File No. 4759 Continued.

OPINION.

as you request the tracing and the letter from the Chief Engineer of the Sewerage Commission to yourself, dated the 12th inst., which accompanied your letter.

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charged with the duty of projecting, constructing and establishing a sewerage system for the collection, transmission and disposal of the house and other sewerage and drainage of the City of Baltimore; and by Section 7 of the same Act, it is provided that, so often as any portion of this System shall be in actual operation, and in a condition to collect, transmit and dispose of domestic or house sewerage, the Commission shall notify the Commissioner of Health of that fact, and impart to him the metes and bounds of said portion of said Sewerage System in such state of preparedness, and that it shall thereupon become his duty to require all owners of property within such metes and bounds, and it shall become the duty of all such owners at their own cost, to forthwith connect their respective house drains at their respective building lines with said Sewerage System.

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In my judgment, these sweeping terms contemplate that the new Sawarage System shall be brought to the front or rear of every separate and distinct lot of ground in the City which is occupied by a separate and distinct building discharging, or in a condition to discharge, house drainage, whether the lot is situated on a public or private avenue, street, lane, alley, place or court. In every such avenue, street, lane, alley, place or court, public or private, a sewer or erain must be laid by the Commission, so located or equipped as to receive and take care of the house drainage from every separate and distinct building thereon at the boundary line of the lot up to which the owner of such building has improved; or could improve if he saw fit. Anything less than this would, in my opinion, fall short of the radical reform aimed at by the Act, which was the relief of every building in the City discharging, or in a condition to discharge, house drainage from the existing crude, imperfect and casual system (if system it could be called) of house drainage, which was largely controlled by private interests by the abolition of all its exterior sewerage arrangements, and the substitution therefor of the agencies provided by a complete, modern municipal system of rewerage, based upon such a general, comprehensive and consistent plan as to meet every existing local exigency in the City. If an avenue, street,

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