns, if possible.

Q. Now, I asked you last session the following question: "Give me as far as you can the names of those persons who, from the beginning of the fraudulent percentage arrangement under the old Board of Supervisors, running through the settlement of adjusted claims, and afterward through the Board of Audit, who were perfectly cognizant during all that time of the manner in which the Supervisors, or the Comptroller, or the Board of Audit, were committing these irregular and fraudulent practices?"

A. As the question now stands I haven't named but one or two men who would come under that head, because they would come in from time to time. I don't think there is any that applies to that question but Mr. Connolly.

Q. I mean any concerned in these frauds who were cognizant of them from the beginning down to 1871. My object is to identify those persons who were entirely cognizant of these fraudulent transactions, and to separate them from those persons who came in afterwards for one or two particular matters?

Mr. TOWNSEND—He certainly couldn't do that, because, from my understanding of Mr. Tweed's business at that time, they didn't form into a permanent organization for these things; they fell in at different times, but they all became versed in the manner of the dealings.

Mr. COLE—I want to know the men who were in sympathy with you and knew what you did from time to time?

A. I can mention only those I mentioned before.

Q. Who were they?

A. Mr. Woodward, Mr. Hugh Smith, Mr. Connolly,

Peter B. Sweeney, James M. Sweeney, Oakey Hall, James H. Ingersoll, A. J. Garvey, John Garvey, E. A. Woodward, John T. Keyser, George S. Miller, John McBride Davidson, Edward Jones, J. B. and W. W. Cornell, John P. Barnard, Ingersoll, Watson and Company, Supervisors James Hayes, John Fox, Henry Smith, John R. Briggs, Isaac Oliver, and A. J. Bleakley knew pretty much all that was going on—East Chester Stone Quarry, and J. B. and W. W. Cornell.

Mr. LEWIS—Mr. Tweed, one of the letters handed up to the Committee, written from Albany, bearing date May 17, 1871, which reads as follows :

ALBANY, May 17, 1867.

DEAR TWEED—Hutchings' man, whom he wants appointed, is Martin B. Brown, No. 201 William street. He was the Fire Commissioner.

Yours, truly,

A. VAN VECHTEN.

Q. I am informed that the Mr. Hutchings referred to there is Mr. Waldo Hutchings, the lawyer, and not S. C. Hutchings of the *Albany Evening Journal*?

A. That may be so. I did business with Mr. Van Vechten for Mr. Waldo Hutchings also, and I have done business with Mr. S. C. Hutchings.

Q. I understand, also, that Mr. Brown did not receive the appointment asked for?

A. That I don't know, sir. I think not. I only found those letters when I was hunting over some old papers that I have been over twenty times. The other letter referred to S. C. Hutchings, I know. I don't pretend, as I said before, to remember everything that happened in my life, and so many things happening in my life; and

some persons appear to think it is a great sin that I don't remember many things that happened to me. Let me ask that I can have a copy of my testimony as far as it has gone, as it is corrected.

Mr. COLE—You mean the corrected copy of it? When it is printed?

A. Oh, certainly; just as soon as it is printed?

Mr. LEWIS—Mr. Tweed, at the next meeting of the Committee, I will ask you, through the counsel, to give the names, as far as you can, of all persons, of either political faith, whom you have, at any time, since your first connection with the Board of Supervisors, had corrupt dealings with, and would suggest that you name only such persons as you have evidence in relation to.

A. The question of evidence, you know, will depend a good deal upon what you call evidence.

Mr. LEWIS—The object is to omit everybody you may have any doubt of.

A. I will omit everybody I have any doubt of.

Mr. COLE—I asked you at a former session to give me the amounts which *The New York Printing Company* and the other associations from which it sprung made from the city. Are you prepared to answer that now?

A. I have, as far as I have been enabled to obtain information. I find, during the year 1870, *The New York Printing Company* received \$39,165.15; in 1871, \$221,118.66. Total, \$260,283.81. Manufacturing Stationers received in 1870, \$77,451.77; in 1871, \$109,049.89. Total, \$286,495.61. The *Transcript Association* received in 1869, \$67,163.10; in 1871, \$85,808.59. Making a total of \$152,971.69. The *Transcript Advertisement* in 1869, \$71,294.57; in 1870, \$45,000; in 1871, \$85,828.40. Total,

\$202,122.97. And in the three years the grand total amounted to \$801,874. That I obtained from a newspaper printed about four years ago, which I believe to be correct.

Q. Have you any recollection at this time of whether or not there was ever any consideration paid to any person for any of the ferry leases?

A. That was done by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, with which I had no connection.

Mr. COWING—Were you one of the commissioners for the building of the Court-house in Harlem?

A. I was.

Q. Do you remember whether or not the city was defrauded out of any money at the time when you were a commissioner?

A. Mr. Genet had the entire control of that, and I signed everything he brought me.

Q. Have you any recollection of the facts?

A. Not personally; nothing except what appeared on the trial of Mr. Genet in 1873.

Q. Who were the co-commissioners?

A. Genet, I think; and whether both of the judges were commissioners or not, I don't know; but one certainly was. Judge Porter was, and Judge McQuade; I don't know, I think Judge McQuade was. If the commission was four, McQuade was one; if the commission was three, he was not.

Q. Were either members of the Tammany General Committee at that time?

A. I don't know, but I think so.

Q. Judge Porter was not?

A. I don't know, but I think he was.

Q. Do you remember whether John Cox was a com-

missioner for the construction of the Jefferson Market Court-house?

A. I know he was.

Q. Do you know whether the city was defrauded in that?

A. I don't know. That was done mostly since my time.

Q. Do I understand you to say that Mr. Conner, the late Sheriff of the City of New York, was cognizant of those frauds?

A. At three different meetings I have stated positively that I thought he was not.

Alderman COWING—Now, Mr. Tweed, I have a list of names here, which I would like to hand to you.

A. I prefer you would call them; I don't want the responsibility.

Q. I will hand the list to you.

A. Won't you read them to me yourself, sir? I don't want to introduce the names of men here, on anonymous communications, nor do I want to stand up here and fight every man who chooses to address the committee in that way. If this is a *bona fide* communication, I shall take it up and—

Q. This is a question which I take the responsibility of asking myself.

A. I shall answer it with pleasure. I thought it was an anonymous communication. Then it can't be said that it is a party matter.

Q. "At the time you were in power," the question reads, "were not the following persons active members of the Tammany Committee, when Sweeney and yourself were in power?" I will hand you the list, and you may indicate such names on the list as were, and only such names.

A. I shall do so with pleasure, as far as I am able.

Q. Run through the list, and indicate those you know were associated with you in the city government, at the time you and Sweeney were in power.

Mr. LEWIS—Before you answer that question, I would like to ask Mr. Cowing whether it is intended that he shall answer that only as to gentlemen who were connected with the Tammany Hall organization, or as to those who were connected with the frauds. There were many gentlemen on the Tammany Committee, and who are there now, who were in no way connected with these frauds, and I presume it is not the intention to mix them up with the frauds.

Mr. COWING—I ask him if the names which I gave him were associated with him in conducting the city government during his time. One general question was put here as to Jones & Company. The question was asked as to who had received presents. The answer was: “Pretty much everybody connected with the city government,” and it seems to me that if he should name those who were in the city government at the time, he would name many who possibly had received presents from Jones & Company.

WITNESS—There is a heading here I would like the Alderman to tear off, because in copying it may all be taken together.

Mr. COWING—I don't desire you shall bring up any names which were not associated with you prominently in the management of the city affairs.

Mr. TOWNSEND—Mr. Chairman, as this is certainly now

a political matter, would it not be well to put the whole thing into one question, where the names of all can be put in in a lump, whether republican, democratic, Tammany or anti-Tammany?

Mr. COWING—That can be handed up as a portion of that; and if there is any to be added to that, that can be done afterwards; but I would like the witness to answer now, as to the question which has been put into his hands.

Mr. COLE—Mr. Chairman, I certainly think the question in this form is improper; it is calculated to mislead, and, if insisted on, it should include the names of all persons who were associated with the witness, of any party, in the management of the city government, and should not be confined to an ambiguous question concerning one political organization.

Mr. TOWNSEND—With all due respect to the honorable committee, I shall object, myself, to his answering this question, unless it is to be followed by questions such as I suggested a moment ago, in reference to other parties, because this seems to me a selection of a certain number of names of a certain party, without asking whether there is any fraud connected with the names, but for the mere purpose of stigmatizing those persons as having been connected with him in the city government at that time. Let Mr. Cowing ask Mr. Tweed to give the names of any of them, at that time associated with him in the city government, who received presents.

Mr. COLE—There is no objection to that.

Alderman LEWIS—I think the question ought to be

divided. I raised this objection before. In my judgment the name of no gentleman should be connected with this matter except he was connected in some way with the frauds. If there be any gentleman a member of the Tammany Hall Organization, who was guilty of defrauding the city, let the witness state what he knows in that regard.

Mr. COLE—Or who is accused of some offense.

Alderman LEWIS—Yes; or who is charged with any participation in the frauds. It has been stated that this investigation had no political aspect whatever, and I intended to ask when the witness had answered the question propounded to him by Alderman Cowing whether there was any officials belonging to *any* political organization in any way connected with these frauds, which would have brought out all that should be properly sought for, without any reference to the political proclivities of the gentlemen whose names might be mentioned.

Alderman COWING—I am sure that my associates cannot be more careful than I am not to bring in the name of anyone who has not been connected with these transactions. If any names in that list are free from such an imputation it can certainly do them no harm to have it so stated; but if there are any names on that list which I have handed to him who were connected with them, I think the public are entitled to know it. So far as politics is concerned, the investigation has been mainly political thus far.

Mr. COLE—Does Alderman Cowing mean to say that this investigation has been political?

Alderman COWING—There have been two or three matters in reference to suits pending against the city, that have been gone into; but with that exception the investigation has been purely of a political character.

Mr. COLE—I think, in justice to the rest of the Committee and to the Examining Counsel, the Alderman should state wherein the examination has been purely political.

Alderman COWING—When I am placed on the stand as a witness I will answer that question.

Mr. COLE—Then I think it would be better for you not to make remarks of that kind unless you can substantiate them. During the whole investigation this was the first time a political organization had been dragged in. All the questions I have propounded were of a general character, and within the purview of the resolution under which they were acting.

Mr. TOWNSEND—I do not wish it to be understood that there is the slightest objection to answer any of these questions, but it seems to me that a general question should be put to witness so as to include all persons without distinction of politics.

Alderman COWING—It is very possible and probable that there is not one of those names who had anything to do with the city government when the witness was in power.

Mr. COLE (addressing Alderman Cowing)—Now, Alderman, don't you know that you picked out names that you knew were in the city government then—or had them picked out for you.

Alderman COWING—The counsel has no right to impugn my motives or criticise my action as a member of this Committee.

Mr. TOWNSEND—After all this discussion, perhaps it may be as well if the witness should answer the question. It was merely a question of consideration for others whether he should do so now or not.

Mr. TWEED—I am quite ready to answer any question propounded to me, if directed to do so by my counsel.

Alderman COWING asked the official stenographer to repeat the question.

The question, thereupon, was repeated by the official stenographer.

Mr. TOWNSEND would suggest the following *addendum*: “And the names of all persons of all political parties with whom you had any connection in the city frauds.”

Alderman COWING—I will cheerfully accept that amendment. If you can think of any one Republican or Democrat, I ask that you should name him.

Mr. TWEED, thereupon, asked to be furnished with a list of all parties, like the one handed to him by Alderman Cowing.

Alderman COWING—No; I want you to answer now.

Mr. TOWNSEND objected to witness answering the question.

Mr. TWEED—I am willing to answer it. The trouble is

that no one knows anything about the question except myself and Mr. Cowing.

Alderman LEWIS (to Mr. Tweed)—Do you understand that the question is to name the gentlemen who were active members of the Tammany Hall General Committee while you were running the city government, or those who were connected with the frauds?

Alderman COWING—Were they not prominent members in running the city government?

Mr. COLE—I think the witness should be given to understand what is meant by running the city government.

Mr. TWEED—I really don't know what Alderman Cowing wishes (reading the question): "Were not the following persons active members of the Tammany Hall Committee when Sweeney and you controlled the city government, or during part of that time, and are they not members of the present Tammany Hall Organization?"

Alderman COWING—The witness had no right to read that question or pay any attention to it.

Mr. COLE—That is the question on the paper handed to witness, by Alderman Cowing himself.

Alderman LEWIS—The Committee have no knowledge of that paper.

Alderman COWING—That paper was handed to witness merely to refresh his memory.

Alderman LEWIS—I object to the question, and for this reason: I object to dragging in the names into this inves-

tigation of gentlemen who were in no way connected with these frauds. I have no objection to the witness answering the question as far as relates to anybody in any way connected with the frauds however remotely ; but as to bringing in the names of gentlemen who had no connection with them, it seemed to me to be very improper ; it might as well be asked if the late A. T. Stewart was a member of the Tammany Hall Committee at that time.

Mr. TWEED—There is not a name on there in any way connected with the frauds.

Alderman COWING—The witness has no right to answer the question in that way.

Mr. COLE—I ask then if this question comes within the scope of our resolution under which we are conducting this investigation. Unless he is going on to ask were any of them connected with any city fraud how does he get it under the resolution? Alderman Cowing has said that this investigation has been mainly political. I am astonished to hear Alderman Cowing say this. I have been careful to put my questions so as to include all persons connected with the city irrespective of political parties—Democratic or Republican ; and during the whole of the investigation this is the first time that a political organization has been dragged in, and the question asked, “Did this man belong to Tammany Hall, or not?” All the questions I have propounded were of a general nature. It seems to me that under the resolution appointing the Committee to find out who had committed the frauds on the city, the question proposed does not come within its purview. If this course of inquiry be pursued, the Democratic members of the Committee may ask witness, “Do you know any one in the

Custom-house or any other organization, who was in the local government at that time?" and we will never get to the end. Even if all the names on that list had been members of the Tammany Hall General Committee what effect could that have in this investigation, unless they were connected, or were to be connected, in some way with the frauds against the city.

Alderman SLEVIN said that if any of the gentlemen on that list of names were in any way connected with the city frauds he could understand the pertinency of the question, so if Alderman Cowing proposed to connect any name there with any of the frauds. But if he meant to ascertain merely whether any of them belonged to the Tammany Hall organization, it seemed to him that it has no relevancy whatever.

Alderman LEWIS—I again wish to say that this question, unless it is proposed to follow it up by connecting the names on it with the frauds against the city, is not within the province of this Committee.

(Alderman LEWIS here read the resolution of the Board of Aldermen appointing the Committee.)

Under that resolution we have no power to examine any matters of this kind, unless they relate to the "Ring Frauds." Now if it is intended to connect any gentleman on that list with these frauds, we have a right to make the witness answer, otherwise not.

Alderman COWING—In answer to the first gentleman (Mr. Cole), his remarks have not convinced me, nor has the testimony convinced me that this investigation has not been in its nature political to a large extent. So far as

the question I have asked is concerned, I think if he will turn to the testimony that has been given he will find that he himself, substantially, asked the same question; and the witness said that if the lists should be furnished to him he would indicate the names as far as he could. For some reason or other counsel now wished to leave it out, and this is the reason I now have for asking it.

MR. COLE—I have no objection to the witness answering it if full lists of all parties be given to him.

MR. TWEED—I will cheerfully answer the question if the lists be furnished to me, but I cannot carry the 1,200 or 1,500 names of the General Committee in my head.

ALDERMAN COWING—I simply ask whether members at present of the Tammany Hall General Committee were associated with you in the city government—if there be any other corrupt men in the city government, whether Democrats or Republicans; and my object is if they are corrupt to pull them down from power and place them in the same position, and shunned and avoided, as you are. If that be a fair question I wish it answered, but if you refuse to do so it will answer my purpose just as well.

MR. COLE—It will answer the gentleman's purpose just as well whether the question be answered or not. What then is the gentleman's purpose if it be not political, when he says that his purpose will be equally well served whether the question be answered or not. His purpose should be to bring out all the testimony which goes to show the complicity of any one in the frauds, with a view that the city's interests may, if possible, be protected, and not to find out

who was or who was not connected with a particular political organization. Now, I shall ask the gentleman, as a matter of justice to me, to point out a single question I have asked witness that did not look directly to the ascertainment of the persons who were connected with the fraud against the city, or who received the city's property, or who got money from the public treasury—which we might be able to get back. If I have done so, I shall admit that I have committed the gravest error. But from the beginning of this investigation my only motive was to find out who were guilty of fraud with a view to have them punished, and to protect the interests of the city. If any possible answer to the question would aid the Committee in tracing the frauds which they were appointed to investigate, then it would be a proper question; but if by no possibility could any answer to it tend to throw any light on the matter, then it was not pertinent, and tried by that rule it is not, in my judgment a proper question; but if the gentleman says that his purpose is as well served by the witness refusing to answer the question as by his answering it, then I say that the *animus* by which the gentleman is prompted is absolutely patent—to throw mud on the Tammany Hall Organization, and that alone.

Alderman COWING remarked that the counsel presented himself as a sorry spectacle before the Committee. He had undertaken to lecture one of the Committee as to the questions proper to be submitted to witness. The gentleman should know his position better. He was there simply as the servant of the Committee and had no right to criticise or object to any question. I say the question is a pertinent one, and as far as the insinuation is concerned

that I put it for partisan effect, I deny it. If those men on that list, or any of them, were connected with the witness in running the city government at the time he was in power, it is but right we should ascertain that fact, whether they belong to the Republican or Democratic parties. If any Republican has been dishonest, I am perfectly willing that he should be exposed.

Mr. TOWNSEND—I shall advise my client to answer this question. He cannot afford to be placed in the position of declining to answer it when political questions were involved. While I do not deem the question in its present form, on a partial list, a fair one, I do not wish the impression to go abroad that my client cares either for Democrats or Republicans. I shall, therefore, direct him to answer any questions that may be put to him.

Alderman LEWIS—I do not object to the witness answering the question on any political ground whatever; but there were names of gentlemen on that list who were in no way connected with the frauds against the city. I think it a most cruel thing therefore that their names should be dragged into this investigation. If it can be shown that any of them has been connected with the Ring Frauds, I have not objection to the question; but I do object to have names brought in here of gentlemen who have had no connection with them whatever.

Mr. TOWNSEND—I shall ask the witness then to state whether any of these gentlemen on that list of names, and if so, which one was in any way connected with the frauds.

Mr. COLE—Before we go into that matter I would like to know from the Committee whether I was selected from

the office of the Counsel to the Corporation to act as the "servant of the Committee;" for the mere purpose of putting to the witness such questions as might be furnished to me, (which duty might be performed by any of their employees or runners down stairs who could read the English language); or, whether as counsel, I was assigned to this Committee for the purpose of aiding them among other things in coming to a just and proper conclusion as to what questions were proper and legal under the provisions of the resolution appointing them. I began my duties by complying with a request from the Committee to give them an opinion concerning their powers. If I am here simply a servant for the purpose of asking questions put into my hand, why did the Committee ask me to give them a written opinion as to their powers. I think if it was proper for me to give them that opinion it is surely proper for me to advise them as to whether questions proposed are pertinent to the issues involved, and to see that the investigation is conducted in a legal manner and according to the rules of legal evidence. I have the highest possible regard for the Committee, but if I am here simply as a servant to do the bidding of the Committee, and merely to read their questions, I think the city would save money by hiring a boy for \$4 a week to do that service, and I might return to my proper duties.

Alderman COWING disclaimed using the word "servant" in an offensive manner, but counsel seemed to be laboring under the impression that he was one of the Committee.

Mr. COLE repeated his remarks that if it were considered of sufficient importance by the Committee to call for his opinion with regard to the scope of their duties under the resolution appointing them, it was certainly of equal

importance that they should know what was a legal line of investigation or otherwise. If not he did not see what they wanted with a counsel at all.

Alderman LEWIS here read the resolution of the Board of Aldermen appointing the Special Committee and requiring the Corporation Counsel to detail one of their number to assist the Committee in their investigation. Under that resolution the Counsel of the Committee had a very large scope.

Alderman SLEVIN thought it might be as well if the witness as he came to each name would state whether he had been connected in any way with the frauds.

Mr. LEWIS—Or whether they had any knowledge of the frauds.

Alderman COWING—I will not know my own question by and bye.

Alderman LEWIS thought the question should be whether any of the names on this list was connected with the frauds or not.

Mr. TWEED—I have no objection to answer that question.

Alderman COWING—Please do not mention the name of any one not connected with running the city government at the time you were in power.

Mr. TWEED—I don't know that I can answer that question in that way.

Alderman LEWIS—Name those only who were in some

way or other connected with the Ring frauds or with any other frauds against the city government.

Alderman COWING—And who were connected with running the city government or had some knowledge of the frauds.

Alderman LEWIS—That's what I object to—running the city government.

Mr. TOWNSEND thought that the question should be so framed as to cover all parties and cases. There are Democrats who should occupy the same position that Mr. Tweed does, and Republicans also.

Alderman LEWIS—I object to the question unless you can state that there are names on the list that you can connect with the Ring frauds. Are there any names there connected with the Ring frauds?

Alderman SLEVIN—Have you read over the list carefully?

Mr. TWEED—I have read it over carefully, and there is not a name there connected with the Ring Frauds.

Alderman LEWIS—Then the question must be purely a political one, and that is what we want to avoid. To give a political aspect to this investigation, would be to render all its work nugatory; and after what has transpired it must be apparent that the question is one of a political character, and no answer to it would tend to throw light on the subject the Committee desires to find out.

Alderman COWING—I want to find out whether there is any name on that list who was cognizant of these illegal practices against the city government.

Mr. TWEED—I have answered that question a dozen times—no positively. As regards politics I know nothing of them and don't want to. I did at one time, and I am suffering for it now.

Alderman COWING regarded the Committee as a sort of jury, and each member must himself judge whether a question he propounded was pertinent or not.

Mr. TWEED—I am willing and ready to answer any question that may be put to me.

Mr. TOWNSEND suggested that the Committee should agree upon a question that covered the whole case and propound it to the witness, to be answered at the next meeting.

Mr. COLE then informed witness that at the next meeting he would ask him whether there was any one connected with the Tammany, Anti-Tammany, or Republican organizations who were connected with the Ring frauds, or any others in the city or county governments, and in the meantime he would supply witness with full lists. For the Republican list he would have to rely upon Alderman Cowing.

Mr. TWEED—Asked that the question be given to him in writing; the Committee did not seem to be aware of the labor they were imposing upon him in requiring an answer to these questions; they had no idea of the amount of labor it required to prepare answers to many of their questions, to meet the demands of newspapers and of persons implicated, and of correcting the reports of his testimony; he was in receipt of piles of letters every day about things which he was reported to have said, but

which he had not said ; he wished, therefore, that the Committee would allow him the services of a clerk or copyist ; he had, heretofore, been obliged to employ such assistance at his own expense.

Alderman LEWIS--The Committee will endeavor to supply you with any assistance you may require.

Mr. COLE and Alderman COWING here made graceful apologies to each other for the warmth of feeling into which they had been betrayed during the heat of argument.

Alderman LEWIS asked Mr. Tweed if he had not made a mistake in regard to the Mr. Hutchings who recommended Martin B. Brown for a position, and if he was not Mr. Waldo Hutchings, a lawyer of this city, and not Mr. Hutchings of the *Albany Journal*.

Mr. TWEED said, now that his attention was called to the matter, that he believed it was Mr. Waldo Hutchings.

The Committee then adjourned until next Wednesday, at 11 o'clock A. M.

TWELFTH DAY.

OCTOBER 11, 1877—11 A. M.

Present—Alderman LEWIS,
 “ SLEVIN,
 “ COWING.

Alderman LEWIS, the Chairman of the Committee, called the meeting to order.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with.

Mr. COLE, counsel for the Committee, sent word he could not be present at the opening, as he was engaged in the Surrogate's Court; but that he would come as soon as possible.

Alderman THOMAS SHEILS addressed the Committee, as follows: I hold in my hand a copy of the *Herald* of yesterday, and among the checks stated to have been paid out by Mr. Tweed, in the statement called his "Confession," I see my name among those who received money from him. It does not say that that money was given for any fraudulent or illegal purpose; nor does it say that that money was returned. I desire, therefore, to be heard by the Committee, under oath; and I certainly think that Mr. Tweed will agree with me in the statement I am about to make in regard to that matter. I desire to make

the statement for the benefit of the world and for my own benefit; for I have lived twenty four years in New York, and I never borrowed a dollar or did an act that I am ashamed of. I have in my possession the checks which were paid in return for the checks referred to in his statement here, and I desire now to be examined by this Committee with regard to them.

Mr. TWEED—I think that will be unnecessary after the statement which I have prepared with regard to that publication in the *Herald* is read.

Alderman SHEILS thought it due to himself that the Committee should hear his declaration under oath, notwithstanding any statement that might be made by Mr. Tweed. The matter had got into the papers, and he thought it but right that his personal denial should appear through the same channel, under oath.

Alderman COWING suggested that it was possible Mr. Tweed's statement, which he was about to make, would render any statement or denial from Alderman Sheils unnecessary.

Alderman SHEILS—That may be. Still I request that I be sworn, that my testimony may be taken under oath. The money had been borrowed, I admit, but it had been honestly returned, with interest, and the transactions were in every respect strictly legitimate.

Alderman LEWIS was in favor of hearing the statement of Mr. Tweed first. It would take but a few minutes.

Alderman SHEILS persisted in being sworn in order to make his own statement. A great many people might

say that Mr. Tweed in the statement he might make would desire to cover up any fraudulent transactions between them. He therefore desired to be sworn and to testify himself with regard to them in order that he might show to the public that they were perfectly honest and legitimate.

Alderman SLEVIN assured Alderman Sheils that, after the statement by Mr. Tweed, an opportunity would be given to him to testify under oath if he so desired.

The Committee, after a brief consultation, decided to hear Mr. Tweed's statement first.

Thereupon,

Mr. TWEED read the following:

GENTLEMEN—Several days since I stated to you that I would place in your hands at the close of this investigation the statement which, through my counsel, I placed in the hands of the Attorney-General some months since, and which he returned to me. I also stated that upon you I would place the responsibility of the use which should be made of it. I was well aware, when I made that statement, that many persons were mentioned in that statement in connection with moneys which passed through my hands, who were guiltless of any offences whatever, and were in no way interested with me in any frauds. I supposed, of course, that you would place such matters in the hands of the corporation counsel, and I would be examined, perhaps, by him as to which of said checks were given for good and which for bad purposes. That was the course which, to a limited extent, was adopted with me by the Attorney-General, who sent Mr. Peckham

to examine me upon that point. The agreement on which the statement was made and handed to the Attorney-General is best given in his own language, as appears by the testimony given by him before the Senate Committee at Albany on May 1, 1877, and here produced from the New York *Herald* on May 2, and is as follows :

Q. In what manner do you hold that paper—whether under restrictions or not—under pledge of secrecy?

A. I told Mr. Townsend that there should be no copy of it made nor any publication made in any way whatever, unless I acceded to their terms. I said that I might consult with whomsoever I thought it proper for the purpose of seeing whether any evidence furnished was of value. All intentions upon my part or yours, however, have been frustrated by the publication in yesterday's *Herald*, and the parties who have been responsible for furnishing this information to the *Herald* must be responsible for the injury they have brought to many innocent persons. I solemnly affirm that I have had in my possession the statement which was submitted by my counsel to the Attorney-General on the 17th of April last and returned by him to my counsel on the 13th of June, ever since that time, and I have also had since the statement was drawn all the original memoranda from which the statement itself was prepared. Part of this statement has been under lock and key in Ludlow street and the other at my wife's residence at Greenwich. Outside of my counsel's denial of his connection with the publication I know positively that he was not interested in it. It was the advice of my counsel as well as my own judgment that I should not offer my statement until the close of this investigation, so that I might prevent persons (who, not knowing what I had in proof), from denying my assertions, and I regret

that the publication was made at this time. Of course it is impossible for me to remedy all the injury which has been occasioned by this act, which can only be attributed to the Attorney-General, or some person to whom he intrusted my statement. I regret that innocent persons have been obliged to suffer in this way. Permit me at this moment to rectify so far as I can the injury which has been done; but, before doing so, let me say that I do not pretend, but on the contrary deny that the names of all, or even a majority of the persons mentioned on that list, were engaged in any fraudulent practices whatever.

"A thorough examination," Mr. Tweed went on to say, "was made by Mr. Peckham, and he knows what checks were given for corrupt purposes and which were not. I had no idea of handing this statement to the committee without explanation of these matters, but it appears there was a leakage somewhere. I am now ready, if Mr. Cole or any other gentleman will ask me the questions, to answer about these checks severally."

Alderman SHEILS was then sworn, in accordance with his request, and made the following statement:

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the Committee, I see by the papers, as I stated before, that I received from Mr. Tweed \$3,000, indorsed by me, March 5, 1867. That I acknowledge. I did receive it on March 5, 1867, but I returned it on April 5, 1867—within one month, I believe. Mr. Tweed will bear me out in that. Here is his signature, acknowledging its return. I also received from him, on October 20, 1869, \$2,200. I also admit that I received that money from him, for which I was very thankful, as it obliged me very much. I also returned that money back on November 23, with interest amounting to \$14.35.

I paid that money to the Broadway Bank—principal and interest. I merely make this statement in vindication of myself, and I know Mr. Tweed will agree with me.

[Alderman Sheils here presented the checks he had given in repayment of the notes, which were indorsed by Mr. Tweed and said, that he had never received a dollar in his life for any improper purposes.]

MR. TWEED—The first check I have seen, and it has my indorsement. There is no indorsement on this (the second check). I don't recollect it. I am very glad that Alderman Sheils has come forward now, because when I handed this statement to the Attorney-General, I expressly said that the majority of those to whom those checks were paid were innocent parties; but as I did not want to keep anything back, I divulged everything. I gave him my papers and memoranda in proof of it. By his direction, Wheeler H. Peckham called on me one day, and spent a couple of hours examining my papers. Probably his recollection will be refreshed as to those I pointed out which were not of an improper character. I have no claim against Alderman Sheils. I believe he always paid me everything he borrowed of me; as did also a number of the gentlemen mentioned in the statement that was published. I shall look over a bunch of denials published in a morning paper. The first one I will take is Charles E. Loew. I borrowed money from him, and paid him back. I have a good recollection of that. The next is Felix Murphy. I have no doubt he is right. Mr. Galvin has a word to say, and he is correct. Mr. Richardson, I presume, is right about this check-business; but I had other dealings with him. Cox is right, I guess. Harry Howard I know to be right. He was al-

ways borrowing, and always in arrears, but he always paid it again. And I will say of him, that if ever there was a man who wanted to pay every dollar he owed, he was the man. As to Major Banks, now Mayor of the City of Albany, I think it probable he did indorse that check, but I have no recollection of it. I think it probable that he paid the money. W. D. Murphy says that all the money he received was in 1869 and 1870, in two drafts. That is so, I think.

Those are all the denials I see here. I find a number of errors in the published statement, but they are not material, and are owing to the haste with which it was prepared.

Mr. TWEED (resuming)—That paper (the statement) was written by my counsel; and I don't know that I ever had it in my hand. I heard it read. There are some errors in it. There is one about Mayor Banks. I have no recollection of having any dealings with him. As Mr. Cole, the counsel for the Committee, is not present, I presume I may as well proceed, and go over those checks specified in the statement that was published in the *Herald* affixed to the names of persons who had received money from me—showing what they were were for, and thereby undoing, as far as I can, the wrong done to innocent people by such a publication.

Thomas Coman—That was borrowed money—a check, I think, for election expenses. Other checks of his follow, and the only money I ever paid him for any improper purposes was the money paid to bribe the Board of Aldermen, as I have already testified to in connection with the Brooklyn Bridge transaction—except that of January 10, 1871, for \$1,000, which was borrowed money.

James Hayes—Some of this was for political expenses,

and also for his dividend in connection with the Board of Supervisors—some borrowed money—very little, I think.

M. M. Pomeroy—Was all money lent.

M. Gross—Subscriptions for charities.

Charles E. Loew—Was borrowed money which was returned.

Andrew J. Garvey—These checks to Garvey it is not necessary to say anything about, I suppose.

Henry Smith—That was borrowed money and dividends from the Supervisors' Board. This is the Police Commissioner, not H. Smith of Albany, whom I never knew. Some of his good friends and some of his bad friends in Albany are anxious to know about it.

Wm. Walsh—He was on my pay-roll and was paid out of my own pocket for two or three years, \$3,500 a year.

John Cox—has been explained.

E. A. Woodward—Is probably borrowed money, part of it, and the rest out of the Supervisors' dividend, as I have already said.

C. B. Woodruff—That was given in 1868, when he was sick and his friends were helping him.

Douglas Taylor—That was for printing bills; I think about election times.

Walter Roche—That was for election expenses. The rest he got as Supervisor.

George H. Purser—I don't know what it was for.

Anthony Miller—Money borrowed.

Sheridan Shook—Borrowed money.

Richard Shay—Borrowed money. He worked hard for me and I lent him that money.

J. McBride Davidson—I guess every one of these was borrowed money.

C. Campbell—I don't know who he is.

- A. Wilmer—Borrowed money not returned
 Eugene Durnin—That was money given to him to pay some bill for me.
- J. F. Valentine—Election expenses.
- M. C. Murphy—Borrowed money and returned to me.
- John C. Jacobs—The same.
- James F. Pierce—Borrowed money and legal matters.
- A. Ward—Borrowed money.
- Sewell & Pierce—That was for a lawsuit.
- W. Richardson—Partly borrowed money and partly other matters.
- A. D. Purtell—Election expenses. He had charge of the Third Ward at that time. He was treasurer of an institution in which I was interested.
- R. B. Bradford—Borrowed money.
- John Decker—The same.
- Hugh Hastings—I have explained already.
- John Fox—Was for Supervisors' dividends and borrowed money.
- Nolan—Borrowed money, I think, to build a stable.
- Coyte—Borrowed money for political expenses.
- Small—The same.
- Thomas Sheils—He has explained himself.
- Genet—I think was mostly borrowed money and political expenses; and I bought some of the stock of the Stafford Pavement Co. from him.
- Ingersoll & Co.—We had various dealings, backward and forward; the details of which I cannot recall.
- J. A. Farley—Borrowed money and election expenses; also a subscription to a church matter.
- C. Corson—Borrowed money.
- S. North—To defray expenses incurred, I think, by his

arrest. He was in Baltimore collecting soldiers' notes, and was arrested.

C. O. Callaghan—I don't know.

J. O. Salomon—Election expenses.

E. Mannier—Borrowed money.

John Nesbitt—Election expenses.

E. Cuddy—The same.

Isaiah Rynders—Borrowed money; paid back.

John Scott—Borrowed money; paid back, or directed to be handed over to me.

John Hogan I don't recollect about.

J. J. Blair—Borrowed money; paid back.

J. H. Keyser—That is understood what that was.

John Galvin—I have explained.

McQuade—That I think was election expenses.

Bryan Reilly—I know was borrowed money; think it was repaid.

J. A. Farrell—That was a subscription to a church matter.

W. D. Murphy—Money borrowed; think it was repaid.

John Murray—I don't recollect about.

Thomas Murphy—That must have been for the purchase of the property in Madison avenue, between Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth streets.

P. H. Keenan—Borrowed money.

Q. (By Alderman COWING.) What Keenan do you refer to?

A. Patrick H. Keenan, formerly Coroner, now deceased.

Mr. TWEED (resuming his comments on the list)—

Felix Murphy—I don't know about.

Geo. P. Jones—I think that must have been money advanced on my check.

C. H. Swan—Subscription. He was Greene's right-hand man.

C. F. Norton—Senator. Borrowed money and repaid. Richmond—I don't recollect him.

W. M. Graham—Borrowed money.

Isaac Blood—That was a business matter, which I have forgotten.

Alex. Frear—I don't recollect what that was for.

John A. Flagg—That was given while he was Assemblyman.

M. L. Graham—The same.

E. L. Patrick—I don't recollect about him.

Clark—For a subscription, I think.

C. B. Parson—That was for services performed in Albany.

Now comes the *Albany Argus* check. That may be as they have said. When I made that statement last week in my testimony, I merely did it to show that I had mentioned the *Albany Argus* in my statement to the Attorney-General. I did not charge any improper action in the matter. I had said before that I never paid the *Argus* any money that I knew of. Now that has been commented upon and I have been derided and abused in connection with it—and that's the way I am blamed all the time.

William Caldwell—That I have explained.

A. B. Banks—The same.

W. Hitchman—That, I think, was a subscription for election purposes.

Wm. Dodge—I don't know about.

J. W. Crump—I don't know about.

S. C. J. Plum—Same.

John Wildey—That was in relation to a base-ball club.

I. Monaghan—I don't know about.

P. Waterson—The same.

George Beach—That is an Albany matter.

O. W. Brennan—I don't know about.

T. J. Bradley, Treasurer—I don't know who he is.

J. E. Coulter—Borrowed money and repaid.

Thomas Conner—I don't know who he is. I think he was an alderman in 1868.

G. H. Purser—Already explained.

Wilkins—Again. He had charge of the Second Ward.

Thomas C. Fields—I don't recollect about.

M. Conolly—The same.

J. McB. Davidson—Again.

J. McMichael—I don't know about.

James Riley—The same.

Charles McCleary—The same.

M. Haley—The same.

Terence Duffy—Election matters.

Wm. Furlong—The same.

Haley, Muller, Dowling, Duffy, Miller, Brennan and Jones were all election expenses.

Turning to the heading "*Additional notes and checks in hands of C. O'Brien Bryant,*" he went on:

Hastings—I have explained.

Hugh Smith—Borrowed money and other matters.

Sweeney—Was the same.

Van Vechten—The same—some borrowed money and some for Albany matters.

Alex. Ward—Was money advanced in 1870 for the payroll of laborers, as I have already said.

Terence Farley—I don't know what that was for.

Walter Roche—Some borrowed money—very little.
The balance, Supervisors' matters.

Charles E. Loew and Garvey—Already explained.

E. Jones & Co.—I don't know what that was for.

New York Printing Company—I don't know what it is for.

Democratic newspaper—I do not know what it was for ; but it was never paid back.

Here are a lot of checks payable to my own order, and indorsed by myself :

“Checks payable to his own order,” again. This shows conclusively that I did not intend to throw mud upon any one in this matter, because I include the checks payable to my own order.

LOANS AND DONATIONS.

Col. James Fisk, \$1,000—I don't know what that was for ; I think a subscription for the Ninth Regiment.

B. Kelly, \$5,300—“Borrowed money, and returned.” Mr. Kelly paid back all the money he ever borrowed from me, and he does not owe me a dollar.

Joseph R. Warren—Don't know what it is.

John Carter—That was on the property in Eighty-sixth street.

“Checks, Subscriptions, and Investments.” I suppose these are all right.

The rest of these checks or donations I don't recollect, as a general thing, what they were for. I guess they are all right.

“Lawyers' Fees” (in the statement were taken from checks in my possession. They were only retainers paid to the lawyers. The gross amounts I suppose are right.

Now I shall take up this “Confession” in the order it

begins. I don't know that there is anything that I can explain here. Since I made the statement I have satisfied myself that all I said was true, and much more could be said. As to Mr. O'Brien's claim I want to say in connection with that, speaking of burning my books and papers in Duane street, it makes me say that I was assisted by my son. I said assisted by my clerks in the office. I cannot tell who did it, as all was hurry and confusion at the time. W. O. King, I think he was under indictment, but he was not. Printing Company is all right, and real estate matter is all right.

Now it appears that I had a supplemental statement added to the original statement, in which the names of certain parties appeared. I see the *Times* refers to it in an editorial article this morning, in the following terms (reads extract from the article):

“The supplementary statement, which was drawn out in reply to an objection that the original confession was deficient in fullness and frankness of detail, is a somewhat curious document. It treats of Tweed's connection with the Erie and Central Railroads, with Thurlow Weed, John T. Hoffman, and the election to the Court of Appeals of Judges Folger and Andrews. The question naturally arises, did Tweed desire to avoid all reference to these persons and corporations, and if so, were the points of the supplementary statement suggested to him in the hope that he might say something which would prove as acceptable to certain Democrats at Albany as the previous ‘revelations’ had proved to Kelly and his associates in New York? His attempt to whitewash Hoffman is decidedly ludicrous, while his account of the little game by which Folger and Andrews were counted in is instructive though not new.”

Mr. TWEED continues—As to the fair play of such articles as that I shall not make any comment. That will be patent to any one who reads the explanation of the supplementary statement. When my counsel took the papers to Albany he returned and told me that Mr. Bigelow or Mr. Fairchild desired further information on certain points, and he gave me these points in writing. I told him I was glad they had put their questions directly as I was willing to give them all the information in my power, and only desired to have my memory called to anything I might have forgotten or omitted. The day he returned I sat down with him, and this supplementary statement was prepared and sent to the Attorney-General. I cannot say anything against Mr. Hoffman or Mr. Weed, though I suppose it would have gratified these gentlemen in Albany if I could; I couldn't and didn't. They went out of their way to bring in other names. Everything in the supplementary statement was suggested by Bigelow or Fairchild.

Q. (By Alderman COWING)—I notice in the supplementary statement that by the advice of counsel you burned your papers—do you remember the names of the counsel who gave you that advice.

A. I cannot tell. It says Judge Fullerton. I don't think he advised me. He advised me with regard to the appointment of a trustee; and as soon as I got that information I advised with others.

Mr. TOWNSEND said that witness had put nothing into those statements except by the advice of counsel.

Q. You say you burned these papers under the advice of counsel—who were they?

A. I cannot recollect who they were except my son who did assist me. He was one of my counsel. I can readily understand how my present counsel could have mixed up names. These statements were made in a hurry, amidst constant interruption. He certainly mixed Mr. Banks up, and probably others. All this was done in secrecy. Mr. Edelsten says he was not present and was not the one who advised me. I think that is so. These papers were made out to show how the money was expended and upon whom. Their publication, without explanation, is very injurious to some people, and also to me. I regret it very much; but of course I am not responsible. Just before the Sweeney trial I was informed that his counsel had copies of that statement in his possession, but I don't know it personally, though I think it was the case, and I think it had an influence in the settlement of the case. Now, there is one matter to which I will advert because it is one that is very much commented on—in relation to the James I. Weed matter. In an editorial article published in the *Times* of October 10th, is the following:

“The simple story told in another column of the appointment of Mr. James I. Weed, of Cayuga, as a clerk in the Street Department in 1869, affords an instructive commentary on the loose way in which Tweed throws around charges likely to be acceptable to the political patrons who are supposed to hold his fate in their hands. Young Weed was said to have been appointed at the solicitation of Senator Woodin. He was really appointed before Mr. Woodin was a Senator at all. His father, who was a former Republican member of Assembly, but has of late years acted with the Democrats, asked and obtained, in 1870, a recommendation of his son from Senator Woodin,

to assist him in retaining his place on the reorganization of the department. On that slender basis of fact Tweed's serviceable memory constructed sundry charges and insinuations, which are pronounced to be false in every particular."

Tweed also referred to an interview with Mr. Weed, published in *The Times*, stating that he (Mr. Weed) "was appointed clerk in the Board of Water Register under the Croton Board on the 1st of June, 1869 (and not, as Tweed stated, in August, 1870), and this was some months before Senator Woodin's first nomination as Senator; that he received that appointment entirely independent of Senator Woodin, to whom he was a stranger and whom he had, at that time, never met personally; he continued to hold his position until the first day of March, 1873."

Mr. Tweed said: In this Mr. Weed is represented as saying that he was appointed by the Croton Board in 1868, and held office until 1873; I refer to the chapter of 1870, chap. 137, section 77, on page 385 of the Session laws of 1870, which reads: "The bureau of offices and positions now under the Street Department or Croton Aqueduct Department, respectively, are hereby transferred to the Department of Public Works, together with all their books, papers, documents, properties and public effects, and with the like authority and compensation, and the term of office of the several persons now holding office or position or employment under said Street and Croton Aqueduct Departments, shall terminate within five days from the passage of this act," and of course, as Mr. Weed says, my statements are matters of record, and can be verified on examination. I ask him how he could hold office unless appointed by me after the five days prescribed

by the charter had expired. As to the time of his removal, it was furnished me by an attache of the Department of Public Work from their records.

MR. TWEED—One of the messengers of the Board of Aldermen handed me yesterday afternoon a copy of a question that was propounded to me at the last session of the Committee, as follows :

“ All persons of either political faith with whom you have at any time since you were connected with the Board of Supervisors had corrupt dealings? I suggest to you to name only such persons as you have evidence in relation to.”

It is perfectly impossible for me to take that question up and answer it now, as there were some fourteen or fifteen hundred names to go through on the lists. Besides it was understood that I was to go through the lists of each of the organizations and present the names together. The only list given to me was a list of the members of the Tammany Hall General Committee. The others were not sent to me.

Q. Have you sifted the Tammany Hall list of the General Committee?

A. I have not.

MR. TOWNSEND—It was understood that the question should include the members of all organizations.

ALDERMAN COWING—I have no objection to including everybody of either political faith who has been associated with these frauds.

ALDERMAN LEWIS—I have no desire that any one should be named unless he can be connected in some way with

the frauds. You are just in the same position now as you were at the last meeting.

Q. Would you recollect the names, if they were brought under your notice?

A. I don't know that I would.

Q. (By Alderman COWING). What year was the money paid for the appropriation for the Brooklyn Bridge?

A. I think it was in 1868—after I was a member of the Senate. And speaking of bridge matters, I see that Kingsley has been interviewed, and says that he never paid me any money; and he never did. What I stated was that when Murphy gave me that money; there were checks with Kingsley's name, or with the name of Kingsley and Keeney on them. I never said that he paid me any money to influence legislation, but that's the way they garble what I do say. Men are interviewed and they attack what I have said, and I am under a cloud of denials all the time—for things I never said.

Q. You stated, I believe, that you understood that \$65,000 was paid to the Board of Aldermen to confirm P. B. Sweeney in the office of Chamberlain.

A. I so understood at the time.

Q. Do you remember who handled the money used to procure that confirmation?

A. I was not certain at the time I made the statement that the money was held by Mr. John Morrissey, but now I think it was.

Q. Do you remember the vote by which he was confirmed?

A. I do not know now, but I did know at the time.

Q. If the list of members of the Board of Aldermen of

that year were handed to you could you tell who received the money?

A. I don't think I could.

Q. The only inference you could make would be the vote of the Board of Aldermen in the affirmative?

A. That would not follow as a matter of course.

Q. Are you able to say that you did not receive three times as much as \$65,000 from the bridge company to obtain the appropriation for the bridge?

A. Yes; I am able to say, positively, that it was \$55,000 or \$65,000, but it did not exceed \$65,000. I am particular about this because some of those gentlemen who received that money are now going round the streets and saying that I received three times as much. Murphy was a friend of mine, and that was all I got, but even if I had received three times the amount, it would have been all right. They got all they asked, and it was none of their business how much I got.

Q. (By Alderman COWING)—You don't think now that it is a proper thing to bribe a Board of Aldermen; you don't still adhere to those views?

A. Of course not; I am simply speaking of my dealings with those people; I handed them all that they asked, and that was all that was given to me.

Q. Do you remember the fact that a great many safes were purchased during the time you were in power?

A. I do.

Q. Who were they purchased from?

A. From J. McB. Davidson.

Q. Have you any knowledge whether they went for illegitimate purposes?

A. No; I understood they were for presents, and I believe Mr. Davidson has sued almost everybody for them—

showing that he did not think the city should pay for them.

Q. Have you ever thought the matter over, so as to be able to state the amount of loss that the city suffered from the fraud during the time you were in power?

A. I never figured it up.

Q. Can you give us an approximate idea?

A. I cannot.

Q. Would it be nearer \$60,000,000 than six millions?

A. I do not know; you ought to know better than me; you have better facilities for finding out by access to papers, etc.

Q. What would be your best judgment?

A. I should say not.

Q. Could you not approximate the amount?

A. I could not make an approximation because I have not the figures.

Q. Is it not a fact that besides the large Ring, which included the four you have spoken of, there were others—wheels within wheels—moving in the city while you were in power?

A. I have so stated—that there were.

Q. And they carried on business on their individual account?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the men who composed those small rings?

A. Watson, Woodward, Ingersoll and others; I don't remember who were in them; that's all I recollect now; if you will mention any names, and I can recollect them, I will answer to the best of my ability; I don't profess to carry in my head everything I ever did and everything I ever knew.

Q. You don't remember any one else?

A. I do not.

Q. Don't you think it is possible, before we close your testimony, that you could let us know who those men were, in each district, who defrauded the people of the city of their franchises?

A. Yes, sir; I propose to do so; I shall give you every information in my power.

Q. I understood you said you would refresh your recollection, so as to give us that information?

A. I shall do so.

Mr. TOWNSEND (to Alderman COWING)—Will you be kind enough to put that inquiry in the shape of a question?

Mr. TWEED requested that these questions should be furnished to him in writing, for unless he made a minute of them he invariably forgot them.

Alderman COWING—I understood from *Mr. Tweed* that it was customary under his rule to give instructions to certain leaders in certain districts not to count the votes, but to lump them, and to declare the result, so as to be uniformly successful; I now ask him to refresh his recollection that he may remember those men to whom such instructions were given, and who followed them, so that citizens may be no longer in danger of being counted out by them.

Mr. TWEED—There is no objection to that. My counsel did not understand the inquiry at first. I shall give all the information in my power if I be furnished with the documents I have asked for, so as to enable me to refresh my memory.

Alderman LEWIS—The paper furnished you yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock was merely a copy of a question that was asked at the last meeting, with a view of giving you an idea of what would be inquired into to-day.

Mr. TWEED—My counsel advises me that the list of members of the different political organizations should be handed to me to enable me to answer the question intelligently, and that the responsibility of not answering should not rest upon me.

Q. (By Alderman COWING)—I think you said that the reason you did not make this statement earlier was because you were advised by counsel not to do so. Who was your counsel who so advised you?

A. My present counsel advised me not to give it to the public until it could be accompanied by the proper explanations, so as to make it of use to the city. No other counsel knew anything about it or ever saw it.

Q. Is it a fact that Mr. Garvey did work in the houses of many officials at the expense of the city?

A. I don't know. He may have done so. I know I paid him large sums of money for work he did for me, and much more than any reputable mechanic would have charged.

Q. Is it a fact that Ingersoll furnished provisions and other things for different members of the Ring?

A. He never furnished me with any provisions, unless it might be a dinner once in a while, or an apple. I did not know that he was in the provision business.

Q. I think you stated that T. W. Roe & Co. had some dealings with you in the stationery business—do you know the members of that firm?

A. I do not recollect the name of the firm, but I believe there was such a firm.

Q. Do you remember the individual members of the firm?

A. No, sir.

Q. Was there a man by the name of Hugh Monaghan in that firm?

A. I don't know. I don't think I ever knew a man of that name.

Q. Do you know if a man named Nelson was in that firm?

A. I do not. I never knew any one of that name connected with T. W. Roe & Company. I read the name off from the Supervisors' record.

Q. He was not a member of the firm of Roe & Co.

A. I know nothing of that firm, except one man, still those you have named they may have been members of that firm.

Mr. TOWNSEND suggested that the Committee should now adjourn in view of the fact that the papers containing the names of the Tammany, Anti-Tammany, and Republican Committee, had not been given to witness as promised, and he was consequently unable to testify on the subject that day. He therefore asked that they should adjourn at this time, and any questions that may strike gentlemen as suitable to propound may be given to Mr. Tweed, that he may have an opportunity to answer them at the next meeting on Saturday.

Mr. TWEED—It is no use to adjourn till Saturday, as I shall have no opportunity to prepare my answers by that time. It is of no use to adjourn for a few days. I find I

have to be very correct in my answers, for although I know that what I say is correct, I don't exactly know where to find the official data to support them; and I prefer to have the official statements before me. Besides, it is only right that I should have proper time to prepare my answers. I cannot work at night.

Alderman LEWIS intimated to witness that he would be furnished with all the assistance he should require; and if he thought of any books or papers that would aid him in answering questions, they would be given to him.

MR. TWEED—I would respectfully ask that I should have the lists of the Board of Aldermen or Board of Supervisors, whichever it might be which had the appointment of Election Officers for the years during which I was in power; and I will endeavor to give the names of those who were implicated with me.

MR. TOWNSEND suggested that Mr. Tweed had testified to the fact Ingersoll, McBride Davidson, Woodward, and several others were cognizant of the frauds. They had not been called as witnesses, and if they were not secured immunity from prosecution, he did not see why suits should not be commenced against them, so that the city might get some of this money.

MR. TWEED said that he would like to have a conversation with Woodward. He had been informed that he had been in the Chamber this morning; but he had not seen him. If Mr. Cole would intimate to Woodward that he (Mr. T.) wished to see him he had no doubt but he would come; and he hoped that he would do so. The interview might take place in his presence, or in that of any other person.

Alderman LEWIS—The Committee will request Mr. Cole to take that course. We want to bring the investigation to an end as soon as possible.

Mr. TOWNSEND—I hope that the Committee does not intend to dissolve on the conclusion of the testimony of Mr. Tweed.

Alderman LEWIS—Not at all. We are going to try to get back some of the money taken from the City Treasury, if it is possible.

The Committee then adjourned to Wednesday next, 17th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

OCTOBER 17, 1877.

Present—Alderman LEWIS,
 “ SLEVIN,
 “ COWING.

Mr. TWEED then called attention to several errors in the printed slips of the official report; which he corrected.

Mr. TOWNSEND said that the mode of printing the corrections made in reports of the previous meetings and which

had been reprinted again in subsequent reports, ought to be changed, as it made the reports somewhat ridiculous.

Mr. COLE said that the official report, when completed, would be different—that the printed slips were merely for the convenience of the Committee, the counsel, and those engaged in the investigation.

Mr. TWEED—I have prepared a list of my real estate that I had in 1870 and 1871, and what I have done with it since; and my counsel, with the permission of the Committee, will read it.

Mr. COLE—There is another matter before we proceed to that: At the close of the last session of this Committee I notified the witness, that at the next meeting I would ask him to examine the entire list of the Democratic organization known as Tammany Hall, the Republican General Committee, and the Anti-Tammany organization, and to state who, if any, upon these lists, were in any wise connected with the “Ring Frauds,” or with any fraudulent or illegal practices in connection with the government or affairs of the city and county of New York. I further stated, that I would charge myself with getting a list of the Tammany Hall General Committee, and that I should be obliged to rely upon Alderman Cowing, who is the only Republican upon the Committee, to furnish a list of the Republican General Committee. I thought then, and I still think, that no one list of names connected with any one political organization should be submitted to this witness for the purpose indicated, unless all of them were. I had not, and I have not, the slightest objection, nor have any of the Democratic members of the Committee any objection, to furnishing the list of the

Tammany Hall organization. If, therefore, the list of the Republican organization, has been provided, I shall now go into that matter, handing Mr. Tweed both lists at once, and asking him the same question in regard to both. Here is the Democratic list; if the Republican list is here we will ask to proceed with this matter.

Alderman COWING—I presume that these remarks are addressed to me. If they are, I will answer them in this way. The clerical matters connected with the business of this Committee are not performed by the Committee itself. The information which the counsel desires is accessible to everybody, and so far as the names on it are concerned, I will agree now, and here, that I will not object to any single name being put to Mr. Tweed; and I will not undertake to inculcate or exonerate one single man, no matter what may be his political affiliations. If any Republican has been guilty of a dirty or a mean trick, I will not raise any frivolous objections to sustain him, but will aid the Committee in the effort to expose him. So far as the list spoken of is concerned, I think it is exclusively the duty of the Clerk of the Committee to obtain it; and it would seem, therefore, that to ask me to obtain this list is, in some way, to impugn my motives, and to make me look as if I wanted to screen somebody. Such is not the case, and whatever questions I think proper to ask, I will ask, no matter whom they may hurt. That is my purpose, and so far as any committee of Tammany Hall, Anti-Tammany, or the Republican organization is concerned, I desire to say that the members of the Republican, and Anti-Tammany organizations have been pretty thoroughly sifted. Most of them have been inquired about, and the Republicans have not been spared;

and I am glad of it. I am glad that they have been exposed; but it seemed to me that when the first question was put by me which in any way interfered with the Tammany Hall organization, I was met by the combined opposition of my two Democratic associates and by their two counsel. It does not belong to me to furnish questions to Mr. Cole, or evidence upon which they may be based. I will state here, however, that if he will place a list of the Republican Committee in Mr. Tweed's hands, I don't care how extensive it is, I will give my word that I will not raise a single objection or interpose in any way to prevent them being exposed if any of them deserve it. The reason I asked the question of Mr. Tweed was not to show that the men who were on that list had committed fraud, but to show that they were prominently associated with him at the time they were committed; and if they were not shrewd enough to know what was going on it showed that they were as incompetent to govern the city to-day, as they were at that time. I hope this committee will instruct some one to get these lists. The committee have the power to do so, but it is simply making a clerk of me to call upon me to furnish them. I do not choose to be placed in that position, but I shall render any aid in my power to facilitate the committee in obtaining it.

MR. TOWNSEND—I think you will do me the justice to say that I withdrew any objections that I made to the witness' answering the question as to the names on the list put into his hands.

ALDERMAN COWING—I think you did; but at first you objected.

Mr. TOWNSEND—I think that when you did the clerical work of providing the Tammany Hall list, that you might be equally willing to furnish us with the list of the Republican General Committee.

Alderman COWING—I had to employ a clerk to do that myself; and I do not propose to do any more clerical work for the committee.

Mr. TOWNSEND—I should think an application to these several committees would be sufficient to induce them to furnish complete lists of the names of their respective organizations.

Alderman COWING—I have no objection to the list of the Republican Committee being brought here, and to Mr. Tweed going over the whole list. I don't think it is a disgrace to belong to any of these organizations.

Alderman LEWIS—I am sorry that this question has been raised. This committee has nothing to do with any political organization—whether of Tammany Hall or any other. All it is concerned with is these Ring Frauds. I will ask Mr. Tweed a question. There is a list of the Tammany Hall General Committee for 1877 (handing it to witness), will you look at that list, and see if there be any names there of persons who were connected with the Ring Frauds.

Mr. COLE—I will state that a similar list was furnished Mr. Tweed a few days ago. I will also say that I was not able to get a list of the Republican General Committee, though I tried to do so.

Alderman COWING said that the Chairman should give instructions to get that list.

Mr. COLE—Alderman Lewis got this list.

Mr. TWEED—I had a list similar to this placed in my hands a few days ago. I examined it carefully, and I found no names there in any way connected with the Ring Frauds, or with any illegal practices. I will now look over it again.

While I am looking over it now my counsel, Mr. Townsend, will read the statement of my real-estate and my transactions with it, which he holds in his hands.

Mr. TOWNSEND reads as follows :

I herewith place in the hands of this Committee a statement of the real estate which came into my possession during 1870 and 1871 and since that time, and of all that was owned by me in 1871 ; it is impossible for me, having no data to guide me, to detail the exchanges of property prior to that time ; I can only say that the proceeds of most of the real estate which passed from my hands prior to 1870, became merged in the property which I at that time was possessed of ; I think I can fairly say, and am willing to the best of my knowledge and belief to testify, that in the year 1871, the costs of the real estate I owned, together with my personal estate, was about two millions and a half of dollars, at no time in my life was I worth more than from that amount to three million dollars. In the fall of 1871 an action was commenced against me by the People, &c., for one million dollars, and I was arrested thereon, and one million bail required ; there were difficulties in procuring bail, and by advice of counsel I transferred all my real estate to my son Richard M., with the exception of a few pieces, among which were the Putnam and Queens County property, which, as I

stated to the Attorney-General, are in condition to be transferred to the city authorities, and the others are accounted for by me in the schedule hereto annexed; the cost of the real estate so transferred to my son Richard M., to enable him to justify as one of my bondsmen, was, as near as I can estimate, two million dollars, upon this he did so justify; I never again came in possession of that property, all of it was sold by my son, or by his direction, or by foreclosure, and the proceeds paid over to me; from the time of my arrest and proceedings against me by indictment and otherwise, all of the property, from these and many other causes, shrunk immensely in value, and as is shown by the schedule, I realized from what I considered, in the fall of 1871, worth two million dollars, less than seven hundred thousand dollars, which does not include, however, the \$150,000 paid to James O'Brien out of my real estate, nor the consideration for the Fort Washington property, of \$150,000, which was paid by me to Pottier & Stymus on account of furnishing Metropolitan Hotel. It is impossible for me, now, to state what personal property I at any one time was possessed of; I speculated largely in stocks with Fisk, Gould, and others, sometimes being a winner, more often a loser; I bought and sold as investments different kinds of stocks, a good deal of which I have now in my hands, valueless, and I have recklessly parted with a great deal of money.

Outside of the property in Putnam and Queens Counties, I own no real estate, nor have any interest in any. I now affirm, and am willing to submit to the closest investigation in regard to it, that I am not to-day the owner of any money or property of any kind whatever, from which five thousand dollars could be realized.

The statement which has been published, that I have

large interests abroad and have property secreted at home, are utterly untrue.

In my statement to the Attorney-General, I courted the broadest investigation on these points, but no examination was accorded me on this matter.

I now again express my entire willingness to give up every particle of property I have in the world ; to furnish evidence on any subject which may be considered beneficial to the People of the City or State, and, in fact, to place myself at the disposal of the proper officials to enable them to undo, through me, as far as possible, the wrongs that I have committed.

RECEIPTS SINCE 1871.

Realized on Sixty-third street and Third avenue,	\$50,000
“ from Valley Farm, Westchester Co.	130,000
“ from Stable and Yacht.	40,000
“ on Duane street.	120,000
“ on Sixty-third street, near Ninth ave.	20,000
“ on Fifty-seventh street.	10,000
“ on Twenty-third street.	8,000
“ on Forty-second street.	3,600
“ on Eighth avenue, near Seventy-first street.	8,000
“ on Seventy-fourth street, near Eleventh avenue.	6,500
“ on Ninth street, near Third avenue.	6,000
“ on Sixty-eighth street, Fourth avenue and Madison.	105,000
“ on Twenty-fourth street.	6,000

Realized on Oliver street.....	\$5,000
“ on Mercer street stables.....	5,000
“ on No. 511 Fifth avenue.....	122,000
“ on One Hundred and Fifth street and Fourth avenue.....	3,500
“ on Broadway, near Twenty-first street.	50,000
“ from Rent of Harlem Court-house....	18,000
“ on Circle Property.....	90,000
	<hr/>
	\$806,600

The above is, as near as I can ascertain or remember, the amounts received by me from the proceeds of all the real estate owned by me in the fall of 1871.

This, however, does not include the sale of the Boulevard Block at Seventy-sixth and Seventy-seventh streets, because the mortgages for \$128,000, given for most of the purchase money, were transferred to James O'Brien in the fall of 1871, on account of purchase of half his claim against the city. Nor does it include the consideration received for the Fort Washington property of \$150,000, which was applied by Pottier & Stymus on account of furnishing Metropolitan Hotel.

Net proceeds from all Stocks, Personal Pro- perty of every name and nature, including Mortgages, Jewelry, etc., about.....	\$650,000
Amount from Real Estate.....	806,600
	<hr/>
	\$1,456,600

The Putnam County property, which has cost nearly \$50,000, is still controlled by me, and offered to the city in my statement to the Attorney-General. Also, the

ninety-two (92) (I thought there were more) or more lots in Astoria ; which, as near as I can recollect or know anything about it, accounts for every piece of property owned by me or sold for my benefit since my troubles.

PAYMENTS SINCE FALL OF 1871.

Paid to A. J. Garvey for Frescoing Fifth ave. house, about.....	\$17,500
Paid Garfield to cancel partnership agreement with Richard Tweed of Metropolitan Hotel	20,000
Paid in advances and losses on Metropolitan Hotel, in addition to the \$150,000 Real Estate to Pottier & Stymus.....	450,000
Expenses of my entire family in Europe in 1872 (about \$3,500 of which was with Bowles Bros. at time of their failure).....	30,000
Paid to James H. Ingersoll in full settlement of his claim, about.....	100,000
Paid Jackson Schultz, for Keyser & Co.....	30,000
Paid, in Retainers, to Counsel in fall of 1871 and early in 1872, as per checks, about....	45,000
Paid for Expenses of Family during 1871, 1872 and 1873.....	150,000
Paid for Expenses of Family in 1874 & 1875.	40,000
Paid Expenses and Expenditures in connection with Escape from Ludlow street, and in Cuba and in Spain.....	60,000
Paid advance of Pay-roll for Laborers in Department, etc.....	18,000

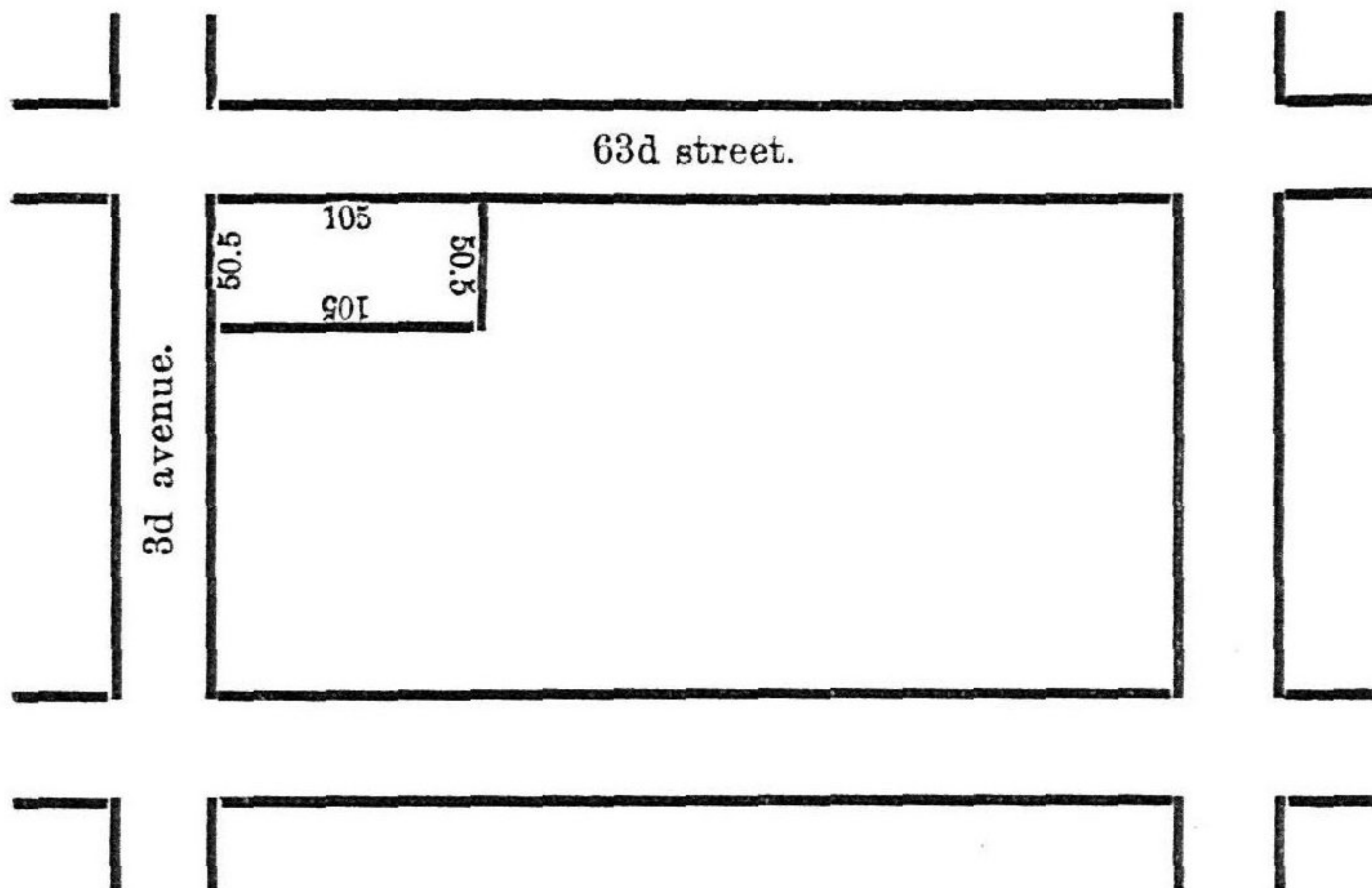
Paid in 1872, '73 and '74, on No. 423 Broadway lease, about.....	\$30,000
Paid after November, 1871, and during years 1872, 1873, 1874 and 1875 for Legal Printing, Expenses in the various Trials, Detectives, Stenographers, and Traveling Expenses, and in Counsel Fees to the following gentlemen:	
David Dudley Field, William Fullerton, A. J. Vanderpoel, Augustus L. Brown, John E. Burrell, W. O. Bartlett, Willard Bartlett, William Edelsten, George F. Comstock, John Ganson, Elihu Root, E. R. Bacon, John Reynolds, Field & Deyo, E. W. Stoughton, John Graham and others through the State.....	400,000
Paid Tenth National Bank in Settlement....	100,000
	<hr/>
Total	\$1,490,500

One million four hundred and ninety thousand five hundred dollars.

LOSSES SINCE 1871.

Loss on Sixty-third street and Third avenue...	\$25,000
“ on Westchester County Valley Farm...	50,000
“ on Stable in Fortieth street and Steam Yacht.....	10,000
“ on Circle Property.....	110,000
“ on Duane street.....	140,000
“ on Sixty-third street, near Ninth avenue	40,000
“ on Fifty-seventh street.....	20,000

Loss on Twenty-third street.....	\$10,000
“ on Forty-second street.....	3,000
“ on Eighth avenue, near Seventy-first street.....	8,250
“ on Seventy-fourth street, near Eleventh avenue.....	16,400
“ on Harlem Court-house Property.....	100,000
“ on Fort Washington Property.....	125,000
“ on Eighty-third and Eighty-fourth streets, near Ninth avenue.....	65,000
“ on Ninth street and Third avenue.....	12,000
“ on Oliver street.....	7,000
“ on Stables in Mercer street.....	53,000
“ on Fifth avenue House.....	153,000
“ on One Hundred and Fifth street and Fourth avenue.....	8,500
“ on Eighth avenue, near One Hundred and Thirteenth street.....	10,000
“ on Broadway, near Twenty-first street...	200,000
“ on Guardian Savings Bank.....	40,000
Losses.....	<u>\$1,206,150</u>

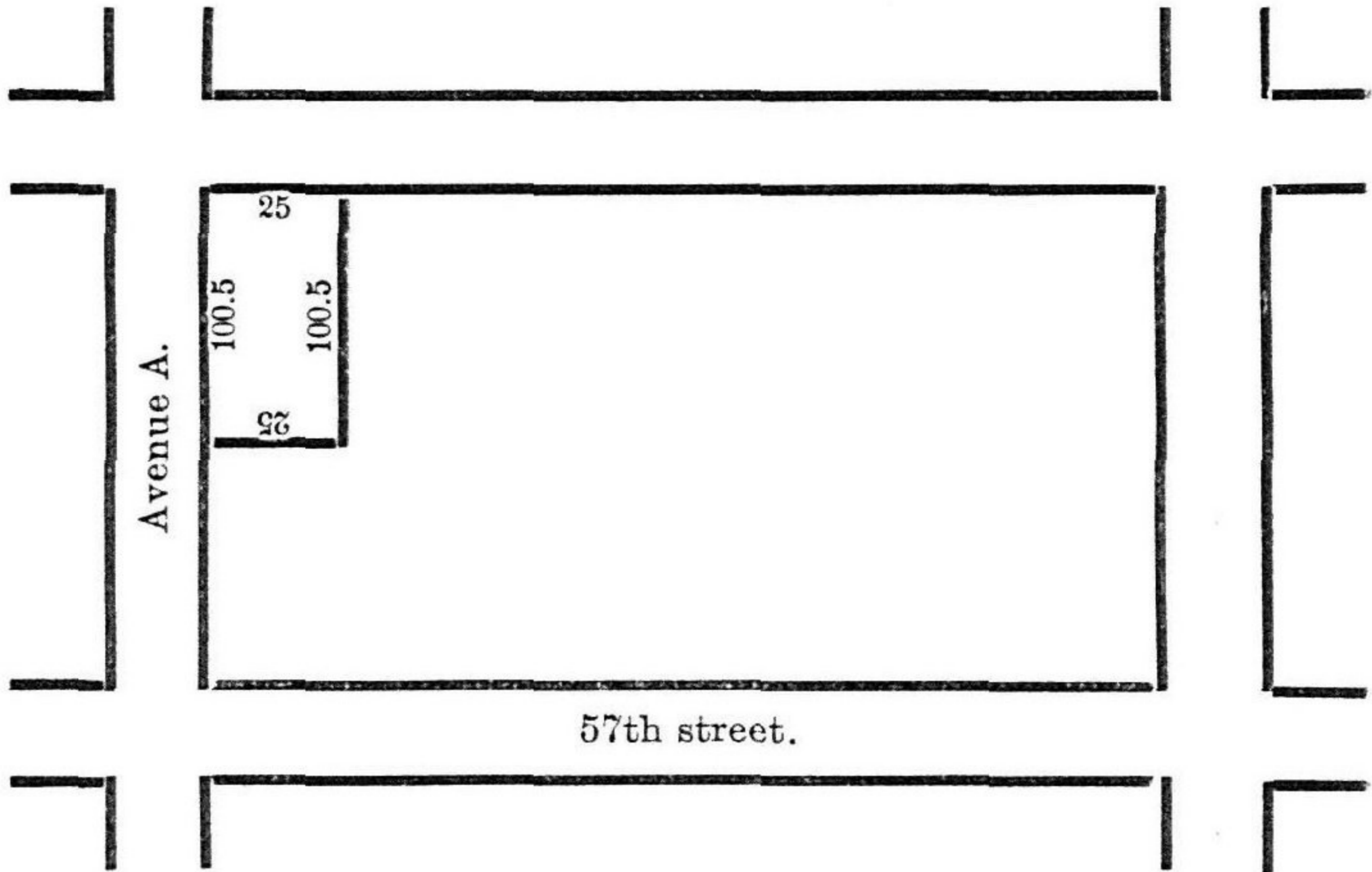


Recorded, 4th of Jan'y, 1871, Liber 1186, page 649 ; Con., \$ 7-100, and Love, etc.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1871.

Purchased in 1864.

Aggregate cost of land and buildings, about.....	\$75,000
Sold to C. Meyer, netted W. M. Tweed.....	50,000
	<hr/>
Loss	\$25,000



Recorded, 27th M'ch, 1865, Liber 930, page 309 ; Con., \$

William M. Tweed and wife to James Stokes. Deed dated March 25, 1865.

Sold in 1865.

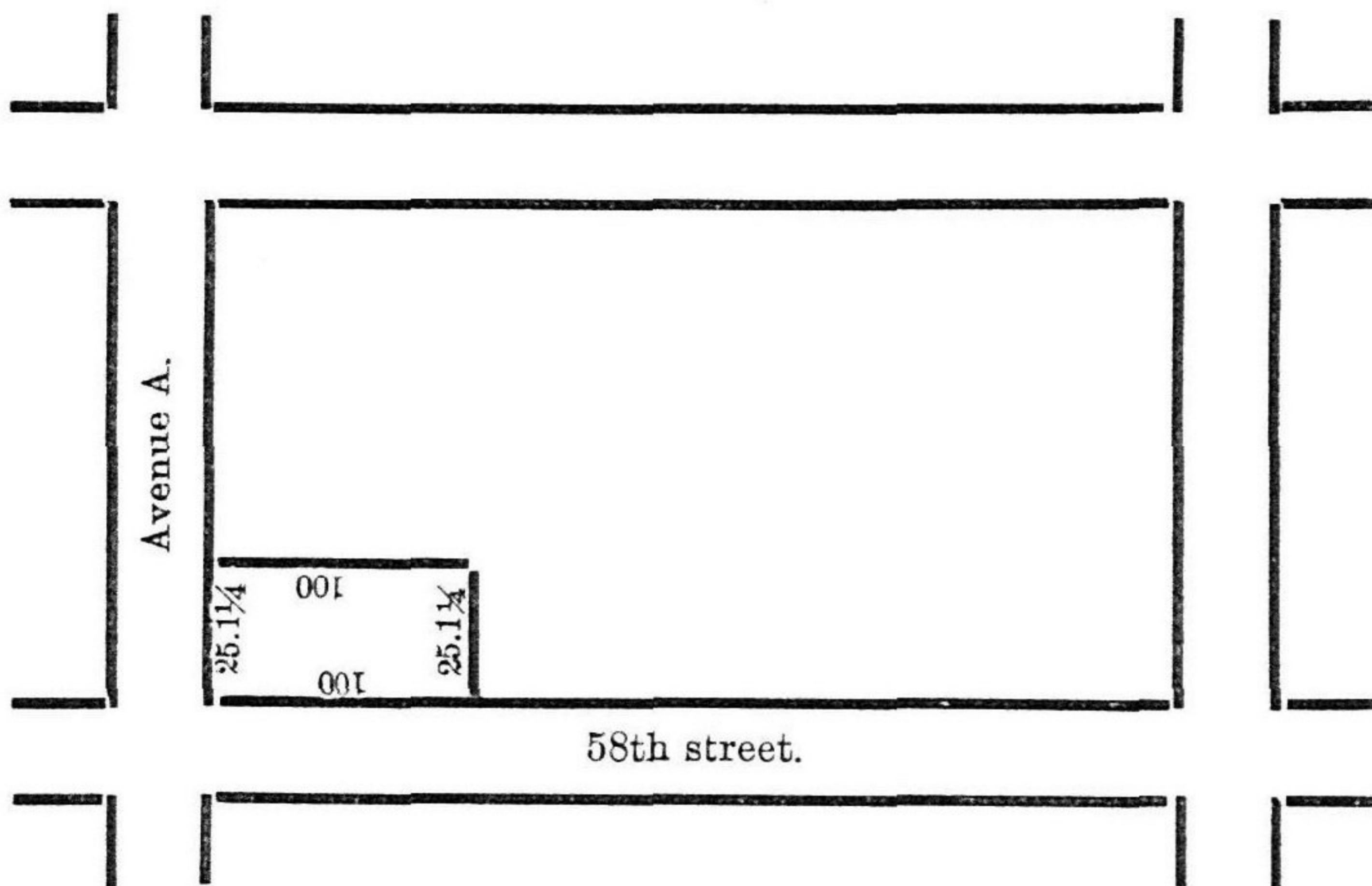
No recollection of detail.

Westchester Co. Valley farm, being one $\frac{1}{2}$ interest bought from Leonard W. Jerome. Cons., \$300,000; don't remember amount of mortgage.

Sold in 1873 to W. B. Bush & Co., of Buffalo

—netted over mortgage.....\$130,000

Loss.....about \$50,000

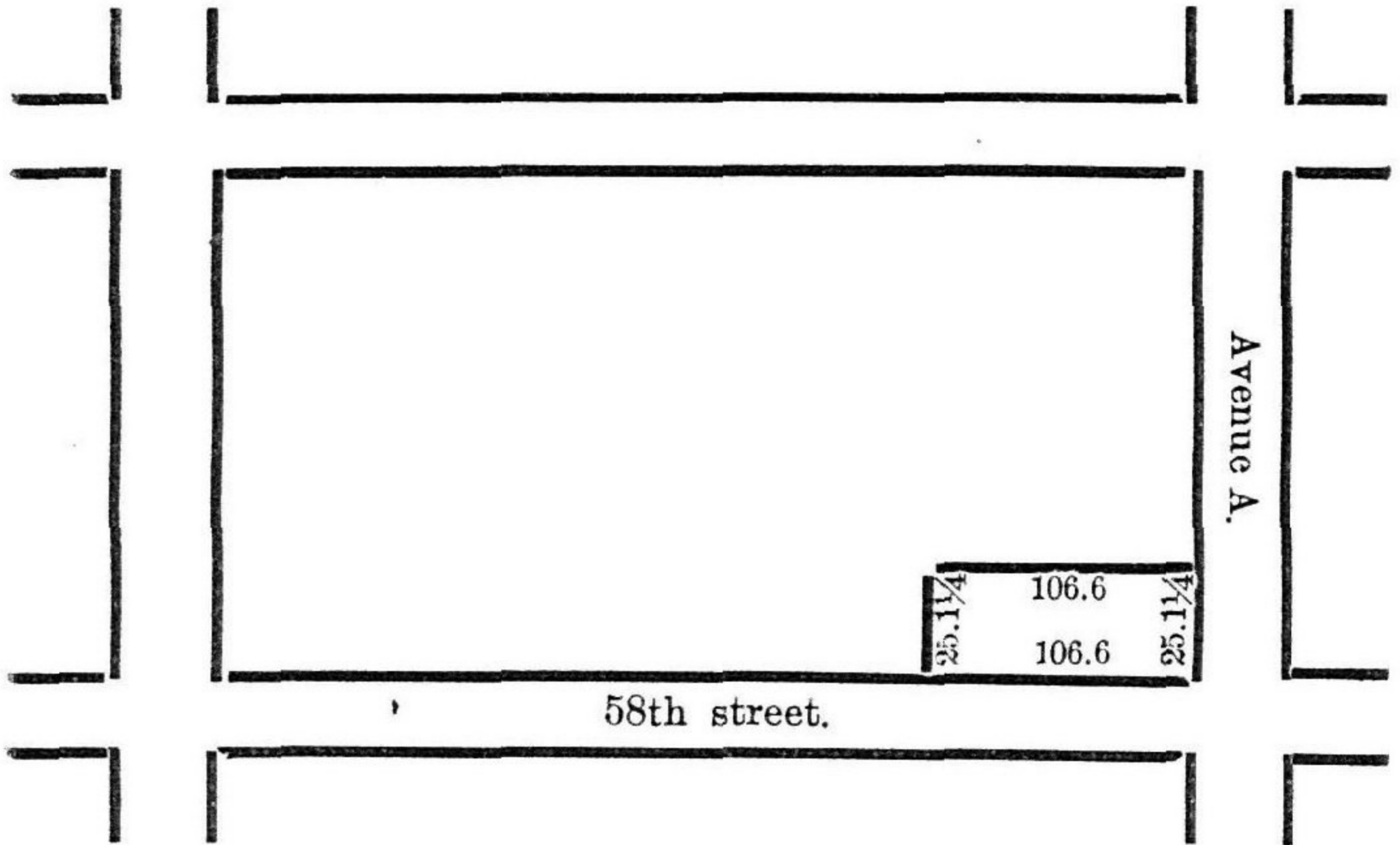


Recorded, 27th March, 1865, Liber 930, page 309; Con., §

William M. Tweed and wife to James Stokes. Deed dated March 25, 1875.

No recollection of detail.

Putnam Co. lakes or water property, has cost nearly \$50,000, is still controlled by Mr. Tweed, and offered to the city in his statement to the Att'y-General.

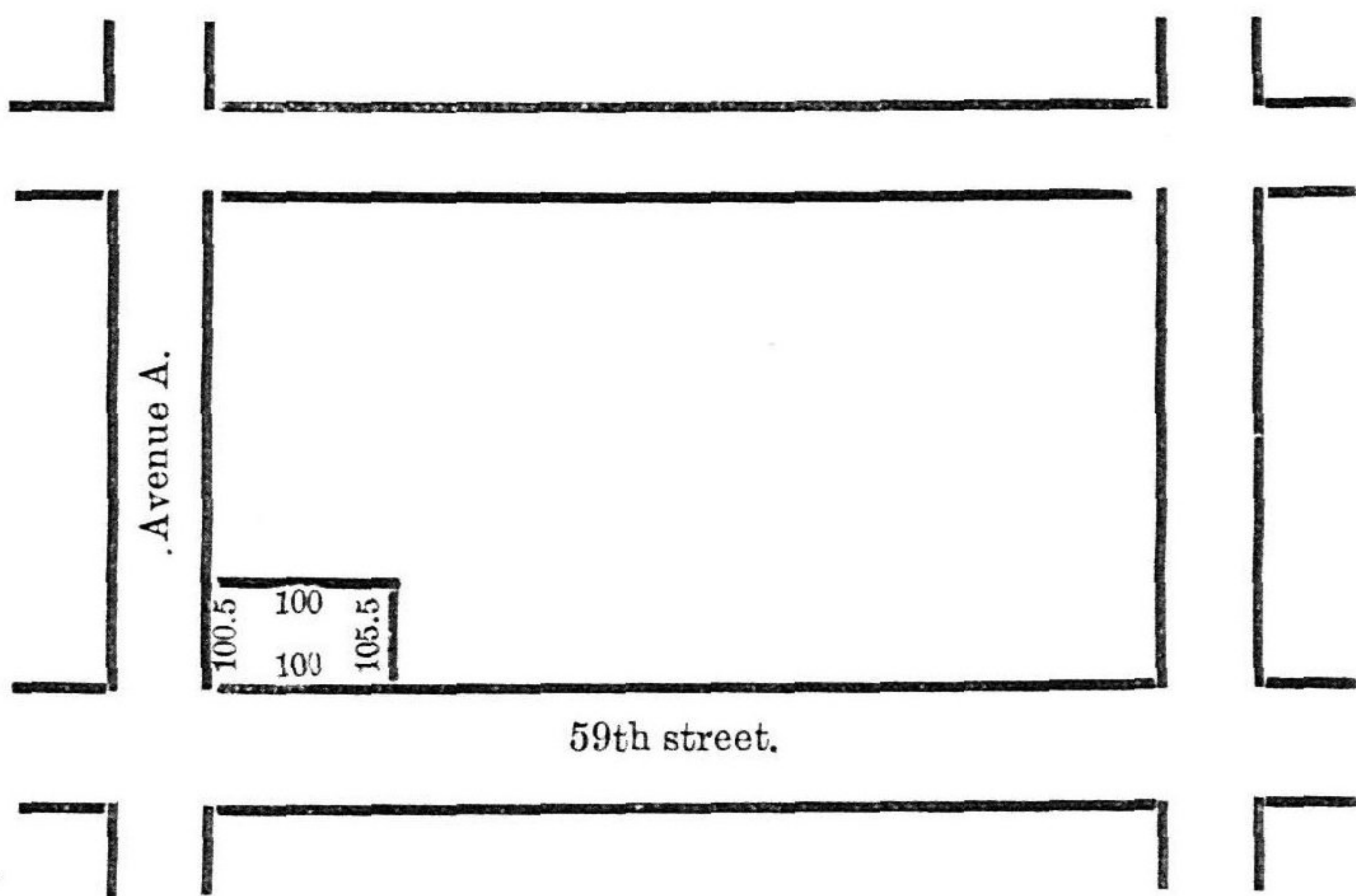


Recorded, 27th of March 1865, Liber 950, page 309.

William M. Tweed and wife to James Stokes. Deed dated March 25, 1865.

No recollection of detail.

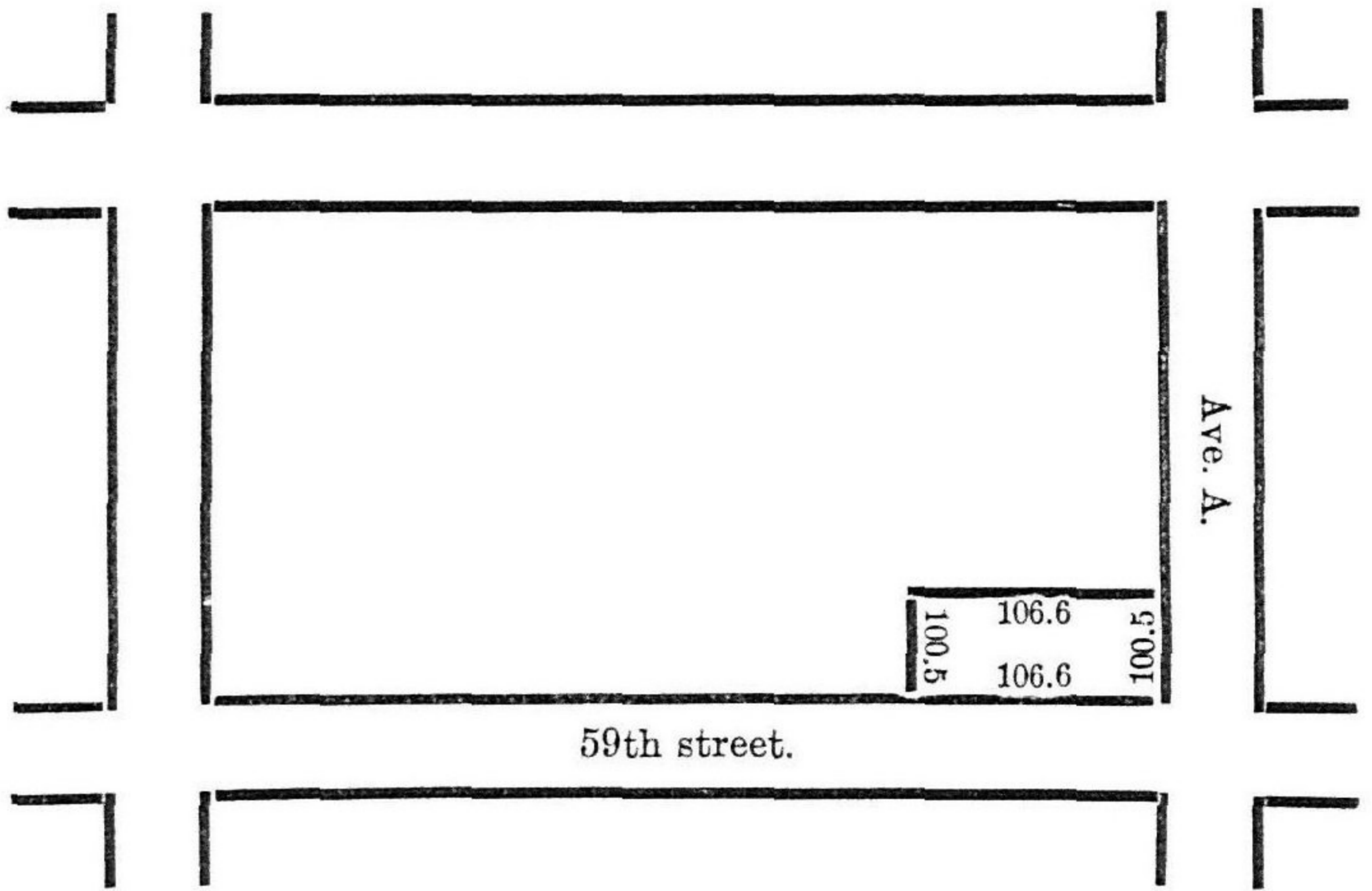
92 lots in Astoria or Long Island City, still controlled by Mr. Tweed and offered to the city.



Recorded, 27th of March, 1865, Liber 950, page 309.

William M. Tweed and wife to James Stokes. Deed dated March 25, 1865.

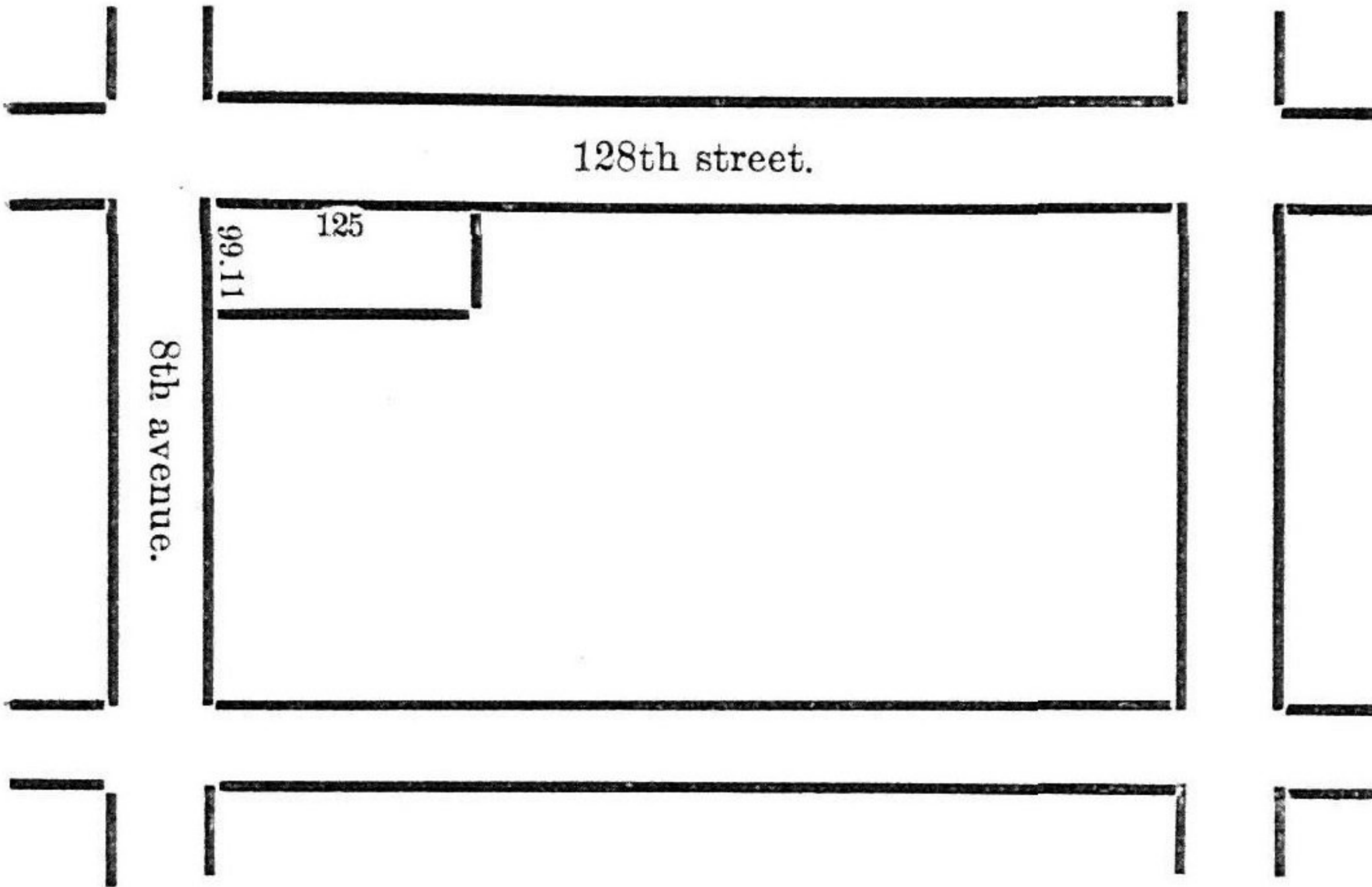
No recollection of detail.



Recorded 27th of March, 1865, Liber 930, Page 309.

William M. Tweed and wife to James Stokes. Deed dated March 25, 1865.

No recollection of detail.



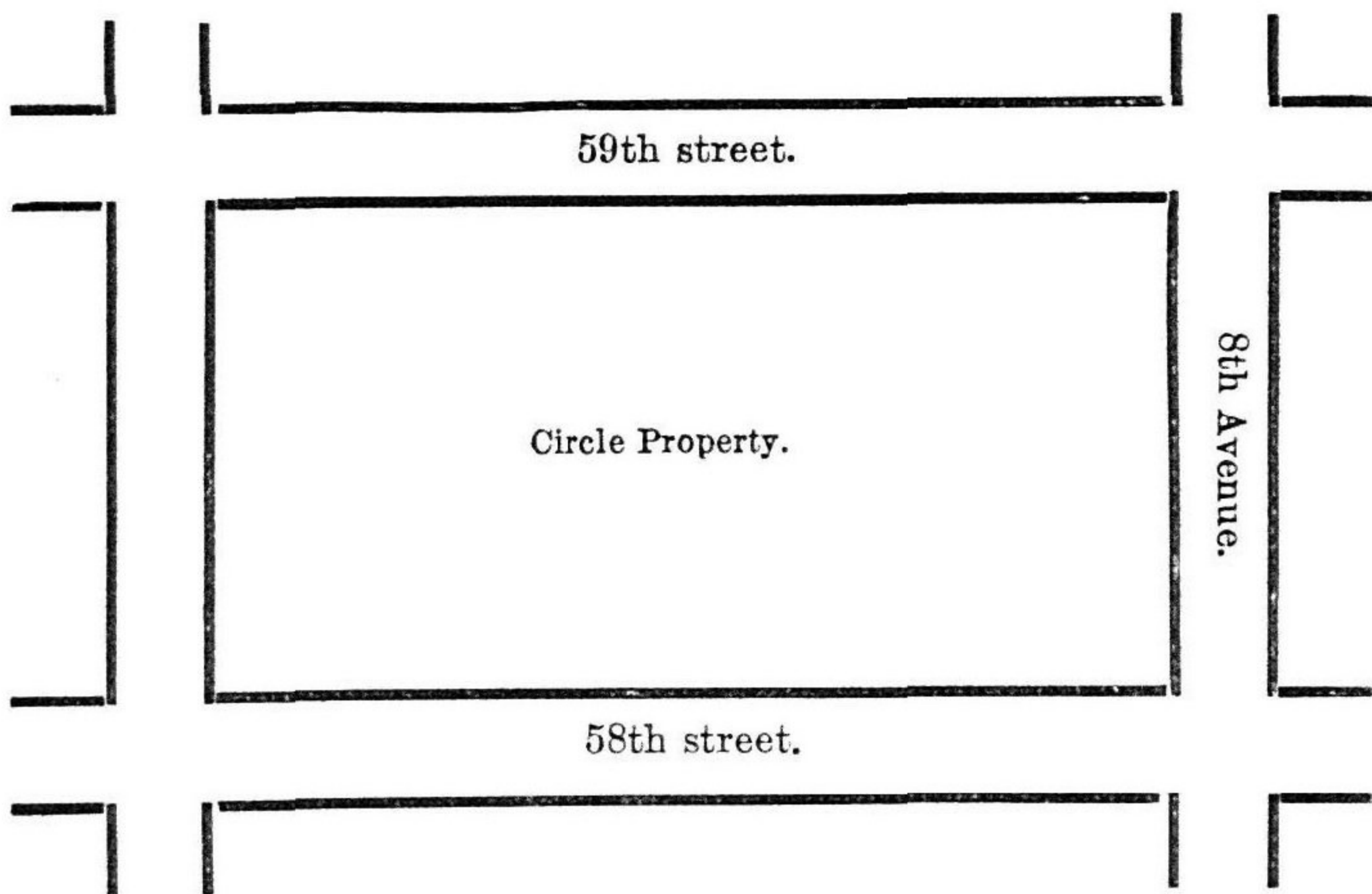
Recorded, 9th of June, 1869, Liber 1107, Page 350. Con. \$25,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Quentin McAdam.
Deed dated May 3, 1869.

CORRECT.

Sold stable in East Fortieth street, and steam yacht to
Mr. Stockwell ; netted about \$40,000.

Cost.....	\$50,000
Realized.....	40,000
	<hr/>
	\$10,000
Loss.....	\$10,000



Recorded, 26th October, 1871. Liber 1149, page 195. Con. \$200,000.

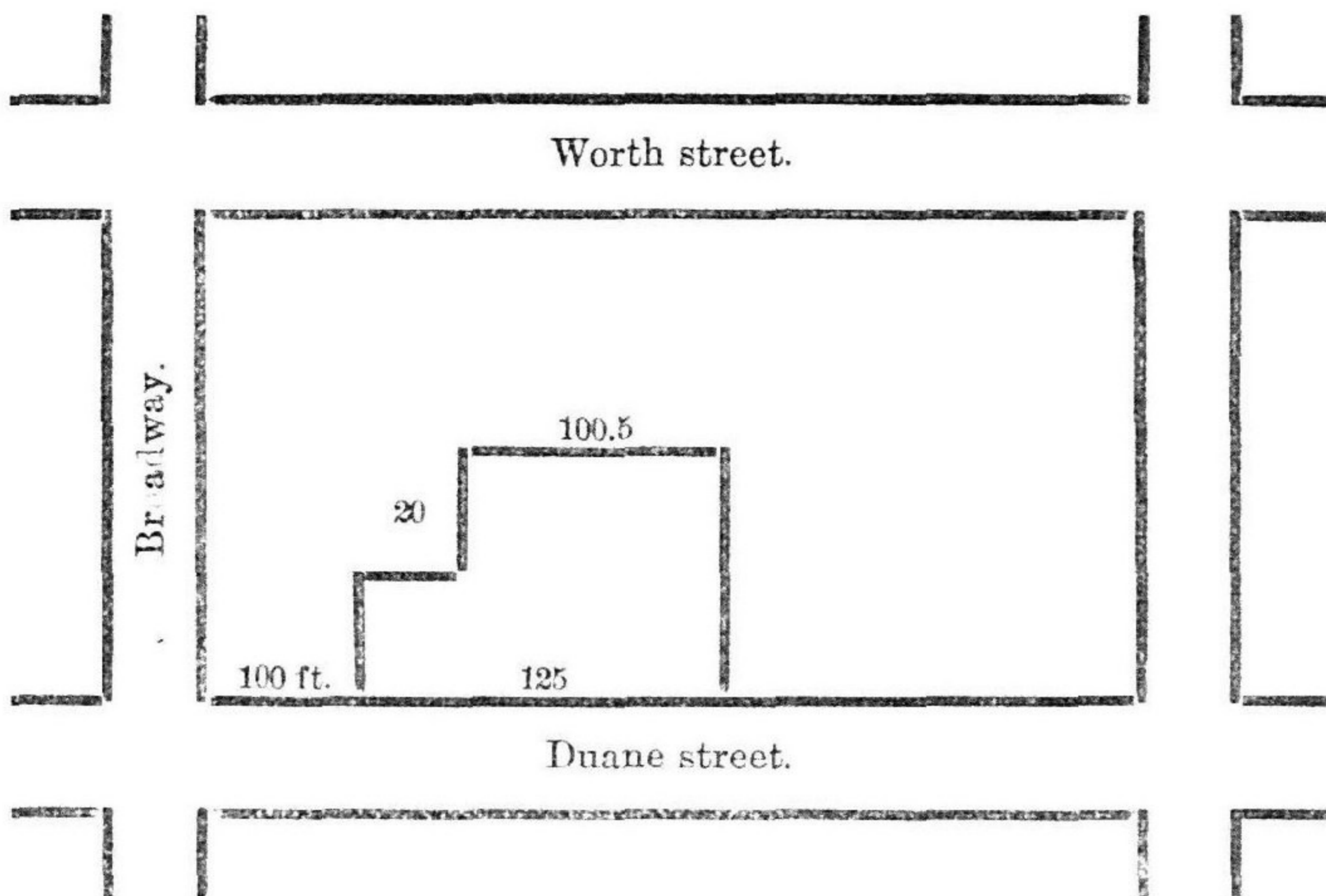
William M. Tweed and wife, to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated August 16, 1871.

Mortgaged to C. G. Franklin, by Richard Tweed,
for \$125,000.

Realized after paying taxes, extra commissions, searches,
allowances, etc., \$90,000.

Mortgage is now being foreclosed against W. M. T.,
R. M. T., and others.

Cost.....	\$200,000
Realized	90,000
	<hr/>
	\$110,000
Loss.....	110,000

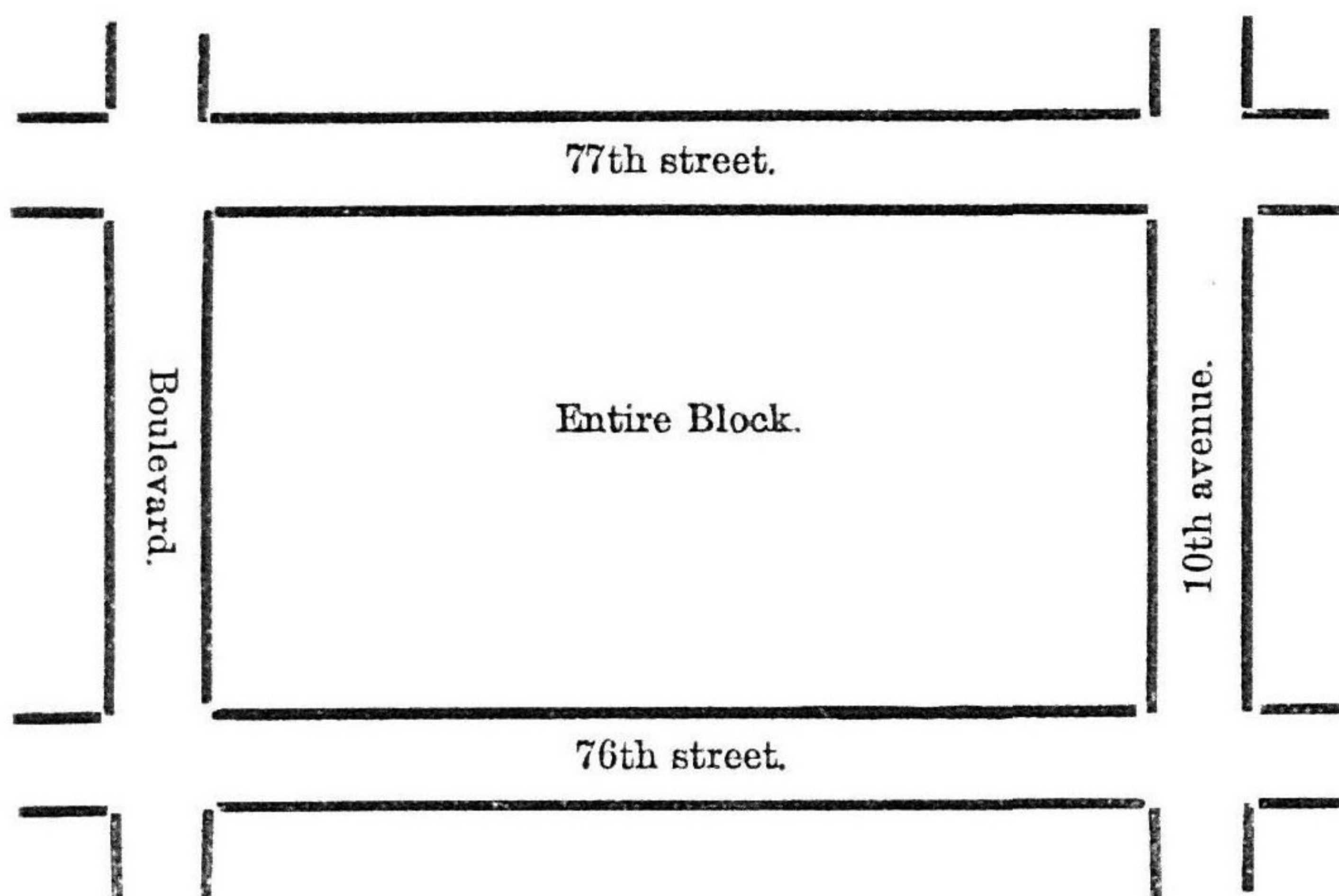


Recorded, 4th January, 1872, Liber 1186, page 643. Con. Love, etc., 7-100 dollars.

William M. Tweed and wife, to Richard M. Tweed. Deed dated November 21, 1871.

Known as Nos. 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, and 85, Duane.

Bought from Thomas Palmer.....	\$260,000
Nos. 75, 77, 79, and 81 were sold by R. M. T., to Mr. Thorpe, about July '72, netted W. M. Tweed about.....	\$80,000
Nos. 83 and 85 sold by R. M. T., to Wm. Edelsten, November 21, '73.....	40,000
	<hr/>
	\$120,000
Loss.....	140,000

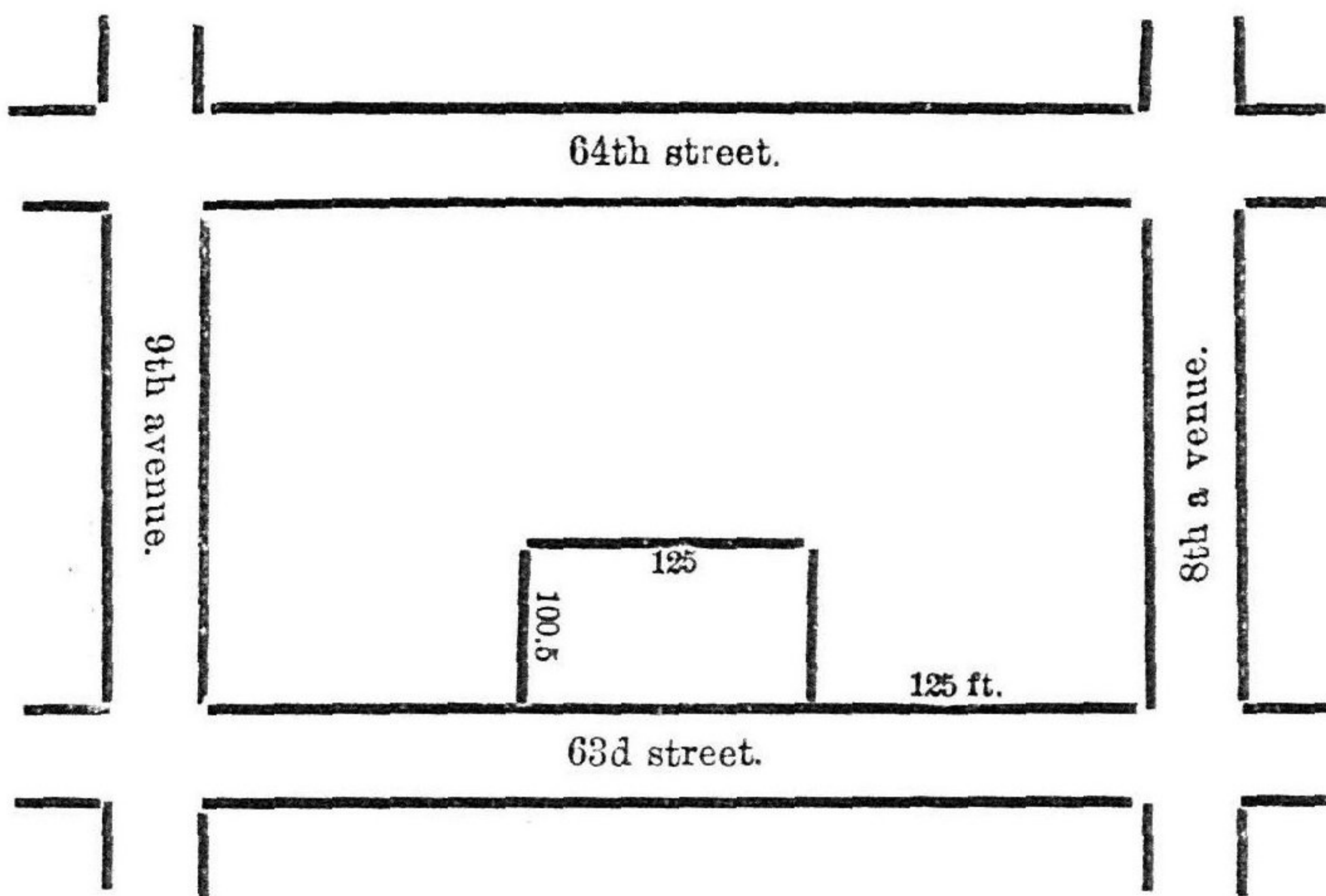


Recorded 8th of April, 1869. Liber 1085, Page 400. Con. \$185,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Washington M. Smith.
Deed dated April 6, 1869.

This is the property sold as above and W. M. T. received purchase money mortgages for most of the purchase money, and \$128,000 of these mortgages were given to James O'Brien in payment of the assignment of his claim against the city.

Paid James O'Brien..... \$128,000



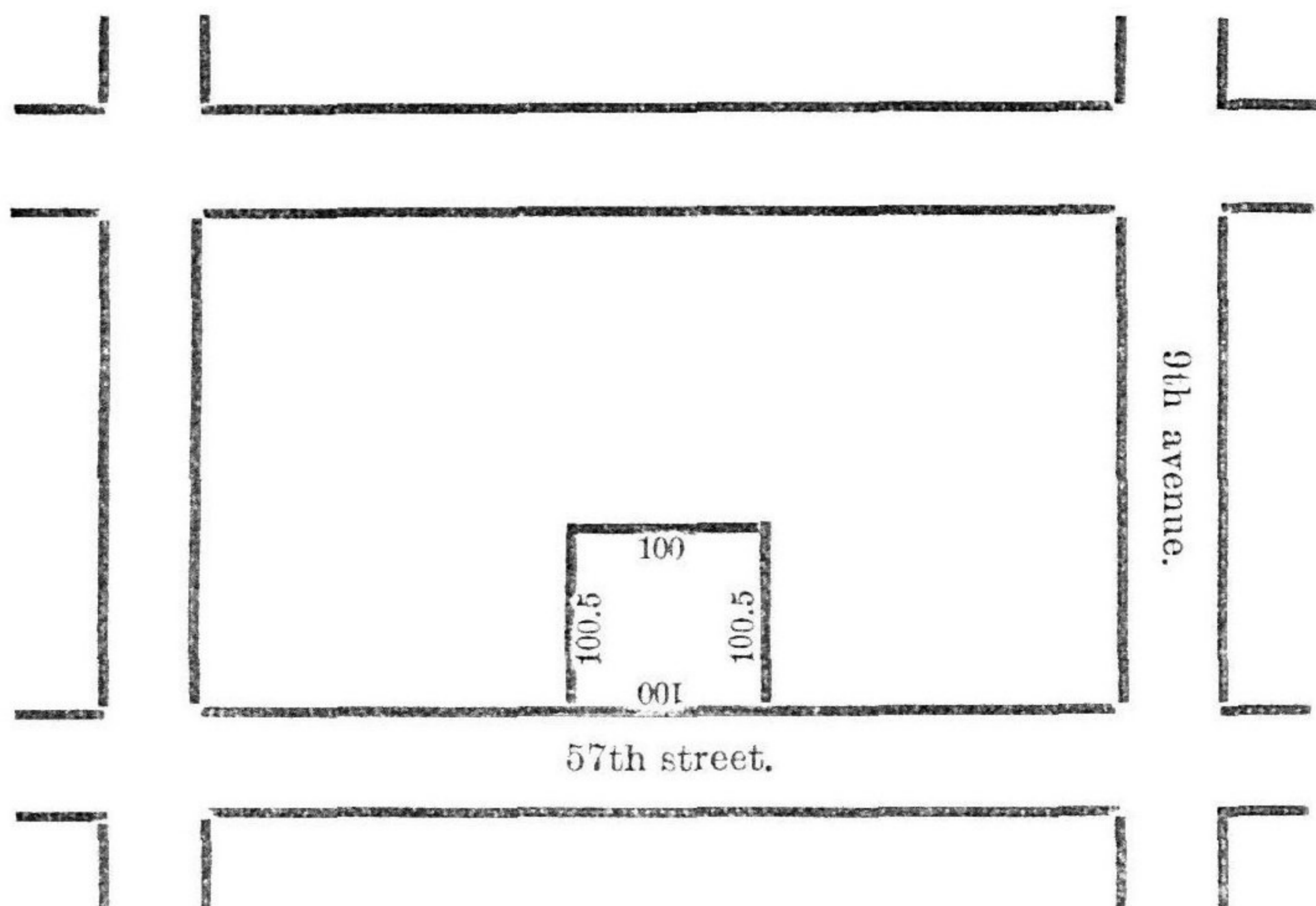
Recorded 30th of April, 1873. Liber 1252, page 365, Con. \$1.

William M. Twced and wife to Jacob Vanderpoel.
Deed dated March 10, 1863 (should be 1873).

Sold as above for a mortgage back of \$30,000 and a release on a claim Jacob Vanderpoel had against W. M. T., before his failure in 1857, of \$30,000.

Afterwards the mortgage was sold for \$20,000.

Cost.....	\$60,000
Realized.....	20,000
Loss.....	<u>\$40,000</u>



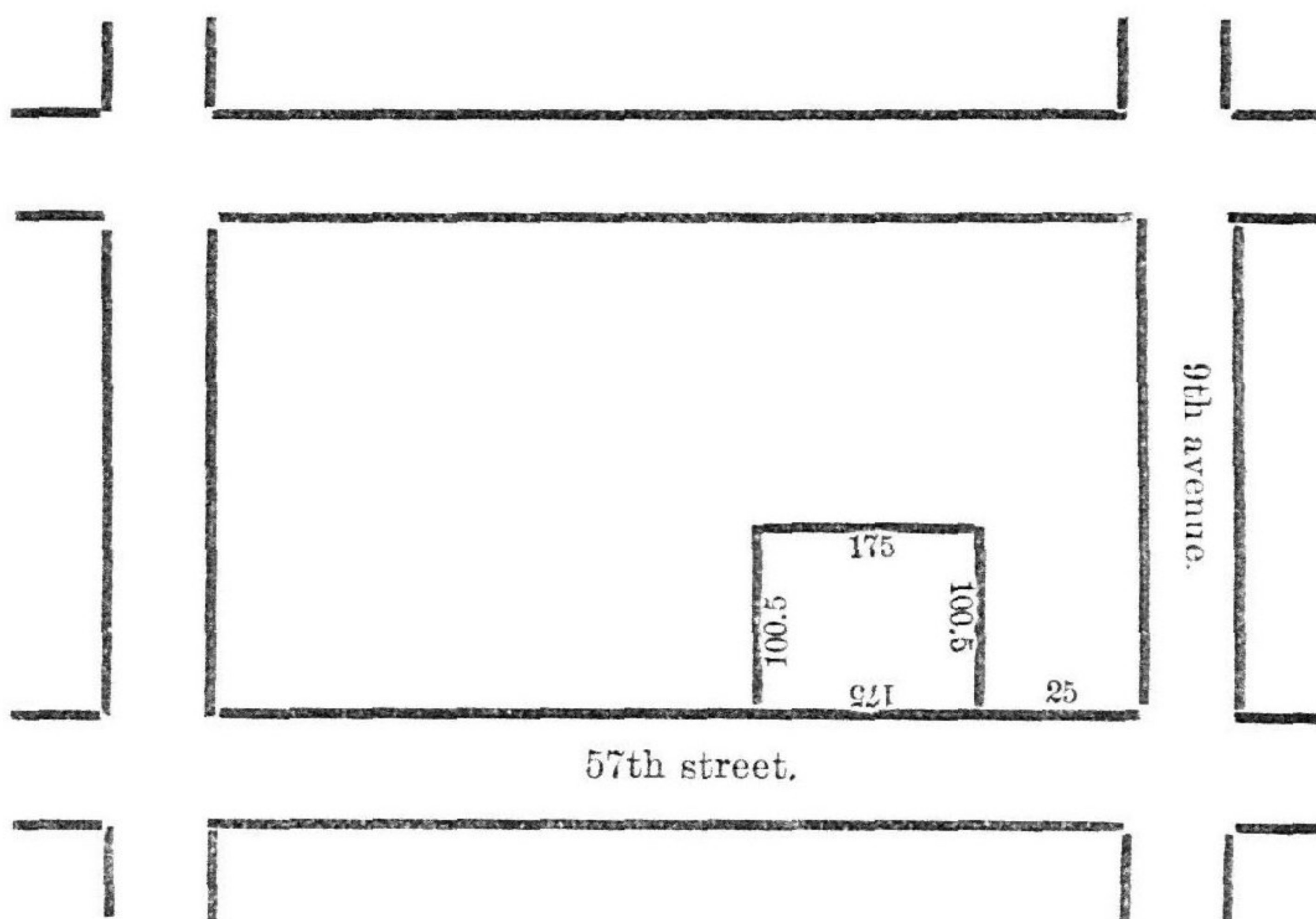
Recorded, 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, Page 649, Con. \$7-100,
Love, etc.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1871.

These six lots, 4 on Fifty-seventh street, and 2 almost in
the rear on Fifty-eighth street, cost about \$30,000.

Mortgaged and the mortgages sold and realized Mr.
Tweed about \$10,000.

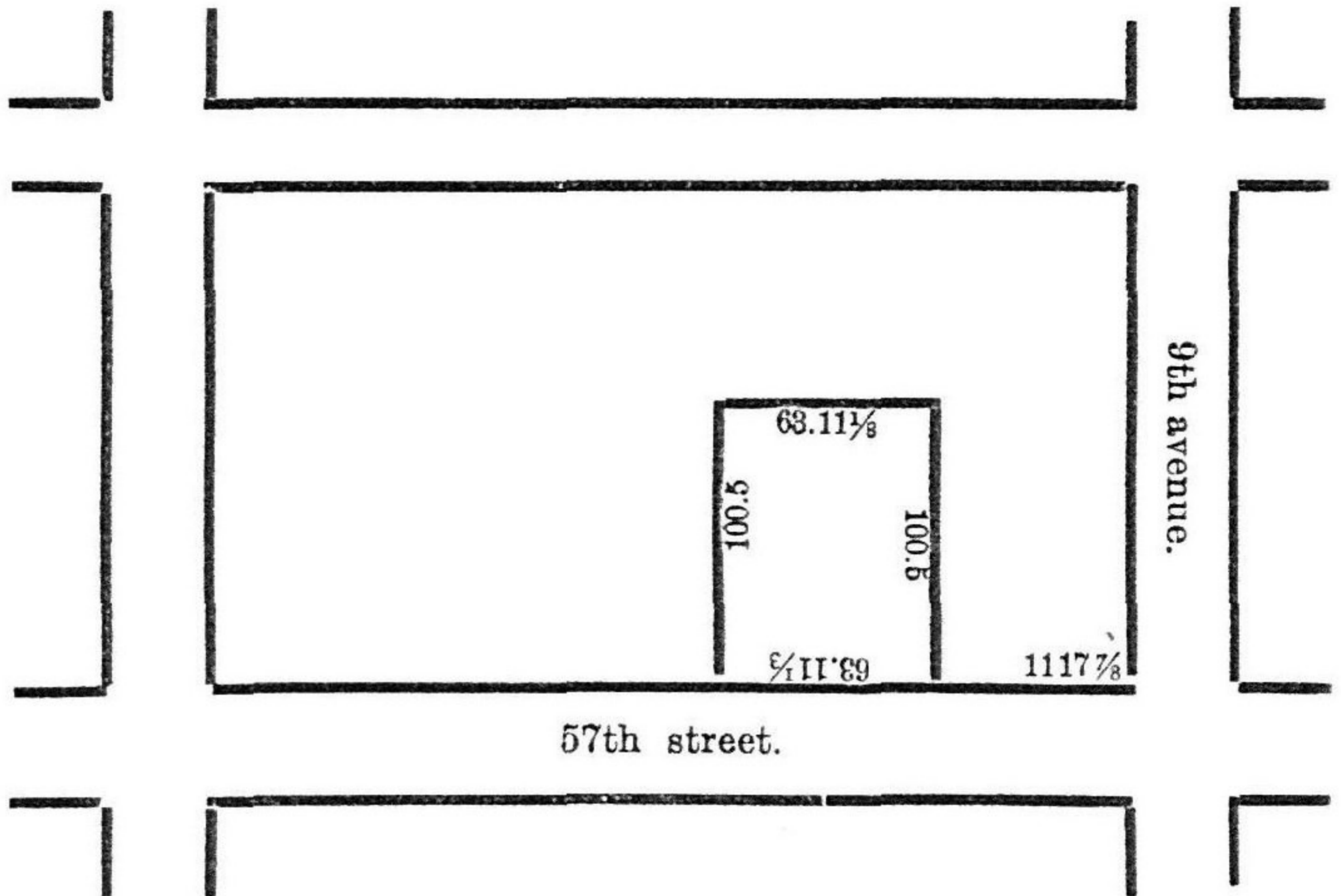
Cost.....	\$30,000
Realized.....	10,000
	<hr/>
	\$20,000
Loss.....	20,000



Recorded, 28th of April, 1871, Liber 1174, page 255, Con. \$40,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Stratford C. H. Bailey.
Deed dated April 28, 1871.

Correct.

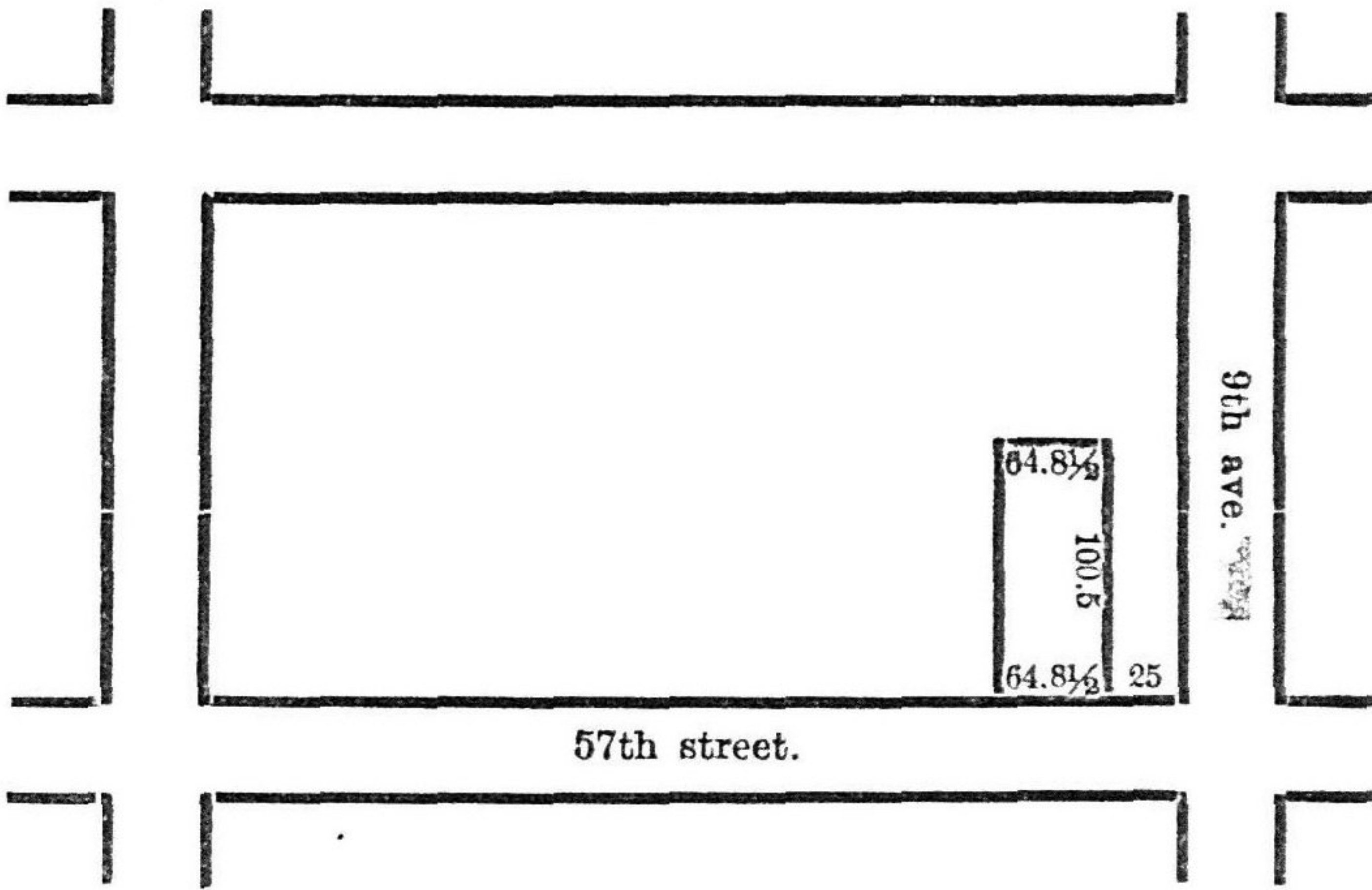


Recorded, 4th of August, 1871, Liber 1186, page 284, Con. \$300,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Michael W. Derham.
Deed dated July 1, 1871.

This consideration must mean \$30,000, not \$300,000.

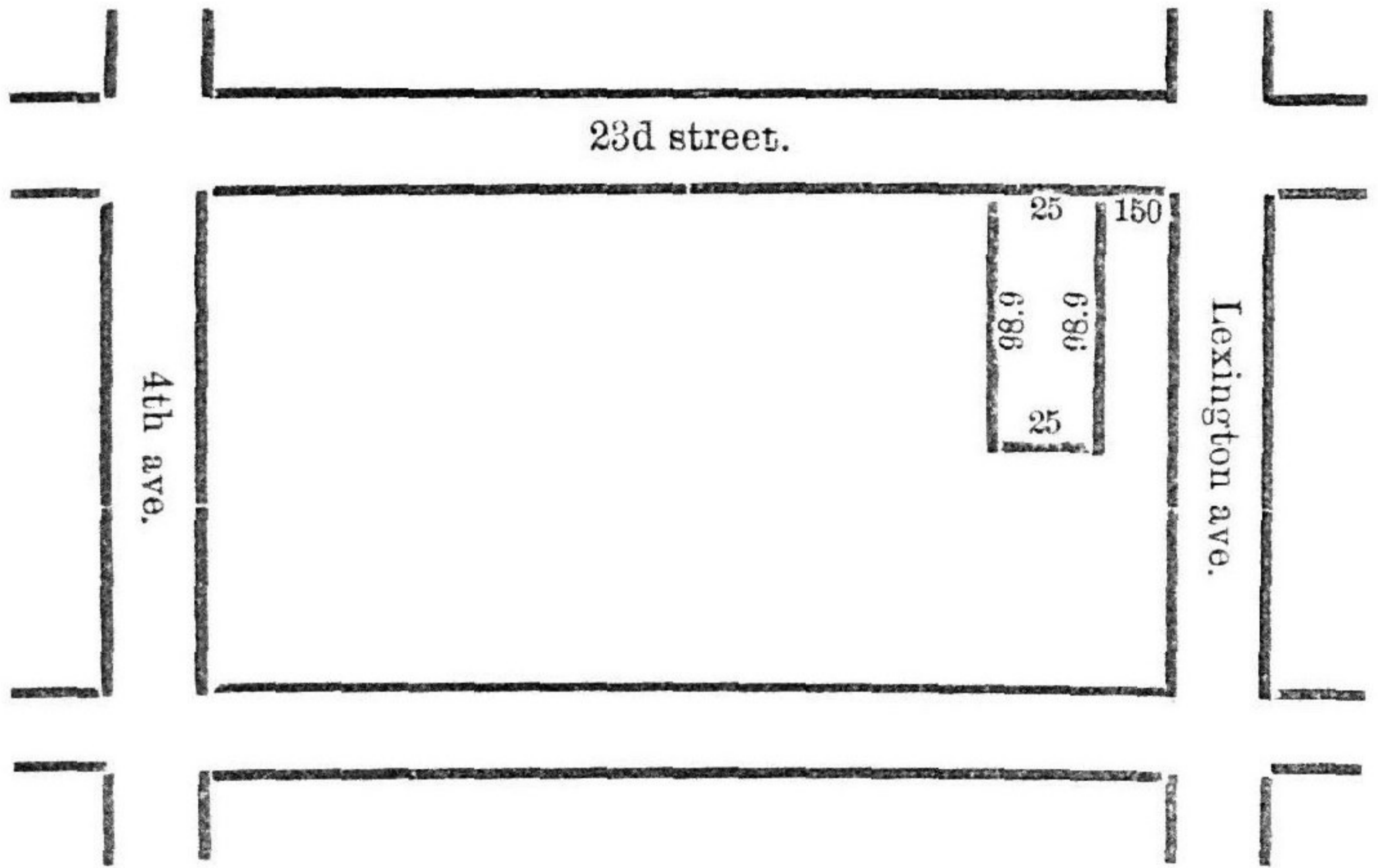
No recollection.



Recorded, 4th of August, 1871, Liber 1186, Page 284, Con. \$300,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Michael W. Derham.
Deed dated July 1, 1871.

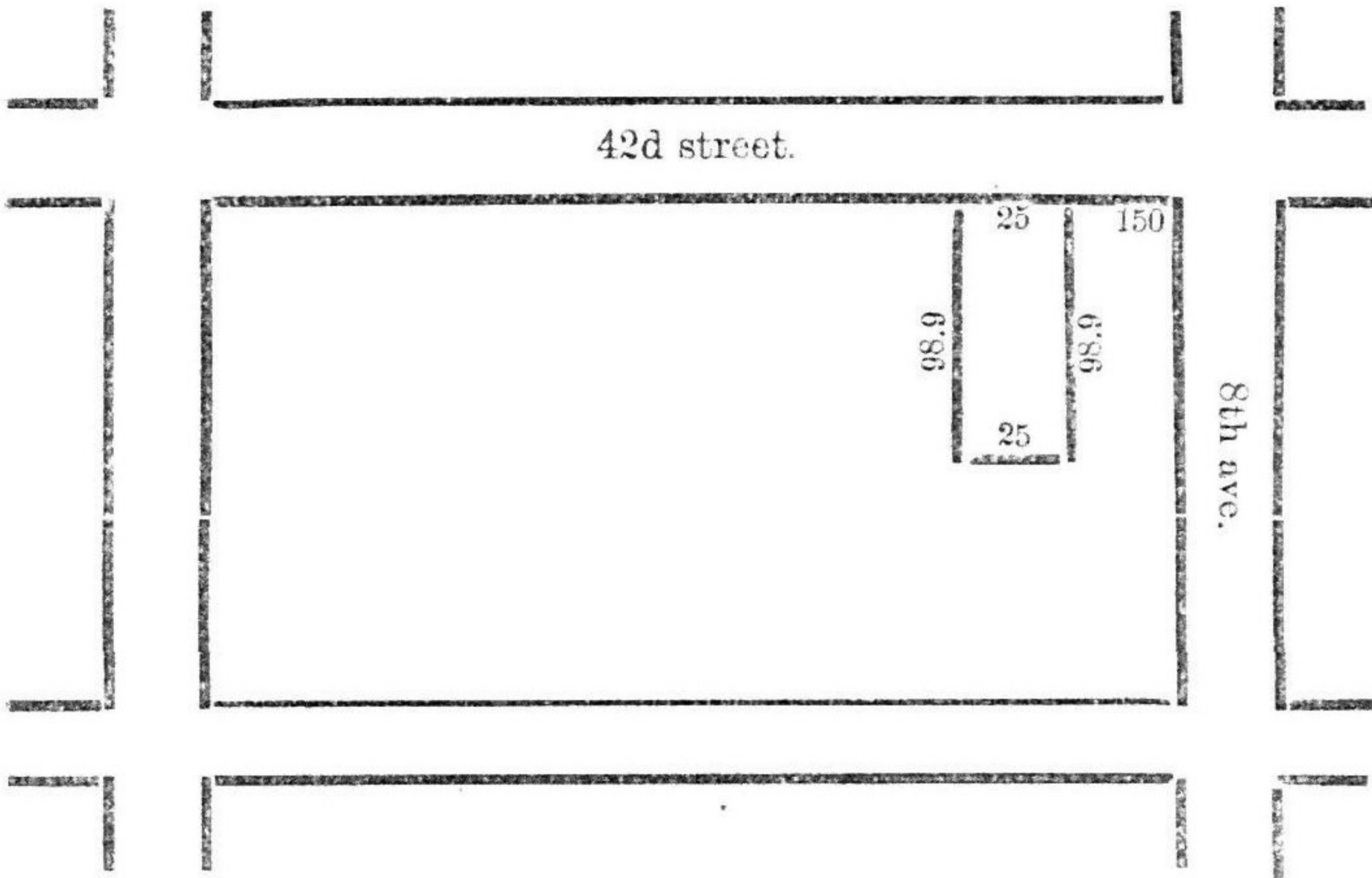
Same as preceding.



Recorded, 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, Page 643, Con., 13th part
dollars.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1871.

Realized over the mortgage about.....	\$8,000
Cost.....	30,500
Mortgage about.....	
Loss.....	\$10,000

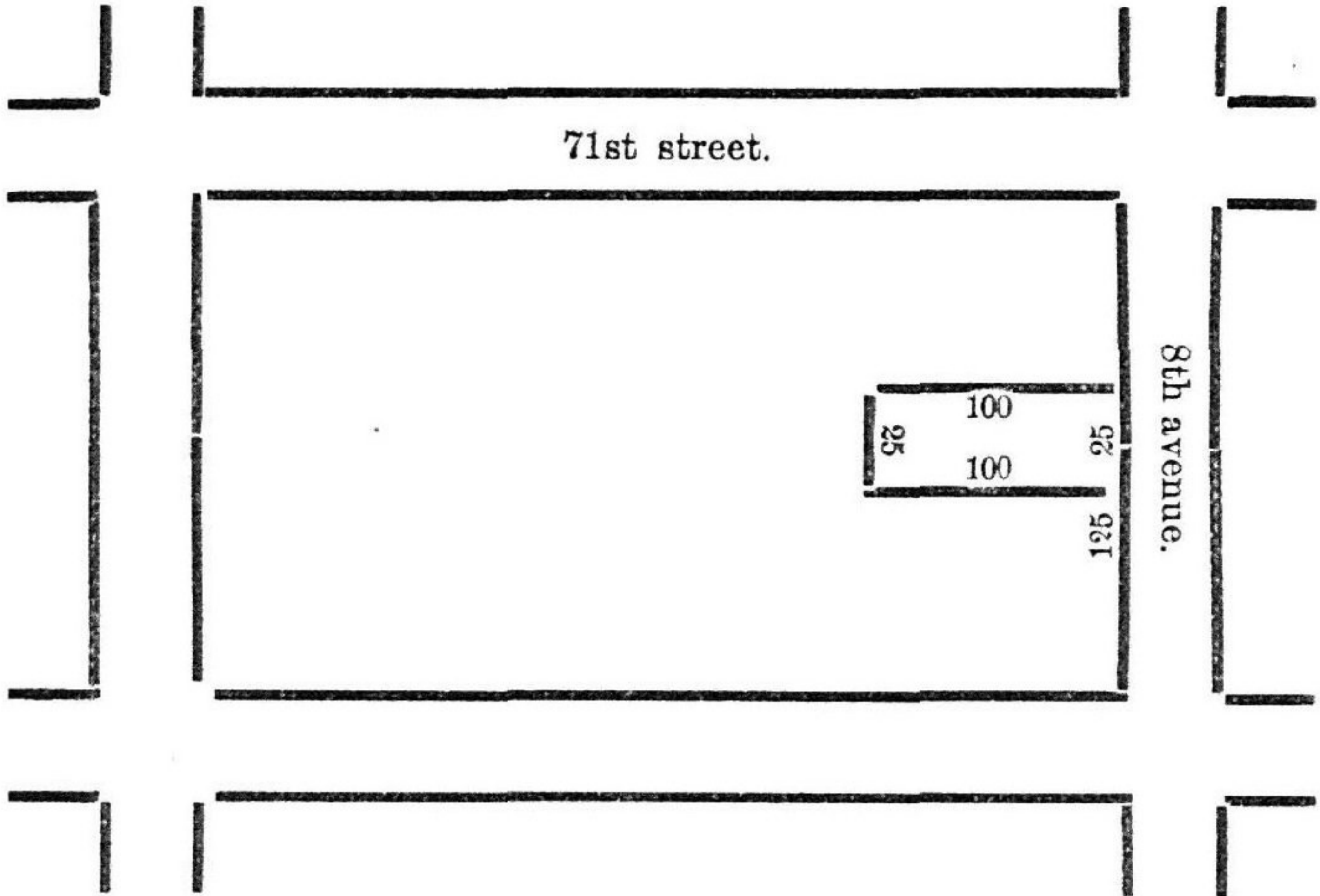


Recorded, 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, Page 643, Con. Love, etc.,
2-100 dollars.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1871.

Bought in March, 1869, for \$12,000, Mortgage 5.610.

Sold to N. A. Childs, netted about.....	\$3,600
Loss about.....	\$3,000



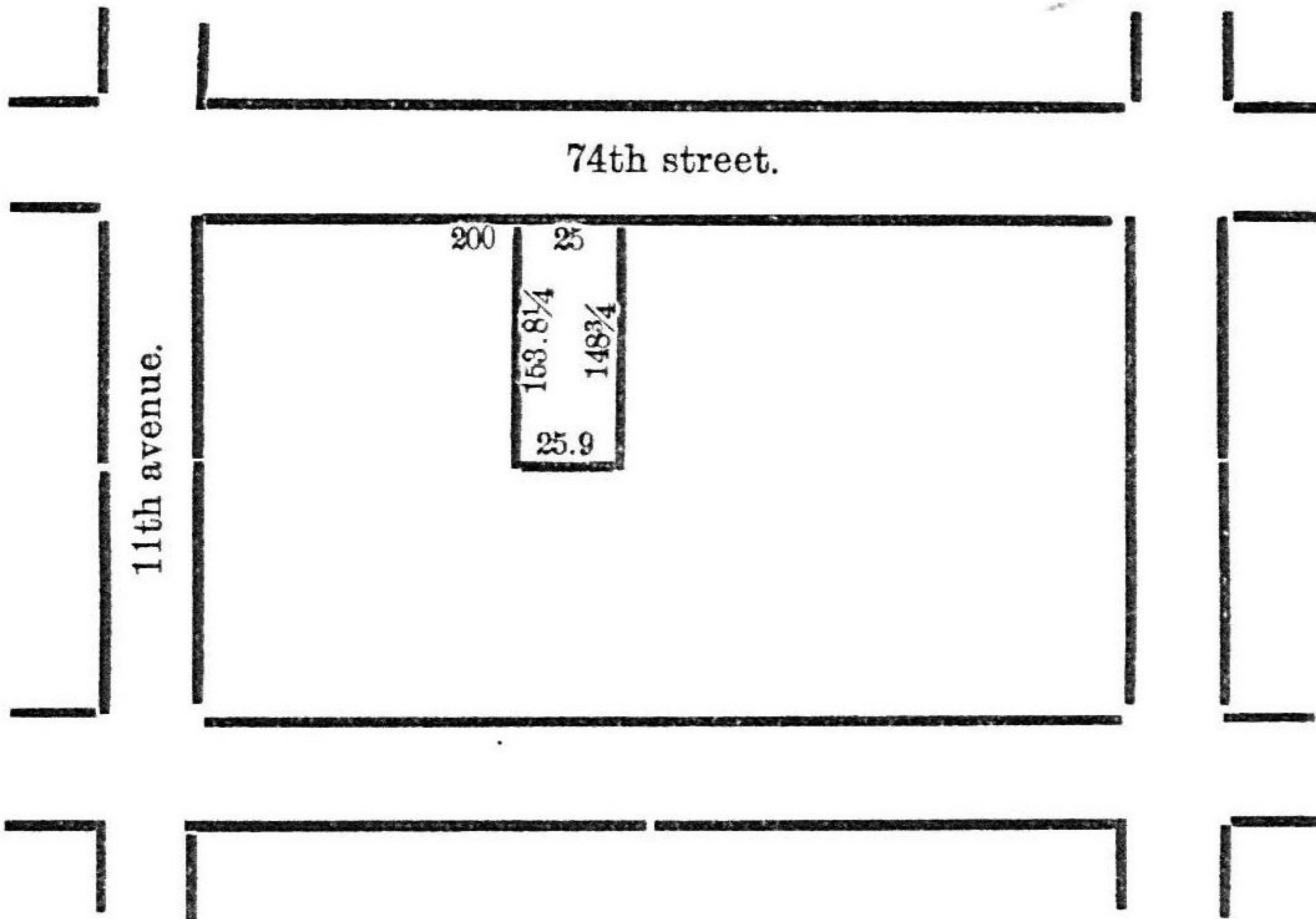
Recorded 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, Page 648, Con. Love, etc., \$13-100.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed. Deed dated November 21, 1871.

Conveyed by R. M. Tweed to E. A. D. Tweed, on 21st November, 1873. Sold by E. A. D. Tweed, and netted Mr. Tweed about \$8,000.

In 1871 Mr. Tweed was offered \$25,000 for it.

Cost	\$16,250
Realized.....	8,000
	\$8,250
Loss.....	8,250



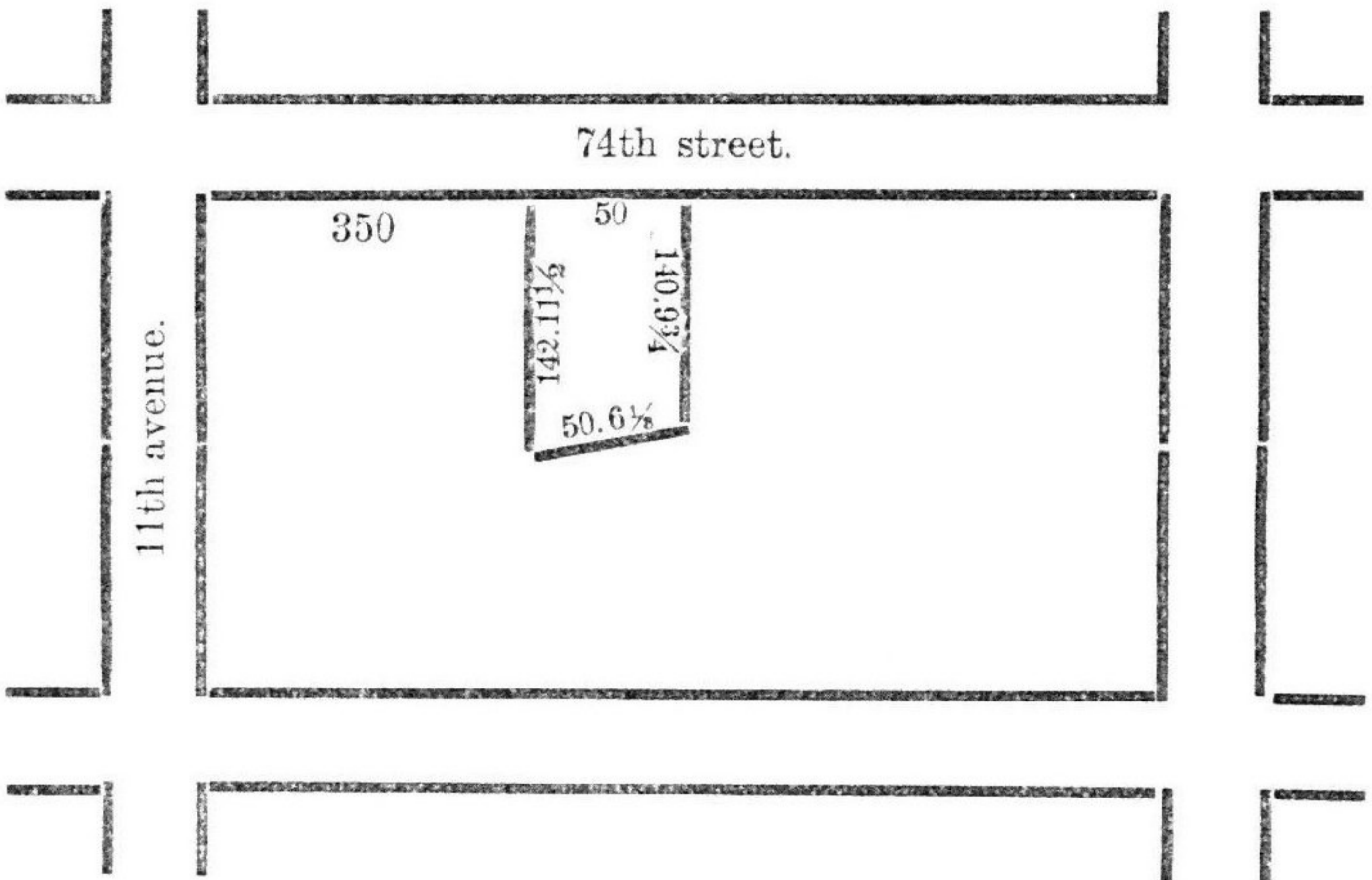
Recorded 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, Page 643, Con. Love, etc.,
 \$13-100.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
 Deed dated November 21, 1871.

This and the piece on next page bought of the Orphan
 Asylum in 1869 for \$22,900.

Conveyed by R. M. Tweed to Eliza A. D. Tweed, 21st
 November, 1873. Sold and netted Mr. Tweed about
 \$6,500.

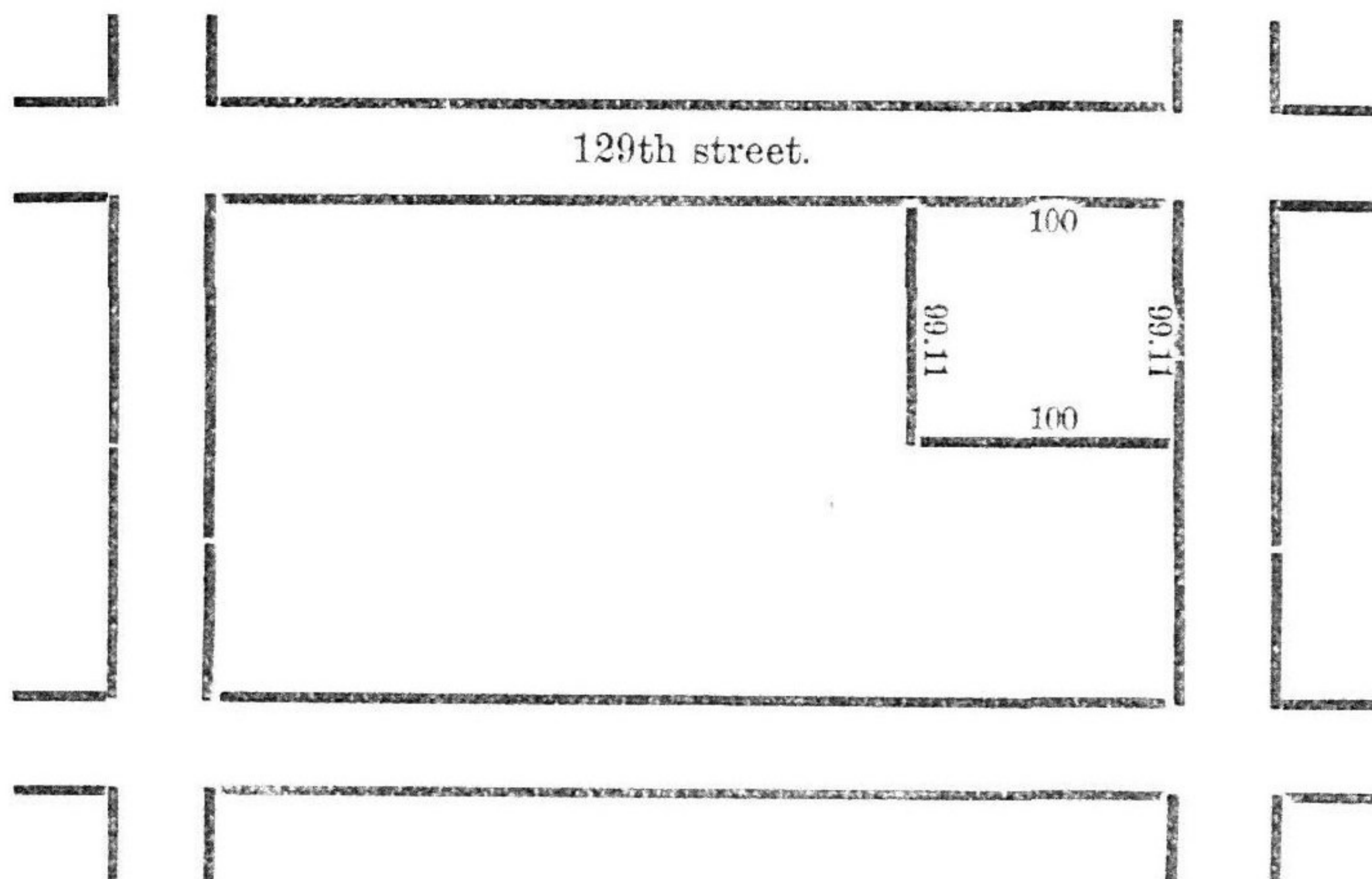
Cost.....	\$22,900
Realized.....	6,500
	<hr/>
Loss.....	\$16,400



Recorded, January 4, 1872, Liber 1186, page 643. Con. Love, etc., §13-100.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Dated November 21, 1874.

See preceding page, which includes this.



Recorded, March 23, 1872, Liber 1200, page 514. Con., \$1.00.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated March 20, 1872.

Subject to mortgage of \$150,000.

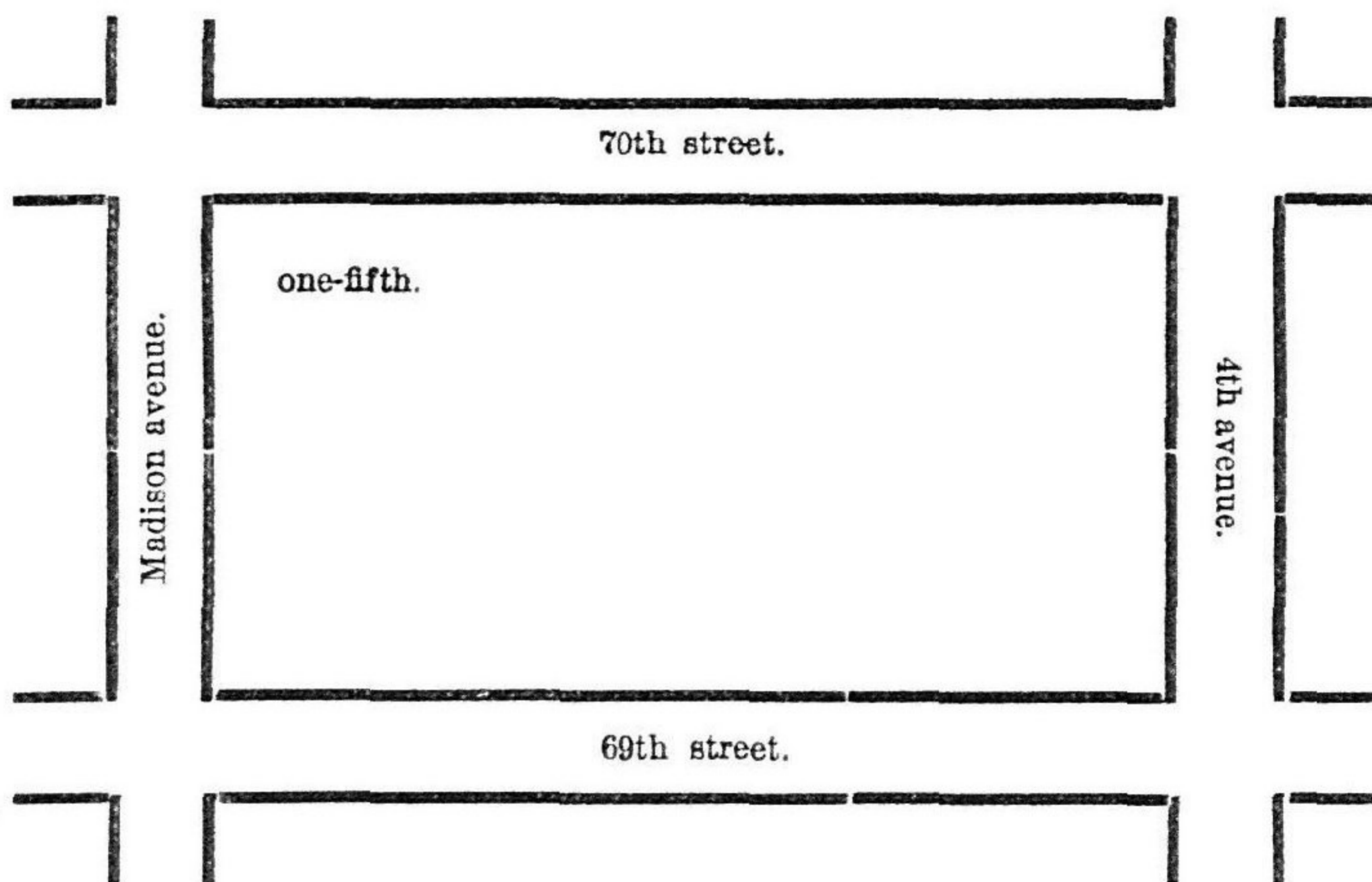
Some paid off.

Conveyed by Richard M. Tweed to Wm. Fullerton,
November 21, 1873.

Reconveyed by Fullerton to Tweed in 1874.

Foreclosure proceedings were commenced, and in 1875
was sold and bought in by the mortgagee, and suit now
pending for deficiency against the Tweeds, and includes
property next to it on One Hundred and Twenty-ninth
street.

Loss, \$100,000.

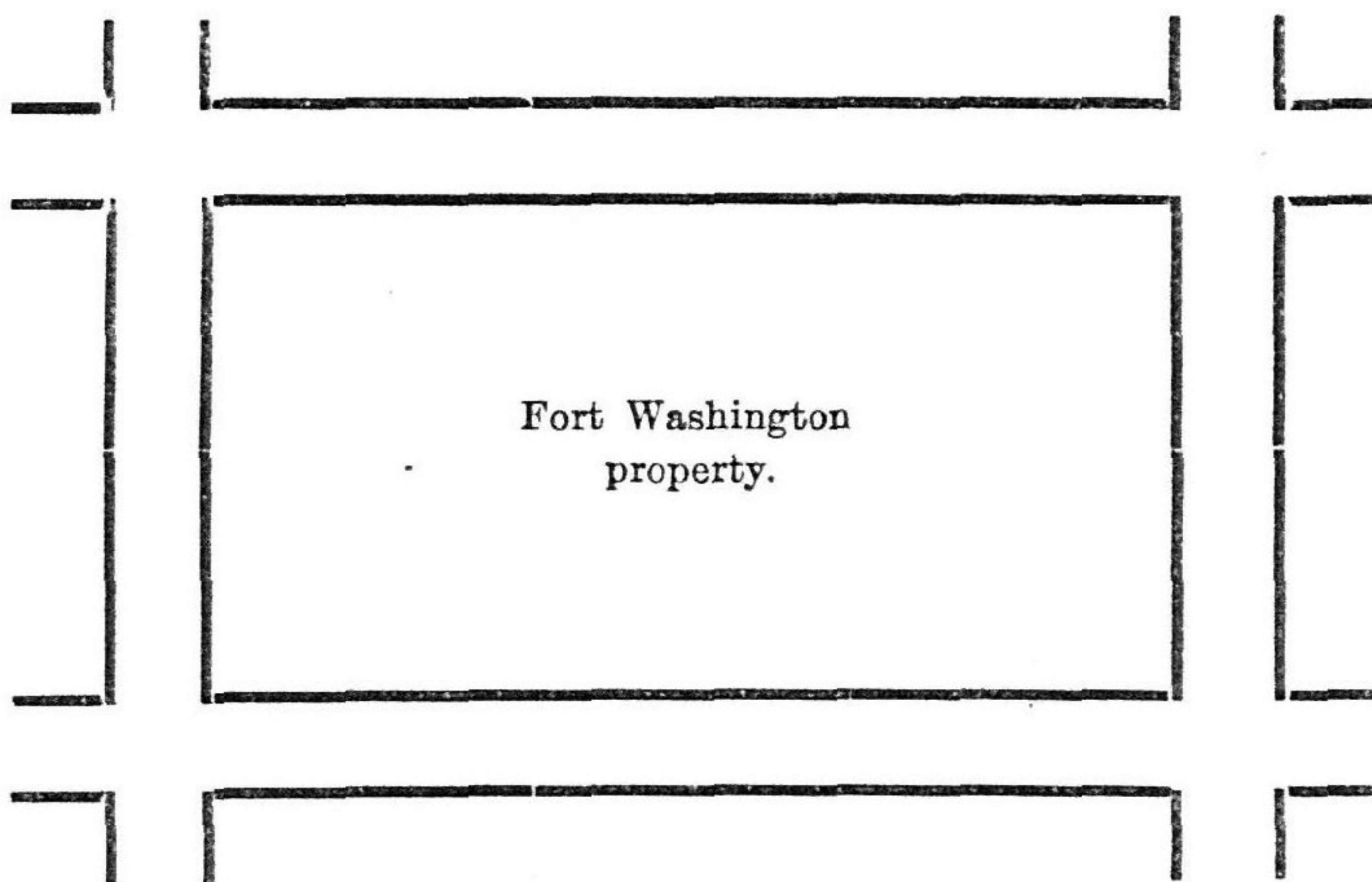


Recorded, 23d of April, 1872, Liber 1210, page 349, Con. \$27,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Thomas Murphy. Deed dated April 22, 1872.

Deeded back to Murphy for about cost of share.

This transaction is included in that described further on, on same block, realizing, altogether, about \$105,000.

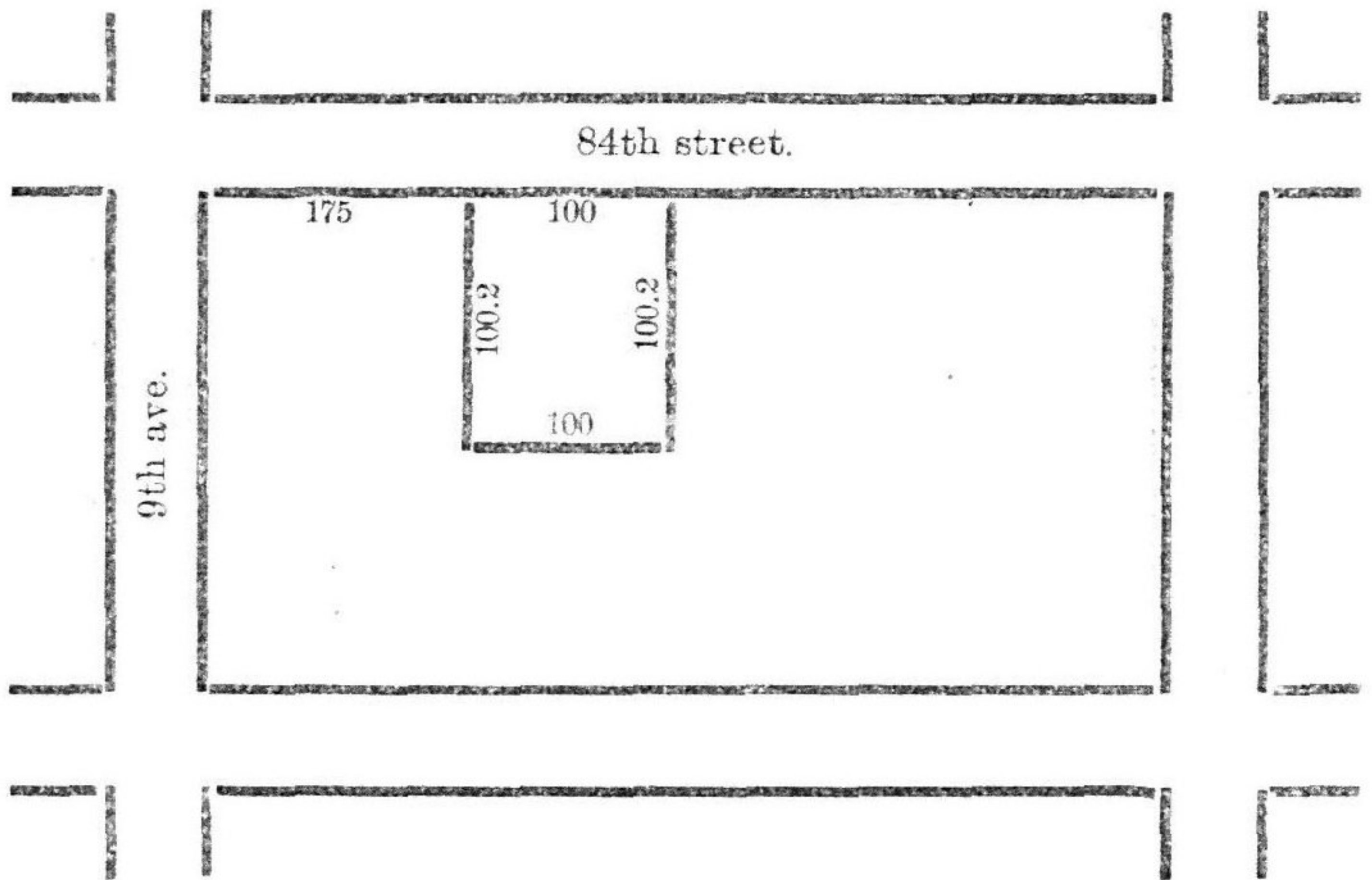


Recorded, 26th of October, 1871, Liber 1194, page 199, Con. \$250,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated August 16, 1871.

Bought in 1869 ; paid \$275,000.

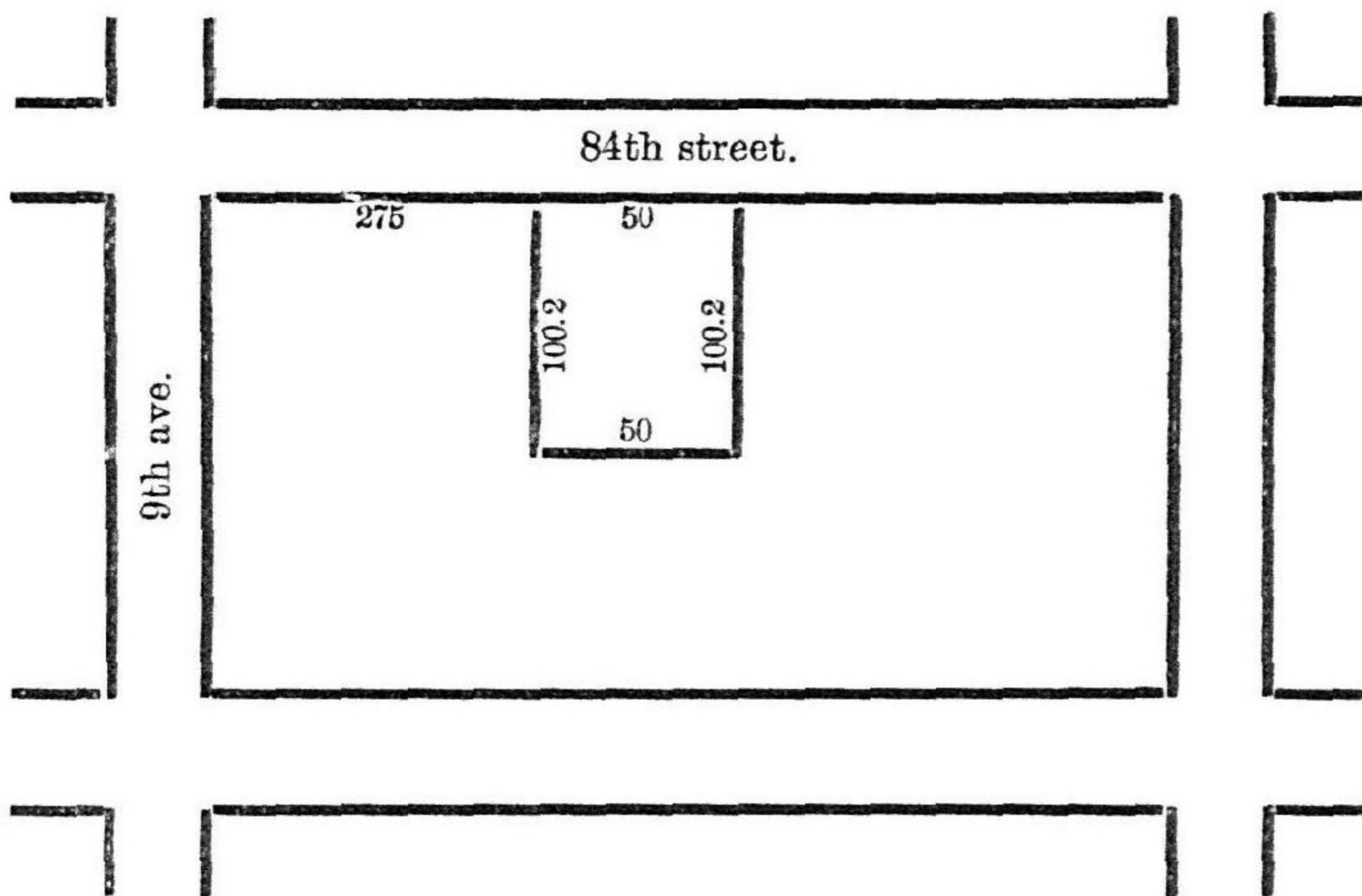
Sold in 1872, for \$150,000 in blank, to Pottier & Sty-mus Manufacturing Co., and by them sold to A. T. Stewart, proceeds credited to W. M. Tweed, in part payment of their account in furnishing the Metropolitan Hotel. Loss, \$125,000.



Recorded, 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, page 643.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed, deed dated November 21, 1871.

Conveyed to Elihu Root, one of Mr. Tweed's counsel, on account of counsel fees—nothing else realized—balance was of very little value over taxes, assessments, etc. This and the next three pages bought in one parcel.

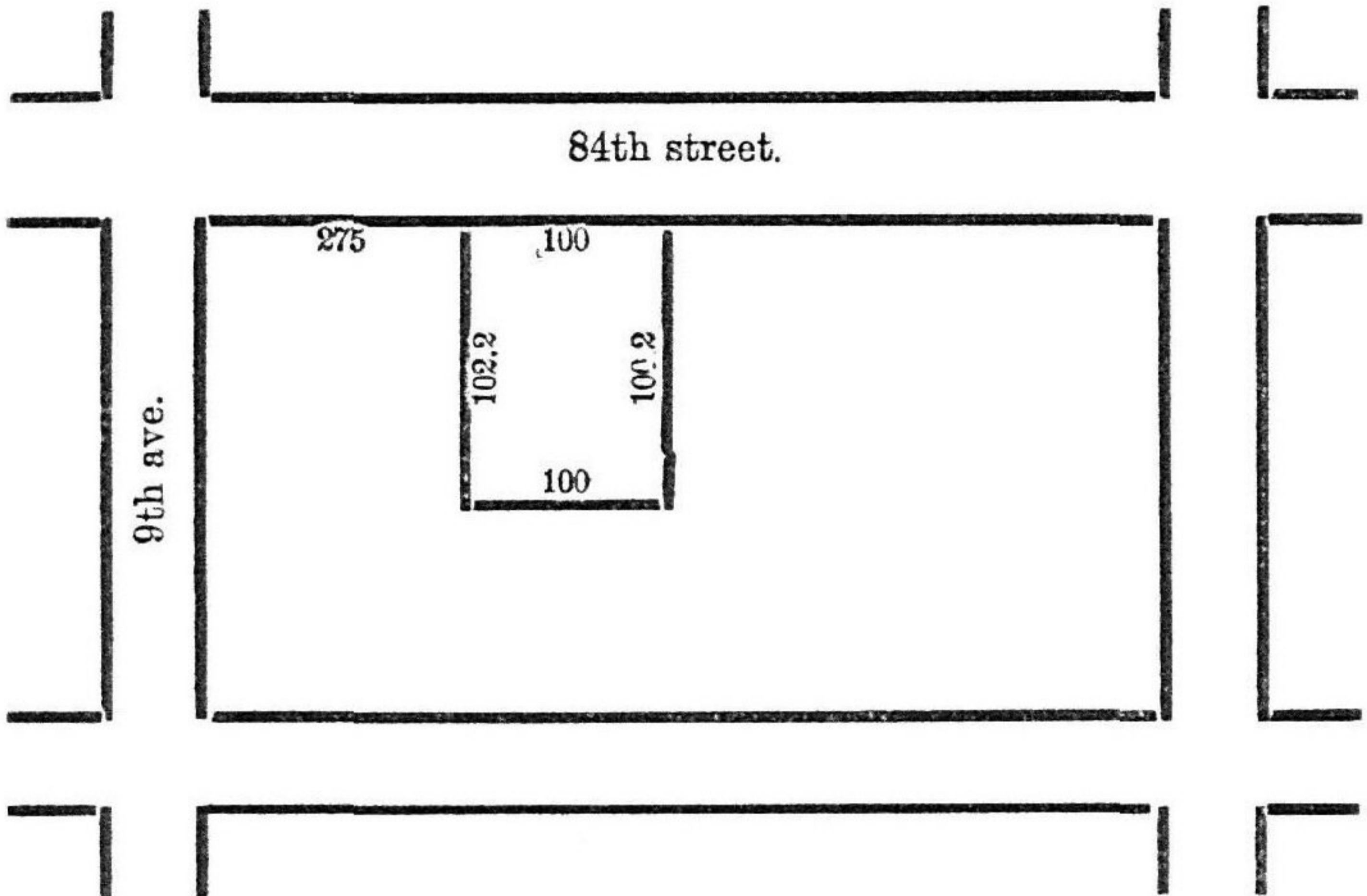


Recorded, 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, page 643.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed,
deed dated November 21, 1871.

Records will show. W. M. T. has no knowledge.

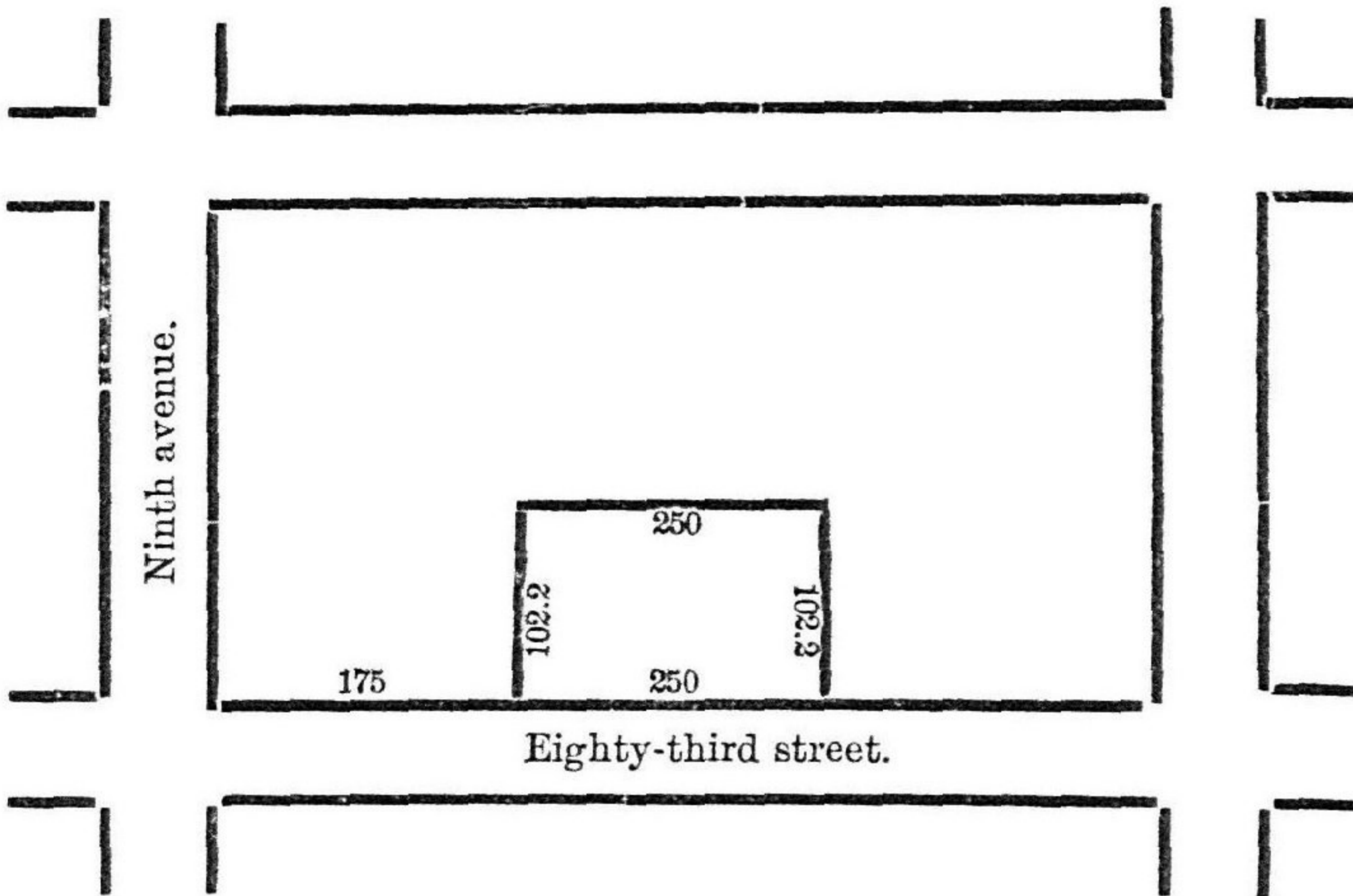
Loss on this and preceding parcel..... \$65,000



Recorded, 6th of May, 1870, Liber 1149, page 198, Con. \$53,926.

William M. Tweed and wife to John Carlin, deed dated May 6, 1870.

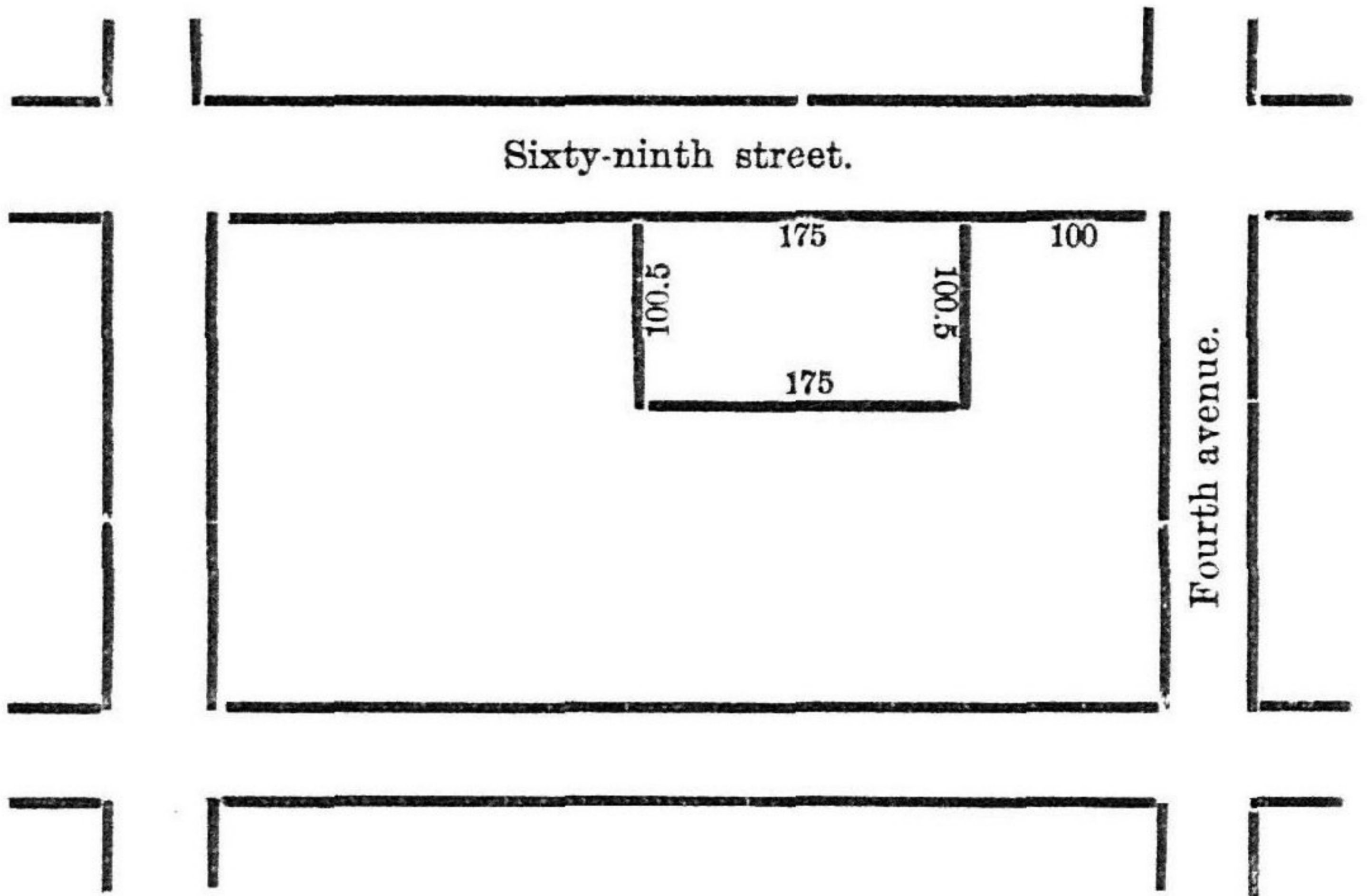
Took purchase money, mortgages in payment, and realized about 50 cents on the dollar.



Recorded, 9th of May, 1870, Liber 1148, page 299, Con. \$69,137.

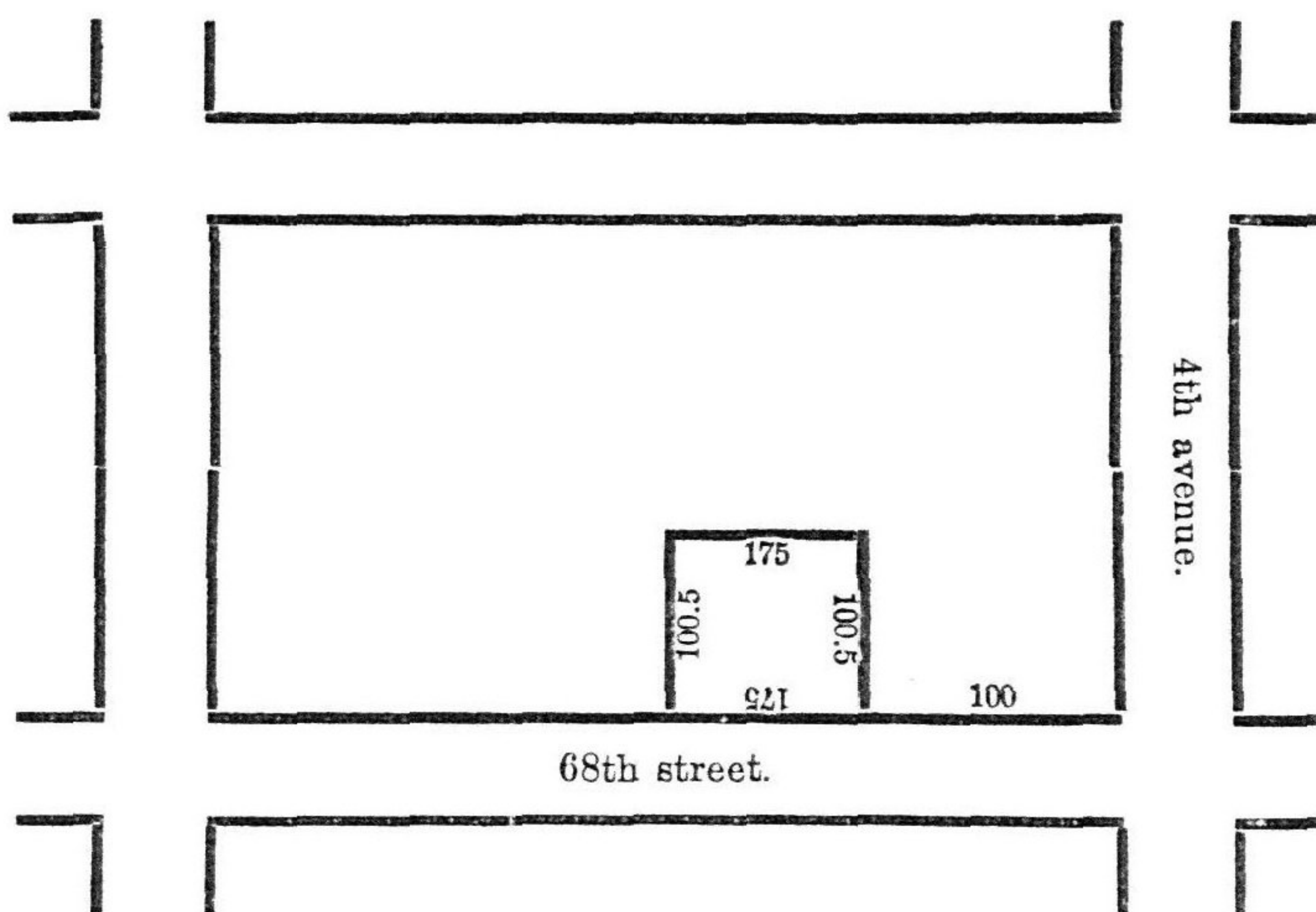
William M. Tweed and wife to John Carlin. Deed dated May 6, 1870.

Same as preceding page.



Recorded, 8th of May, 1871, Liber 1156, page 644, Con. \$105,000.

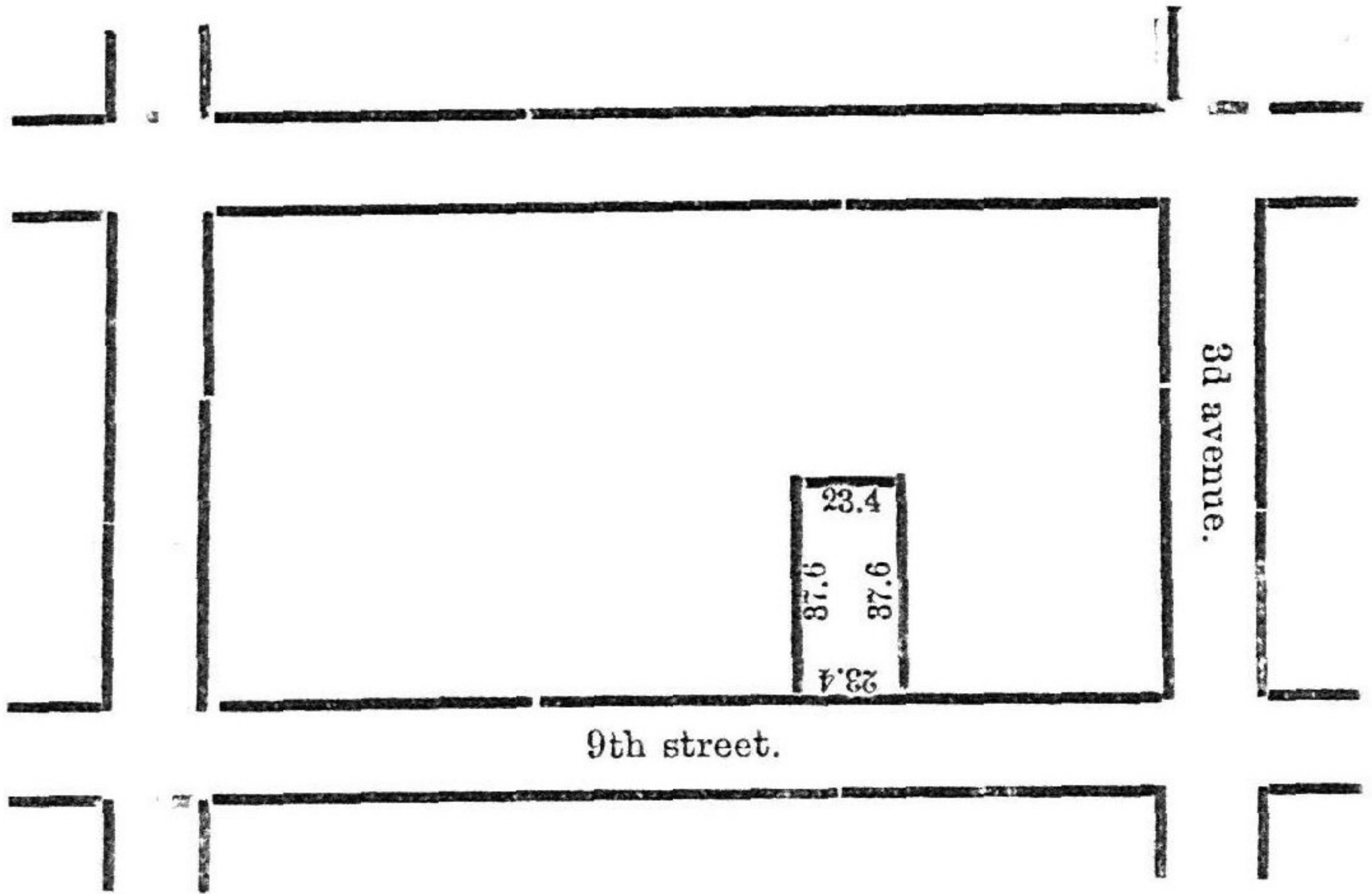
William M. Tweed and wife to Peter B. Sweeney and wife, T. M. and wife, Hugh Smith, and Richard B. Connolly and wife to John C. Thompson. Deed dated April 1, 1871.



Recorded, 4th of October, 1871, Liber 1,200, page 120, Con. \$105,000.

William M. Tweed and wife, Peter B. Sweeney, S. M. and wife, Hugh Smith and Richard B. Connolly and wife to John C. Thompson. Deed dated September 1, 1871.

No distinct recollection as to amounts, but accepts amount in deed as correct, and, therefore, realized \$105,000.



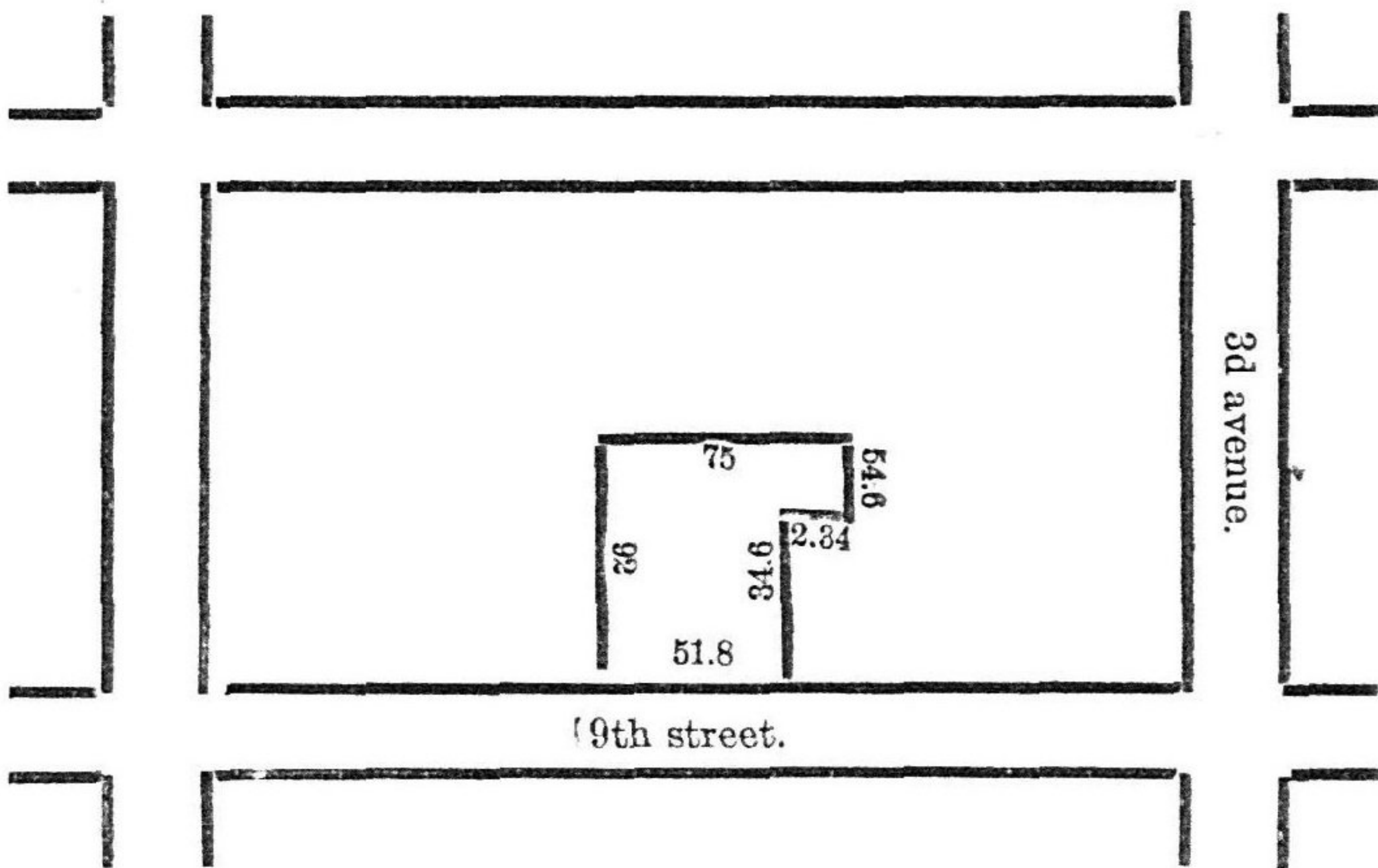
Recorded, 4th of Jan., 1872, Liber 1186, page 643; Con. \$13-part dollar.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 24, 1871.
Cost in 1869 \$18,000.

Conveyed by R. M. T. to E. A. D. Tweed, 21st Nov., 1873.

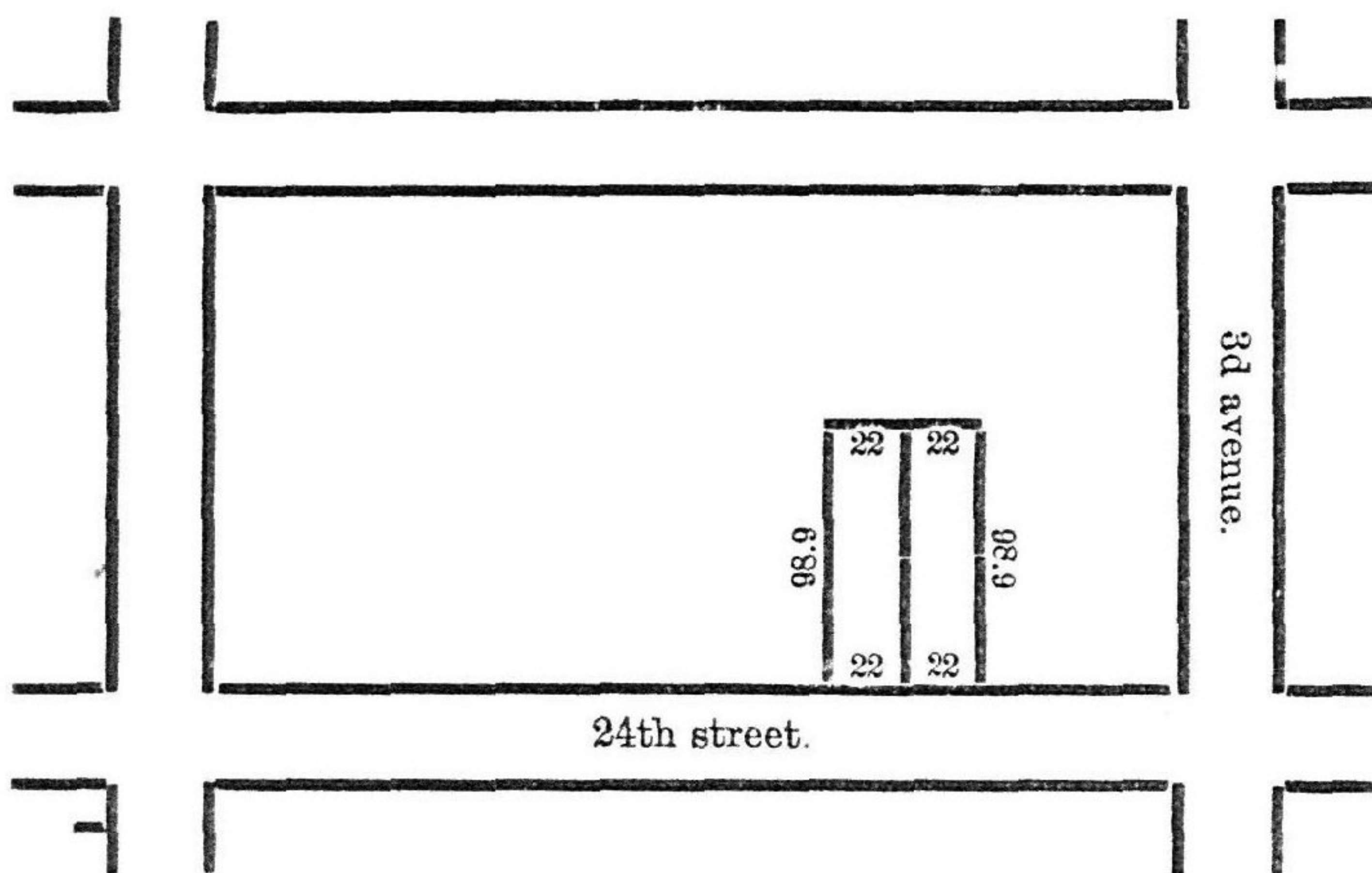
Conveyed to E. H. Balch by E. A. D. Tweed in 1875; netted to Mr. Tweed, about \$6,000.

Cost.....	\$18,000
Realized.....	6,000
	<hr/>
Loss	\$12,000



Recorded, 30th of June, 1871, Liber 1191, page 41, Con. \$10,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Michael Holliday. Deed dated 28th June, 1871.

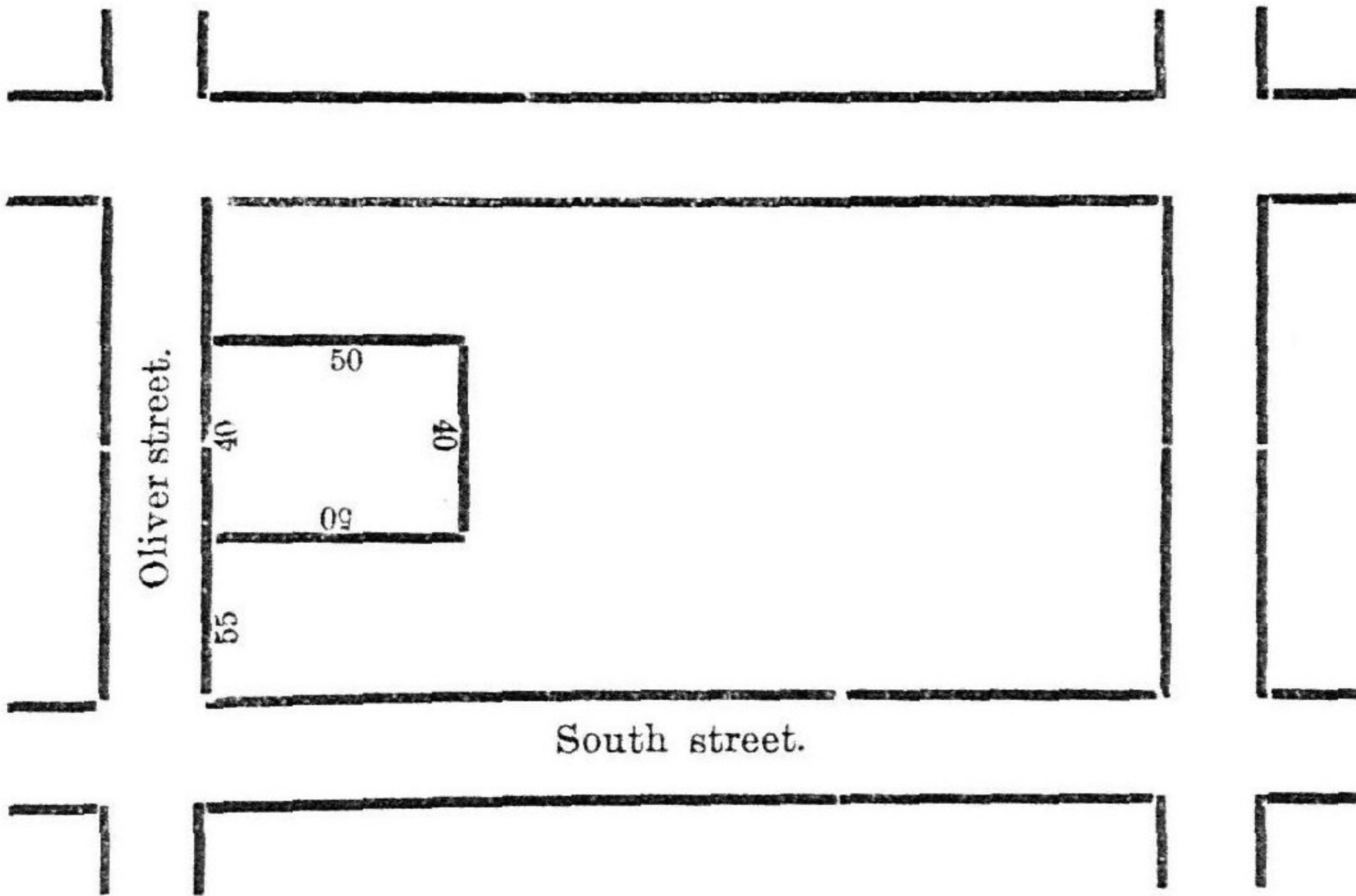


Recorded, 31st of May, 1872, Liber 1225, page 140, Con. \$23,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to William C. Traphagen.
Deed dated May 31, 1872.

Held by W. M. T. for an advance of \$6,000, which was
paid back to W. M. T., and by him transferred about 1872.

Realized \$6,000



Recorded, 4th of January, 1872. Liber 1186, [page 643, Con. \$13th.

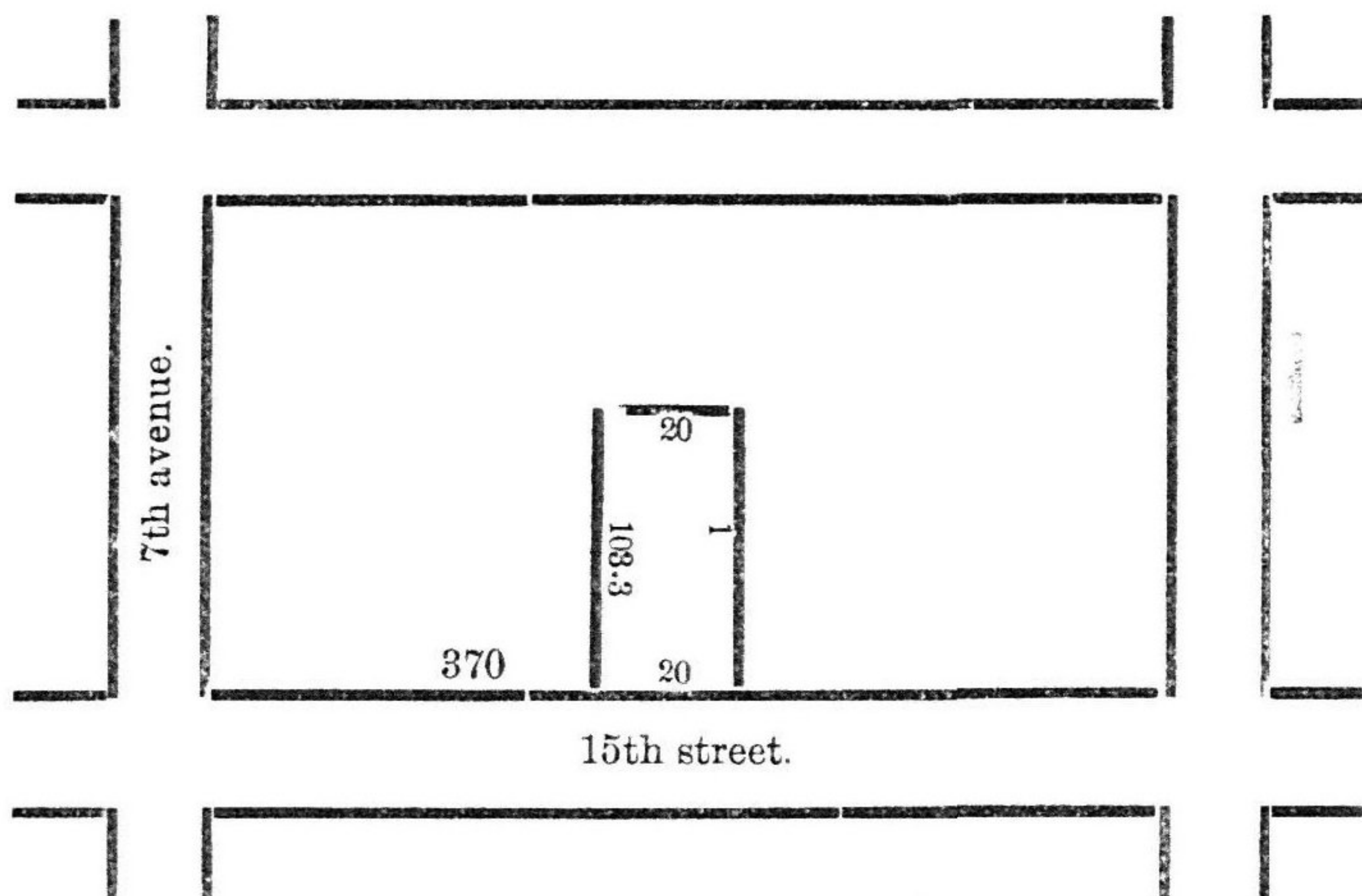
William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1871.

Conveyed by R. M. Tweed to E. A. D. Tweed, November 21, 1873.

Conveyed by E. A. D. Tweed to M. W. Derham, January 31, 1874.

Netted to Mr. Tweed about \$5,000.

Cost.....	\$12,000
Realized.....	5,000
	<hr/>
	\$7,000
 Loss.....	 \$7,000

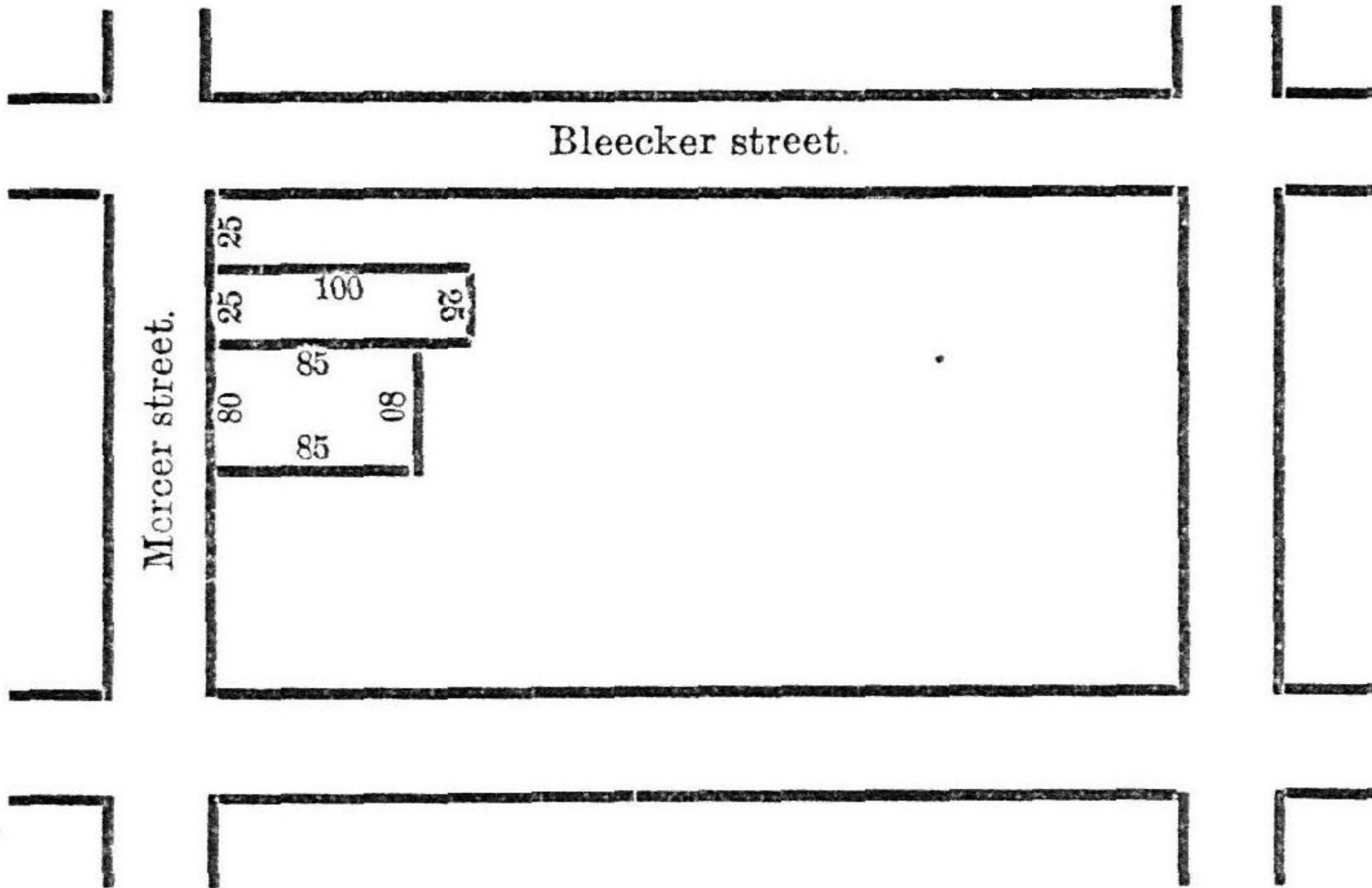


Recorded 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, Page 643, Con. \$13th.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1871.

Conveyed by R. M. Tweed to John C. Halligan, for
services to his father as clerk.

Cost, \$14,200.



Recorded, 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, page 649, Con. §13.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1871.

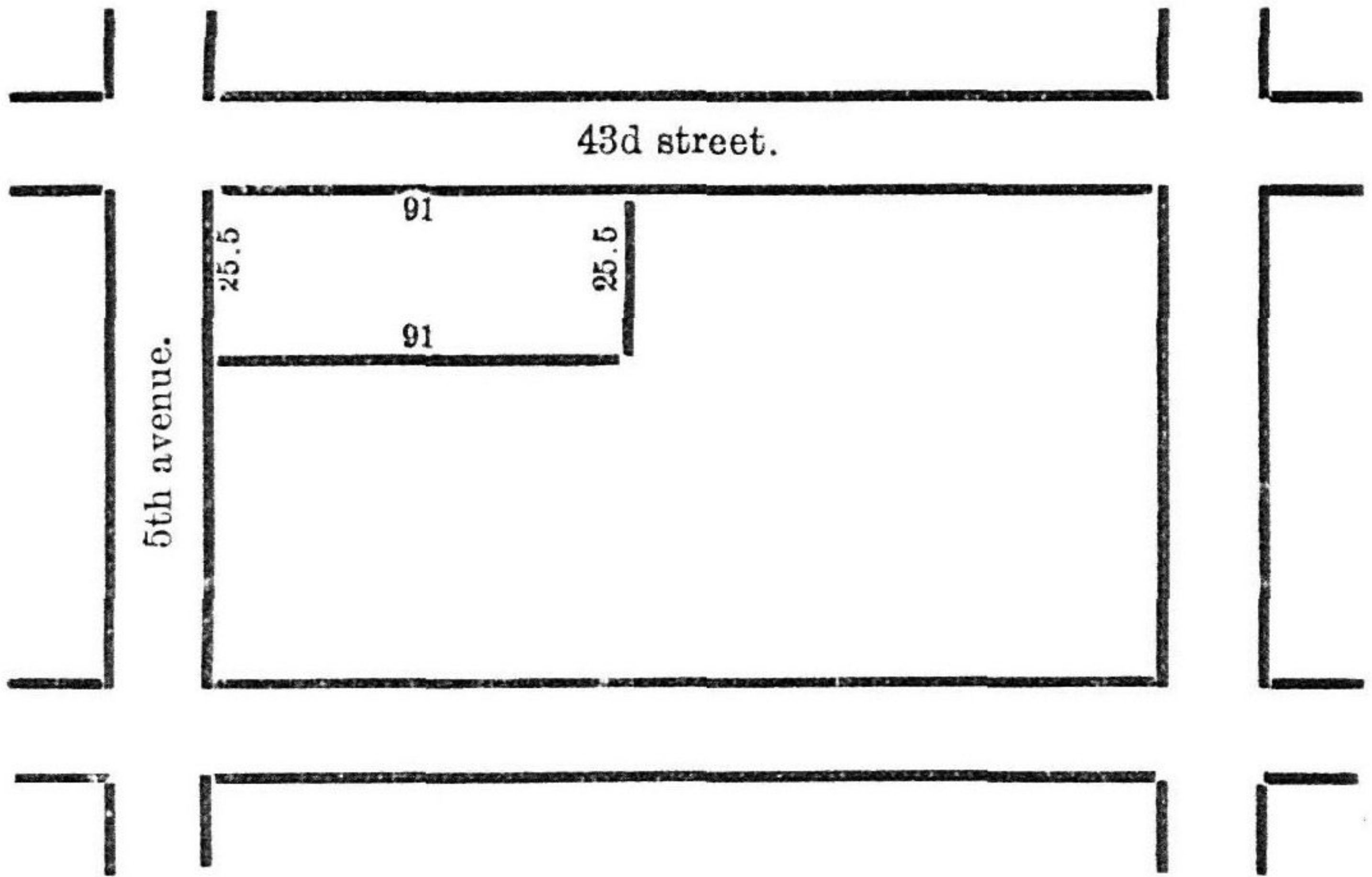
Mortgaged to Isaac N. Phelps and J. J. Phelps for \$62,000.

Conveyed by W. M. T. to R. M. T. by deed dated November 21, 1871.

Conveyed by R. M. T. to Wm. Edelsten, by deed dated November 21, 1873, subject to Phelps' mortgage, which was then under foreclosure for \$5,000 paid to Mr. Tweed.

Sold under foreclosure in December, 1873, for about \$82,000—about \$3,000 equity from Referee.

Cost.....	\$120,000
Mortgage.....	62,000
	<hr/>
	\$58,000
Realized	5,000
	<hr/>
Loss.....	\$53,000



Recorded, 26th of October, 1871. Liber 1194, page 201.

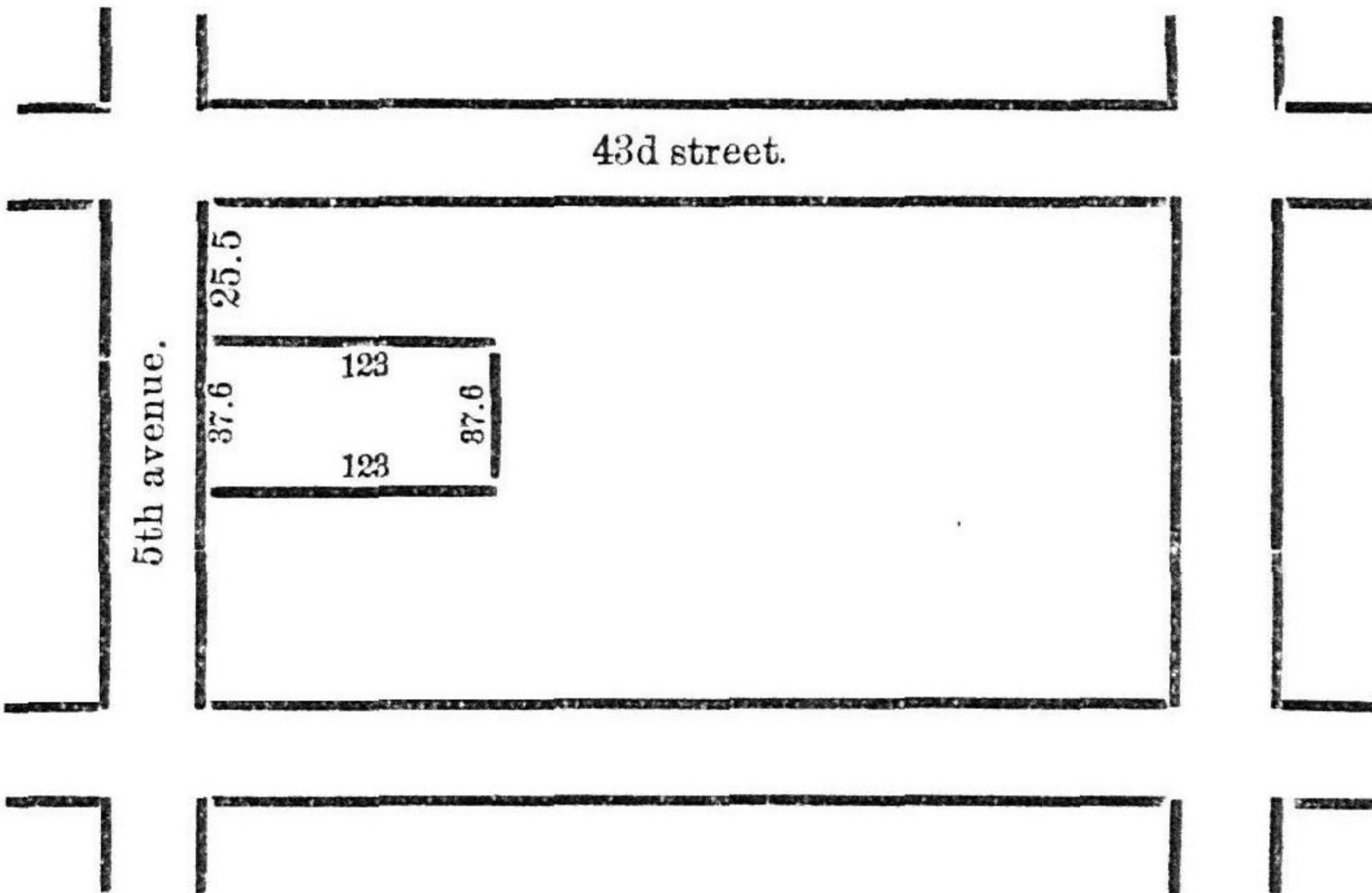
William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed, Deed dated August 16, 1871.

This property and the next four pages is known as the property No. 511 Fifth avenue. Cost, altogether, \$275,000.

In 1872 Richard Tweed mortgaged this property to Mr. Langdon, or Hutton, for \$150,000.

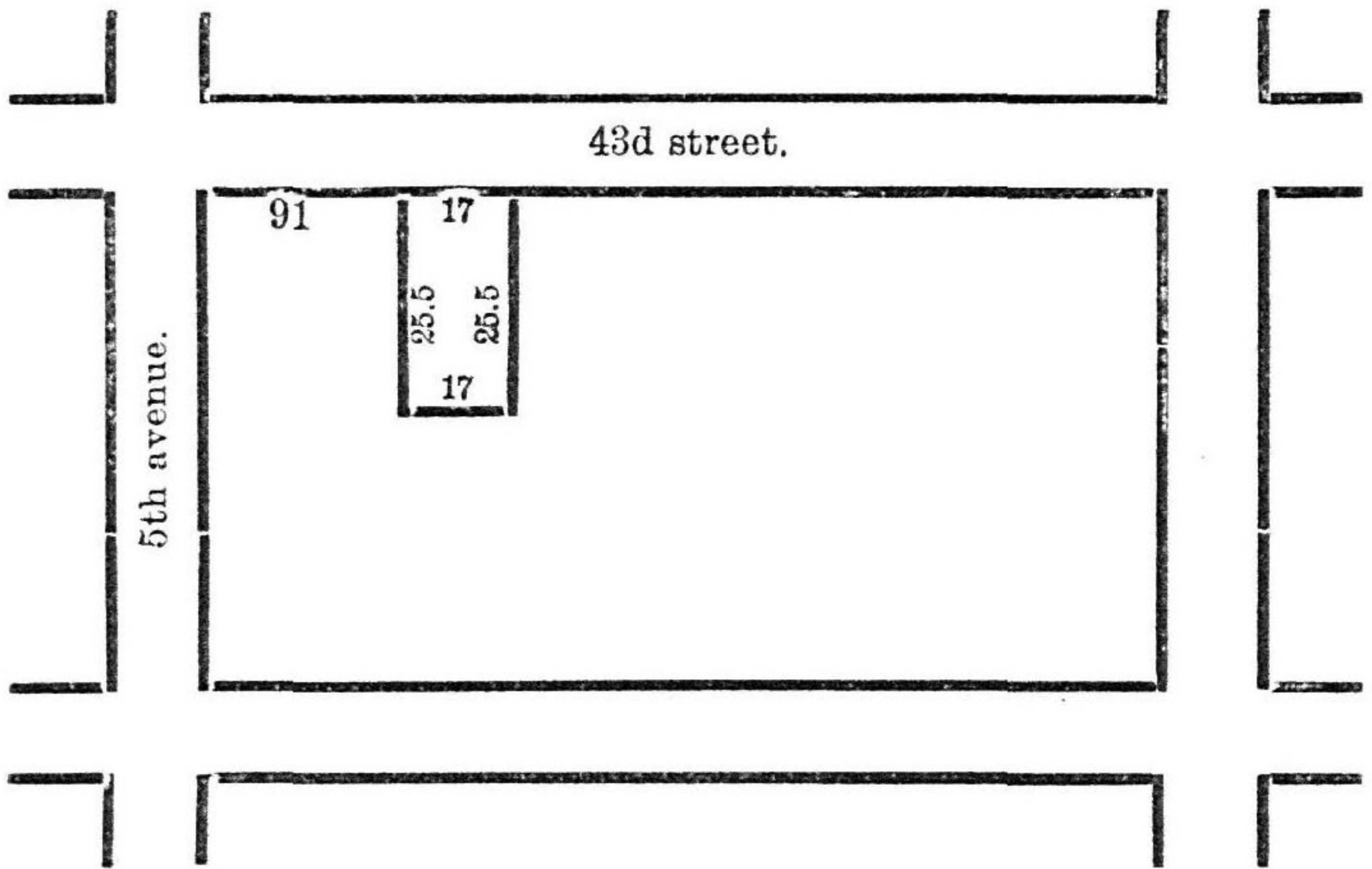
Mr. Tweed netted from this about \$110,000, and about fall of 1874 gave deed to mortgagees. Received in cash, over mortgage, \$12,000.

Cost.....	\$275,000
Realized	122,000
	\$153,000
Loss.....	\$153,000



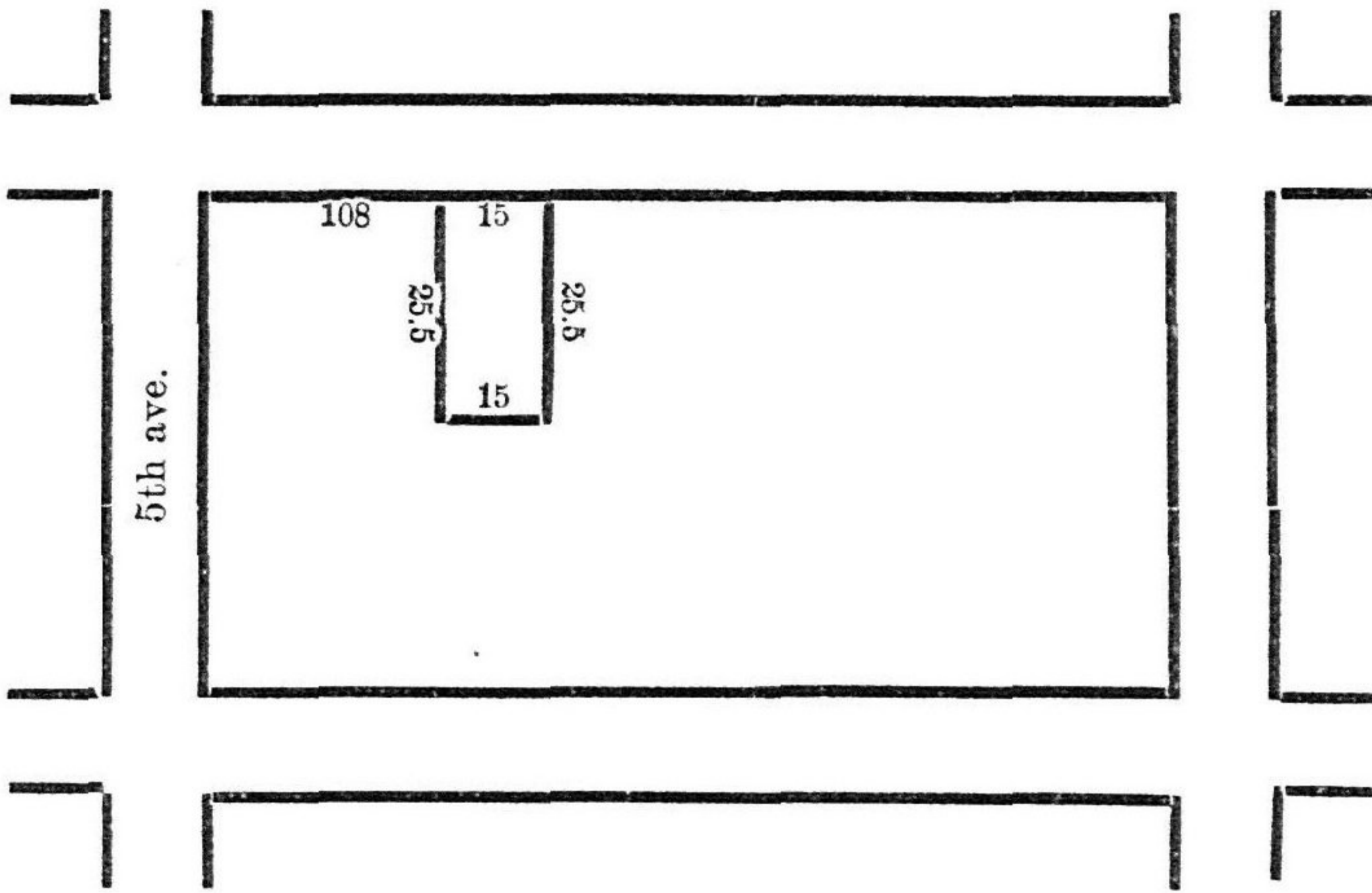
Recorded, Oct. 26, 1871, Liber 1194, page 201.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated August 16, 1871.



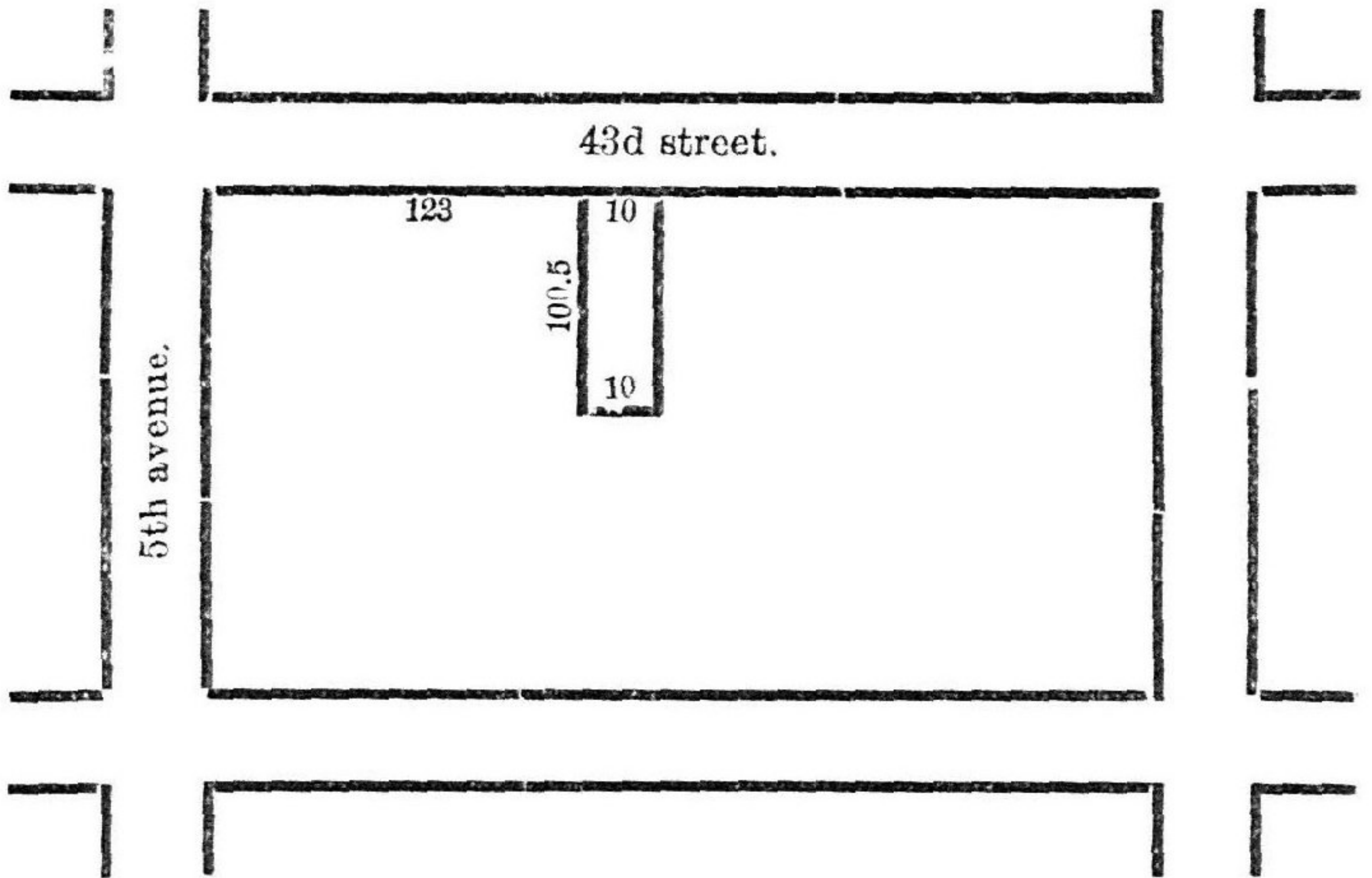
Recorded, October 26, 1871, Liber 1194, page 201.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated August 16, 1871.



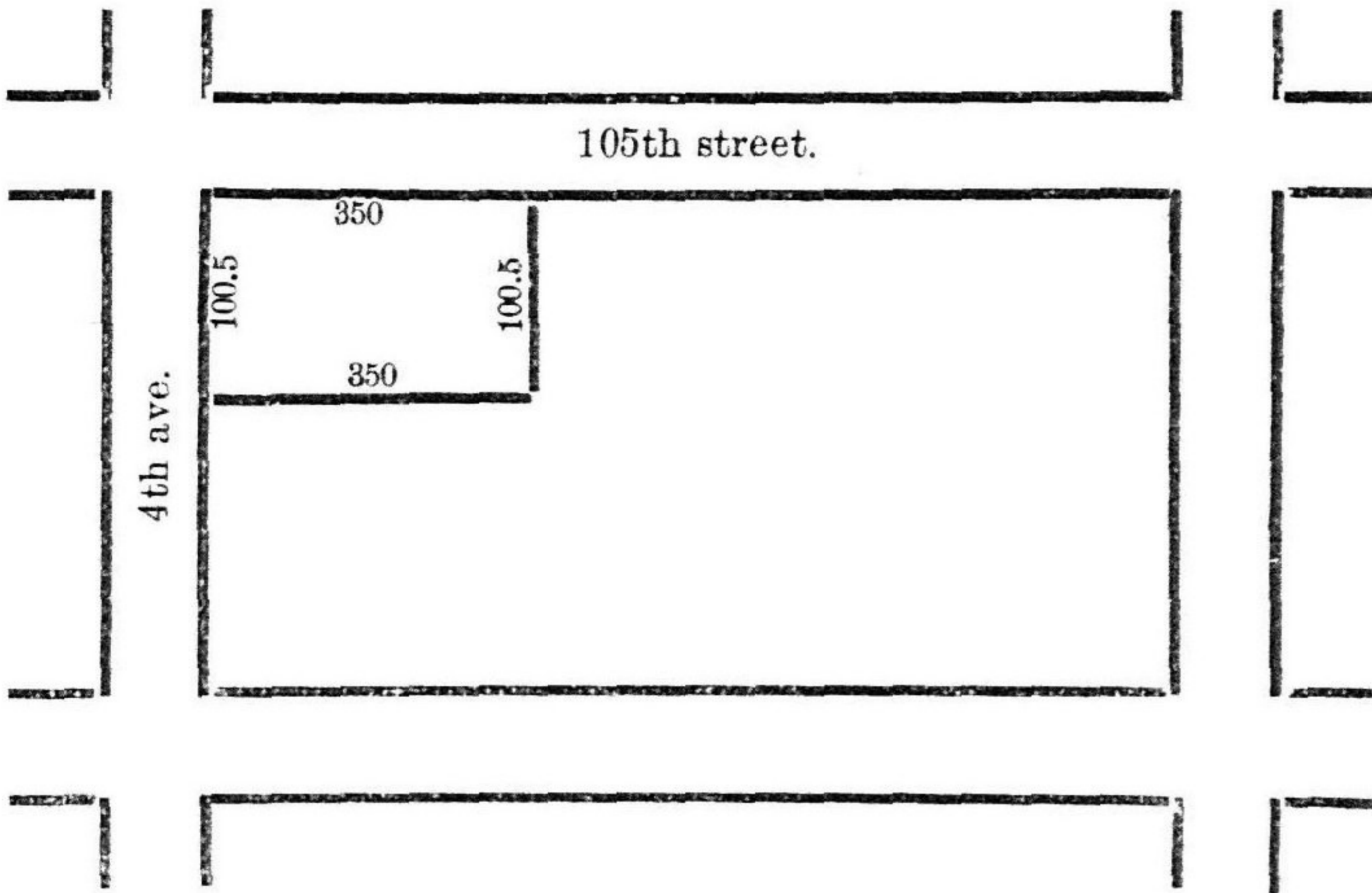
Recorded, 26th of October, 1871, Liber 1194, page 201.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated August 16, 1871.



Recorded, 26th of October, 1871. Liber 1194, page 201.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated August 16, 1871.

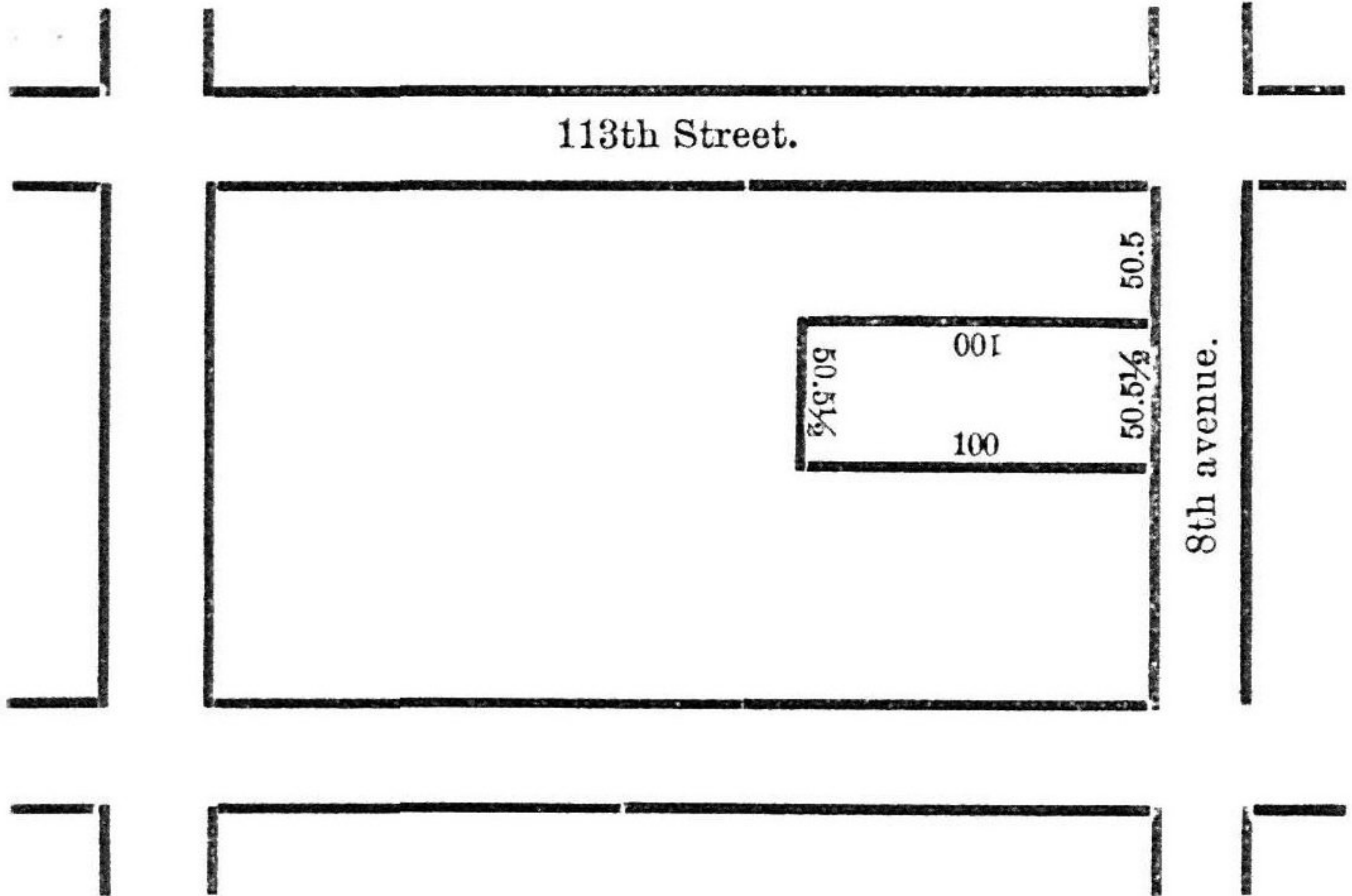


Recorded 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, page 643, Con. 30th part dollar.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1871.

This was bought subject to a mortgage of \$16,000 to Charlotte A. Morris. Netted about \$3,500 to Mr. Tweed, after paying taxes, back interest, etc.

Cost over mortgage	\$12,000
Realized.....	3,500
	<hr/>
	\$8,500
Loss	\$8,500



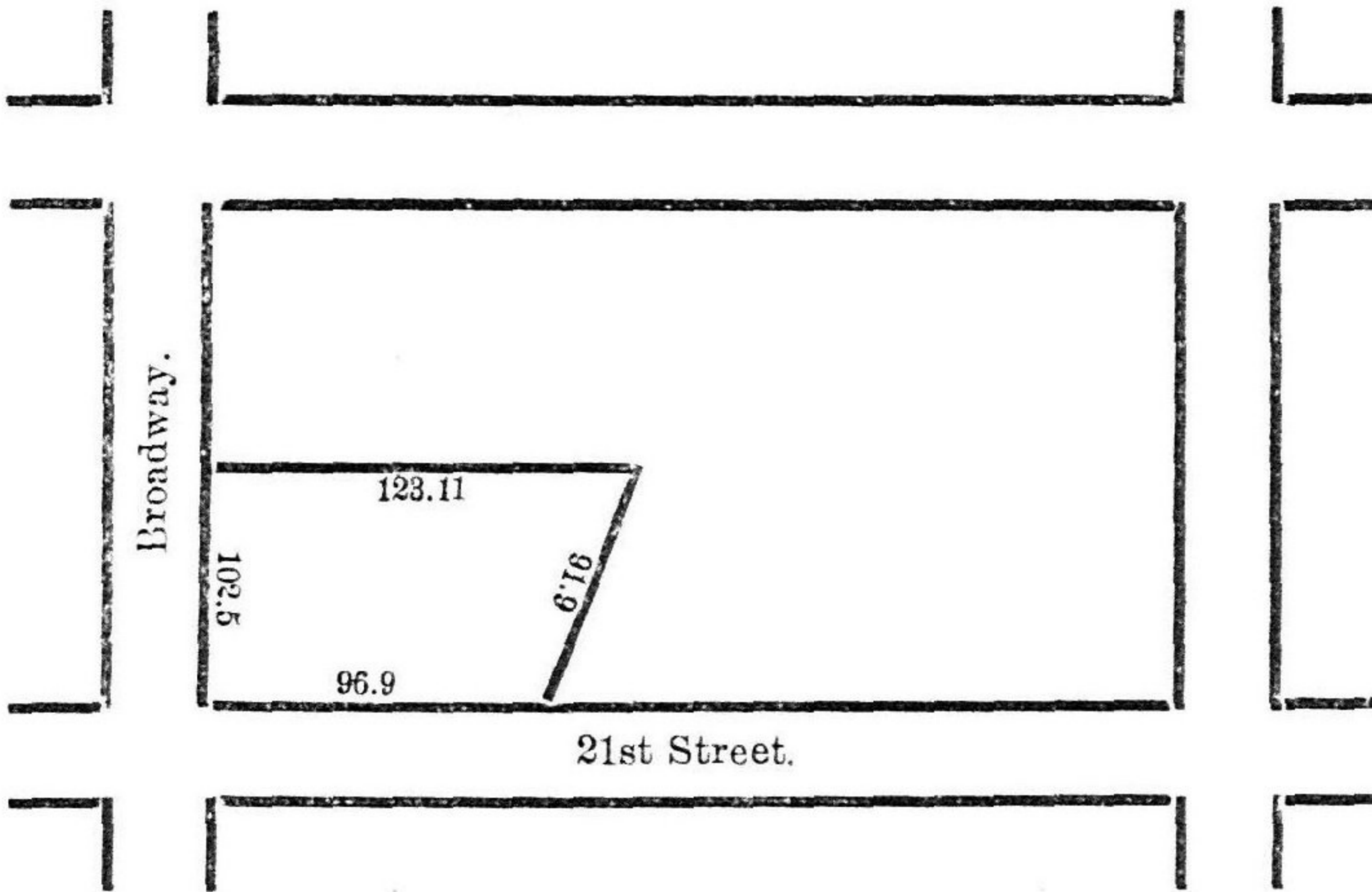
Recorded, 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, page 643, Con. 30th part dollar.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed. Deed dated November 21, 1871.

Sold under foreclosure of the mortgage to estate of Charles King.

Mr. Tweed considered this of no value beyond mortgage, taxes, interest, etc., and paid no attention to it, and never received anything from it.

Cost.....	\$10,000
Loss	10,000



Recorded 4th of January, 1872, Liber 1186, page 649, Con. 7th part \$1.

William M. Tweed and wife to Richard M. Tweed.
Deed dated November 21, 1874.

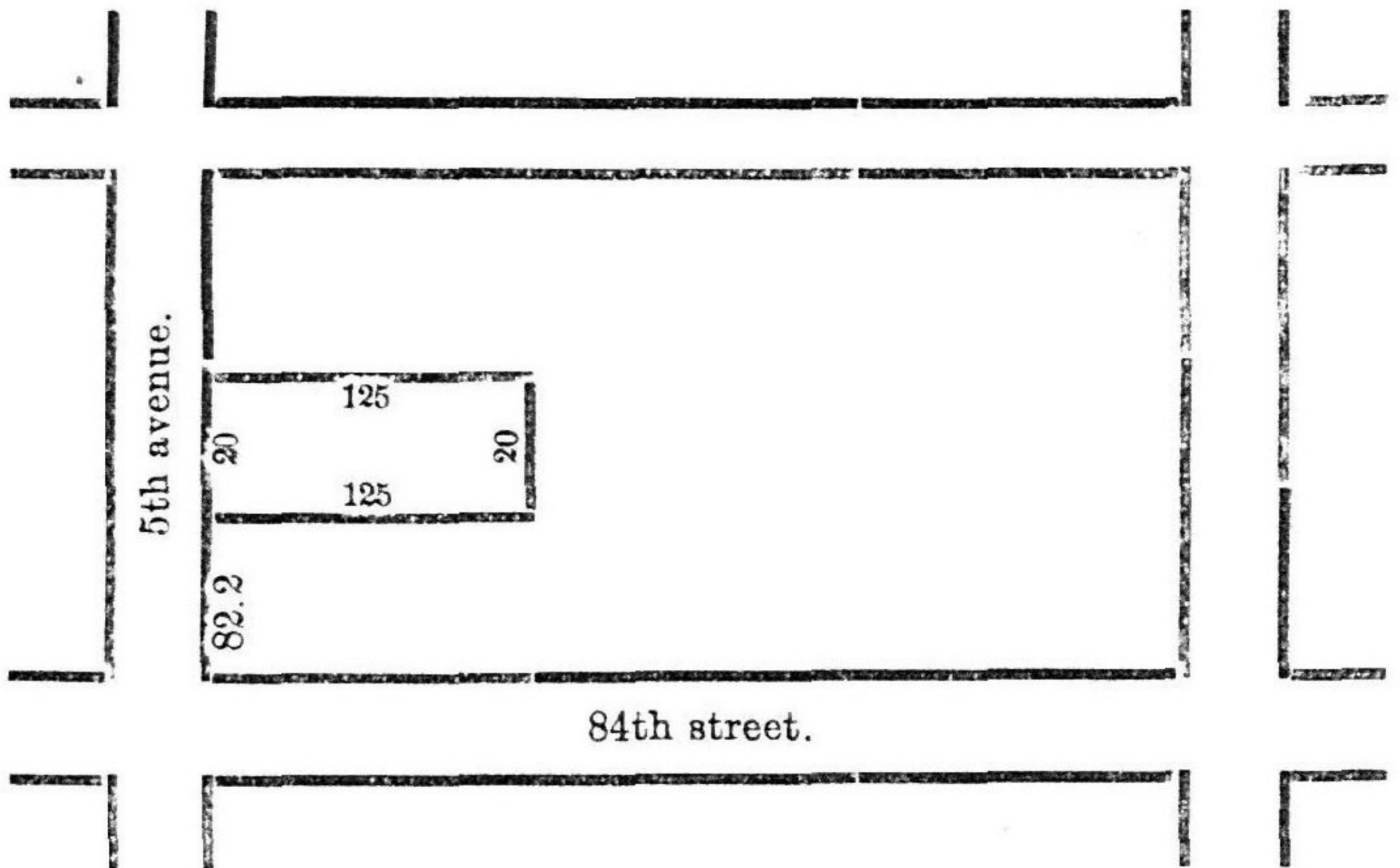
1874 should be 1871.

Known as Nos. 922, 924, 926, 928, 930 Broadway.

Bought of Henry Nicoll, Referee, in July, 1871.	\$600,000
Mortgaged to Cram estate.....	360,000
	<hr/>
Paid.....	\$240,000

Mortgages foreclosed after conveyance to Richard, and sold in May, 1873 ; netted to Mr. Tweed about \$50,000.

Loss about \$200,000.

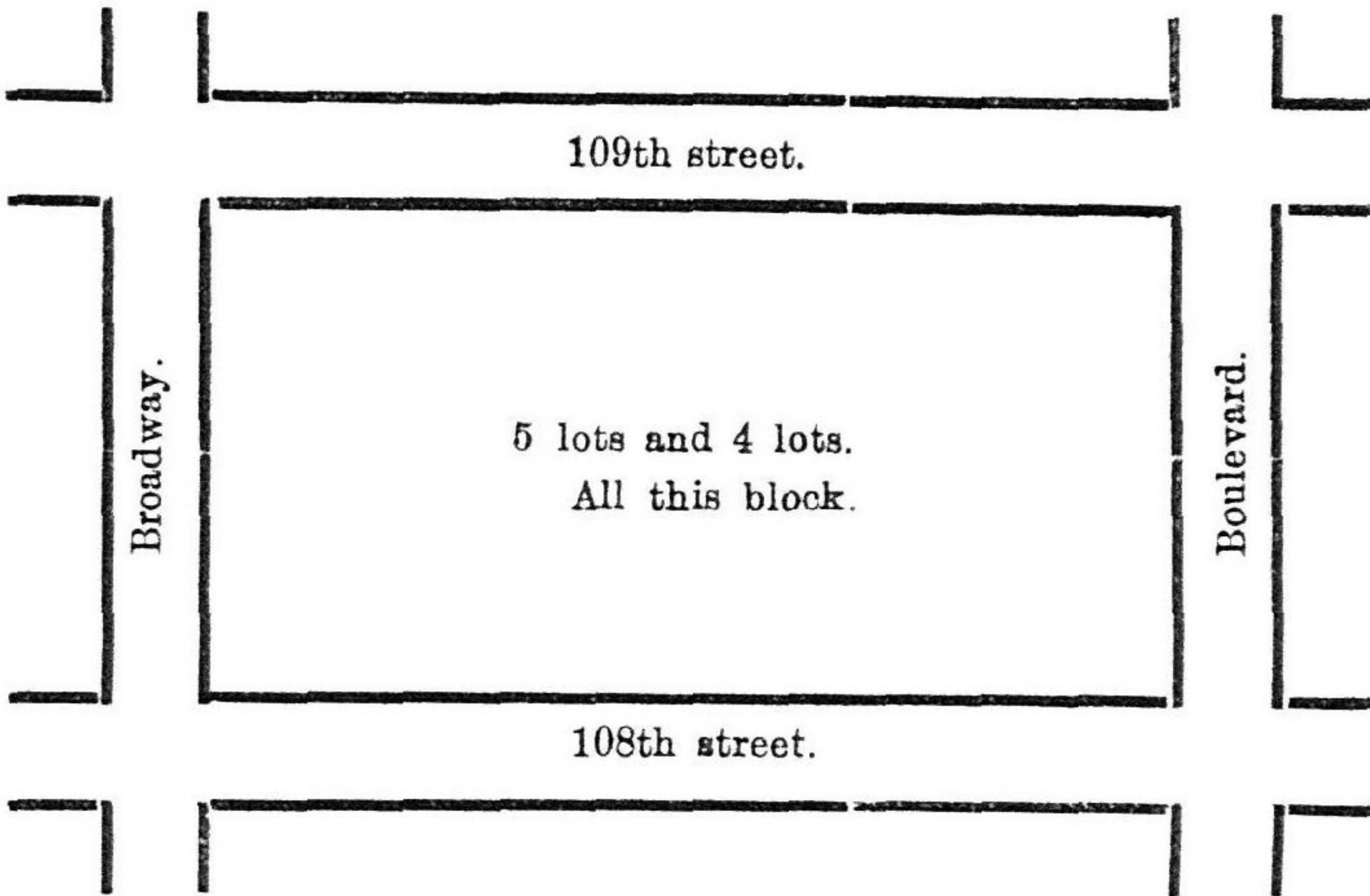


Recorded, 8th of December, 1871, Liber 1191, page 303, Con. \$32,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to Harriet M. Trask. Deed dated May 30, 1871.

Some question arose as to the title of No. 511 Fifth avenue at the time of purchase, and Mrs. Trask conveyed to him a vacant lot, or a house on lot as above described, which Mr. Tweed held until question in dispute was settled, and then returned a deed to Mrs. Trask; he never had any interest other any this in above property.

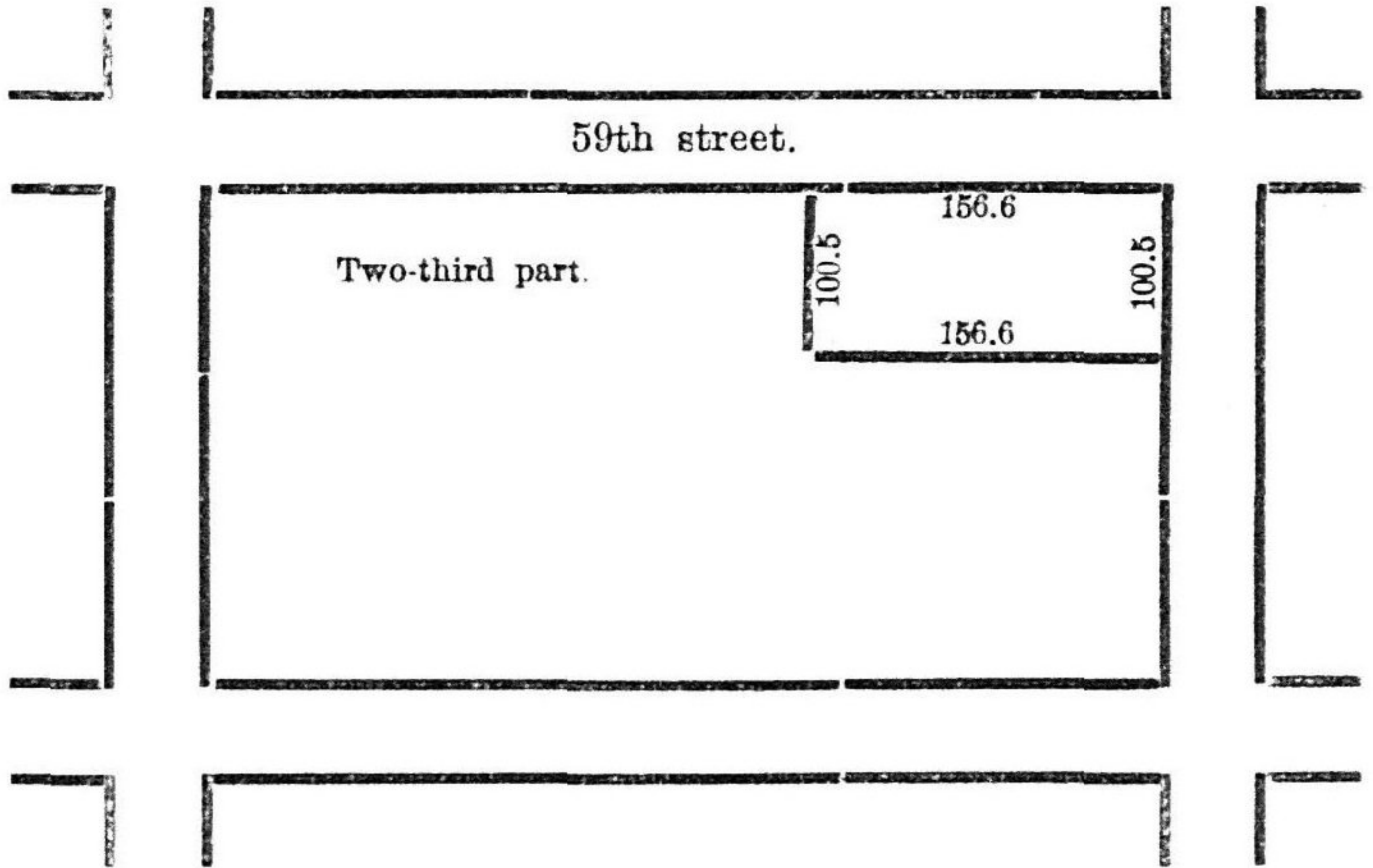
No interest.



Recorded, 12th of June, 1871, Liber 1184, page 225, Con. \$60,000.

William M. Tweed and wife to John Brower. Deed dated May 31, 1871.

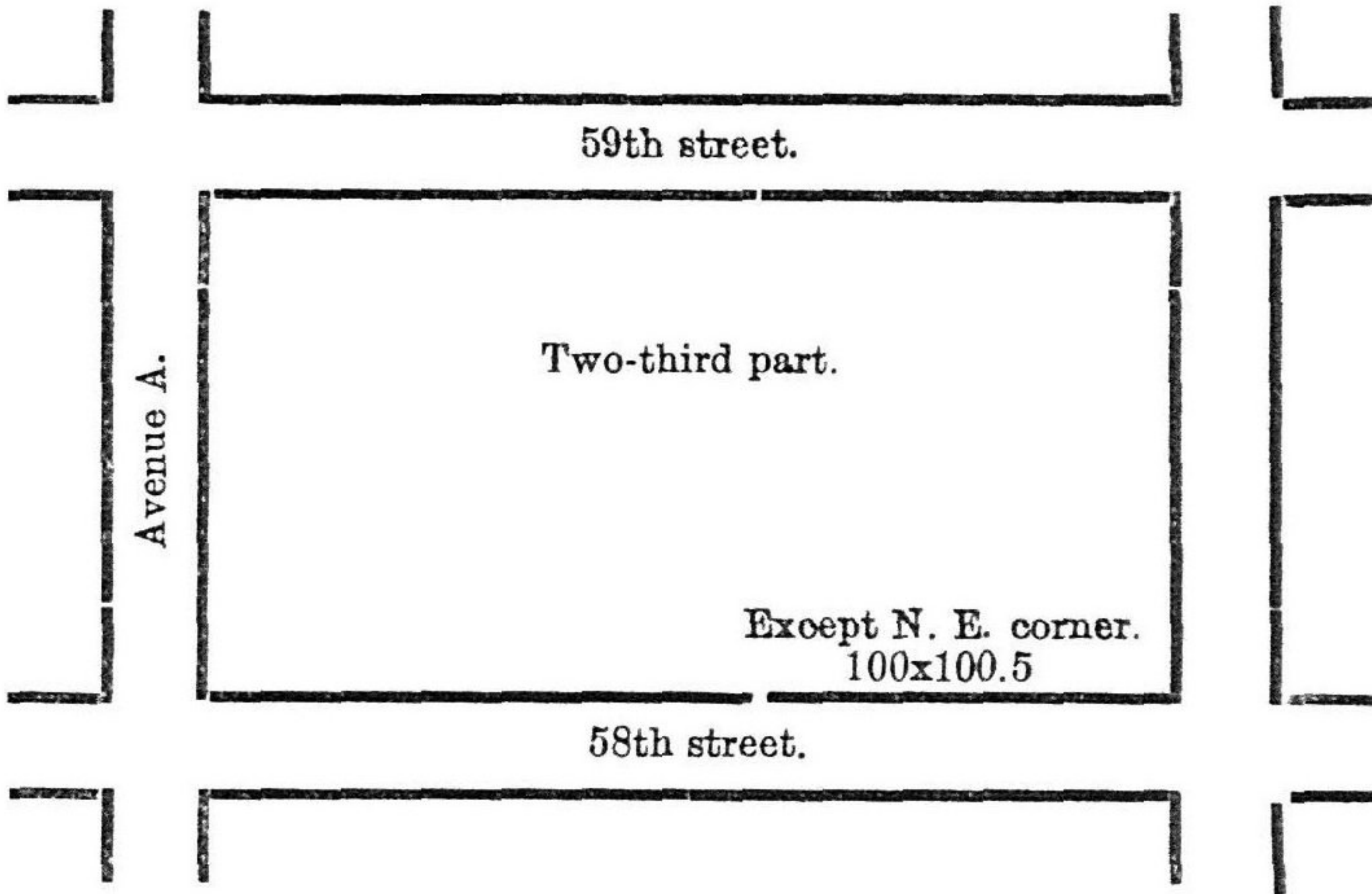
Mr. Tweed bought this property for Mr. Brower, and as soon as he obtained the deeds immediately transferred them to him. Mr. Tweed had no pecuniary interest in it, whatever.



Recorded 31st of March, 1864. Liber 897, page 278. Con. \$100.

William M. Tweed and wife and Charles G. Cornell and wife to Terence Farley. Deed dated March 25, 1864.

No recollection of dates; suppose correct.

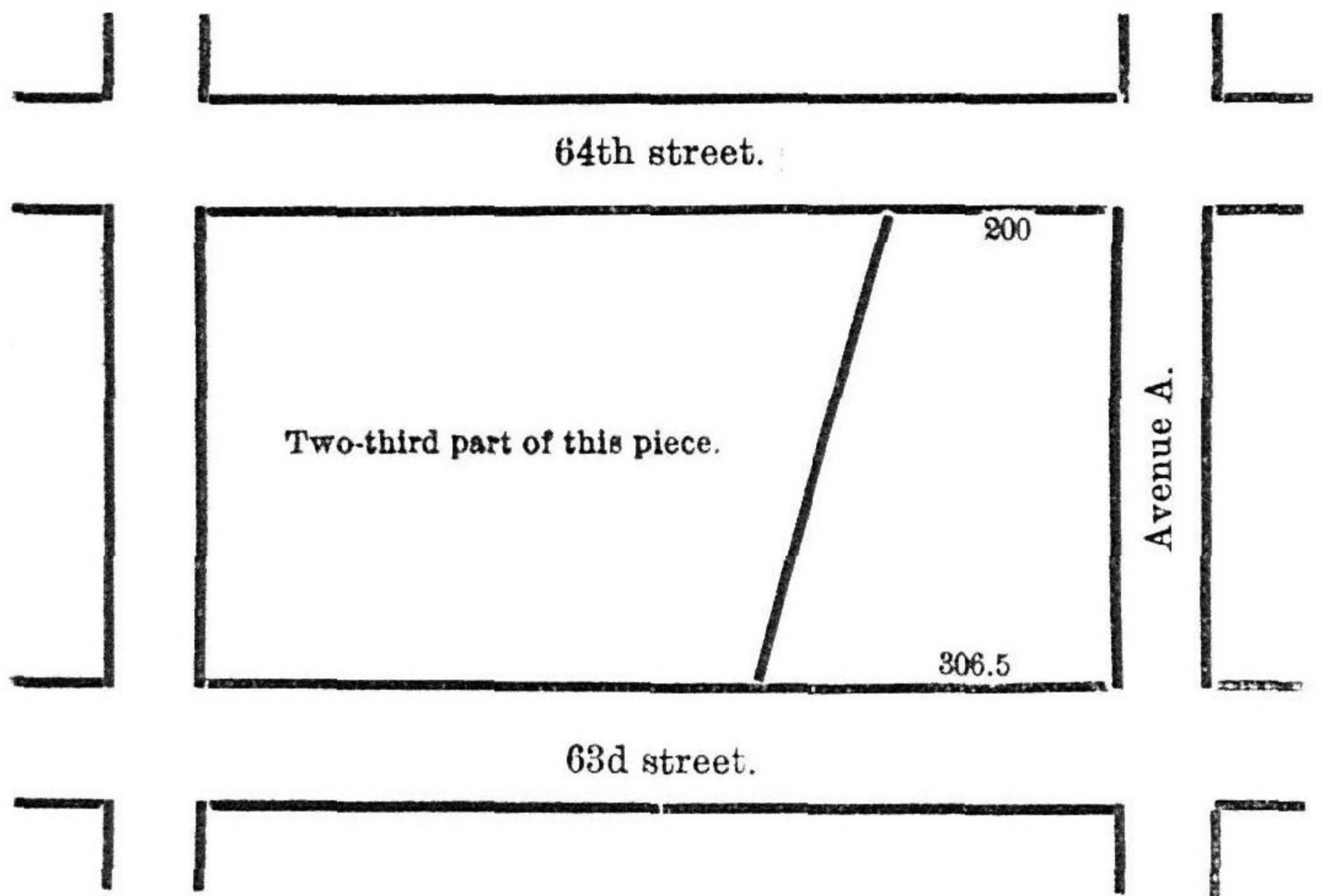


Recorded, March 31, 1864, Liber 897, page 280. Con., \$100.

William M. Tweed and wife, and Charles G. Cornell and wife, to Terence Farley.

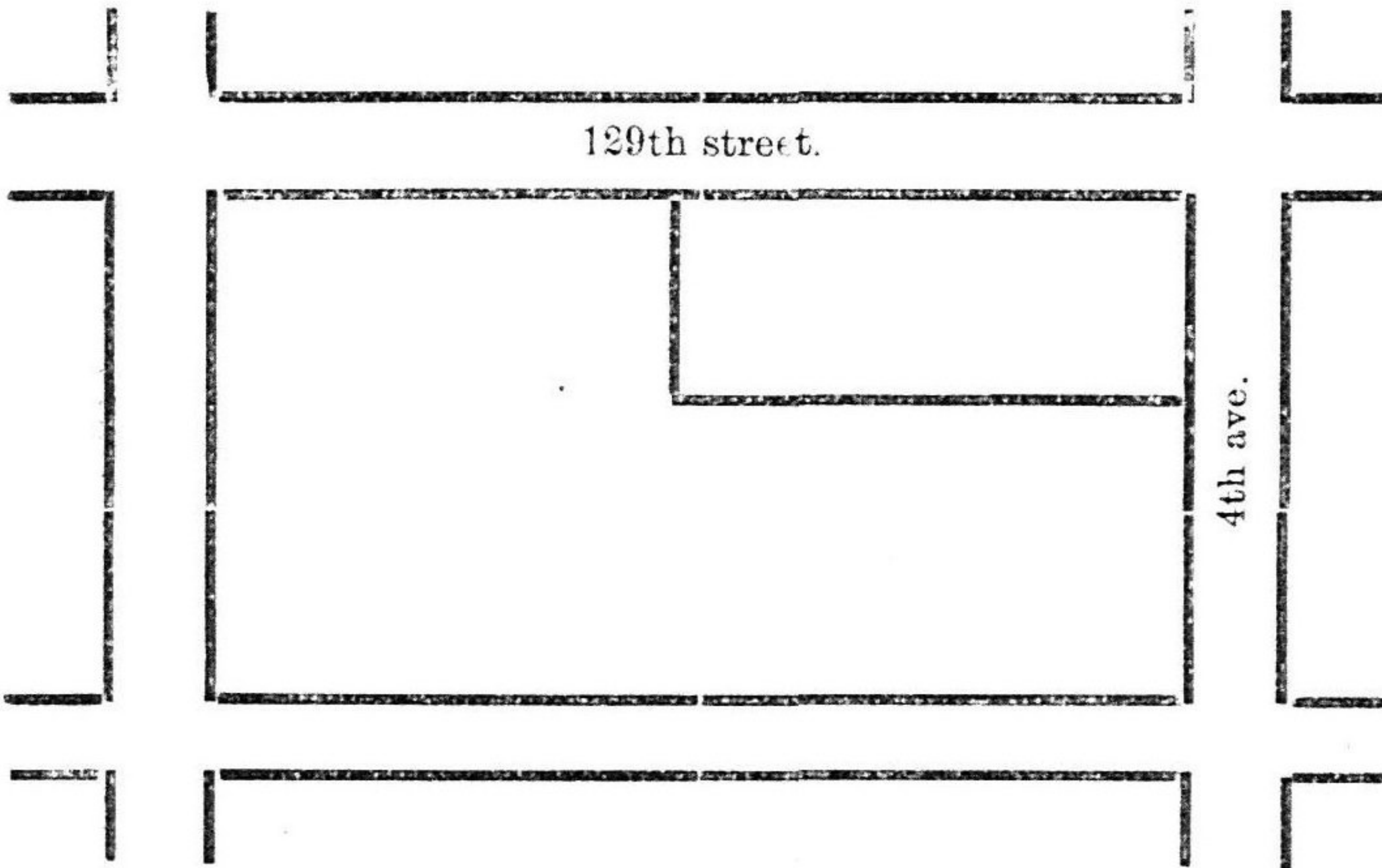
Deed dated March 25, 1864.

No recollection of dates. Suppose correct.



Recorded, of 18. . . . Liber page Con. \$

William M. Tweed and wife, and Charles G. Cornell and wife, and Terence Farley and wife, to Charles G. Cornell. No date or consideration mentioned.



Recorded, 28th of December, 1869, Liber 1123, Page 435, Con. \$6,000 a year.

William M. Tweed to Mayor, Aldermen, etc. Lease dated December 1, 1869; 10 years from December 1, 1869.

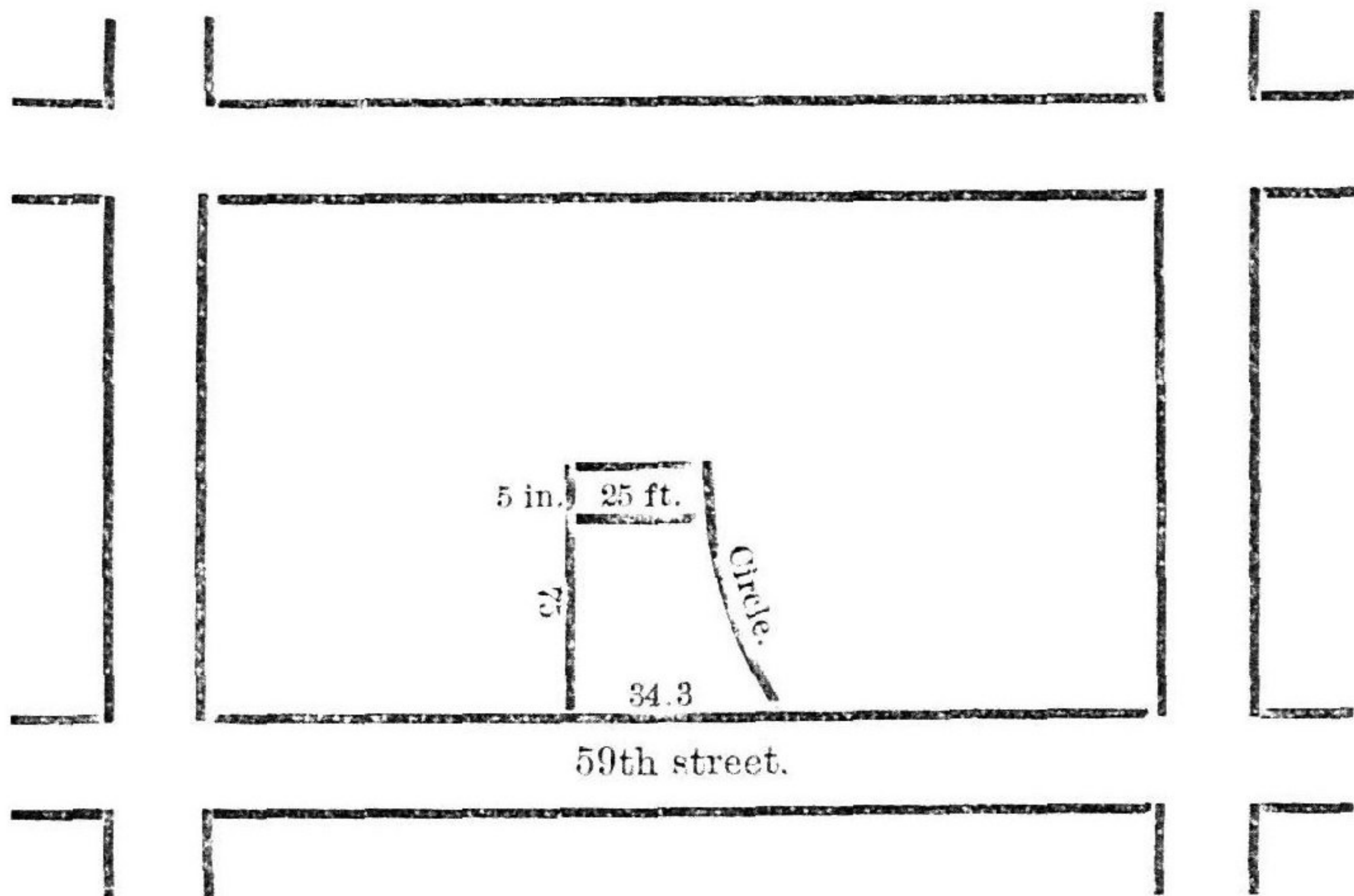
Received rent for about two years. None after 1871.

Gilbert N. Marshall, Trustee } Lease of No. 423 Broad-
 to } way, for 4 years and
 William M. Tweed. } over.

Recorded, November 15, 1869. Rent, \$12,500.

W. M. Tweed paid rent on this for nearly the whole term. Part of time it was unoccupied. He was "out" on this many thousands; fully \$30,000.

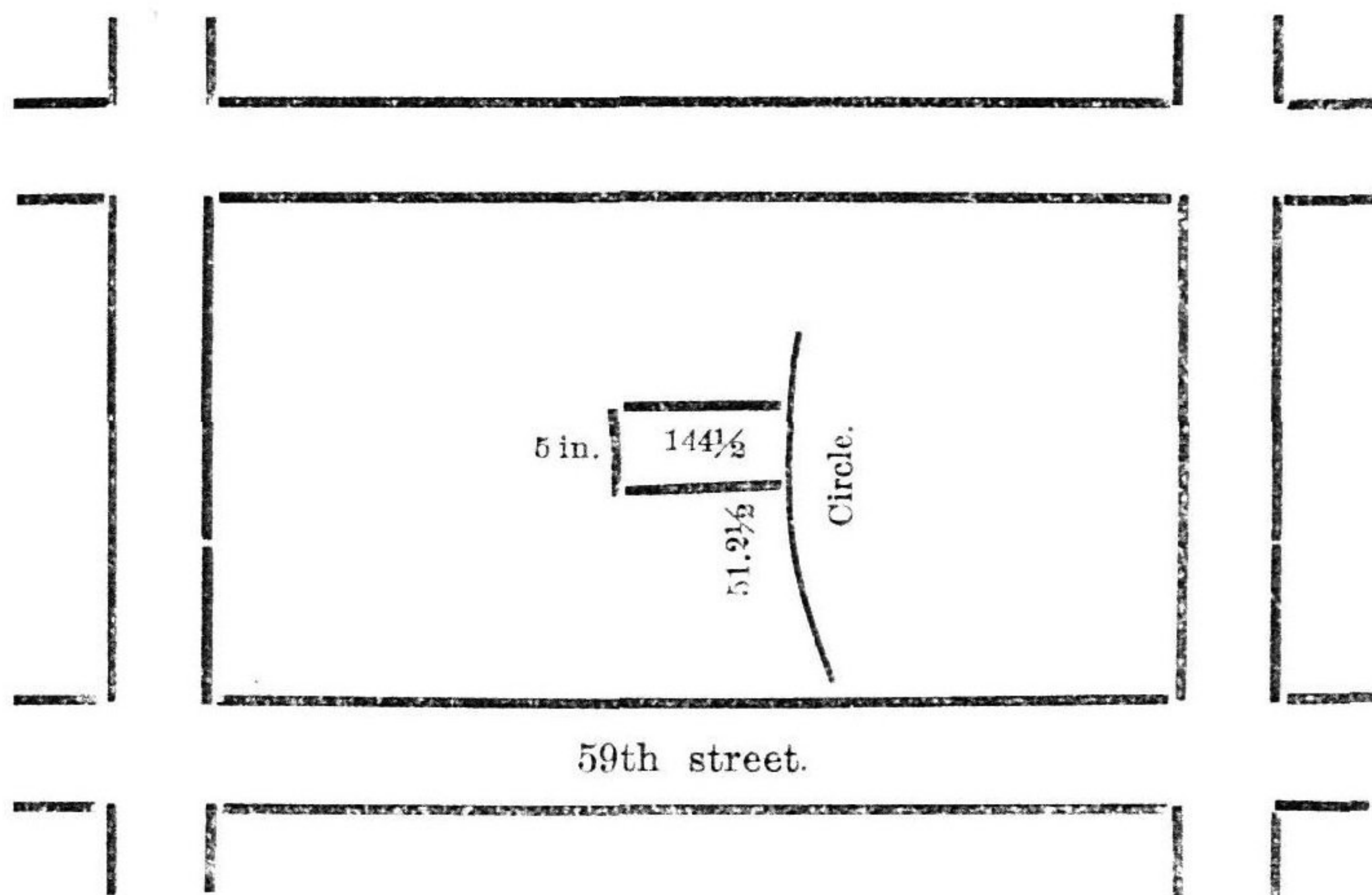
Received	\$18,000
Loss	\$30,000



Recorded, 23d of November, 1875, Liber 1342, page 416, Con. \$100.

William M. Tweed and wife to Vernon K. Stevenson.
Deed dated August 10, 1875.

No consideration given to complete title—next page also.



Recorded, 23d of November, 1875, Liber 1342, Page 416, Con. \$100.

William M. Tweed and wife to Vernon K. Stevenson.
Deed dated August 10, 1875.

Mr. TWEED—There was no one there (referring to the list of the Tammany Hall Committee put into his hands a short time previously), interested with me in any manner, shape or form, illegally, in the Ring Frauds.

Alderman COWING—I desire to ask you some questions, Mr. Tweed.

Mr. TWEED—Are they your questions, or anonymous questions?

Alderman COWING—They are my questions. I am not asking anybody else's questions.

Q. What was your political faith at the time you were in power in the City of New York?

A. I was a Democrat.

Q. Were you a member of any prominent political organization?

A. Yes, sir; I was in all the Democratic organizations.

Q. Were you a member in all of them?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was there an organization known as Tammany Hall?

A. There was.

Q. Were you a prominent member of that organization?

A. I was.

Q. Were you acquainted with the members associated with you in that organization?

A. I was.

Q. There is a list which purports to be a correct list of the members, will you run over that list carefully, and state—

Mr. TWEED (interrupting)—Allow me right here to say that Tammany Hall Democratic Association and the Tammany Society were distant organizations—one was social and the other political.

Q. (By Alderman COWING)—Did you belong to both?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. I understand one is charitable and the other political. You attended to the political association?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You had a pretty intimate knowledge of all the members of that organization?

A. No, sir, not all of them—some of them were Republicans, and some of them were there before I was born.

Q. Please look at the list which has been placed in your hands, and state the name or names of all the persons on that list (if there are any), who were connected with that organization at the time you were in power, and were prominent in that organization?

Alderman LEWIS—I object to that question, unless they were connected with the Ring Frauds or any other illegal practices. This is not a political investigation, but to find out who were connected with the Ring Frauds.

Alderman SLEVIN—I also object, unless they can be connected with the Ring Frauds.

Alderman COWING—I press the question, and ask for an answer.

Mr. TWEED—You see my position. The Chairman directs me not to answer, while I am perfectly willing to do so.

Alderman LEWIS—The Committee have decided that that is not a proper question, and should not be answered.

Alderman COWING—The Committee have not so decided. I am one of the Committee.

Alderman LEWIS—The majority of the Committee have, which I suppose is the Committee.

Alderman COWING—The City Government at the time you were in power was run through the instrumentality of Tammany Hall, was it not?

A. It was, in a measure, that with the aid of the Legislature.

Q. If Tammany Hall, therefore, furnished you and your confederates with such powers as you had——

A. Tammany Hall and the Republican Legislature——

Q. And those two together gave you all the power you had ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, you brought in pretty much all of the Republican Legislature ?

A. Oh, not by any means ; not half of them.

Q. Leaving them for the present, let us come to the other branch of this machine, which gave you the power. I want to find out, for the benefit of the public, not as a matter of politics, who those gentlemen were who were connected with you in running the City Government at the time these frauds were committed ; and I ask you to look at that list and answer the question. I want to find out who it was that gave you this power, and was associated with you in running the City Government at the time these frauds were perpetrated. I don't ask it as a political question.

A. I have handed that list back to the Committee ; if you will give it to me, I will go over it again.

Alderman LEWIS—We can get at this in a shorter way.

Alderman COWING—I do not propound this question for any political purpose ; it was no disgrace to belong to Tammany Hall at that time—if my associates take that ground.

Alderman LEWIS—I object to the witness answering any question that does not bear upon the Ring Frauds ; that is, the Committee, or the majority of it, objects ; if there be any names on that list that were connected with those frauds, the witness can answer as to them.

Alderman COWING—I will read the resolution of the Board of Aldermen constituting this Committee: “The duty of the Committee shall be to investigate all the facts and circumstances connected with the organization known as the Tweed Ring.” Now, then, Mr. Tweed has answered that Tammany Hall was connected with the organization known as the “Tweed Ring,” and it was through the instrumentality of Tammany Hall they were enabled to get their power.

Mr. TWEED (interrupting)—Not at all. Tammany Hall got all its powers from us—not we from them.

Alderman COWING—They gave you possession and control of the city. I will ask the question again. If I can not get an answer it is not my fault. Now, Mr. Tweed, will you state all the names on that list that were associated with you, in connection with Tammany Hall, in running the city government at the time you were in power?

Mr. TOWNSEND—I trust that you will allow that question to be answered, as I do not see how it can hurt anybody. I think it will be most damaging to Mr. Tweed to be denied the opportunity of answering it.

Alderman LEWIS—The objection to the question is this, that it places everybody on the defensive, who had no connection with the frauds; and the Committee object to that. The Committee have no objection to the witness answering any questions about this Tweed Ring, or any illegal practices of any one on that list against the city or county government; but the Committee do object to dragging in the names of those who had no connection with the frauds whatever.

Alderman COWING—The names of gentlemen, who had nothing to do with the frauds, have been mentioned without making them objects of suspicion. The names of John Kelly and W. C. Conner had been mentioned, yet no taint attached to them.

Mr. TOWNSEND—Supposing that among those names there were found State Senators and Judges, it might be a very proper thing to ask how these frauds could have been committed without their knowledge. I do not see how anybody could be hurt by it.

Alderman LEWIS—The majority of the Committee look upon this question as a purely political one, the answering of which could be productive of no benefit whatever to the city; and the Committee think that they have no right to have the names of any persons dragged into this investigation who were not connected with the city frauds.

Alderman COWING—I do not think a majority of the Committee have the right to rule out any question. If they assume that power, all I can do, in case the witness refuses to answer, is to move that he be committed for contempt; but as he is inclined to act with the majority of the Committee, and as the majority are opposed to his answering, such a motion would not prevail, and I should be powerless.

Mr. TWEED—And if I do answer I should be committed for contempt by the majority of the Committee.

Alderman COWING—I do not agree with my associates, that they have the power to stop witness from answering any question. (To witness) Do I understand you to say that you decline to answer the question?

Mr. TWEED—I do not decline, but I have been directed by the majority of the Committee not to answer.

Alderman COWING—You take these two gentlemen to be the Committee?

Mr. TOWNSEND—And if he did not do so, I should feel it my duty, as his counsel, to advise him not to answer.

Alderman COWING—That is all, Mr. Tweed, on that subject. I cannot force you to answer.

Mr. COLE—Now, I would suggest to the Committee, to request the Republican member of this Committee to try if he could not do what the two Democratic members of the Committee had done, and furnish the witness with a list of the General Committee of the party to which he belonged. I tried to get the list, but could not.

Alderman COWING—Is our clerk here? What organization do you want?

Mr. COLE—That to which you belong.

Alderman COWING—I don't belong to any. I belong to the great Republican party.

Mr. COLE—If the gentleman will give the clerk of the Committee a letter to the Chairman of the Republican Central Committee, I have no doubt that that list can be produced.

Alderman COWING—(To the Clerk) Will you have a complete list of the Republican Central Committee here at the next meeting?

Mr. COLE—Or ask the chairman of that committee to put us in the way of getting that list?

Mr. TOWNSEND—May I suggest that the request be made to the heads of the different Republican organizations, so that Mr. Tweed may have time to examine them before the next meeting; and let me also suggest that the names of those persons who were in the different organizations in the years of 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, and 1871, may also be obtained, because there may be a great many persons who were in those years interested in the frauds of the Ring, and from that statement he can make his selection.

Alderman COWING said that, as far as he could, he would endeavor to procure the list, and would give to the clerk a letter to the Chairman of the Republican Central Committee.

Mr. COLE—Before I proceed, I would like to say this in regard to this whole matter--that it cannot tend to any beneficial result for the witness to take up his time in examining these lists, from year to year, unless it be proposed to connect the parties with something illegal or fraudulent. There was handed to me a full list of the real estate belonging to witness, containing a list of his various pieces of property and a memorandum at the foot of each explaining what he did with it. Of course he ought to be examined rigidly concerning each one of these cases; but, as this large bundle of papers has just been handed to me, I do not feel in the position to examine it with regard to this real estate.

Mr. TOWNSEND--That list was not handed to you now for that purpose, but merely in order that it may appear before the public, and if any one should know that there is any misstatement in the list, he will have an opportunity of ascertaining and exposing it.

Alderman COWING—Referring to lumping the votes instead of counting them—that is a very important matter—have you been able to ascertain since the last meeting the names of the parties who were guilty of that fraudulent practice?

Mr. TWEED—I told you, at the last meeting, that I would not have much time to make the examination. I have been sick for two days, and very much occupied when I was well.

Mr. COLE—I see in the schedule appended to your statement of property, under the head of “Payments since the Fall of 1871,” the first item is, “Paid to A. J. Garvey for frescoing house in Fifth avenue, \$17,500”—was that your residence?

A. Yes, sir. Garvey frescoed it for me. He began suit for the money after my troubles began, and I paid him the money.

Q. Here is an item, “Paid to Garfield to cancel partnership agreement with my son in the Metropolitan Hotel, \$20,000—what was that for?”

A. I paid the money to get him out of the partnership, and I considered it cheap at the time.

Q. Again. “Paid advances to and losses on Metropolitan Hotel, in addition to \$150,000 real estate to Pottier and Stymus; \$450,000 during two years. Was there a loss of \$450,000 in two years in running that hotel?”

A. Over \$600,000.

Q. Were you a partner in that hotel?

A. I backed my son in it. I rented the house from Mr. A. T. Stewart at a certain rent of \$90,000 a year, I believe, and furnished it, intending it as a present for my son.

Q. And \$450,000 was actually paid out by you ?

A. Over \$600,000—a loss of over \$600,000.

Q. And there was a loss over and above the real estate which you referred to as transferred to Pottier and Stymus. What was that real estate transaction ?

A. There was a piece of property at Fort Washington, which I paid \$275,000. I put it into the hands of my son, and he transferred it to Pottier and Stymus, and I never handled any of it. Their bill for furniture amounted to \$190,000 or \$193,000—and they sold the property for \$150,000.

Q. (Reading from the schedule): “Expenses of my family’s tour in Europe in 1872, inclusive of \$3,500 which was in Bowles Bros., at the time of their failure, \$30,000,”—what did you do you mean by that ?

A. That explains itself, I believe, sir.

Q. “Paid to James Ingersoll, in full settlement of his claim, about \$100,000,”—what claim was that ?

A. When these troubles commenced I owed him quite a large sum of money that I had borrowed from him. I paid him \$50,000 in October, 1871, and some in 1872—when he was arrested. He allowed me \$112,500 in the settlement, that I had paid out for him in Albany. Above that there was \$100,000 and some hundreds, I don’t remember now exactly how much. I paid him a few hundreds in money, and gave him for the balance my note for \$100,000, which was substantially paid ; but he denies the payment, and claims \$112,000, for which he now sues me in Connecticut.

Q. For this same money ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The next item is “Paid to Keyser & Co., or Jackson S. Schultze, \$30,000”——

A. Keyser & Co. had a claim against me for \$42,000. It was placed in the hands of Mr. Barlow for suit against me—the claim having been transferred to Jackson S. Schultze; I settled it for \$30,000; I paid that money to Schultze or Barlow.

Q. As the attorneys for Keyser & Co.?

A. Schultze was the man that sued, and Keyser assigned the claim to Schultze, and Barlow was his counsel.

Q. The next item is, “Paid to counsel as retaining fees in 1871 and 1872, about \$45,000, as per checks”—what is that?

A. That is what it says—retainers to various lawyers. I have the checks for the entire amount.

Q. The next item is paid for expenses for family during 1871, 1872 and 1873, and in 1874 and 1875, \$40,000; have you any vouchers to substantiate that?

A. None at all; but that is about the amount, I think.

Q. How, then, did you arrive at those figures.

A. I knew the amount I had to expend--what I paid out, and about what the maintenance of my family cost.

Q. Then your family expenses were about \$50,000 per annum in 1871, 1872 and 1873.

A. Not less than that, sir.

Q. The next item is “To expenses and expenditures in escaping from Ludlow Street Jail, and in Cuba and Spain, \$60,000;” what do you mean by that amount spent to escape.

A. I mean money spent in aiding me to escape.

Q. Do you mean money paid to officials.

A. I mean money paid to parties who aided me in escaping—furnished me with a vessel, and otherwise assisted me.

Q. Were any of those parties officials of the city of New York?

A. No, sir; none of them were officials.

Q. What kind of aid did you receive?

A. What kind of aid would you expect when you wanted to escape and couldn't. I don't propose to tell you all, and if I could, I don't think it is proper to tell you. I tried to get away, and got away; and if I hadn't been kidnapped, I would have been away still.

Q. How could you escape from Ludlow Street Jail, without paying money to some official to enable you to get away?

A. Well, that is a question I could answer, but I don't think it is proper or necessary. I did not escape from the jail, however, but left my own house.

Q. Do you mean to swear that none of this money was paid to any policemen or officials, or to any one in the pay of the city and county of New York?

A. I positively said so once and repeat it—not one dollar.

Q. How much of this sum of \$60,000 was connected with your escape from Ludlow street jail?

A. All of it.

Q. You also say "Cuba and Spain?"

A. That was a part of my escape.

Q. I mean how much was paid out to secure your escape from New York?

A. I cannot say precisely, I cannot separate it. It was all paid in procuring my escape.

Q. Did you pay it yourself?

A. I did.

Q. The next item is paid for advances for pay-roll of laborers in departments \$18,000?

Mr. TOWNSEND—It is not necessary to go into particulars. Mr. Tweed had not referred to these matters more in detail, because he was desirous to avoid mentioning the names of persons who had nothing to do with this investigation and whom he felt he should not mention. I will simply say for him, however, that the report of his escape published in *Harper's Weekly* was perfectly correct; and any one who wanted to read the romance of Mr. Tweed's life could get it there.

Mr. COLE—I do not want to know anything about that. I merely wanted to know if any officials had aided him in his escape. None having done so, my interest in that matter is brought to a close.

Q. I shall repeat the question—What do you mean by the item of \$18,000 advanced to pay laborers' pay-rolls in various departments in 1871?

A. In 1871, in the latter part of October, Judge Barnard was applied to by Mr. John Foley for an injunction, which he granted, which prevented the Comptroller from paying off any of the pay-rolls. Some of the laborers were very poor and needed their money badly. I had a note for \$50,000 indorsed by my son and Mr. Sweeney, discounted it in the Broadway National Bank, and advanced the money to pay the laborers. Thirty-two thousand dollars have been paid back to me, but the remaining \$18,000 Mr. Green refused to pay, and I don't suppose it will ever be paid.

Q. What about the item "Paid in 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, to detectives, lawyers, printers, stenographers, and traveling expenses to the following gentlemen: David Dudley Field, William Fullerton, A. J. Vanderpoel, Augustus L. Brown, John E. Burrill, W. O. Bartlett, Willard

Bartlett, William Edelsten, George F. Comstock, John Ganson, Elihu Root, E. R. Bacon, John Reynolds, Field & Deyo, E. W. Stoughton, John Graham, and others throughout the State, \$400,000." Does that \$400,000 represent the fees actually paid to your counsel?

A. No, sir; there were other law expenses; printing was a large item.

Q. Stretching over those years?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you vouchers to substantiate that?

A. I have very few vouchers left; but I think I can substantiate all I have said.

Q. The next item is "Paid the Tenth National Bank, in settlement \$100,000;" what do you mean by that?

A. Paying notes under protest, and notes which I had indorsed for other parties, which were under protest; I paid them all I could—about \$100,000.

Q. Have you any voucher to show that?

A. It is a matter of record in the bank; the bank account will show it.

Q. Do you think the bank books will show it?

A. They should do so.

Q. The next item in the schedule is headed "Losses since 1871 on property in Sixty-third street and Third avenue, \$25,000; what is that?"

A. I purchased that property at one price, and sold it at another. My net loss in the transaction was \$25,000.

Q. The next item is "Loss on Westchester County Valley farm, \$50,000?"

A. That is the sum.

Q. There is a long list of losses on different pieces of property?

A. They are all fully explained in this schedule. That

is merely a recapitulation of what the schedule details. The list of losses since 1871 is as follows:

Sixty-third street and Third avenue property..	\$25,000
Westchester Valley farm.....	50,000
Stable in Fortieth street and steam yacht....	10,000
Circle property.....	110,000
Duane street property.....	140,000
Sixty-third street, near Ninth avenue.....	40,000
Fifty-seventh street.....	20,000
Twenty-third street.....	10,000
Forty-second street.....	3,000
Eighth avenue, near Seventy-first street.....	8,250
Seventy-fourth street, near Eleventh avenue..	16,400
Harlem Court-house.....	100,000
Fort Washington property.....	125,000
Eighty-third and Eighty-fourth streets, near Ninth avenue.....	65,000
Ninth street, near Third avenue.....	12,000
Oliver street.....	7,000
Stables in Mercer street.....	53,000
Fifth Avenue House.....	153,000
One Hundred and Fifth street and Fourth avenue.....	85,000
Eighth avenue, near One Hundred and Thir- teenth street.....	100,000
Broadway, near Twenty-first street.....	200,000
Guardian Savings Bank.....	40,000
	<hr/>
Losses.....	\$1,206,150

Q. This shows from whom you purchased the property you owned, and to whom you sold it?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is there anything else in this schedule, or any other information that will aid me in examining into these matters?

A. Not that I know. I don't know of anything.

Q. Some time ago you were asked in reference to all your real estate which you ever had, and this schedule, I understand, is your answer in detail, explaining what became of each piece of property?

A. Yes, sir; all that I owned since 1871.

MR. COLE—I think I have nothing else to-day which I would like to ask Mr. Tweed.

MR. TOWNSEND—There was something set forth in the statement published in the *Herald* which referred to the manner in which certain Judges of the Court of Appeals were elected; it seems to me that the matter should not be looked over, and that some examination should be made of Mr. Tweed in regard to it, in justice to the Judges themselves and to the people, because if these gentlemen were not aware of the manner in which they had been elected, as stated, they should not be held accountable for any illegal practices. If they were, they were engaged in a business worse than anything charged against Mr. Tweed, and I think that an examination should be carefully had to find out whether these gentlemen had been connected with such improper and illegal proceedings.

MR. COLE considered that the course suggested was wholly unnecessary, because the so-called confession of Mr. Tweed contained no allegation of any sort against any member of the Court of Appeals, not even an intimation that any one of them was even cognizant of any irregularities in the election by which he was elevated to the

bench. That it was most important not only that the Judges of our Court of last resort should be in fact pure and incorruptible, but also that they should, if possible, be protected from being lightly accused, and from being put on the defensive unnecessarily. In this matter they had not been accused, and therefore there was nothing concerning them to be examined into.

Mr. TOWNSEND—I don't think that my learned friend has any more respect for the Court of Appeals than I have——

Mr. COLE—Oh, certainly not.

Mr. TOWNSEND—I would cheerfully acquiesce in the course suggested by the counsel for the Committee, had it not been for some intimations I received that the characters of those gentlemen had been somewhat disparaged by the statements in that so-called “confession;” and if these gentlemen had not been implicated in any illegal practices when they were elected, or had not been cognizant of any improper means by which they were made to run ahead of their ticket, the fullest notoriety should be given to that fact.

Thereupon the Committee directed the matter to be inquired into.

By Mr. COLE—

Q. I am directed by the Committee to ask whether you know anything which connects any member of the Court of Appeals with any improper practices—whereby any of them were elected to the position of Judge of the Court of Appeals?

A. Nothing in the remotest degree.

Q. You don't mean by your statement which has been called your "confession," to intimate that either of the Judges of the Court of Appeals who are therein named were a party to, or cognizant of, the method by which he was made to run ahead of his party ticket in the City of New York?

A. I don't, and I don't think any person could read that statement, and so construe it.

Mr. TOWNSEND—Now I think you have done justice to the judges.

Alderman LEWIS then said that, as the examination had proceeded as far as Mr. Cole was prepared to go, the investigation would now stand adjourned until Saturday next at 11 o'clock A. M.

FOURTEENTH DAY.

OCTOBER 20, 1877.

Present—Alderman SLEVIN,
 " LEWIS,
 " COWING.

Alderman LEWIS, the Chairman, called the Committee to order.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

Major QUINCY apologized to the Committee for the delay of the arrival of Mr. Tweed, which was unavoidable.

Mr. COLE—I had intended, this morning, to proceed with the examination of Mr. Taintor, an expert, who was employed by Comptroller Green, during his term of office, to work up the evidence in these Ring matters. But Mr. Taintor was taken unwell on Friday, and went home yesterday morning to be back at noon on Monday. As the regular course that I have marked out in my mind for this examination requires that, at this stage, Mr. Taintor should be put on the stand, I would suggest to the Committee to suspend the investigation until Wednesday next, when I expect to have Mr. Taintor present.

Alderman LEWIS—Why not Monday?

Mr. COLE—Monday would suit me very well, but I am afraid that Mr. Taintor will not be here by that time.

Alderman LEWIS—Before we adjourn, Mr. Tweed, I should like to ask you one or two questions in regard to the Capitol at Albany, in which the city of New York has half an interest?

Q. You are conversant with the building of the Capitol at Albany—had you an interest in a stone quarry at that time?

A. I had.

Q. Will you state to the Committee the particulars connected with the erection of the Capitol, and who were connected with it?

A. That was connected with the whole matter. The facts are that the original commission for the construction

of the Capitol consisted of three. They were afterwards superseded by a commission of eight, who quarreled amongst themselves. There was a gentleman named Latham, who was all the time making charges against them; and an investigation was had, and the commissioners decided to get rid of Latham, if it could be done. There was only one way to do that, and that was by the introduction of a new bill, and to have a new commission appointed. At that time, Mr. Hamilton Harris was one of the members of the commission, and he called upon me at my rooms at the Delavan House. He had been for some years acting as agent for the Erie Railroad Company, presuming I had influence with the Committee of Ways and Means, before whom the Supply Bill was under consideration, and he consulted with me in relation to the matter. Finally, we agreed to put in a new commission, consisting of three Democrats and three Republicans, and he was to have the control of them. The Committee of Ways and Means agreed upon that, and to give the commission an appropriation of \$650,000 for that year. That was done, and the commission was appointed. I had an understanding with Harris that he was to name that commission, and that the stone for the building was to come from the Hallowell Stone Quarry Company, up in Maine, in which Mr. John R. Briggs, formerly a supervisor of this city, had an interest. That company gave me \$200,000 of their stock, and Harris was to take charge of the entire work and get what percentage he could from the different contractors and divide with me what he got. I never got a dollar from him. Shortly after the session of the Legislature our troubles in this city commenced. Subsequently, Harris waited on me, and I handed him back the stock, as I found I could not be any use to him. The stone, I

believe, was furnished by the Bartlett Stone Quarry Company, where the stone for the Brooklyn Bridge was got.

Q. Did Mr. Harris hold any official position at that time?

A. He was then a member of the Capitol Commission.

Q. Was he interested in this stone quarry that you speak of?

A. I believe he was interested, but I do not know precisely whether he was or not. I supposed he was. I never knew anything about the working of that quarry, except that I got this stock from Mr. Briggs, which I afterwards handed back to him.

Q. (By Alderman COWING)—Was Harris a State Senator at that time.

A. No, sir, he held no elective office. He was appointed one of the commissioners.

Q. Have you any personal knowledge of his having been guilty of any fraud in any way, shape or manner?

A. I understood afterwards that he received a percentage or commission, but I do not know it of my own personal knowledge. I understood that, all the while the building was going on, that he was receiving—

Q. That was hearsay—was it?

A. I heard it from the party who said that he had handed him the money.

Q. (By Alderman LEWIS)—I understood you to say that you had an arrangement with him by which you were to be paid a percentage?

A. I had.

Q. Was that made personally with you or with somebody else?

A. It was made personally with me, at my room at the Delavan House, in Albany.

Q. He held no office at that time?

A. No elective office—an appointed office only.

Q. (By Alderman SLEVIN)—I understood you to say that he was one of the Commissioners for the Building of the Capitol?

A. Yes, sir; he was—and he was in the new commission, also.

Q. (By Mr. COLE)—With regard to this hearsay evidence, Mr. Tweed, that you have spoken of, who told you that this gentleman had an interest in this quarry?

A. A gentleman who was present when I made the original arrangement with Mr. Harris.

Q. Who was that?

A. I decline to give his name at present.

Q. Is he available as a witness?

A. Yes, sir; he is.

Q. Can you point out to the Committee who he is, and where he is?

A. I can, and will.

Q. Is it your judgment that he would obey a summons to come here and testify?

A. I am satisfied that he would.

Q. Then that being the case, upon what ground do you place your refusal to give his name?

A. That whenever I have given a name, means have been used to obtain information from that party to my detriment. I am prepared to give his name to the Committee privately at the proper time.

Q. When do you consider the proper time?

A. Any time when the Committee is in session privately, and when I can give it without the name being published.

Mr. COLE—I would suggest to the Committee that the

witness should be obliged to answer, and give his name publicly, or privately, if the Committee so desired—so that he could be subpoenaed as a witness.

Mr. TWEED—I think it would be far more conducive to the purposes of this examination to give it privately, than to have it published all over the country.

Mr. COLE—I think if there be anybody who knows these facts, that he ought to be subpoenaed at once.

Q. (By Alderman COWING)—I understand you to say that you are not aware that any one received any commission or percentage from this arrangement.

A. I am not aware ; I never received a dollar.

Mr. LEWIS—It has been suggested, Mr. Tweed, that you hand that name to the counsel privately.

Mr. COLE—For the purpose of having him subpoenaed.

Mr. TWEED—I will do so.

[Mr. Tweed here wrote down the name on a piece of paper and handed it to the counsel.]

Q. (By Alderman COWING)—You are here, of course, to state all you know about the Ring transactions.

A. Yes, sir.

Alderman COWING—Will you please intimate to the Committee—you are more conversant with these matters than they can be—if there is any other subject about which you can give information, and about which you have not been questioned. If so, please state all you know?

A. That can best be developed by asking me questions about them.

Q. Have you any other information in reference to the Ring frauds, other than that which you have already given; if so, state without being particularly interrogated?

A. I have no recollection at present; I can best remember things by having them called to my mind by questions. Since I came before this Committee the Brooklyn Bridge matter, the Capitol question, and many other things have been brought to my mind, which have escaped my recollection. I cannot keep my memory upon these things all the time, and bring them out without my mind being lead to them.

Q. And you do not think of anything more, now, in connection with the frauds on the city, that you have not already been interrogated upon?

A. I don't think of anything else, now, sir.

Mr. COLE—I want Mr. Taintor on the stand, before I go any further.

The Committee then adjourned to Wednesday next, the 24th inst., at 11 A. M.

FIFTEENTH DAY.

OCTOBER 24, 1877—11 A. M.

Present—Alderman LEWIS,
“ SLEVIN,
“ COWING.

The CHAIRMAN (Alderman Lewis) called the meeting to order.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

Alderman COWING—Mr. Chairman, I desire to make a few remarks on this occasion. Senator Harris has left his home, at some inconvenience, to be present here before the Committee to-day to meet such accusations as his unknown and unnamed accuser shall bring against him. Senator Harris is now present, and denies the charges made impugning his conduct while acting as a Commissioner for building the Capitol. He has left an exciting political contest to be present here to refute these charges, and it is but just to him that at least twenty-four hours before the election should be allowed to him for that purpose. He is ready to meet any charge to be brought against him by this unknown accuser, who has been subpoenaed to be in attendance before this Committee, but who, as I have been informed by counsel, has refused to come here and testify. Senator Harris was desirous to clear his character from the imputation made against it, and

that as much publicity should be given to his refutation as may be given to the charge itself. Now, if this man, who, it was said, would corroborate the testimony of Tweed, is present, the Senator is here ready to meet him; and my associates, I am sure, will agree with me that this matter should not be deferred to so late a day as to operate injuriously against the Senator in the public mind, notwithstanding his ability to exculpate himself completely from the charges.

Mr. COLE—At the last session of the Committee, Mr. Tweed, after making some allegations against Senator Harris, said that these allegations could be substantiated by a witness whose name he privately furnished to the Committee. The name of that witness was John Bridgeford, of Albany. A subpoena has since been made out and served upon John Bridgeford, in the city of Albany, commanding him to appear before this Committee to-day. The affidavit of the server is to the effect that he had served the subpoena on John Bridgeford on the 22d of October, 1877, at his residence, 286 State street, in the city of Albany. I am informed by the person who served the subpoena, that Mr. Bridgeford would appear before the Committee to-day, and he actually came to the city last night. I saw him, and he then informed me that he had been advised by his counsel in the city of Albany, not to appear before the Committee at the present time. At the same time he said that he would leave a statement in the shape of a letter to the Committee, informing them of all he knew concerning the matter in question. I told him that my impression was that the Committee would enforce his attendance, and that he would be compelled to appear before them by an attachment—

but that I should leave the matter in the hands of the Committee. He left me about half past-nine o'clock, saying that he intended to return to the city of Albany by the train which left here, I think, between half past ten and eleven o'clock last evening. That is all the information I can give the Committee on the subject.

Alderman COWING thought the statement of Mr. Bridgeford should not be received by the Committee, as it precludes Senator Harris from the opportunity of cross-examining his accuser, a privilege which would be denied him if the statement were received alone. Senator Harris understood that Mr. Bridgeford would be examined this morning, and that was the reason of his attendance.

Mr. COLE—Here is the communication to which I refer (producing Mr. Bridgeford's statement).

Alderman COWING asked that the statement should be suppressed, otherwise it would give the charges publicity without the benefit of the cross-examination to which Senator Harris was entitled; and it was eminently unfair if parties were permitted to come here and make charges on a written statement against any gentleman holding a high position in the community, and then be permitted to skulk away from the city without having those charges scrutinized. He thought such charges unworthy of notice.

Mr. COLE—They certainly have no weight as evidence.

Alderman COWING moved that the communication sent to the counsel by Mr. Bridgeford be returned to the counsel; and that, as far as this Committee is concerned, no notice be taken of it.

Mr. COLE—The communication is addressed to the

Committee, and is now in their custody to do what they please with it. I don't wish to have anything to do with it.

After a brief consultation, the Committee decided to take no notice whatever of Mr. Bridgeford's written statement. The Committee directed their Attorney, Mr. Cole, to procure an attachment against John Bridgeford, compelling him to appear before them to testify.

Alderman LEWIS then notified Senator HARRIS that he would be given full opportunity to examine any or all witnesses who may testify against him imputing misconduct in office.

HENRY F. TAINTOR was then sworn and examined, as follows :

By Mr. COLE :

Q. What is your full name ?

A. Henry F. Taintor.

Q. What is your occupation ?

A. I have been engaged for about six years in gathering, arranging, presenting, and applying or suggesting the application of the evidence so gathered, in relation to the Ring frauds and the discomfiture of the Ring thieves for the benefit of the city—the frauds committed prior to 1872, between the 1st of January, 1868, and the middle of 1871—three years and a quarter.

Q. Have you been employed by the Finance Department of the city to investigate the Ring frauds ?

A. It was under that department.

Q. From what data have you made up your personal knowledge of the Ring Frauds ?

A. The foundation of them has been certain warrants and vouchers, found in the Comptroller's office, representing the basis for these payments, and the tracing of those warrants to their destination, so far as could be; and the tracing of the payments against those warrants as far as could be. That has been the foundation of the results obtained.

Q. Then you have relied upon documentary evidence principally?

A. That was the foundation of it; but there were facts developed from time to time, and circumstances which have gone to corroborate the discoveries thus made, and which have led to new channels.

Q. Well, you began your investigation by examining the operations of the Board of Supervisors in 1868, and prior to that time, did you not?

A. No, sir; my attention was first called by Governor Tilden, or Mr. Tilden, before he was elected Governor, to the Special Audit (that was in 1871)—to the last \$6,000,000 of county warrants paid under the Special Board of Audit; but subsequent developments brought me to an anterior period—to the 1st of January, 1868—and there I commenced to develop up to the time the Special Audits commenced.

Q. I want you to give as succinct an account as practicable of the personnel and operations of what is known as the Supervisors' Ring, giving the names, and dates, and amounts in a succinct way. I want first to know in general the history of that Ring, as far as you have discovered from the records and documents you have examined?

A. Well, I found a large number of warrants and a portion of the vouchers all drawn in favor of certain names, which previous evidence had shown to be con-

nected with fraudulent transactions. They were either entirely fraudulent or a large element of fraud was connected with them. These warrants I found generally went to the credit of one or two parties in certain banks; and I found that there were payments made simultaneously with the deposits—generally within one, two or three days, to certain portions of that money—although for some time (say three or four years) I was unable to ascertain the percentage which those checks represented. If I had had access to the vouchers, I could have ascertained it long before; but the vouchers were abstracted from the Finance Department. I found that the claims those warrants represented had, according to the printed proceedings of the Board of Supervisors, passed that body in a very irregular and informal manner. I found that in some cases there were no dates on them, and in some not even the years in which the bills had accrued; and they were often without items, and showed on their face very great carelessness (to say the least) both in the manner they were drawn up and in their passage through the Board of Supervisors. I found that, generally, those bills were referred to a Committee of the Board of Supervisors, and passed upon by the Board on the same day—the Committee reporting immediately, apparently without examination. It looked like going through a form, rather than examining the merits of the claim. In 1868 there was a law passed giving the Comptroller the supreme authority to settle and adjust the claims against the city and county. I believe that the law required that the claimants should go through the form of commencing actions, but, I think, that that was entirely ignored. I found that, under that law, there were about \$6,000,000 adjusted or paid—\$6,500,000, I think. I found that all the bills that had

previously passed the Board of Supervisors had been absorbed by the Comptroller in auditing the claims—that the records of the Board of Supervisors had been swept clean.

Q. No more claims left?

A. None but a few trifling ones—and that the warrants were generally drawn for a certain set of names, and that they always went to the same destinations—and were distributed upon an exact percentage in the same way as private partners distributed their gains in business—upon a system of percentage varying at different periods.

Q. You say that the warrants were generally drawn to a certain set of names?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What names were the warrants generally drawn to?

A. The first one I have on my list here is January 20, 1868, drawn to the order of Ingersoll, Watson & Co., but that name I will say, however, does not appear in subsequent dates. Then there is Keyser & Co., George S. Miller, Archibald Hall, Jr., Andrew J. Garvey, C. H. Jacobus, Gregg & Brothers; in connection with this last name I do not desire to be understood as saying that they were guilty of any wrong, because there is evidence to the contrary; but the name appears in connection with these fraudulent transactions, and it was probably assumed and played upon by others. There were also W. D. Rowe & Co., Seymour & Co., T. W. Rowe & Co., Ingersoll & Co., D. T. Barnard & Sons, the New York Printing Company, the *Transcript* Association, J. McBride, Davidson & Co., the East Chester Quarry Company, C. Lockwood & Co., James H. Monaghan, Allen and Stevens, J. W. Smith, Gregg & Co., J. D. Black & Sons, C. D. Boller & Co.,

(that is a name assumed by Ingersoll), J. O. Seymour, Kennard & Hay, A. H. Smith (another name assumed by Ingersoll), A. W. Lockwood, James Cavanagh, R. J. Hennessy, who represented Garvey; J. G. Benchard (also representing Garvey), M. W. Davis (representing Ingersoll), T. C. Cashman (representing Garvey), Alonzo March (I presume representing Ingersoll & Co., but I have never been able to establish the identity of the individual), P. Dommarumma (representing Garvey), P. McKnight, New York Metallic Roofing Company, A. G. Miller (representing Ingersoll), P. C. Kingsland, Halsey & Co. (representing Ingersoll, to a large extent, at least), manufacturing stationers.

Q. Who composed the Manufacturing Stationers?

A. Well, I don't know; I reckon it was a creature of the Ring—the same as the New York Printing Company and the New York Transcript Association. Those are all that my eye strikes now on the list. These warrants I desire to say that were drawn in those different names I believe I have positive evidence that a large element of fraud existed in all of them. Some of them, I believe, to be wholly and entirely fraudulent, and others partially so. I do not mean to say that in each case the parties whose names were used were willing accomplices in the frauds; but generally they were so. They generally connived and aided in their perpetration.

Q. Now, in the first place, who were the committees of the Board of Audit, or Board of Supervisors, who passed those fraudulent claims?

A. They were referred to different committees on different days. It didn't seem to make much difference to what committee they were referred. They always went through.

Q. They were referred to different members of the Board?

A. Yes, to different committees. Some of them were referred to the Committee of Law, and some of them to other committees. I don't think they were referred to special committees. I think they were referred to the standing committees. That is my recollection.

Q. Are you prepared now to give the names of the members of those committees to whom these fraudulent bills were referred?

A. No, I am not; it is merely a matter of reference to the record of the Board of Supervisors. I am not ready to say who they are now. It will take some considerable time to examine the records to find out. Do you wish me to do so now?

Mr. COLE—I don't mean that you should stop to do so now. Will you please to indicate by what method you ascertained that the warrants drawn by these persons were wholly or in part fraudulent?

A. I found, generally, that these warrants, as I have already stated, went to the credit of either one or two parties—either J. A. Ingersoll or Ingersoll & Co.—or E. A. Woodward in the Broadway Bank. Those drawn to the order of Garvey were generally deposited to his own credit—that is, the ones drawn to his order; and, as I before stated, I found simultaneous payments against those deposits. The warrants generally did not bear the indorsement of the parties depositing them, except in the case of Garvey. When they were deposited in the Broadway Bank, they were indorsed by the clerks with the initials "E. A. W.," indicating that they went to the credit of E. A. Woodward; and that mark was made in pencil by the teller of the bank or some of the clerks. An examination of

the books of the Broadway Bank, or of any bank, into which those checks were deposited, showed whether the checks drawn against those warrants were paid in notes, or were deposited in the same bank or went through the Clearing House or went to the credit of another dealer. An examination of each payment became necessary, in order to indicate the channel through which they passed. When the checks were found going to another bank I have asked generally through the District Attorney's office for subpoenas to those banks to furnish information of the names of the depositors of those checks; and the mode by which the information was obtained has been generally through the criminal branch of the law. For instance, I would make a request to the Grand Jury and they would furnish me with the authority to make these investigations. The banks generally have stated that they wanted such authority on file before revealing their business or the information that was sought. In that way, I found out or discovered a large portion of these disclosures. When the checks were deposited to another dealer in the same bank, an examination of the deposited checks of that bank became necessary; and we generally found out the depositor. And when they were paid in bank notes I found, after a time, that they represented a certain division which was going to certain individuals, or, perhaps, the claimant received his portion in banknotes. But after a time, I got so that I could indicate with precision the parties to whom the checks paid in banknotes were drawn.

Q. In that way you were enabled to ascertain what proportion of each of those claims was *bona fide* and what proportion went as percentages?

A. I was able to ascertain what proportion went to the

claimant, and what proportion went to the officials, but I have not ascertained the portions of the claims which were *bona fide*.

Q. Could you ascertain what went to the claimant and what went to corrupt officials?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the general result of your investigation—how much went to the claimant and how much to the corrupt official.

A. I found that the payment under this adjusted claims act began in July, 1868—that the proportion of the claims going to the officials was fifty-five per cent. of the principal, or about that, and all the interest which had been audited and allowed on the claim—and the remaining forty-five per cent. went to the claimant. The payment under that act continued up to the first of January, 1869. Then in July, 1869, payments again commenced under that act. The amount of money going to officials was then increased to sixty per cent. of the principal and all the interest—the claimant receiving forty per cent. In November, 1869, the divisions were sixty-five per cent. of the principal and all the interest to officials, and thirty-five per cent. to the claimant, and that was about the division that continued throughout to the close of the County warrants. The same divisions continued through the Special Audit, which was the last batch.

Q. You have not yet come down to speaking of the operations of the “Ring” under the Tax Levy; or was it about the same all the way through?

A. No; in regard to the tax levy, I think there was a variation, in regard to the percentages; I cannot, from memory, give those percentages, but they were generally more to the claimants and less to the officials.

Q. Than under the preceding division?

A. Some of them were carried on simultaneously with the adjusted claims.

Q. Under the Board of Audit, from your researches and inquiries, who among the officials appeared to receive percentages, and what percentage each?

A. I found that the vouchers in those cases were abstracted from the Finance Department, except a few in the name of Keyser. I found a check which did not bear an exact proportion to the face of the warrant uniformly going to the credit of William M. Tweed, generally on the day on which the warrant was deposited to the credit of Woodward or Ingersoll.

Q. What was the percentage?

A. The warrant does not show the amount. The check did not bear a definite percentage. I afterwards found that Mr. Tweed's check represented 25 per cent. of the amount of the original claim, and that multiplying his check by four gave me the amount of the original bill without the interest, then the difference between the amount so found and the face of the warrant would give the amount that went to the claimant and others to whom a percentage was given. I found that the claimant received 35 per cent. of his original claim, without interest. I found that there was always a check drawn (I speak from memory) for 35 per cent. and a portion of the interest which was always paid in bank notes, representing, as I believe, the percentage paid to Mr. Connolly, Mr. P. B. Sweeney, and Mr. Watson, and perhaps a portion of the money unaccounted for, as to which I cannot speak definitely.

Q. What portion was that?

A. I cannot say what portion. That would leave five

per cent., and a portion of the interest which went into the hands of Woodward, who acted as distributor. I think that settles the principal. I have not got the interest.

Q. Then you say Tweed received 25 per cent. of the principal?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that 25 per cent. was paid to Woodward, and a portion of the interest which you did not trace at all?

A. Yes; which was left in the hands of Woodward, and I said that the check and a portion of the interest was always paid in bank notes.

Q. Upon what do you base your opinion that the 35 per cent. principal and interest, which was paid in bank notes, finally reached the hands of Connolly, Sweeney, and Watson?

A. In regard to Connolly, if you will allow me, I will merely state that there is a suit pending against him, and I think it might be injudicious to say anything now on the subject. In regard to Peter B. Sweeney, I always found that a certain portion of these moneys, with the money in bank notes, went to the credit of his brother, James M. Sweeney. And further evidence showed me that Peter B. Sweeney got the benefit of it. If his case had come to trial, I would have then gone into details; but as I said in the case of Connolly, this evidence may be of value in future suits, it might be injudicious to go into the details of this matter at present.

Q. There was no doubt in your mind from your analysis of these accounts and from your other sources of information that in point of fact it was P. B. Sweeney and not J. M. Sweeney who reaped the benefit of these transactions.

A. There is no doubt in my mind that Peter B. Sweeney received the benefit.

Q. Is it your opinion, as an expert in these matters, that it could have been shown on the trial of Peter B. Sweeney that he participated in these frauds?

A. It would appear so from my knowledge of the evidence in the hands of the prosecution. I do not know, of course, what defence he could make; but, in my opinion, he had none which would overthrow the evidence against him. I am familiar with the facts, and that is my deliberate conviction. In connection with these special audit matters, I ought to state that the analysis of them was commenced by Governor Tilden before I had any connection with them; and that the checks to Woodward and Tweed had been traced by him; and that a certain portion of the evidence in the Sweeney case had also been developed by him. I state this because I do not wish to assume anything in connection with these matters to which I am not entitled. The percentages which Mr. Tilden traced to Mr. Tweed do not, as I have said before, represent a definite percentage on the face of the warrants. That I have since adjusted myself; so if you take the whole \$6,000,000 and take four times the amount Mr. Tweed received, and figure through the percentages, and the variations of them, the result will not be more than a few cents out of the way. I think, in Mr. Tweed's case, the variation is only sixteen cents. In the case of Ingersoll they do not vary more than two to eight cents, and in the case of Garvey they do not vary at all. Taking them right through, the percentages in the whole six millions did not vary but very little. The evidence would stand alone if properly stated.

Q. And who made these divisions?

A. Do you ask me the name of the man who paid the money to the officials?

Q. Yes, sir.

A. Mr. Woodward generally paid to Mr. Tweed. Mr. Woodward, Ingersoll and Garvey were the depositors of the warrants. If Mr. Garvey deposited a warrant he would retain his part, and hand the balance over to Mr. Woodward. Mr. Ingersoll would do the same. If they both deposited on the same day, a settlement would be made and the respective balances adjusted, and a check given on a final settlement, and so matters were arranged between them.

Q. Were all these persons whom you have named recipients of those moneys which were improperly obtained from the treasury?

A. Yes; I believe them all to have been.

Q. There is a list of them as you gave them—I wish you would go over that list.

A. I would like to make this general statement—that there may be some slight modifications of my computations, but there is an element of fraud in every one of them sufficiently clear to warrant its being placed in that list.

Q. But all the claims made by those persons were fraudulent.

A. They were either wholly fraudulent or there was a large element of fraud in them.

Q. Can you separate those which were wholly fraudulent from those which were only partially so?

A. I cannot.

Q. Can you form any idea as to what portion the real value of those claims bore to the amount which the claimant received?

A. I have estimated it roughly in my own mind.

Q. What proportion, then?

A. I do not believe it would exceed fifteen per cent. on the face of the bill; but that is merely a belief on my part. Ingersoll and Garvey have testified that not over two sevenths of the amount they received represented genuine claims.

Q. Now those claims amounted in the aggregate to how much?

A. Do you speak of the adjusted claims?

Q. The claims under the Board of Supervisors and the Board of Audit?

A. I put it at about \$18,000,000. There are some others—the Tax Levy and the Court House, etc.

Q. And then came the City Tax Levy and the formation of the Ring proper under that?

A. Well, I have considered that all of these frauds were practiced under the Ring proper, or Ring improper, as it may be called—I do not get your idea exactly.

Q. I mean the action of the Ring which was formed under the Tax Levy, consisting of Mr. Tweed, Mr. Connolly, Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Hall, in which these claims amounting to \$18,000,000, which you speak of, were presented?

A. The claims then presented amounted to \$18,000,000, and included those payments made under the Charter of 1870, and the Tax Levy which was passed in aid of the Charter.

Q. How much have you estimated the entire amount which has been diverted from the Treasury by the corrupt practices of the Ring, from first to last, has amounted to?

A. I have analyzed it so that I developed fraud, or a large element of fraud, in about \$30,000,000, between the first of January, 1868, to the first of July, 1871—about

the time of the disruption of the Ring. There was also a large class of claims which I have never touched or looked into at all, for want of time and physical ability, and lacking the facilities to do so, which, I also believe, involve a large amount of fraud.

Q. Did you look back previous to the year 1868.

A. No; that was not within the scope of my investigation. There were some payments begun in 1867 by Keyser, Garvey, and Tweed; but the percentages were considerably smaller than subsequent ones were—such frauds as may have been developed in street openings, street improvements, street widenings, and contracts for supplies, which I have never looked into, but judging from all the collateral circumstances and the increase in the debt of the city during those two or three years from 1868 to 1871, I have estimated the frauds to which the city and county were subjected during those three years and a half at from forty-five to fifty millions of dollars.

Q. Do you mean to say that the whole of that amount was fraudulent?

A. I modify the statement by saying that there was a large element of fraud in it. My judgment is that in the thirty millions not over fifteen per cent. represented genuine claims. In other words twenty-five millions were stolen from the treasury, and four millions and a half paid for value received.

Q. How much do I understand you to say was, from first to last, stolen from the treasury.

A. I have no means of judging the amount, but it is over \$30,000,000.

Q. So far as you have gone, your judgment is that \$26,500,000 were actually stolen from the City and County Treasury, is it not?

A. \$25,500,000.

Q. And you have been able to trace a large portion, if not all of these fraudulent percentages to the persons who received them?

A. Yes, sir; that is particularly true of the county disbursements. In the city disbursements, I cannot speak with such definiteness, because the system of division did not prevail in the city in the same way as in county matters. Fraudulent warrants on the City Treasury were more frequently paid in bank notes, and distributed in that way, and all trace of them is lost.

Q. Are you familiar with the suits which have been begun either by the city of New York or by the people of the State of New York, with the purpose of discovering the money which has been fraudulently diverted from the Treasury?

A. To an extent I am.

Q. Will you be kind enough to give me a list of the suits you know to have been begun?

A. I have not that list with me.

Q. Have you it anywhere?

A. Not embodied in a regular form.

Q. How long will it take you to get it?

A. There are no facilities for getting it out with minuteness, but I can give you a statement of the cases now.

Q. State what cases have been begun?

A. Do you speak of offensive actions?

Q. I mean actions by the city or people against any one.

A. You don't speak of any actions in which there are defences or off-sets?

Q. No; I want to know how many suits have been begun by the people for the purpose of recovering a part of the plunder?

The witness gave the following list of suits commenced on behalf of the city for the recovery of the stolen moneys:

- The Mayor, etc., agt. The Broadway Bank.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. T. W. Roe & Co.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. John O'Donnell.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Alexander Brandon.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Morgan Jones.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Archibald Hall, Jr.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Daniel Berrien.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Ed. Marriner and another.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Geo. S. Miller and W. M. Tweed.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. J. W. Smith.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. J. A. Monaghan.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Ed. Jones & Co.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. W. C. Rogers & Co.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. W. Hay.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Ed. A. Moore.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Forbes Holland.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. H. W. Genet.
- The Mayor, etc., agt. Estate of Charles Vandervoort.
- The People, etc., agt. Wm. M. Tweed.
- The People, etc., agt. Estate of James Watson.
- The People, etc., agt. Cummings H. Tucker.
- The People, etc., agt. P. B. Sweeney.
- The People, etc., agt. R. B. Connolly.
- The People, etc., agt. E. A. Woodward.
- The People, etc., agt. John J. Walsh.
- The People, etc., agt. Thos. Coman.

[The latter was discontinued a few days since.]

There are other suits, but I have not the data here; that is all that I notice here at present; there is a case of

the Mayor against J. W. Smith, that is running through my mind.

Q. There is a suit that was discontinued a few days ago against Thomas Coman?

A. Yes; that was disposed of yesterday—as also one against William Walsh.

Q. Can you tell me who has special charge of all these suits—what lawyer represents the Mayor, and what lawyer represents the People, in each of these suits?

A. I think in a great many of the cases, the retainers have been revoked.

Q. Who had charge of the Mayor against the Broadway Bank?

A. James C. Carter.

Q. And the Mayor against T. W. Roe & Co.?

A. W. H. Peckham.

Q. In the Mayor against John O'Donnell, and against A. Brandon, M. Jones, A. Hall, Jr., D. Berrien, E. Mariner and another (Mariner has since deceased) against G. S. Miller and William M. Tweed?

A. Wheeler H. Peckham.

Q. Against J. O'Donnell?

A. Barlow and Olney.

Q. Against Alexander Brandon?

A. Barlow and Olney.

Q. Against Morgan Jones?

A. That is in the hands of the Corporation Counsel. I think it was Mr. Carter who was retained at first to conduct it.

Q. The Mayor against A. Hall, Jr.; who had that?

A. Barlow and Olney?

Q. The Mayor against D. Berrien?

A. Mr. Carter.

Q. The Mayor against E. Marriner and another (Marriner is since deceased)?

A. Mr. Carter, I know, had that.

Q. The Mayor against G. S. Miller and W. M. Tweed?

A. Mr. Carter.

Q. Against J. A. Monaghan?

A. Peter Starr.

Q. The Mayor against Ed. Jones & Co.?

A. I don't know that the complaint was ever drawn in that case, but it was originally in the hands of Wm. M. Smith.

Q. W. C. Rogers?

A. The same.

Q. The People *vs.* Hall, Moore and Forbes Holland?

A. Wheeler H. Peckham.

Q. Against H. W. Genet?

A. John E. Parsons.

Q. Against the Estate of Charles Vandervoort?

A. W. H. Peckham.

Q. Against J. W. Smith?

A. The Corporation Counsel.

Q. Against Allen and Stevens?

A. The Corporation Counsel.

Q. Against Wm. M. Tweed?

A. W. H. Peckham and Carter.

Q. That has been tried?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The People against the Watson Estate?

A. Wheeler H. Peckham.

Q. That has been settled?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The People against P. B. Sweeney?

A. W. H. Peckham and S. B. Nash.

Q. The People against Tucker ?

A. Barlow and Olney.

Q. The People against Coman ?

A. Barlow and Olney.

Q. Is that the suit that was discontinued a day or two ago ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The People against Wheeler ?

A. The same.

Q. The People against S. C. Connolly ?

A. W. H. Peckham.

Q. The People against Woodward ?

A. Wheeler H. Peckham.

Q. Do you know the present condition of each of these suits—do you know when they were commenced in the first instance ; we will begin at the top of the list—“The Mayor against the Broadway Bank ?”

A. That suit was commenced in July, 1874, I think. It has not progressed very far, and has never been tried.

Q. Against T. W. Roe & Co. ?

A. It was commenced in the summer of 1874.

Q. How far has it progressed ?

A. It is nearly ready for trial, I believe, sir.

Q. The Mayor against J. O'Donnell—when was that commenced ?

A. I think about the same time—in the summer of 1874.

Q. What is its present condition ?

A. I think it has been deemed unprofitable to continue its prosecution, not from lack of evidence, but from the impecuniosity of the defendant.

Q. What has been done with it ?

A. The suit is not now in progress. We determined

for the present, it was not to be pushed on account of the expense that it would entail, without any benefit.

Q. The Mayor against Brandon; when was that begun?

A. In 1874.

Q. Has it progressed?

A. It has not progressed.

Q. For what reason?

A. I do not know.

Q. In your opinion is there evidence to warrant the expectation of success in it?

A. In my opinion, there was a very good case; I think there was sufficient evidence to base the claim upon.

Q. As far as you know, the defendant is in the same position as the last defendant?

A. I do not know, but my impression is that he is responsible.

Q. The Mayor against Morgan Jones?

A. That suit was commenced in November, 1874, and I suppose it will soon be ready for trial.

Q. The People against Archibald Hall?

A. That was commenced in 1874; he is a fugitive, and has not yet been served with a summons.

Q. Is it in progress?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know whether he left any property behind him?

A. I do not know.

Q. Do you know whether it has been attached or not?

A. That I don't know.

Q. I wish you would refresh your memory from the memoranda you have in your safe—The Mayor against D. Berrien?

A. That suit is in progress.

Q. When was it commenced ?

A. In November, 1874. That suit has not progressed. My impression is that a portion of the evidence upon which the plaintiffs base their claim has been or will be used in defensive proceedings on behalf of the city as an offset to the claims presented by D. Berrien.

Q. Against E. Mariner and another ?

A. I think that other is William M. Tweed ; Mariner is dead.

Q. Tweed, you say, is the other defendant ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was that begun ?

A. In 1874.

Q. When did Mariner die ?

A. About a year and a half ago ; it must have been the spring of 1876.

Q. Do you know anything about his estate ?

A. I do not. I was ill at the time of his death. I was over in Brooklyn, but as soon as I heard of his death I sent a person to inquire about him, and I found it was the same person. I then wrote a note (I have forgotten to what counsel) stating he was dead, and that I did not know whether it was advisable to pursue his estate or not.

Q. Did he leave any property ?

A. I don't know. He certainly stole enough to enable him to do so.

Q. Against G. S. Miller and William M. Tweed ?

A. I think in regard to the claim against Miller, there was some arrangement made by which he was not to be prosecuted on condition of his furnishing some evidence in certain suits.

Q. What do you mean—do you mean with counsel ?

A. I think with the State authorities. That is an impression on my own part.

Q. By State authorities—do you mean the Attorney-General?

A. Yes, with those who represented him.

Q. What was that suit for?

A. To recover moneys obtained by him fraudulently.

Q. In connection with Tweed?

A. I think that the action was based on certain frauds in connection with the removal of the aqueduct.

Q. Do you know the amount for which he was sued?

A. (Looking at his memoranda). It is put down here as \$500,000.

Q. Was he called as a witness in one of the cases?

A. I think I saw in the papers that he was called as a witness in the Tweed case.

Q. Against J. A. Monaghan—when was that commenced?

A. In 1874.

Q. Has it progressed?

A. To a certain extent it has—as far as I am concerned I am ready for trial. Monaghan is under \$25,000 bonds to the city.

Q. You think it is ready for trial as far as the evidence goes?

A. Yes, sir. In the other case T. W. Roe & Co.—Roe and Monaghan are jointly under bonds for \$50,000.

Q. The Mayor against E. Jones & Co.—when was that begun?

A. The summons was served in the autumn of 1874.

Q. What was done since?

A. I think nothing. I think it is in the hands of the Corporation Counsel, who is resisting or defending cer-

tain suits brought by them to recover more claims of the same character.

Q. You refer to the case of W. C. Rogers & Co.?

A. It is the same thing.

Q. The Mayor against Hall, Moore and Forbes Holland—when was that begun?

A. In August 1874.

Q. What has been done since in that case?

A. Nothing that I know of.

Q. Do you know why?

A. I do not.

Q. Has the evidence ever been worked up?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is it ready for trial, as far as you know from the evidence.

A. That does not depend upon me; Mr. Halford made the investigation chiefly; in that case.

Q. The Mayor against Genet—when was that begun?

A. I think in 1874.

Q. Do you know what was done in that matter?

A. No, sir; I think it was an inquest. There was no appearance on behalf of Genet, and judgment by default was rendered against him; but whether the city ever recovered anything against his property at Harlem, I don't know.

Q. The Mayor against the estate of Charles Vandervoort?

Q. I think the evidence against Vandervoort has been used by the city in its defence against proceedings brought by the executors and administrators against the city. I do not think it has been utilized in the way of progressing that action. It has been used in other ways. I don't think that the action against Vandervoort has ever

progressed at all ; which, I presume, is owing to the proceedings on behalf of his estate against the city.

Q. Is the evidence worked up in that case ?

A. Mr. Halford has done so—the same as in the other case.

Q. The Mayor against J. W. Smith—when was that begun ?

A. I think, in 1872. It should have progressed since, but why it has not done so I cannot tell. I do not know the legal reasons.

Q. Is it in progress ?

A. It is in the hands of the Corporation Counsel.

Q. The People against Tweed ?

A. That has been tried and judgment given for \$6,000,000.

Q. Against Allen and Stevens ?

A. That was commenced in January last, and is in the hands of the Corporation Counsel.

Q. Against the Watson estate ?

A. \$590,435.95 was recovered there.

Q. By a settlement against the estate of Watson ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was there not some more to be paid ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Was that the whole amount ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Has it all been recovered ?

A. I believe so.

Q. Look at this settlement and see if it states the amount recovered (handing the witness a paper) ?

A. I think that is the amount, \$590,435.95.

Q. How much of that amount was actually paid over to the city ?

A. I think \$558,000 or \$560,000. I think the expenses in that case were \$32,000.

Q. Was the rest of it all paid over to the city?

A. I understand it was. I think it was paid over by two instalments, by the Attorney General. I think that the general fund is credited with that amount.

The witness was handed the following

STATEMENT OF THE AMOUNT OF MONEYS RECOVERED BY THE CITY OF NEW YORK FROM THE "RING SUITS" TO OCTOBER 18, 1877 :

January 24, 1876—From the estate of James Watson	\$590,435 94
January 3, 1877—From Elbert A. Woodward, on account.....	100,000 00
Interest.....	413 58
	<hr/>
Total	\$690,849 52
Less payments for expenses made by Attorney General.....	32,612 52
	<hr/>
Amounts paid into City Treasury.....	\$658,237 00
Less payments for expenses made by the City of New York.....	194,098 82
	<hr/>
Actual amount recovered	<u><u>\$464,138 18</u></u>

STATEMENT OF THE AMOUNTS OF MONEYS PAID FOR LIABILITIES,
COUNSEL FEES, EXPENSES, AND OTHERWISE IN THE "RING
SUITS."

March 13, 1872, to March 2, 1877—Payments from the Treasury of the City of New York.....	\$194,098 82
March 14 to September 19, 1876—Payments made by the Attorney General.....	32,612 52
	<hr/>
Total payments.....	\$226,711 34
Total receipts.....	\$690,849 52
Total payments.....	226,711 34
	<hr/>
Balance.....	\$464,138 18
	<hr/>

Q. What does that \$194,098.82 "less payments for expenses made by the city of New York" mean?

A. I think that paper lacks explanation. That, as I understand it, embraces the entire expense, or is intended to, which the city, county, and State have been subjected in view of all these litigations, civil and criminal, up to the date when the paper was drawn up, and instead of \$690,000 having been recovered, I should say it is \$1,140,000. That is, settlements have been made to that amount already—\$590,000 from Watson's estate, \$155,000 from Woodward, and \$400,000 from Sweeney.

Q. Are the expenses in the Sweeney case included in the amount?

A. The statement says "up to October, 1877." The Sweeney case was settled in June. Now, in addition to these, here are some twenty or thirty or forty suits, both offensive and defensive, by and against the city, in which

evidence has been gathered, arranged and put into shape for proceedings covering a period of nearly six years. There is also embraced here the lawyers' expenses, the legal expenses generally, and the expenses attending the criminal trials that have transpired. The city has in a great many cases brought in evidence of a defensive character, in the way of offsets growing out of the frauds?

Q. That sum of \$196,000 can readily be resolved into its constituent items—can it not?

A. As to the recipients of the money, I suppose it can; but as to the payments in each case, it would be a little difficult to do so, because of the warrants, which renders it difficult to go into minute details in that way.

Q. But you can figure up how much went to each individual?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you got the data for that?

A. No, sir.

Q. Who would have that knowledge?

A. I don't know of any one but the Comptroller's office. There was a statement of that kind, which was published in the papers some months ago; but I never saw it except in a condensed form.

Q. Did you work up the evidence in the case of Watson?

A. I did, sir. There was a large amount of money attached. I think in 1871. The money was in the U. S. Trust Company.

Q. How much was it?

A. I think \$800,000. There was plenty of general evidence of Watson's participation in these frauds; but it was not of a character whereby you could judicially

establish the frauds; and it lay there for about four years until in 1874, or early in 1875, when I found a way of proving each amount that he had received during a certain period, representing the exact percentage of these fraudulent bills, and the case was so complete, as I believe, that it would stand upon its own merits, and go into a nutshell. When it was before the referee I don't think a witness of ours was examined; and I think it was this development that recovered the money.

Q. And you got judgment?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much was the judgment for?

A. I think for a little more than the amount stated in that paper. I only know what I saw in the papers.

Q. And this money you got out of the money you had attached in the U. S. Trust Company?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, "The People *against* C. H. Tucker," when was that suit commenced, and what is its present condition?

A. That suit was commenced late in 1875—I think late in 1874. There were some attempts made at negotiation, I think, but they fell through. I don't think that the action has progressed.

Q. Have you worked up the evidence in that case?

A. I have.

Q. Do you think it would sustain the action against him?

A. I think so; I think it is complete.

Q. Has he got anything?

A. I don't know. At one time he had a handsome property.

Q. Since the suit was commenced, has he had anything?

A. I cannot say of my own knowledge.

Q. Why was the suit not pressed?

A. Efforts were made to compromise it in 1875, but they fell through.

Q. How much is the suit for?

A. I think its nominal amount is \$400,000.

Q. What was that for?

A. Tucker was Superintendent of the erection of the new Court-house up to December, 1870, when the Commissioners were appointed. During his superintendency, during four or five years, there were a great many bills, false and fictitious, certified to by him, and upon these he collected a commission of five per cent., according to a contract with the Board of Supervisors, and the suit is brought not only to recover the commissions but for a portion of the fraudulent payment to the claimants.

Q. *The People* against *Peter B. Sweeney* is the suit that has been recently settled by an agreement for repayment of \$400,000 out of the estate of J. M. Sweeney?

A. Yes, sir; nominally.

Q. Could you say that the evidence that you had worked up in that case pointed to P. B. Sweeney as the man who received the money, or a portion of it?

A. Yes, sir; the evidence showed that P. B. Sweeney was the man.

Q. The next case is that of the *People* against *Coman*?

A. Yes; that case was discontinued yesterday.

Q. What was that suit brought for?

A. To recover bills fraudently certified by him as a Commissioner of the Court House.

Q. Did you work up the facts in that case?

A. I did.

Q. Did you consider you had sufficient evidence against Coman?

A. The general evidence was sufficient to satisfy my own mind—looking at it from a common sense point of view, that he did participate in the proceeds—that he did receive a commission from those bills; but looking at it in a legal point of view, it might, of course, be different; I do not speak so positively on that head, and should not speak at all.

Q. You are not a lawyer?

A. No, sir.

Q. What was the amount in that Coman suit?

A. \$400,000.

Q. What was the nature of the evidence that you were able to get which seemed to you to connect Coman with these frauds?

A. Well, from the fact that he certified to these bogus bills; and, also, that there was a certain commission allowed to him on account of them? I don't say we could establish judicially that state of facts upon all the points; the general case appeared to be, that if there were payments to him, they were made before he certified to the bills; and that made a legal complication, but it aggravated the frauds.

Q. The trouble was that you could not bring home a guilty knowledge to Coman?

A. The only question was how far the evidence implicated him directly.

Q. In the knowledge of the frauds before they were committed?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The People against Walsh?

A. I think that is a good case and ought to go to trial.

Q. Is it ready for trial?

A. Yes, as far as I am concerned.

Q. When was it begun?

A. The same time as the Coman case?

Q. What was it for?

A. It was for the same amount as the Coman case.

He was a co-Commissioner with Coman.

Q. Do you think that is a good case.

A. Yes, sir, I do.

Q. When was it brought?

A. I think in 1875. I cannot give you the exact date when it was brought.

Q. How far has it progressed?

A. I think it is ready for trial, and I hope it will be called pretty soon.

Q. What is the amount involved?

A. I think the same amount as that of the Coman case.

Q. \$400,000?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The People against Woodward—is that suit pending?

A. That suit was compromised and settled.

Q. Did you work up the facts in that case?

A. I perfected the evidence. Governor Tilden originally analyzed the case to a certain point; and in addition to that, I had evidence inculcating him in obtaining \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000 additional.

Q. What was that suit brought for?

A. For the whole \$6,000,000.

Q. How much was it settled for?

A. \$155,000; I get my information from the newspapers.

Q. Do you know how much of that was actually paid into the treasury?

A. I think \$100,000.

Q. Where is the other \$55,000?

A. That I do not know.

Q. Do you know upon what basis that compromise was agreed upon?

A. I merely suppose that it was agreed upon on the ground of his inability to pay more.

Q. Not from any weakness in the case itself, but simply the insolvency of the defendant?

A. I don't think there was any weakness in the case at all. I think, in addition to that, there was another element taken into consideration in the compromise, and that was the intention to use Woodward's evidence in one or two other cases. I think that element also entered into the consideration of the compromise.

Q. Do you think that there is any essential difference between the evidence in favor of the City in the Walsh case and in the Coman case?

A. I do.

Q. You think there are essential differences?

A. I do.

Q. Do you think they go to the fastening on the defendants a guilty knowledge of the frauds?

A. Yes, sir; I do.

Q. I don't want you to particularize them?

A. I cannot see how it could be otherwise than that there was a guilty knowledge all through.

Q. Both in regard to Coman and Walsh?

A. Yes, sir; and Norton; there were some criminal proceedings against Norton, and I don't think that the civil proceedings were commenced from the fact that in 1874 Norton, who was at that time a fugitive owing to the criminal prosecutions against him, made an affidavit

in one of the city cases, and was granted immunity—that is nominally; so it was understood that if he acted in good faith towards the city, he would not be dealt with harshly; this evidence was necessary, and as long as he acts in good faith I do not think he ought to be prosecuted.

Q. Do you think he would have known of the complicity of Coman in that case?

A. I don't, but he might have known generally; but he might not be able to state specific facts.

Q. Did you examine the case?

A. I think the counsel have done so.

Q. I understand you to say that as far as you have gone to day your testimony has had reference chiefly to the frauds committed against the County Treasury?

A. Some of them also related to the City Treasury.

Mr. COLE—I propose at our next meeting to inquire into the frauds that have been committed upon the City Treasury.

The Committee thereupon adjourned until Saturday, the 27th instant, at two o'clock P. M.

SIXTEENTH DAY.

OCTOBER 27, 1877.

Present—Alderman LEWIS,
 “ COWING,
 “ SLEVIN.

The reading of the minutes of the preceding session was, upon motion of Alderman LEWIS, dispensed with.

HENRY F. TAINTOR retook the stand.

Mr. COLE—At the close of your examination, at the last session of the Committee, you said that you had confined yourself principally to frauds upon the County Treasury, and that, independently of them, there were other frauds against the City Treasury, concerning which you had gathered certain information.

Mr. TAINTOR—Before proceeding farther, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen. I want to say this, in further elucidating the idea I endeavored to express the other day, and which, perhaps from my obtuseness, might not have been clearly understood here. Nothing was farther from my intentions than inviting criticism upon the actions of any of the counsel in any of those cases. I intended to state that my connection with these matters related entirely to the facts that I had gathered and submitted to counsel, which in every case were deemed sufficient to base an action upon. I can illustrate better by the case of Coman. The facts

as they appeared were deemed sufficient to base an action upon. They were sufficient to establish in my mind, and I believe it to-day as I have always, that the general circumstances and all the collateral facts gathered from first to last tend to show his participation in the moneys paid on account of the Court House, but if the counsel find they could not establish those facts in evidence, that fact does not change the impression on my mind, although it might materially affect the case upon trial. My position is exceedingly embarrassing, for the reason that there are a large number of suits pending for and against the city, based on those facts and this evidence, and I am very fearful, and was fearful, that I might say something which might prejudice the city's interests, one way or another, pending trial of those actions, or before the trials, that I might admit to this Committee that there was a weakness here or there, which I had no desire to do. The lawyers are the judges, in these cases, of the evidence legally, taking it as submitted to them. I have found that my ideas here were perhaps misinterpreted here and misunderstood by the public, and I take this opportunity to explain myself in connection with them.

In connection with the city matters, you were about to ask, sir——

Mr. COLE—Just wait a moment.

[A brief consultation between Mr. Cole and the members of the Committee ensued.]

By Mr. COLE—

Q. Now, Mr. Taintor, as to this Coman case?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. I will be glad if you will give the Committee to understand just what the state of the facts was, as you understood them?

A. Do the Committee take the responsibility of any prejudice to the interests of the city in other suits? If so I will cheerfully answer the questions. The same evidence and general facts apply in other cases still pending.

[The Committee and Mr. Cole again consulted.]

By Mr. COLE—

Q. Is it your opinion, Mr. Taintor, that to give a history of the facts of the Coman case might endanger the interests of the city in other pending suits?

A. There is a chance that they might. I do not know that it would endanger the interests of the city, but it might give the opposing counsel in other cases some clues to our evidence in those cases which they have not now, and which they might take advantage of to the prejudice of the city's interests. The facts will be made public on the trial of other cases.

Q. Then we will not press that. Well now, with regard to the frauds against the city treasury, as distinguished from those against the county treasury, to which you have already testified, were those under special acts of the Legislature generally?

A. Well, I find that the most aggravated frauds in connection with the \$30,000,000 of which I spoke the other day, city and county payments combined, were under the special laws, and where the frauds were in connection with payments from funds raised upon the credit of the city, rather than funds raised by the direct appropriations of the tax levy.

Q. You mean by issue of bonds under special legislation?

A. Yes, sir. And I will state as an example, with reference to the Adjusted Claims of '68 —

Q. Under chapter 853 of the Laws of 1868?

A. Yes. It gave the Comptroller supreme authority to adjust claims against the city.

Q. Wait a moment. Chapter 853 of the Laws of 1868, section 8, I presume you refer to, reads as follows [reading the section]: Is that the provision you refer to?

A. Yes, sir. Under that act there were six millions adjusted—or about six millions—for the county, and about thirteen millions all told. Now the idea of paying thirteen million dollars in one or two years from the appropriations under the tax levy is absurd, and there were laws passed subsequent to that which converted those revenue bonds into long bonds for the city and it was so done. I have not with me the data to refer to, but it was done. The idea of paying from the tax levy I do not think was seriously entertained when the law was passed. The same statement of facts applies to the city and county.

Q. What sort of claims were adjusted and subsequently paid by bonds of the city of New York under the right provided by that section of that law?

A. Well, I will cite six bills in the name of J. H. Ingersoll & Co., amounting to about one million of dollars. They were bogus, almost from first to last, and the proceeds were divided almost as systematically as the county funds were. The vouchers were all abstracted from the Finance Department except one. After two or three years' investigation in these matters, I accidentally found that voucher, and I found the form for legal pro-

ceedings—for commencing legal action as named in the law. In some places the blanks were not filled out, and the names of attorneys and other persons were promiscuously attached, written in by everybody, and the whole thing was in irregular shape, for the sake of complying somewhat with the forms of the law under which the money was to be paid, but it was very irregular, and showed that in all those cases there were very vague attempts to carry out the provisions of the law, even regarding the form of the papers.

Q. Were suits begun in those cases?

A. Not so far as I know.

Q. What do you mean by saying “attorneys’ names”?

A. On the voucher—I found on this one voucher the legal printed form attached, but few of the blanks filled up at all.

Q. You mean “summons” and “complaint,” and all that?

A. Yes; but so as to show they were merely put there for effect.

Q. Have you that voucher?

A. No, sir; I think it is in the hands of some of the counsel in these cases.

Q. I wish you would find out where it is, as it is important?

A. I will do so, sir.

Q. What do those six bills aggregate?

A. \$933,000.

Q. What do they purport to be for?

A. Supplies for the old Street Department.

Q. They purported to be old bills for the Street Department before that was superseded by the Board of Public Works?

A. Yes, sir; I prepared a list of what appeared to me to be the most aggravated cases of fraud under the payments on that act, and submitted it one time to the Department of Public Works, and asked that reference might be made to the old records of the Street Department, as those claims generally, were alleged to be old claims of the Street Department before it was merged into the Board of Public Works. It was reported to me that three or four millions of those claims had no existence, so far as their books were concerned.

Q. Have you the list of those claims with you?

A. It is in another pocket in an adjoining room, and if you will send a messenger for it I can obtain it. [A messenger was dispatched to obtain the list.] There are others of those special laws—

Q. I will call your attention to some more. I am informed that there were probably some frauds perpetrated under the provisions of chapter 213 of the Laws of 1871, relating to the distribution of Croton water through the city of New York. That act provided that the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty should be authorized to extend the laying of pipes for the distribution of Croton water through New York, etc.?

A. Appropriating a million, or a million and a half.

Q. Not to exceed one and a half millions, and authorized the Comptroller to borrow money and issue bonds therefor?

A. Well, there was a little over one million dollars paid from that fund during the year 1871. I have been at some pains this forenoon to figure up the bills in which the frauds have been, or, as I believe, can be readily proven, and I find that \$568,000 out of the million alleged to have been paid for this purpose that year is entirely

fraudulent, or embraces a very large element of fraud. These cases are made the subject of actions, or perhaps the evidence in some of them may have been used as offsets to other claims brought against the city.

Q. Have you that in such a shape that you can indicate the instances of frauds under that law?

A. I can give the names of individuals. They are all embraced in the list I submitted the other day: Keyser & Co., Geo. S. Miller, E. Mariner, Archibald Hall, Jr.,—Morgan Jones' name appears, and the evidence is deemed sufficient to base an action against him—D. Berrien: I think that is about all; five or six names.

Q. Well, were those claims fraudulent both as to amount and as to material furnished?

A. As to the amount of material furnished and in some of them the prices charged were two or three hundred per cent. in advance of the market prices of the articles alleged to have been furnished. Take both classes of frauds and they aggregate nearly the amount of the bills.

Q. How much do you think was the aggregate of the fraudulent part of the bills collected under that act?

A. Well, I adhere to the fifteen per cent. that I named the other day in connection with the county matters as a fair average of the genuine value. Of course it is a matter of judgment on my part gathered from experience in these matters, but in every case I can specifically state the fraud, and I feel warranted in making that statement. Fifteen per cent. would be a liberal estimate of the average genuine value represented.

Q. Now, I call your attention to chapter 230 of the Laws of 1870, which is another one of the special acts whereby money is supposed to have been diverted from the City treasury. That law gave authority to raise such

sums of money as the Commissioner of Public Works should certify there was occasion for. What was done under that act?

A. That act is unlimited so far as the amount of money there authorized to be raised.

Q. Yes. Limited to such amount only as the Commissioner of Public Works shall certify to be necessary. Who was Commissioner of Public Works then?

A. Mr. Tweed.

Q. Did he ever certify what amount was necessary?

A. I do not know. His certificate is attached to the bills paid under this act.

Q. He never limited himself to any gross sum?

A. Not that I am aware of. There were estimates made by engineers of the expenses likely to be incurred in moving this aqueduct. I think it was set down at one and a half millions. The aqueduct was removed from Ninety-third to One Hundred and Thirteenth street. It was changed about twenty blocks. The expenses of it in 1870, and up to the middle of 1871, as far as the bills were paid was \$3,100,000, or a little over; I have forgotten the exact amount.

Q. By "the expenses" do you mean the actual expenses, or that charged against the city?

A. The expense the city was put to under that act; the same list of names, I think, occur in connection with the frauds in that job which appeared in the Croton water laying, and the evidence in connection with some of them is absolutely conclusive as to the frauds, both in the quantity of material alleged to have been furnished, and in the prices, too.

Q. And what amount of money do you think—

A. If you will pardon me a moment—I am informed

at the Comptroller's office that there are still a large number of claims outstanding, amounting, say, to half a million dollars; so that would make \$3,500,000 for moving the aqueduct twenty blocks, spent in a year and a half.

Q. Can you form any idea of the proper expenses of that work?

A. I cannot.

Q. You have never taken any expert testimony as to what it cost?

A. I have not.

Q. Well, from the data which was before you, what amount of this \$3,600,000 do you think was properly chargeable to the city treasury? Could you get at that?

A. Well—I should estimate it—I do not believe that over fifty per cent. of it was; I think that would be a very liberal estimate of the genuine value.

Q. What became of the amount of money which represented the fraud—the other fifty per cent.?

A. Warrants were drawn to the order of the man who presented the bills, and were generally paid in bank-notes over the counter of the bank.

Q. What bank?

A. The Broadway Bank, upon which the checks were drawn; the tracing of bank-notes is very difficult, and they have not been traced definitely; we rely on the internal evidence of fraud in the bills as they were paid.

Q. Have any suits been begun against the persons whom you have named in connection with fraud in this job?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Which are they?

A. Well, that against D. Berrien, and Morgan Jones; there was a suit commenced against E. Mariner, but he

is since deceased and I don't think it amounts to anything now.

Q. Are those some of the suits concerning which you testified at the last session?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, do you think of any other special acts of the legislature under which frauds were perpetrated against either the city or county treasury?

A. Yes, sir; I think of others; there was the Court House; that was under the county regime.

Q. Well, what amount of money have you ascertained was diverted from the county treasury by the Court House job?

A. Well, you can estimate the cost of that building to the city anywhere from \$8,000,000 to \$13,000,000. It is very difficult to say what expenditures are chargeable to it, because when they found the Court House was too heavily loaded, they charged it to "County Buildings and Offices." Well, if the county buildings and offices could be found, upon which this vast amount had been spent, it would be proper, but they cannot be. The Court House is charged with \$8,000,000 and the "county buildings and offices" with \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000 more.

Q. Have you figured up what the proper charge for Court House and all other city and county offices should have been—in a rough way?

A. It has been, in a rough way, by Mr. Booth's committee, and very careful estimates I believe were made; but that includes armories and drill-rooms, and those were paid, I think, generally by appropriations under the tax levy. I remember it was a very small percentage of the amount paid that represented the genuine value of the

building, as it was valued by skilled persons in mechanical business.

Q. Were those fraudulent amounts diverted from the city and county treasuries under those several acts divided among the members of the so-called "ring" in the same way other kindred matters were?

A. The city payments were generally made in bills; that is, the warrants were paid in bills, and distributed in that way. In the county payments the warrants were generally deposited, and distribution made by the depositor, by checks. There are some exceptions. You take Jones & Co. and Rogers & Co. They generally deposited the warrants, drawn to their order, in their own bank, and I know of but one instance where a warrant drawn to their order was drawn by any of the distributors. There was one, of \$50,000, deposited by Woodward.

Q. And the reason you assume that those city payments took the same course as the others, is that you found the warrants were deposited by the same persons known to be go-betweens in the county matters?

A. No, sir; we relied on the internal evidence of fraud in the vouchers themselves and the fact that they were uniformly paid in bank notes, over the counter of the bank, when the men to whom the warrants were drawn were men in business, and, if they had been legitimate warrants, they would probably have been deposited to their own credit, in their own banks, in the regular course of business. You will find warrants for \$150,000 or \$160,000 being paid over the counter of the Broadway Bank in bank notes.

Q. To the payee of the warrants?

A. Yes, sir; when the payee had a current business account in the bank at the same time.

Q. Well, now, are there any other special acts under which those frauds were committed that you can think of?

A. Well, I have no other special acts in mind, where the frauds have been developed by myself sufficiently for me to speak intelligently about them. Doubtless, there are others of which I could speak, but I have not them in mind at present, sir.

[Here, by permission of the Committee, the witness absented himself for a few minutes to procure the list of fraudulent claims which the messenger had failed to find. Upon his return with the list the examination was resumed.]

Q. Is that the list?

A. Yes, sir; this is the paper to which I referred. [Handing the document to Mr. Cole.]

Mr. COLE [Reading its title] —“Certain alleged claims against the city of New York, paid under chapter 853, Laws of 1868.”

Mr. TAINTOR—It is certain of them; I do not allege frauds in all those cases; I merely state that I presented this list to the Chief Clerk of the Department of Public Works, he having been, as I understood, in the employ of the Department for years, and asked him in reference to them. He reported that there was no reference in the old records of the Street Department, or of the Board of Public Works, in reference to those claims.

Q. And there should have been if they had been *bona fide* claims?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. I see the list is not footed up?

A. No, sir; it was copied only the other day, and has not been footed up.

Q. Will you please foot it up, as you are ready at figures—[after a brief struggle in computation by the witness]—What is the amount?

A. The amount is a little over \$3,300,000—I have not figured it up definitely, but it is about that.

Q. Now, Mr. Taintor, I understand you to say that you know nothing more about this list, except that you prepared it and submitted it to the Department of Public Works, and were informed that there were no entries upon their books, of these claims, which showed that none of these were *bona fide* bills?

A. I will make this reservation; I will say I know nothing about certain of the names—as to some of them, the fraud is alleged and established; but in others, I do not intend to imply any fraud.

Q. Will you, please, run your pencil thorough those to which you do not mean to imply any fraud?

A. I do not mean to imply fraud, because I have not examined them.

Q. Well, I only want those you have examined and found to be fraudulent upon examination?

A. I will mark the others—[erasing certain names.]

Q. [Re-taking the now amended list]—These are alleged claims against the city of New York, paid under chapter 853 of the Laws of 1868, which you say, upon examination, you find to be fraudulent?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And, so far as you could go finding them fraudulent, you referred them to the Department of Public Works, and it was certified to you that none of these claims appeared on the record of the Street Department, where

they should have appeared to enable the Comptroller to pay them under this act?

A. I believe they all professed to have originated in the old Street Department.

Mr. COLE (reading the list):

1313.	W. C. Rogers & Co., June 4, 1870, stationery for various departments, to December 31, 1868.....	\$89,968 85
1316.	Transcript Association, June 7, 1870, advertising for Common Council to March 30, 1870.....	48,983 40
1430.	A. Brandon, June 21, 1870, repairing and re-glazing gas-lamps, etc., for Street Department, to November 29, 1869, as per chapter 383, Laws of 1870.....	22,873 01
1431.	G. L. Schuyler, June 21, 1870, timber, etc., for various piers for Street Department, to April 9, 1870.....	162,089 70

Mr. TAINTOR—There is no evidence implicating Mr. Schuyler personally in connection with the transaction, but the claim is a fraudulent one, entirely so, as I believe.

Q. What do you mean by that?

A. Mr. Schuyler's name does not appear—that is, his signature does not appear upon the warrant at all.

Q. Whose signature does appear?

A. The signature of, I believe, a mythical person, one Robert Winthrop. I have not been able to establish his identity.

Q. You believe him to be a myth?

A. Yes, sir. I am acquainted with one gentleman of that name, but he is not the person.

Mr. COLLE (resuming the reading of the list):

1432.	E. Marrener, June 21, 1870, labor and materials for late Street Department, to June 30, 1869	\$23,278 28
1433.	Keyser & Co., June 21, 1870, labor and materials for late Street Department, to September 9, 1869	56,386 60
1618.	Keyser & Co., July 7, 1870, labor and materials furnished late Street Department, to May 20, 1867	63,263 44
1668.	Ingersoll & Co., July 13, 1870, materials furnished by direction of late Street Department, January 1 to June 30, 1867	160,110 42
1747.	Keyser & Co., July 23, 1870, labor and materials furnished late Street Department, to December 19, 1867 . .	51,193 38
1748.	Ingersoll & Co., July 23, 1870, labor and materials furnished various departments, July 1 to December 31, 1867	152,249 05
1802.	Ingersoll & Co., July 29, 1870, furniture, carpets, etc., furnished various departments by order of late Street Department, to June 30, 1868	161,341 34
1803.	John O'Donnell, July 29, 1870, lamp-posts, granite blocks, etc., furnished late Street Department to May 25, 1870	46,780 23

1854.	Ingersoll & Co., August 4, 1870, materials furnished various departments on requisition of late Street Department, July 1 to December 31, 1868..	\$155,297 73
1926.	Ingersoll & Co., August 15, 1870, materials furnished various departments on requisition of late Street Department, January 1 to June 30, 1869...	153,367 04
1937.	Ingersoll & Co., August 23, 1870, materials furnished various departments on requisition of late Street Department, July 1 to December 31, 1869.....	151,274 86

ADJUSTED CLAIMS.

1162.	E. Jones & Co., October 7, 1868, balance of claim for stationery.....	138,077 26
1163.	E. Jones & Co., October 7, 1868, on account of claim for stationery.....	150,000 00
1551.	W. C. Rogers & Co., November 2, 1868, stationery for Common Council and various departments.....	61,274 41
1830.	E. Jones & Co., November 30, 1868, printing and binding for Boards of Aldermen and Common Council in 1867.....	36,444 29
2103.	Transcript Association, December 18, 1868, judgment for publishing proceedings and documents of Common Council.....	100,376 56
1310.	Transcript Association, August 4, 1869, in full of claim for advertising for city government in 1867 and 1868.....	67,437 27

1311.	N. Y. Printing Co., August 4, 1869, in full of claim for printing for the government in 1866, 1867 and 1868..	\$48,060 78
2672.	W. C. Rogers & Co., November 29, 1869, printing, stationery, etc., to various departments to December 1, 1868.....	69,135 71
2672.	Transcript Association, January 6, 1870, advertising for Common Coun- cil, July 2 to October 30, 1869.....	49,982 72
2673.	Transcript Association, January 6, 1870, for judgment filed July 31, 1869.....	27,419 03
413.	W. C. Rogers & Co., February 7, 1870, in full for blank books, station- ery, etc., for various departments, August 25 to December 31, 1868..	65,905 09
1064.	Edward Marriner, May 4, 1870, claim for work and materials furnished various departments, January 3 to August 3, 1865.....	51,328 58
1065.	J. H. Keyser & Co., May 4, 1870, same as above, from January 1, 1865, to November 3, 1866.....	59,762 44
1196.	E. Marrener, May 24, 1870, in full of claim for work and materials fur- nished late Street Department, Jan- uary 3 to September 29, 1866.....	34,526 49
1197.	G. L. Schuyler, May 24, 1870, lumber furnished at various piers for late Street Department to May 11, 1869.	163,218 74

1132.	John O'Donnell, May 26, 1870, granite blocks, lamp-posts and irons for late Street Department, to October 30, 1868.....	\$78,848 30
1292.	Daniel Berrien, June 2, 1870, supplies, etc., furnished late Street Department to March 29, 1870.....	\$6,332 62
1293.	A Hall, Jr., June 2, 1870, labor and supplies for the late Street Department to December 8, 1868.....	92,529 26
1294.	C. H. Jacobus, June 2, 1870, labor and materials furnished late Street Department, to June 2, 1869.....	97,813 15
1295.	Keyser & Co., June 2, 1870, labor and supplies for late Street Department, to October 18, 1868.....	68,701 89
1299.	N. Y. Printing Co., June 2, 1870, Printing for Common Council to December 31, 1869.....	79,244 16

Mr. COLE—Mr. Chairman, I have to report that, on the 26th of October, I applied to a Justice of the Supreme Court for a writ of attachment directed to John Bridgeford, commanding him to appear before a Justice of the Supreme Court, at the Chambers thereof, on Monday next, to answer for his misconduct in refusing to obey a writ of subpœna served on him commanding him to testify before this committee. That writ will be served by a special deputy on Monday morning, and I have every reason to expect that Mr. Bridgeford will be present on that occasion, to answer for his misconduct, and to appear to testify. I have received a telegram from him, saying he will

be here, but that will not deter me from serving the writ of attachment upon him, for fear he might change his mind.

Alderman LEWIS—The Committee stands adjourned until Monday next, the 29th inst., at two o'clock, P. M.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

MONDAY, Oct. 29, 1877—2 P. M.

Present—Alderman LEWIS,
 “ COWING.

The Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. H. F. TAINTOR was called, but did not respond.

Mr. COLE, Assistant Corporation Counsel—Mr. Chairman, I do not find the witness, Mr. H. F. Taintor, present, and I have not got through with him yet.

Ald. COWING—Cannot that be suspended until we finish the other matter?

Mr. COLE—Certainly; we can take him up afterward just as well. [To Officer.] Call Mr. John Bridgeford.

JOHN BRIDGEFORD, SWORN :

Q. (By Mr. COLE)—Your name is John Bridgeford ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where is your residence, Mr. Bridgeford ?

A. No. 286 State street, Albany.

Q. And your occupation is ?

A. Builder.

Q. Were you ever connected in any way officially with the construction of the new Capitol building at Albany ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. In what capacity ?

A. Superintendent.

Q. Were you ever present at an interview between Wm. M. Tweed and Hamilton Harris, of Albany, at which was discussed any scheme for legislation?—for legislating the then existing commissioners out of office, and for the appointment of a new commission for the construction of the Capitol building ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was that ?

A. About the time when they made that commission of six ; I forget the dates.

Q. About the year 1870, or 1871 ?

A. I could not give you the dates ; the time that the new commission of six was formed ; you can tell by referring.

Q. Where was that interview held ?

A. In Mr. Tweed's room at the Delavan House.

Q. Who was present besides you and Mr. Hamilton Harris ?

A. Mr. Tweed.

Q. Did you meet at Mr. Tweed's room by appointment ?

A. I think it was by appointment.

Q. Will you please state to the Committee, as nearly as you can recollect, the words of whatever conversation

passed between you three at that interview, or, if you cannot recollect the precise words, as nearly as you can the substance of that interview?

A. The substance of it was that Mr. Harris wanted the commission changed; there was then a commission of eight and he wanted a commission of six. There was one troublesome man in the commission whom they desired to be rid of, and for that Mr. Harris wanted this new commission made and the commission was to be got through the Legislature by Mr. Tweed.

Q. That is, the necessary legislation for the appointment of the new commission?

A. Yes, sir. The understanding was that Mr. Harris was to manage the matter, and they were to divide the profits of the quarry and of the building, whatever profits were made in the way of commissions, I suppose.

Q. Well, was it specified at that meeting who should compose this new commission?

A. I think it was talked over, but I don't remember the names who were to be on that commission.

Q. And you say it was agreed between Mr. Harris and Mr. Tweed, that Tweed should get the necessary legislation through, and that Harris should manage the new commission appointed under it, and that the profits should be divided between Harris and Tweed?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did they specify what profits they expected to make?

A. No, sir.

Q. And was that the whole of the conversation?

A. As near as I can remember.

Q. What position did Mr. Tweed occupy at that time?

A. State Senator.

Q. Was he supposed to be an influential Senator at that time?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What position did Mr. Hamilton Harris occupy at that time?

A. Commissioner.

Q. He was a Commissioner under the old commission, and also the then proposed new one, was he not?

A. Been through the whole of them, sir.

Q. Well, was the bill which Mr. Tweed undertook to have passed by the Legislature actually passed—the legislation obtained?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And did the old commission go out of office, and did the new commission, as agreed between these two men at this conversation, come into power?

A. Yes, sir; the commission of six.

Q. Who composed that commission?

A. Mr. William C. Kingsley, Mr. Delos De Wolf, Chauncey M. Depew, William A. Rice, Hamilton Harris and Edwin A. Merritt.

Q. Who was made chairman of that new commission?

A. Hamilton Harris.

Q. When the new commission went into office and actually undertook the building of the new capitol, who of those Commissioners were active members of the commission; all of them?

A. Mr. Harris was the prominent one; the other were not there only occasionally, except Mr. Rice. Mr. Harris and Mr. Rice were the prominent men.

Q. How long were you connected with the Capitol as Superintendent?

A. I was there from the beginning. I can't remember the date exactly when I left there. This has come so suddenly on me I have no dates for anything.

Q. Well, as near as you can tell?

A. From the beginning up to some time in 1872. I'm not certain about that and I don't like to place the dates, because I'm not prepared.

Q. That is near enough, I—

A. I just want to say that I am unprepared here, and that was why I went back last week. I came down to appear before the Committee before and went back to Albany to prepare myself, and, when I got there, found by the papers that there was an attachment out, and my counsel told me to come right back, so I started right off and came down to answer, and I haven't got the dates, and if you lead me off you will get me all out, and I can't do justice to the case at all.

Q. Well, from your knowledge of the duties of the Commissioners for the Building of the Capitol, do you know of any legitimate profits which could possibly arise out of that position, further than the salaries which were paid to the Commissioners?

A. No; no legitimate profits.

Q. Were there any illegitimate profits that were, to your knowledge, derived by any member of the commission?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the nature of those illegitimate profits?

A. In the way of commissions.

Q. From whom and for what?

A. From contractors.

Q. Paid to whom?

A. They paid them to me and I paid them to Harris.

Q. Who gave out the contracts?

A. They were given out by the Commissioners.

Q. And do you mean to say that persons to whom contracts were awarded by the Commissioners paid percentages or commissions to you, and that you paid those commissions over to Mr. Hamilton Harris?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did those commissions amount in the aggregate to a considerable sum of money?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you collected from contractors moneys, which you call commissions or percentages, on their contracts and paid them over to Mr. Harris, more than once?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know of any of the Commissioners, of this commission of six, being interested in any stone quarry which furnished stone to the building of the new Capitol?

A. Only Mr. Harris.

Q. What quarry was that?

A. The New York Granite Co.

Q. Did you understand that Commissioner Harris was interested in that quarry as part owner?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And did that quarry furnish stone to the Capitol?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were there any other quarries, that you know of, that any of the other Commissioners had any interest in?

A. No, sir.

Q. Were you, Mr. Bridgeford, discharged by the Commissioners from your position as Superintendent?

A. Not by the Commissioners.

Q. Well, were you discharged?

A. I never considered myself so. I got a letter from Mr. McAlpine, saying my services would be no longer required. The Commissioners didn't give me any intimation that I was discharged.

Q. When was that?

A. I can't give the date.

Q. Was it after the appointment of the commission of six?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Why were you discharged?

A. I don't know the particular reason myself.

Q. Was it for any misconduct?

A. I don't know of any.

Q. Did they give you any intimation of why you were discharged at the time?

A. No, sir; and I've got a recommendation here which I'd like to have read.

The paper was read as follows:

"To whom it may concern:

"Whereas an investigation is now going on by the Legislature of the State, in relation to the manner in which the work on the new Capitol has heretofore been conducted, and it being rumored that John Bridgeford, late Superintendent, was removed by the Commissioners on said building for incompetency, we avail ourselves of this opportunity to say that there is not the slightest foundation for such a statement. Mr. Bridgeford has been connected with the said structure from its commencement, and having been closely and intimately associated with him, we would say that he has always and invariably

shown himself fully and perfectly competent to take and manage the entire work in a business-like and masterly manner. We would also, furthermore, say that so long as he was connected with the said work he always did his whole duty honestly, promptly, faithfully, and economically, and we don't know of a single mistake or fault in any part of the said structure that can justly be attributed to him or to his judgment.

“HAMILTON HARRIS.

“WILLIAM A. RICE.”

Q. (By Mr. COLE)—Was that letter given to you subsequently to your dismissal from your position, or before?

A. That was after they say I was dismissed. Mr. Harris can answer whether the Board did it or not.

Q. Well, it was after you received the letter of dismissal from McAlpine?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, Mr. Bridgeford, you say that you have received money from contractors as commissions upon contracts, and that you have paid that money over to Mr. Hamilton Harris.

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did Mr. Harris understand, when you paid him that money, where it came from and what it was?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he ever direct you to demand percentages or commissions from contractors?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And was it in accordance with directions from him that you did so demand and receive money and pay it over to him?

A. Yes, sir.

Mr. COLE—That is all, I believe.

Q. (By Alderman COWING, in *cross-examination*)—Those commissions that you spoke of, and which you said you received, you were aware at the time were dishonest and illegitimate?

A. I did.

Q. And you assumed that position, to act for a dishonest and illegitimate purpose, did you not?

A. It was dishonest, but——

Q. Answer my question, sir. You knew at the time that you were doing a dishonest thing, did you not?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And with full knowledge of that you did it, did you?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who did you get those commissions from?

A. I don't feel that it's my duty to give the names of those parties; if you wish it I'll give you their names privately, but I don't want to give them so that they will be published, and I'll tell you why, it will only give them opportunity to get away out of the way of being called as witnesses, and full justice will not be done in the matter.

Q. I ask, sir, from whom you received the commissions that you paid Mr. Harris?

A. I've told you why I don't want——

Q. Never mind what you want—I want you to tell us from whom you received those commissions that you paid over to Mr. Harris?

JOHN TOWNSEND—I object to the witness answering, for the reason that he has given a reason that, for the public benefit, the committee should accept——

Alderman COWING—I object to Mr. Townsend's appearing in this matter at all. He is here only by courtesy of the Committee, and has no right to interfere with the legitimate cross-examination of a witness. This man, in his direct testimony, has given evidence maligning and blackening the character of a prominent public gentleman, and when it is intended to cross-examine him and test his recollection, counsel undertakes to prevent. That is not in accordance with the law, as I and Mr. Townsend understand it. This witness is brought here evidently for a purpose. Up to the present he has subserved that purpose and the counsel cannot shield him in this manner when he has struck at the character of Senator Harris?

JOHN TOWNSEND—I claim that I have the right to be here and to advise the witness, as the representative of his counsel, and the purpose in view was not to shield the witness, but to prevent injury to the public interests, as he stated.

Alderman COWING—I insist upon the question being answered from whom he received the commissions to be paid to Mr. Harris, for it is a proper subject for cross-examination.

THE WITNESS—It don't look to me that it would be exactly the thing. I come down here——

Ald. COWING—One moment. I simply desire answers to my questions. You have counsel here, and when the time comes to explain you can do so in re-direct testimony. I desire now an answer to my question, and not a speech. Are you ready to answer the question now, Mr. Bridgeford?

A. I am not. I decline to answer.

Ald. COWING—I protest against Mr. Townsend whispering with the witness. It is unfair. It is an unheard-of thing, a lawyer whispering to a witness on the stand.

JOHN TOWNSEND—I have a right to do so, and that is a portion of my duty which I shall continue to do.

Ald. COWING—[To the witness]—Are you willing to answer that question?

A. Not in that way.

Alderman COWING—Then I shall ask that the counsel of this Committee be instructed to take the necessary steps for the detention and incarceration of this witness until he shall be ready to answer the question.

THE WITNESS—If you want to shield this man, all right, but I want to get the witnesses here. I come down here——

Alderman COWING—Silence! We don't want a speech.

Alderman LEWIS—I think the witness had better answer the question. I do not see the probability of any harm to the public's interest from his doing so.

THE WITNESS—Very well, sir. Just as you say.

Alderman COWING—[To the witness]—Now, will you please state the names of the parties from whom you received commissions?

A. Mr. Edward Learned.

Q. How much did you receive from him?

A. I cannot give the amounts, because I have got to get the data first——

Q. From whom else?

A. Mr. Bangs.

Mr. COLE—Give the full name, please.

WITNESS—I have not got it.

Mr. COLE—Then give his firm.

WITNESS—Bangs & Gaynor.

Q. (By Alderman COWING)—How much did you get from him?

A. I don't remember how much from any of them and can't without the data.

Q. Any more?

A. E. R. Seward.

Q. Any more?

A. Jacob Holler.

Q. Is that all?

A. No. There are more, but I can't think of their names now. There were various contractors. I'll have to get their names by data.

Q. And you can't give the names of any other person?

A. There is others, but I don't remember them now.

Q. Can you give the amounts you received from them respectively? Those whom you have named?

A. I cannot.

Q. Can you give the dates upon which you received money from them?

A. I cannot.

Q. When was it that this conversation took place between Mr. Tweed and Mr. Harris in reference to this commission?

A. I cannot remember the year.

Q. You do not even remember what year it was in?

A. It was in the year that the commission of six was

appointed and if you'll turn to the records or give me time to get the data, I'll give it.

Q. Were you not here before on this matter?

A. I was here and went back to get data and I saw by the papers that I was to be attached and my counsel in Albany told me "go right down as quick as you can get there," and I jumped right on the cars, just as I was, and never stopped for anything, but came here to answer it.

Q. You say this conversation took place in the Delavan House?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is your memory pretty correct as to what took place at that time?

A. As accurate as I have given it to you.

Q. Can you state the month in which that conversation took place?

A. I cannot.

Q. Can you state the day of the week?

A. I cannot.

Q. Was it morning or evening?

A. I think it was in the evening.

Q. How long were you three talking together on that occasion?

A. I cannot tell exactly the time.

Q. Did you go there alone?

A. No; with Mr. Harris.

Q. Now state the conversation just as it took place; give us the order of the conversation and what each person said: who spoke first, who second, and all that?

A. I cannot any more than I have already. I just sum it up that—

Q. But I want to know who spoke first and what he said?

A. Oh! You're a getting it down a little too fine.
I—

Q. Do you know who spoke first?

A. I was trying to answer you.

Q. I ask you again if you know who spoke first?

A. I said, "No."

Q. And yet you presume to remember what was said?

A. Now, hold on; don't get over yourself; I want to do the fair thing and tell the whole story. I want it distinctly understood that I do not want to screen myself.
I—

Q. What was the conversation?

A. It was to the effect that this commission was to consist of six, and Mr. Harris was to run it in the interest of Mr. Tweed and himself.

Q. But you cannot remember the exact conversation?

A. No; it's a long time since; several years; and I can't remember every word.

Q. And you went there to assist in this making of a commission?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And, notwithstanding the certificate of good character you have here, you did assist in making this commission, which you knew was for illegitimate and dishonest purposes?

A. I went with them, but I didn't do the work. Mr. Harris and Mr. Tweed did the work.

Q. But you collected commissions, I understood you to say?

A. Yes, sir.

Alderman COWING—That is all.

Mr. COLE—One moment more. I would like to know something more about these persons who have been named,

so that we can have them subpoenaed. Where does Edward Learned live now?

A. I do not know, but I think in Pittsfield or Springfield.

Q. Where does Mr. Bangs live?

A. Syracuse, I think.

Q. Where does Seward live?

A. In Albany.

Q. Where does Jacob Holler live?

A. In Albany.

Mr. COLE—That is all, I believe, at present.

HAMILTON HARRIS, SWORN :

[Alderman COWING conducting the direct examination.]

What is your full name?

A. Hamilton Harris.

Q. Are you a State Senator of this State?

A. I am.

Q. Representing what district?

A. The Thirteenth.

Q. How long have you represented the district?

A. My time will expire this year.

Q. How long have you acted as State Senator?

A. For two sessions.

Q. And you are a resident of Albany?

A. I am.

Q. You have heard the testimony of the witness who has just left the stand, have you not?

A. I have.

Q. Will you please state generally whether any portion of his testimony which charges any illegitimate or dishonest conduct on your part with reference to the construction of the new Capitol at Albany is true or false?

A. It is absolutely and entirely false. There is not one word of truth in it, and I desire, if the Committee will allow me, to go a little fuller into my connection with this matter.

Alderman COWING—Please do so.

The WITNESS—In the first place, the commission was never made by Mr. Tweed and myself. Mr. Tweed and myself talked about changing the commission and changing the commissioners, but this commission was agreed upon by a party of gentlemen in the Executive Chamber one night, as Mr. Tweed will remember if he calls it to mind, and it was long before that when I had a talk with Mr. Tweed about contracts; but there never was any agreement between Mr. Tweed and myself, or any talk between Mr. Tweed, Mr. Bridgeford and myself in regard to commissions or in regard to profits. It is absolutely false, and I desire to emphasize it. Neither is it true that I ever received one dollar of commissions or percentages, directly or indirectly. It is false. It is entirely false. I never did so. Neither is it true that I ever heard that any contractor or supplier of materials for the Capitol ever paid a dollar for commissions or percentages. I know of no one receiving percentages or commissions upon that work, from the beginning to the present time. There has no such thing taken place to my knowledge. The subject of the work upon the new Capitol has been under investigation each winter, from the winter of 1872 up to the present time. As Mr. Bridgeford has stated here, he was discharged. He was Acting Superintendent, but he was discharged. In the winter of 1873 he preferred certain charges, which were

investigated by a committee of the Legislature. In the statement that he made before that committee he brought up a great many grievances, charging the commissioners with doing this thing and that thing, which was entirely wrong, as he thought, but the committee finally made a report in favor of the Board. Mr. McAlpine took Mr. Bridgeford's place as superintendent in the winter of 1874, and I went before the Committee of Ways and Means of the Assembly, and I there explained and swore to all my connection with the Capitol in regard to money matters, and I desire, if this Committee is willing, to re-iterate and to testify to the same thing here that I then swore to. That was four years ago. This is an extract from the testimony I gave before the Committee of Ways and Means on the 20th day of January, 1874:

“ I have been informed that Mr. Bridgeford has stated that I was making money out of the Capitol. About the time last year that his appointment was annulled he told me in substance that I was responsible for it, and that, unless he was reinstated he should expose all he knew about my use of money, and made other threats.

“ I told him I was not conscious of having done anything or sanctioning anything done that I was not willing to have the public know ; I have never, directly or indirectly, received or used a dollar of the Capitol funds or public moneys. I have never, directly or indirectly, received a dollar from any contractor or person furnishing or interested in furnishing material or performing labor for the new Capitol, and have in no way whatever been pecuniarily benefited by reason of my connection therewith, and no one has, to my knowledge or belief, been paid a dollar more than he was fairly entitled to for material actually delivered or service actually performed. Every dollar

paid from the commencement of the work, and what it was paid for, has been reported to the Legislature, and a voucher therefor, verified and certified, is on file in the Comptroller's office.

“ At various times from the beginning of the agitation concerning the new Capitol, now some ten years, it has been thought by citizens and friends necessary, in addition to giving Congress Hall block to the State, to make private exertions wholly disconnected with the Legislature or any official, in favor of the project, and to progress the work, which involved expenditures of money raised from private sources, and in no way drawn from the Capitol fund or public Treasury. I have thus expended in all, during the time stated, about the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, in which the State had no interest whatever, but which has been contributed by citizens and expended after consultation and advice with them. I procured about one-half of this amount myself, and about one-half has been furnished by Mr. Bridgeford, and handed to me in various sums and at various times. If he got any part from contractors, the subscriptions must have been voluntary on their part, as every contract was let to the lowest bidder after advertisement for proposals. He knew that I had expended some, and offered, of his own accord, to assist in making it up. I have not received a dollar more than I paid out, of which Mr. Bridgeford was informed. In the charges which he preferred against the Board and myself before the last Legislature, he made no such insinuation as that now made. On the contrary thereof, he stated to several persons that he had, and knew nothing against me, or my conduct as commissioner, except my interference with his plans.

“ I never spoke to any member of the Legislature, or had

one speak to me, about giving or receiving money, and never gave a dollar to or knowingly for one.”

“The foregoing extract from Mr. Harris’ evidence before the Ways and Means Committee, January 20, 1874, is correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief. I kept the minutes at said meeting.”

A. J. McNAUGHT,
Clerk of Ways and Means.

Mr. Bridgeford was not discharged for incompetency upon the work, not because he was negligent, but because he differed with the commission, and did not follow the instructions of the commission; but he claimed the commission interfered with him and did not go with him; that was the reason of his discharge. Four days after I gave that testimony before the Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. Bridgeford called at my office, and the following conversation, which I noted down at the time, took place :

JANUARY 24, 1874.

“Mr. Bridgeford called at my office and asked me if I would let him speak to me. I told him ‘Yes, walk in and sit down.’ He did so, and then said ‘I want to bury the hatchet; I am tired of fighting; I want peace; I don’t want you to do anything for me; I don’t ask you to change your course about the Capitol matters; all I want is peace and let things take their natural course.’ I told him the difficulty about it was the stories he had told about me; that I had made money out of the new Capitol when he knew better. He said he knew that; that no one had made anything; that he himself was out of pocket, that he had said a great many things that he was sorry for, and wished now to take back; that he had spoken and

acted when he was in passion and felt that I was slashing him and chopping him up; that he was very repulsive. 'But now I want to stop the fight, no matter what occurs in the future; even if I never go back on the Capitol I am through. Are you willing to stop? If you are, there shall be no more between us.' I told him I didn't care to fight, and had not, except to defend myself; that I should do always and upon all occasions when I was attacked; that if he was desirous of stopping his attacks upon me there would be no occasion for fighting; that there could be no compromise or settlement or promise between us, of any kind—that there should be peace if he wanted. He said that was all he asked. He said his wife told him last night that it would be better for him to stop fighting and not to have anything more to do with the Capitol; that he would make more money and be altogether happier. He said she was sound, and he was going to follow her advice.

"HAMILTON HARRIS."

That conversation was on the 24th of January, and apparently he has been friendly with me from that time to this. To my face he certainly has, until within a month or six weeks. Soon after that conversation he called upon me in relation to some testimony brought out before the Committee, severely criticising some portions of the work upon the Capitol. He said he was not responsible for that part of the work—as he was not—and he wanted a letter showing that he was not removed for incompetency, so that his character might not be hurt as a builder. Thereupon we gave him the letter which has been read here to-day. He supported me in my canvass two years ago. He voluntarily offered his services, and he did

so last fall offer his services, and I believe he warmly supported me. For a great number of years I have accommodated him with indorsements, and was, about the time he left the Capitol, on paper at his request, to the extent of \$5,500, which paper was at times taken up and at times renewed, until a piece of paper I was on for him became due, when I was out of the country two years ago. That paper was protested. It was sued by the bank which held it, and after my return home I had to take it up and take an assignment of the judgment, and I hold it now against him for between \$4,000 and \$5,000. During this year he has made various propositions to me to take his house, the judgment being a lien upon that house, and thus dispose of the matter. After various negotiations, six or eight weeks ago, I declined, on the ground that the prior liens on the house were so great that I could not manage them. After I told him the conclusion I arrived at, he asked me how he could get that judgment discharged, and I told him only by paying it. From that time he has been plotting to injure me, and this is a part of the plot—what you have seen here this afternoon. I ought to say that one of the names mentioned by Mr. Bridgeford as one of the parties he received percentages from, I heard of far back, when he was discharged from the work. I don't say it came from him, but I heard it that some one said—that Bangs & Gaynor had been paying percentages. I wrote to the firm at Fayetteville and received this answer. I never heard of the name of Mr. Learned, or of the others in connection with these matters until to-day.* Mr. Bangs wrote me in reply:

“ In answer to your inquiry whether I ever paid any one connected with the new Capitol percentages on furnishing