

cessful thus far in their stupendous undertaking, are, notwithstanding, unable to complete the work without some extraneous aid from the city of New York. They have appealed to the corporation, and simply put the question, shall we proceed in our work, or shall we stop? Now, when they have embarked their fortunes in the enterprise and hazarded the fruits of many years of toil and perseverance; now, when they have waded through years of embarrassment occasioned by the general depression of business; set at defiance, and even silenced, the voice of popular prejudice, and shown in the neglect of public patronage, the solidity and feasibility of their plans; now, when the boon of deliverance and the day of recompence are at hand, and the object of all their labours, anxieties, and expenditures is almost within their grasp, shall they stop short of consummating their plan, when the city of New York, by extending her arm, could crown it with triumphant success? * * * *

“The proprietors do not ask for money from the corporation of the city of New York; they do not ask for grants and donations; they ask the corporation to extend and sustain their credit on paper, and as a security for this extension they tender a mortgage on three thousand acres of this meadow, two thousand of which are embanked and thirteen hundred under cultivation. The credit sought for bears no proportion to the value of their lands. * * * *

“This kind of improvement has for centuries been made the object of parliamentary concern, and within the last twenty-five years the Bank of Copenhagen has advanced about one million of rix dollars to different associations of private individuals for the construction of dikes and the opening of drains and sluices to reclaim waste marshes. * * * *

“In case the corporation should extend any aid adequate to that which is desired, the proprietors of the meadows bind themselves to finish the whole work of draining and embanking the four thousand acres by the first day of November, 1820.”

The concluding observation of the writer of the communication regarding the marvellous energy displayed by the projectors of the commendable undertaking affords one with a just conception of the favorable consideration bestowed upon it by the public. “The bold and noble project of these three brothers, which was at first regarded by the timid and calculating as visionary, has proved feasible and shown what may be accomplished by resolution and perseverance when under the guidance of good sense that shows itself in distinguishing between the difficult and the impossible. * * * * To conclude, for want of time to say more, I am glad to see our city papers of all politics and complexions unite in their recommendations of this application; party feelings would be ill-timed and absurd, and to our credit not a trace of them is perceived at this time.”