

\$200,000 BONDS,

THE ENTIRE ISSUE FOR

Road and Bridge Improvement,

HOUSTON CITY, TEXAS.

TEN PER CENT.

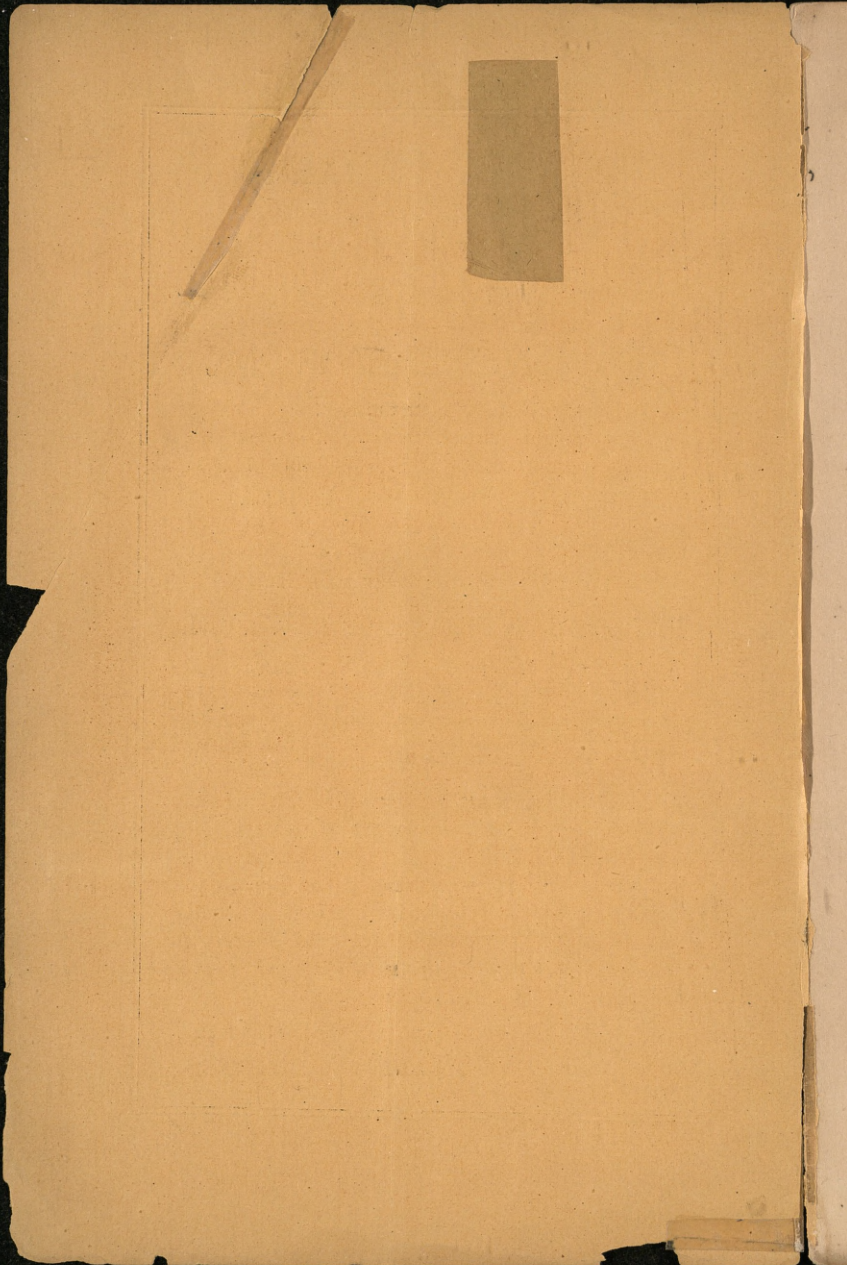
Dated February first, 1872. Due first day of January, 1902.
Redeemable, at the option of the City, on the
first day of January, 1879.

INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL PAYABLE AT THE
NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK,
On the First days of January and July.

RECOMMENDED AND FOR SALE BY
W. N. COLER & CO.,
DEALERS IN MUNICIPAL BONDS,
No. 17 NASSAU STREET, New York,
AND
KOUNTZE BROTHERS,
Bankers, 12 Wall Street, N. Y.

New York:
CORLIES, MACY & CO., STATIONERS,
39 NASSAU STREET.

1872.



NEW YORK, *December 5, 1872.*

In offering and recommending the Bonds of the City of Houston, Texas, to our friends and customers as a safe and profitable investment, we beg leave to say, that we have not done so without first making a most thorough examination of the laws and ordinances under which the Bonds are issued, as well as all other matters affecting their value as a desirable security.

It will be noticed that the financial condition of the city is very favorable, the entire indebtedness, including the Bonds offered, being only about four per cent. of the assessed value, and about two per cent. of the real or cash value of the property subject to taxation.

The Bonds bear ten per cent. interest, payable semi-annually in New York. The city reserves the right to pay the principal on the first day of January, 1879, otherwise they run thirty years.

The Bonds are neatly executed in denominations of \$500 and \$1,000, and ought to sell readily at par, but owing to the close money market we are offering them, for the present, at 95 AND ACCRUED INTEREST. The coupon maturing first of January will be taken as so much cash less interest for unexpired time. Bonds sent free of express charges.

Respectfully,

W. N. COLER & CO.,
KOUNTZE BROTHERS.

Office of HENRY J. SCHENCK,

104 Broadway,

NEW YORK, *November 23, 1872.*

Messrs. W. N. COLER & Co., and KOUNTZE BROS.,
New York :

GENTLEMEN : I herewith hand you certificates, letters, and memoranda relating to Bonds of the City of Houston, Texas, the result of my visit to that city, and the investigations made by me under your instructions.

I wish to add that the City of Houston is situated on a navigable bayou, fifty miles from Galveston and the Gulf of Mexico, and is becoming one of the railroad centres of the State. It occupies an area of twenty-five square miles, and contains a population variously estimated at eighteen to twenty-five thousand.

While in the city I conversed with numerous citizens of all conditions in life, in relation to their several issues of Bonds, and carefully examined the laws and records of the city ordinances, and became convinced that no controversy is likely to arise about the payment of principal or interest of any of their Bonds. On the contrary, I find that the issue of the "Road and Bridge," and the "Market-House" Bonds were regarded with general favor,

as was fully evidenced by the re-election of the Hon. T. H. Scanlan, Mayor, by a majority of 699 in a vote of 3,009, and who was known as one of the leaders in projecting and making city improvements.

In conclusion, will say, that on account of the wealth of the surrounding country, the location of the city, and its facilities for transportation both by water and rail, its rapidly increasing wealth and active, intelligent population, I was very greatly impressed in its favor, and believe it must soon double in population and wealth. You can safely recommend the Bonds as a valid indebtedness against the city, and in every way a desirable city Bond.

Respectfully,

HENRY J. SCHENCK.

Officers of the City of Houston.

T. H. SCANLAN,	<i>Mayor.</i>
— LEONHARDT,	<i>City Recorder.</i>
R. VAN PATTEN,	<i>City Marshal.</i>
JACOB BINTZ,	<i>Assessor & Collector.</i>
TAYLOR BURKE,	<i>Street Commissioner.</i>
W. A. DALY,	<i>Secretary & Treasurer.</i>
A. R. MASTERSON,	<i>City Attorney.</i>
R. F. PANNEL,	<i>City Sexton.</i>

Aldermen:

J. W. McDONALD,	JAMES FLYNN,
ISAAC COLEMAN,	H. D. JOHNSON,
WM. PULLEAM,	H. HENDRICKS,
W. D. ALEXANDER,	J. E. WHITTLESEY,
A. FITZGERALD,	JOHN TRENTON.

EXTRACT FROM CHARTER

*Of the City of Houston, passed by the Texas Legislature,
August 2, 1870.*

ARTICLE 22, PAGE 7.—That the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Houston shall have power to appropriate so much of the revenues of the city, emanating from whatever source, to the improvement of the public market, roads, and bayou, within or without the corporation, leading to the city, as they, in their wisdom, may from time to time deem expedient; and for the furtherance of these objects they shall have the power to borrow money upon the credit of the city and issue the Bonds of the city therefor; but no sum of money shall be borrowed at a higher rate of interest than ten per cent. All Bonds shall specify for what purpose they were issued, and shall not be invalid if sold for less than their par value; and when any Bonds are issued by the city, a fund shall be provided to pay the interest and create a Sinking Fund to redeem the Bonds, which fund shall not be diverted nor drawn upon for any other purpose; and the City Treasurer shall honor no draft drawn on said fund except to pay interest upon, or redeem the Bonds for which it was provided.

AN ORDINANCE,

Authorizing the issue of two hundred thousand dollars in City Bonds, to be entitled "Road and Bridge Improvement Bonds of the City of Houston," for the purpose of improving the streets and bridges in the said city, and providing for the payment of the principal and interest thereof.

SECTION I.

Be it ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Inhabitants of the City of Houston in council assembled :

That the Mayor is hereby authorized and instructed to have engraved, and issued, and sold, Bonds of the City of Houston of the denominations of one thousand and five hundred dollars, to the amount of two hundred thousand dollars, the name and style of which shall be "Road and Bridge Improvement Bonds of the City of Houston."

Said Bonds shall be numbered from one to three hundred consecutively.

The purpose of the issue thereof shall be for the building of and repairing the roads, streets, and bridges within the corporate limits of said city.

SECTION II.

Said Bonds shall become due and payable thirty years after the first day of January, 1873, and redeemable at the pleasure of the City of Houston, on the first day of January, 1879, and shall bear interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, by coupons attached, payable on the first days of July and January of each year.

The coupons shall be numbered to correspond with the number of the Bond to which they are attached.

SECTION III.

The interest upon said Bonds, as the same becomes due, shall be paid at the National City Bank of New York.

SECTION IV.

That there is hereby levied and shall be collected a special tax of one-fourth of one per cent. valuation upon all property, personal or real estate, in the City of Houston, upon which the State collects a tax, or taxable by the charter of said city, for the payment of the interest, and to create a Sinking Fund of two per cent. for the final redemption of said Bonds—said tax, so levied, of one-fourth of one per cent., shall become due and payable in the same manner and at the same time and place as other taxes upon the same property, and shall be collected by the Collector of City Taxes in the same manner and by the same means and measures as other taxes are collected upon the same property.

SECTION V.

That said tax, as often as any part thereof is collected, shall be deposited by the Collector in the "First National Bank of the City of Houston," or other place of deposit in said city, and shall not be diverted to any other purpose than the payment of the interest and principal of Bonds issued by authority of this Ordinance.

SECTION VI.

That the Collector of Taxes shall keep a book in which he shall enter all collections made under and by virtue of this Ordinance, from whom, and upon what description of property, whether property personal or real estate, the same is collected.

SECTION VII.

The taxes levied by virtue of this Ordinance shall be payable in United States currency or bank notes, or gold and silver coin only.

SECTION VIII.

That whenever there shall be on deposit moneys collected by virtue of this Ordinance to the amount required to pay the yearly interest next thereafter due, it is hereby made the duty of the Mayor to advertise for the purchase, from the lowest bidder, the value thereof in the Bonds herein authorized to be issued, and cancel the same.

SECTION IX.

That this Ordinance takes effect from passage.

(Signed,) T. H. SCANLAN,

Mayor.

Approved, January 27, 1872.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, }

CITY OF HOUSTON. }

I, W. A. Daly, Secretary and Treasurer of the Corporation of said city, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of an Ordinance authorizing the issuance of Bonds for the purpose of improving the roads and bridges of said city, passed at the Regular Session of the Council thereof, held on the 27th day of January, 1872, and approved by the Mayor of said city on the same day, which said Ordinance now appears on the minutes of said Council, Book B, pages 268, 269, and 270.

Witness my hand and impress of seal of said Corporation at office in Houston, January 29, 1872.

[SEAL.]

W. A. DALY,

Sec. and Treas.

We, John W. McDonald, Chief Justice of Harris County, in the State of Texas, and J. E. Whittlesey, Treasurer of the said county, do each severally certify, that the issue of two hundred thousand dollars of Bonds known as the "Road and Bridge Improvement Bonds," by the City of Houston, in the said county and State, bearing date February 1, 1872, with all other Bonds hereinafter mentioned, were issued in strict compliance with the laws of the said State of Texas authorizing their issue, and constitute, in the amount thereof, with the interest thereon, a legal and valid indebtedness of the city aforesaid.

We do further certify, that the taxable property in the said county, as returned for assessment in the present year,

is about fourteen million five hundred thousand dollars; that the ratio of assessments to actual valuation is about one-half; that the bonded and floating debt of said county is about forty thousand dollars; that the taxes of the said county for the present year, although the same have been levied, yet are unpaid, and that when collected the said debt will be almost if not entirely liquidated; and that the population of said county is about thirty thousand.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have each set our hands, this 8th day of November, A. D. 1872.

(Signed,) J. E. WHITTLESEY,

Treas., Harris Co.

(Signed,) JOHN W. McDONALD,

Chief Justice of Harris Co., Texas.

STATE OF TEXAS, }
 CITY OF HOUSTON, HARRIS COUNTY, } ss.:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That J. E. Whittlesey is Treasurer, and that John W. McDonald is Presiding Justice of Harris County, in the State of Texas; that I am acquainted with their respective signatures, and verily believe the above signatures to be genuine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office, this 8th day of November, A. D. 1872.

(Signed,) A. K. TAYLOR,

[SEAL.]

Clerk of D. C., H. C.

CITY OF HOUSTON, }
 STATE OF TEXAS. }

HOUSTON, TEXAS, *November 7, 1872.*

I, T. H. Scanlan, Mayor of the City of Houston, in Harris County, State of Texas, do hereby certify, that the issue of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) of Bonds, known as the "Road and Bridge Improvement Bonds," by the said city, bearing date February 1, 1872, were issued, with all other Bonds hereinafter mentioned, in strict compliance with the Ordinance of said city, and laws of the said State of Texas, authorizing their issue.

I do further certify, that the value of taxable property in said city, as returned for assessment in the present year, is about twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000); that the ratio of assessment to actual valuation is about one-half; that the bonded debt of said city is seven hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars (\$776,000), including the Bonds above mentioned, certain Bonds for ninety-seven thousand dollars that have been issued for the benefit of the "Ship Channel Co.," only however in the nature of a loan, to enable said Company to improve navigation from the said City of Houston to the Gulf of Mexico, and for which loan said city holds an equal amount of the Bonds of said Company, with mortgage upon its corporate property and franchises, that afford security most ample and unexceptionable; and also certain other Bonds for two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) that have been issued for the purpose of erecting in the said city a building (which is rapidly approaching completion) to be used as a Market-House and City Hall, for the agreed

price or sum of two hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$228,000); and that by law the rentals arising and to be derived from the said building are pledged to pay the interest and create a Sinking Fund for the liquidation of the principal of the Bonds last above mentioned, which rentals (in my opinion) will be sufficient for such a purpose: nevertheless, however, a tax of one-quarter of one per cent. shall, by law, be imposed upon property in said city as a means of supplying any deficiency that may arise. That the floating debt of said city is twenty thousand dollars; that there is no other bonded or floating debt whatever; that said city is promptly paying its obligations as the same mature; and that the population is about eighteen thousand (18,000), which, with the value of property, is rapidly increasing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of November, 1872.

(Signed,)

[SEAL OF CITY.]

T. H. SCANLAN, *Mayor*.

HOUSTON, TEXAS, *November 7, 1872.*

I, John W. McDonald, Chief Justice of Harris County, in the State of Texas, and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen, in and for the City of Houston in said county and State, and *ex-officio* Assessor of Taxes for Precinct No. 1, which embraces the said city, do hereby certify, that the issue of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) of Bonds, known as the "Road and Bridge Improvement Bonds," by the said city, bearing date, February

1, 1872, were issued, with the other Bonds hereinafter mentioned, in strict compliance with the laws of the said State of Texas authorizing their issue, and constitute in the amount thereof with the interest thereon a legal and valid indebtedness of the city aforesaid.

I do further certify, that the value of taxable property in said city, as returned for assessment in the present year, is over twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000); that the ratio of assessment to actual valuation is about one-half; that the bonded debt of said city is seven hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars (\$776,000), including the Bonds above mentioned. That included in said indebtedness are certain Bonds for ninety-seven thousand dollars, that have been issued for the benefit of the "Ship Channel Company," only however in the nature of a loan, to enable said Company to improve navigation from the said city to the Gulf of Mexico, and for which loan said city holds an equal amount of the Bonds of the said Company, with mortgage on the corporate property and franchises, that (in my opinion) afford security to the city most ample and unexceptionable; and also certain other Bonds for two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000), that have been issued for the purpose of erecting in the said city a building (which is rapidly approaching completion) to be used as a Market-House and City Hall, for the agreed price or sum of two hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$228,000), and that by law the rentals arising and to be derived from the said building are pledged to pay the interest and create a Sinking Fund for the liquidation of the principal of the Bonds last above mentioned, which rentals (in my opinion) will be sufficient for such a purpose; that the floating debt of said city is

twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000); that there is no other bonded or floating debt whatsoever; that said city is promptly paying its obligations as the same mature, and that the value of property is rapidly increasing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal, this 7th day of November, 1872.

JOHN W. McDONALD,

Chief Justice, Harris Co., and *ex-officio* Assessor
of Taxes and Notary Public, Harris Co.; also
Alderman of Fourth Ward and Chairman of
Finance Committee, City of Houston.

[SEAL.]

HOUSTON, TEXAS, *November 7, 1872.*

I, W. A. Daly, Secretary and Treasurer of the City of Houston, County of Harris, in the State of Texas, do hereby certify, that the issue of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) of Bonds, known as the "Road and Bridge Improvement Bonds," by the said city, bearing date of February 1, 1872, were issued, as well as all other Bonds, in strict compliance with the laws of the said State of Texas authorizing their issue, and constitute in the amount thereof with the interest thereon a legal and valid indebtedness of the city aforesaid.

I do further certify, that the value of taxable property in said city, as returned for assessment in the present year, is about twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000); that the ratio of assessment to actual valuation is about one-half; that the bonded debt of said city is seven hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars (\$776,000), including the Bonds above men-

tioned; that included in said indebtedness are certain Bonds for ninety-seven thousand dollars (\$97,000), that have been issued for the benefit of the "Ship Channel Company," only however in the nature of a loan, to enable said Company to improve navigation from the said City of Houston to the Gulf of Mexico, and for which loan said city holds an equal amount of the Bonds of the said Company, with a mortgage on its corporate property and franchises, that afford security most ample and unexceptionable for the repayment of any moneys paid out on said Bonds; and that there is also included certain other Bonds for two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) that have been issued for the purpose of erecting in the said city a building (which is rapidly approaching completion) to be used as a Market-House and City Hall, for the agreed price or sum of two hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$228,000), and that by law the rentals arising and to be derived from said building are pledged to pay the interest and create a Sinking Fund for the liquidation of the principal of the Bonds last above mentioned, which rentals (in my opinion) will be sufficient for such a purpose; that the floating debt of said city is twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000); that there is no other bonded or floating debt whatsoever; that said city is promptly paying its obligations as the same mature, and that the population is about eighteen thousand (18,000), which, with the value of property, is rapidly increasing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, this 7th day of November, A. D. 1872.

(Signed,)

W. A. DALY,

Sec'y and Treas.

[SEAL.]

[The following letter is from one of the leading Bankers of the city.]

BANKING HOUSE OF T. W. HOUSE,
HOUSTON, TEXAS.

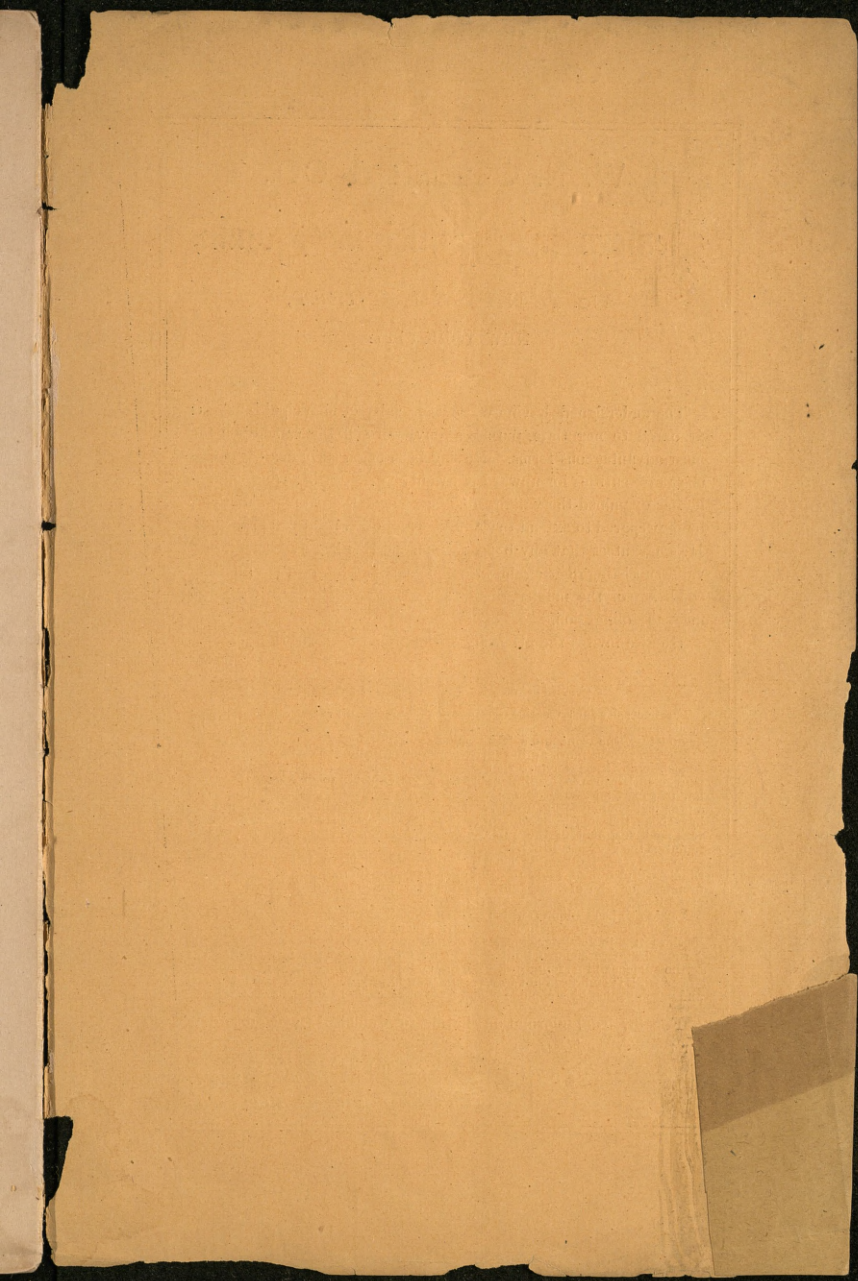
GENTLEMEN : In answer to inquiries made through your agent and attorney, H. J. Schenck, Esq., I have to say, that the city is abundantly able to pay interest and principal on her Bonds as the same mature, and that in my opinion the Bonds issued by the city are a safe and reliable investment for capitalists.

Yours truly,

T. W. HOUSE.

To MESSRS. KOUNTZE BROTHERS and

W. N. COLER & Co., New York.



W. N. COLER & CO.,
Dealers in Municipal Bonds,

No. 17 NASSAU STREET,
NEW YORK CITY.

The undersigned, having made a specialty of municipal bonds, is prepared to negotiate, purchase, buy, and sell the same upon the most advantageous terms. Having been engaged in dealing in this class of securities for upward of twenty years, during which period he has examined the validity of issues amounting to many millions, he is prepared to extend to capitalists and others especial privileges. He guarantees that any bond recommended is legally issued and a valid subsisting debt against the municipality, and that the financial condition of the municipality is such that it is abundantly able to meet the obligation.

He also invites the attention of the public to his work upon

THE LAW OF MUNICIPAL BONDS.

The necessity for a treatise of a practical character upon the subject has long been apparent to all classes interested. To present a work that would fully demonstrate the value and safety of such securities, by incontrovertible proofs, in the form of the most authoritative expressions of the Courts; to afford a true conception of the principles that govern their issue and validity; to collect in convenient form the leading cases upon the subject; to disclose the settled law of each State, so that it may be at once apprehended; in brief, to present a practical manual to the dealer, and an exhaustive compilation to the lawyer, have been the objects of the author. It is believed, that wherever capital is seeking investment, or the public demanding improvement, the work will be found of the greatest utility.

To Lawyers, Bankers, Brokers, Capitalists, Municipal Officers, Insurance Officials, and others, who are called upon to give information or advice in the premises, or who are constantly making investments, the treatise will commend itself.

A plan has been adopted which seemed to be the most desirable to insure the above objects. The constitutional provisions of every State are given, followed by the latest judicial decisions, with explanatory annotations and discussions. An authoritative construction of every adjudicated question directly relating to the subject will be found, with the material parts of the leading cases, in full.

The work is embraced in two octavo volumes, gotten up in the best law style, and accompanied by a copious index, table of cases, &c. Price, \$10 net.

For any legal information relating to Municipal Bonds, or orders for the work, *address,*

WILLIAM N. COLER,

17 Nassau Street, New York.