circumstances of the particular case, keeping in view also the statutory provisions of the State, if there are any, relating to the subject.1

The owner or occupant of the building is not liable in such cases to the person injured on the sidewalk in front thereof from natural accumulations of snow or ice.2

§ 1007. The Defect in Street must be the Proximate Cause of the Injury. — The defect in the highway or street, whether it be snow and ice or whatever its nature, must be the direct and proximate cause of the special damage for which the corporation is sought to be made liable.3 The ordinary rules as to contributory negligence

ice and snow] as involving want of repair Up. Can. Q. B. 176; Agnew v. Corunna, and ice as a regular part of highway mantions of this distinguished judge place the subject in its just view.

Gray (Mass.), 249 (1859); Jansen v. Atchison, 16 Kan. 358; Eustace v. Johns, 38 Cal. 3; Keokuk v. Keokuk Indep. Sch. 370; post, secs. 1006, 1013, note, 1033.

man v. Eastern Counties Ry. Co., 4 H. & reason of the want of ordinary care, there

1 Nebraska City v. Rathbone, 20 Neb. N. 781; Crafter v. Metrop. Ry. Co., L. R. 288. "Several authorities treat the class 1 C. P. 300; Jackson v. Hyde, 28 Up. of cases in question [for injuries caused by Can. Q. B. 294; Henderson v. Barnes, 32 and defects. But, in the absence of stat- 55 Mich. 428; Bluffton v. Mathews, 92 utes which provide for them as such, it is Ind. 213; Aldrich v. Gorham, 77 Me. 287, not a natural construction, and the cases where it was said that "in order to render are more consistent which deal with these a town or city liable on account of an acthings as acts of negligence at common cident happening on a highway, it must aplaw. A great deal, however, may fairly depear that the defect in the way was the sole pend on local usage in determining duties cause of the injury." Flagg v. Hudson, concerning highways in winter. Where it 142 Mass. 280, holding that where a peris customary to treat the removal of snow son is injured by collision with another vehicle while endeavoring to avoid a deagement, the failure to look after it may fect in the road, the defect is the sole be properly regarded as wrongful and neg- cause of the injury and he may recover ligent." Per Campbell, J., in McKellar therefor. Where horses became frightened v. Detroit, 57 Mich. 158. These observa- at an ash heap negligently left in the roadway, and ran upon and along a railroad track for a mile, where they were killed, <sup>2</sup> Kirby v. Boylston Market Assoc., 14 it was held, that the facts being undisputed, the court should have instructed the jury that the negligent act of the township was the remote and not the Dist., 53 Iowa, 352; s. c. 5 N. W. R. 508; proximate cause of the accident; and that Heeney v. Sprague, 11 R. I. 502 (1877); where the facts are disputed the question s. c. 23 Am. Rep. 502; Vandyke v. Cin- is for the jury. West Mahanoy Tp. v. cinnati, 1 Disney, 532; Flynn v. Canton Watson, 116 Pa. St. 344; s. c. 112 Pa. Co., 40 Md. 312; s. c. 17 Am. Rep. 603, St. 574. 2 Thomps. Neg. 765. The rule and note. But the owner is liable for an as to proximate and remote causes stated injury caused by snow and ice falling from by Paxson, J., to be "that the injury must the roof. Shipley v. Fifty Associates, 101 be the natural and probable consequence Mass. 251; Garland v. Towne, 55 N. H. of the negligence, - such a consequence 55 (1874); s. P. Hardy v. Keene, 52 N. H. as, under the surrounding circumstances of the case, might and ought to have been <sup>8</sup> Deverill v. Grand Tr. Ry. Co., 25 Up. foreseen by the wrong-doer as likely to Can. Q. B. 517; see also Cotton v. Wood, flow from his act." Hoag v. Lake Shore 8 C. B. N. S. 568; Toomey v. London, B. & M. S. R. R. Co., 85 Pa. St. 293. West & S. C. Ry. Co., 3 C. B. N. s. 146; Corn- Mahanoy v. Watson, supra. Where, by

and its effect upon the right of recovery, apply to cases such as we are now considering. Adverting in this place to the subject in a general way, it may be stated that if the person injured knew of the defect or obstruction, and ought reasonably to have avoided it by going outside or around it, and did not, he cannot recover.1 It has

tion with a heavy rainfall, became an active agent in producing damage to the foundation of a building on adjoining property, the city was held liable for the injury. Hanney v. Kansas City, 94 Mo. 334

Negligence is want, under the circum-Tuttle v. Holyoke, 6 Gray (Mass.), 447; Tyngsboro' (on leaping from carriage on 395; Palmer v. Andover, 2 Cush (Mass.) be an actionable defect. Loan v. Boston, Rep. 396.

ENED; DECISIONS CONSTRUING NEW ENG- (1870); Baldwin v. Greenwood Turnp. LAND STATUTES (ANTE, SEC. 1000, NOTE). Card v. Ellsworth, 65 Me. 547 (1876); Bedford, 125 Mass. 526. See further cases s. c. 20 Am. Rep. 722, where the cases are cited and reviewed by Peters, J. Marble v. Worcester, 4 Gray (Mass.), 395 (1855); Cook v. Charlestown, 98 Mass. 80 (1867). Compare Morse v. Richmond, 41 Vt. 435; s. c. 8 Am. L. Reg. (N. s.) 81, and note of Judge Redfield; Clinton v. Howard, 42 Conn. 294 (1875); Bassett v. ter, 54 N. Y. 245; Pennsylvania Co. v. St. Joseph, 53 Mo. 290 (1873); s. c. 14 Rathgeb, 32 Ohio St. 66; Merrill v. Port-Am. Rep. 446; Brown v. Glasgow, 57 Mo. land, 4 Cliff. C. C. 138. In a case where 156; Bennett v. Fifield, 13 R. I. 139; the allegations of the party injured while Smith v. Sherwood Township, 62 Mich. crossing a gully in a street, were, that he 159 (1886), (hole in bridge). Fright of saw the gully but believed it was reasonteam by accident, and injury thereto by a ably safe, that he used due and ordinary

was a defective condition of guttering, 4 Allen (Mass.), 557 (1862). Distincurbing, and sidewalk, which, in conjunc- guished from Palmer v. Andover, 2 Cush. (Mass.) 600; and Howard v. North Bridgewater, 16 Pick. 189. Explained. Fogg v. Nahant, 98 Mass. 578 (1868); Jackson v. Bellevieu, 30 Wis. 250 (1872). See Manderschid v. Dubuque, 25 Iowa, 108, disapproving Davis v. Dudley, supra. Whether injury caused jointly by defective road and stances of the particular case, of due care. defect in plaintiff's wagon, horse, or harness is actionable, see conflicting views in May v. Princeton, 11 Met. 442; Marble v. Vermont and Massachusetts on the one Worcester, 4 Gray, 395; Adams v. Car- hand, and Maine on the other. Hunt v. lisle, 21 Pick. 146; Holman v. Townsend, Pownal, 9 Vt. 418; Rowell v. Lowell, 13 Met. 297, 299 (1847); Horton v. Ips- supra; Howard v. North Bridgewater, 16 wich, 12 Cush. 488 (1853); Lund v. Pick. 189; Marble v. Worcester, 4 Gray, near approach to defect), 11 Cush. 563 600 (1849); Shepherd v. Chelsea, 4 Allen, (1853); Tuttle v. Holyoke, 6 Gray, 447 113 (1862); Fogg v. Nahant, 106 Mass. (1856); Sears v. Dennis, 105 Mass. 310 278; s. c. 98 Mass. 578; Moore v. Ab-(1870); Stickney v. Maidstone, 30 Vt. 738 bott, 32 Me. 46 (1850); Farrar v. Greene, (1858), and cases cited by Pierpont, J.; 32 Me. 574; Moulton v. Sanford, 51 Me. Manderschid v. Dubuque, 29 Iowa, 73 127 (1862). Followed. Perkins v. Fay-(1870). Ordinary iron gas box in side- ette, 68 Me. 152; and Aldrich v. Gorwalk with projecting rim, uncovered, may ham, 77 Me. 287; following Moore v. Abbott, supra, which is denied to be law 106 Mass. 450; Ayer v. Norwich (tent on in Winship v. Enfield, 42 N. H. 197 (1860); road), 39 Conn. 376 (1872); s. c. 12 Am. Hall v. Kansas City, 54 Mo. 598; Lacon v. Page, 48 Ill. 499; Joliet v. Verley, 35 Defect causing Team to be fright- Ill. 63; Aurora v. Pulfer, 56 Ill. 270 Co., 40 Conn. 238 (1873); Cushing v. cited, infra; also 2 Thomps. Neg. 778. Burden of proof to establish contributory negligence. See infra, sec. 1026.

1 Schaefler v. Sandusky, 33 Ohio St. 246; Durkin v. Troy, 61 Barb. 437; Evans v. Utica, 69 N. Y. 166; Wilson v. Charlestown, 8 Allen, 137; Belton v. Baxdefect in the highway. Davis v. Dudley, care, and that there was no other safe road,

been held that where two causes combine to produce the injury, both in their nature proximate, the one being the defect in the highway and the other some occurrence for which neither party is responsible, such as the accident of a horse running away beyond control, the corporation is liable, provided the injury would not have been sustained but for the defect in the highway.1 There can be no recovery if the injury be caused by the unskilfulness or want of care on the part of the driver,2 or if it can be shown that the plaintiff, by his own want of care, directly caused the accident 3 The streets and sidewalks, it has been well remarked, are for the benefit of all conditions of people; and all have the right, in using them, to assume that they are in an ordinarily good condition, and to regulate their conduct upon that assumption. A person may walk or drive carefully in the darkness of the night, relying upon the belief that the corporation has performed its duty, and that the street or the walk is not in an unsafe condition. He walks, it has been said, by a faith justified by law, and if his faith is unfounded, and he suffers an injury, the party in fault must respond in damages. So, one

it was held that these facts did not show 32 Me. 46; Farrar v. Greene, Ib. 574; see contributory negligence, and that the ques- also Clark v. Barrington, 41 N. H. 44;

Cliff. C. C. 138; Moulton v. Sanford, 51 dent. Moss v. Burlington, 60 Iowa, 438. Me. 127; Perkins v. Fayette, 68 Me. 152; see conflicting decisions on the point, su-

Hancock, 16 Vt. 230; Bigelow v. Rutland, 177. 4 Cush. (Mass.) 247; Moore v. Abbott,

tion as to such negligence was one of fact Tucker v. Hennecker, Ib. 317; Winship for the jury. Albion v. Hetrick, 90 Ind. v. Enfield, 42 N. H. 197; Palmer v. Andover, 2 Cush. (Mass.) 600; Hunt v. 1 Toms v. Whitby, 37 Up. Can. Q. B. Pownal, 9 Vt. 411. A city held not liable 100; Sherwood v. Hamilton, 37 Up. Can. for the death of a runaway horse, though it Q. B. 410; Castor v. Uxbridge, 39 Up. had neglected to erect barriers about the Can. Q. B. 113; Merrill v. Portland, 4 defect in the street which caused the acci-

<sup>8</sup> Butterfield v. Forrester, 11 East, 60; Ring v. Cohoes, 77 N. Y. 83; Ehrgott v. Woolf v. Beard, 8 C. & P. 373; Smith v. New York, 96 N. Y. 264; Hampson v. Smith, 2 Pick. (Mass.) 621; Bridge v. Taylor, 15 R. I. 83, approving text. But Grand Junc. Ry. Co., 3 M. & W. 244; Waite v. N. E. Ry. Co., E. B. & E. 719; pra. Shearm. & Red. Neg. (4th ed.) sec. Baker v. Portland, 58 Me. 199; s. c. 4 346, and cases, and chap. on Proximate Am. Rep. 274; Tuff v. Warman, 2 C. B. N. s. 740; s. c. 5 C. B. N. s. 573; Wither-<sup>2</sup> Flower v. Adams, 2 Taunt, 314; Cas-ley v. Regent's Canal Co., 12 C. B. N. s. sedy v. Stockbridge, 21 Vt. 391; Peoria 2; Bradley v. Brown, 32 Up. Can. Q. B. Br. Assoc. v. Loomis, 20 Ill. 235; Alger v. 463. The rule operates also in the case of Lowell, 3 Allen (Mass.), 402; Stuart v. children of tender age. Mangan v. Atter-Machiasport, 48 Me. 477; Cobb v. Stand- ton, L. R. 1 Ex. 239; Singleton v. Eastish, 14 Me. 198; Marriott v. Stanley, 1 ern Counties Ry. Co., 7 C. B. N. s. 287. M. & G. 568. So if the accident really The question of contributory negligence and substantially arose by reason of some arises when both parties are substantially defect in the plaintiff's wagon, harness, at fault, and when the fault of each con-&c. Jenks v. Wilbraham, 11 Gray, 142; tributes to the disaster. Per Cleasby, B., Noyes v. Morristown, 1 Vt. 357; Allen v. in Gee v. Metrop. Ry. Co., L. R. 8 Q. B.

whose sight is dimmed by age, or a near-sighted person whose range of vision was always imperfect, or one whose sight has been injured by disease, may act on the assumption that the streets and ways are in a reasonably safe condition. Each, however, is bound to know that prudence and care are in turn required of him, and that if he fails in this respect any injury he may suffer is without redress.1 Each case depends upon its own circumstances and each is a law unto itself.

§ 1008. Liability for Injuries outside the Travelled Highway; Width to be kept in Repair; Right to go extra viam . - "Although the highway be of varying and unequal width between fences, on each side, the right of passage or way, prima facie and unless there be evidence to the contrary, extends to the whole space between the fences, and the public are entitled to the use of the entire of it as the highway, and are not confined to the parts which may be metalled or kept in repair for the more convenient use of carriages or foot-passengers." 2 In general, however, the duty to keep in repair only extends to the road actually used for travel, provided it is wide enough to be safe, and is, in its actual condition, reasonably safe for travellers who use due care.3 The duty of municipal cor-

573, per Hunt, C. J., whose language slight- Co., 3 F. & F. 74, per Martin, B.; Tutill ly altered is given in the text; Weed v. v. West Ham L. Bd. of H., L. R. 8 C. P. Ballston, 76 N. Y. 329. It is not, however, 447; The Queen v. Fitzgerald, 39 Up. Can. too much to ask of persons of defective Q. B. 297; Harrison Munic. Man. (5th sight greater care than is required of per- ed.) 488-497, and cases. sons free from such infirmity. Winn v. Lowell, 1 Allen (Mass.), 177; Smith v. 388; Smith v. Wendell, 7 Cush. (Mass.) Wildes, 143 Mass. 556; Sleeper v. Sandown, 52 N. H. 244; see also Bridges v. No. London Ry. Co., L. R. 6 Q. B. 377, 397; Hutton v. Windsor, 34 Up. Can. Q. B. 487. No person is required to have perfect vision, or to be vigilant in the discovery of defects which ought not to exist. Thompson v. Bridgewater, 7 Pick. (Mass.) 188. No person is in fault in neglecting to observe and avoid a defect not so plain and obvious as to be necessarily observable by one in the possession of ordinary faculties, travelling at an ordinary pace. Cox v. Westchester Turnp. Co., 33 Barb. 414; Frost v. Waltham, 12 Allen, 85. Further as to elements of actionable defect in the highway or street, see Vicksburg v. Hennessy, 54 Miss. 363; s. P. Lane v. Crom- side thereof) as to induce the belief in bie, 12 Pick. 177; Moore v. Abbott, 32 any one exercising reasonable care that he

1 Davenport v. Ruckman, 37 N. Y. 568 2 The Queen v. United Kingdom Tel.

8 Tisdale v. Norton, 8 Met. (Mass.) 498; Shepardson v. Colerain, 13 Met. 55; Kellogg v. Northampton, 4 Gray (Mass.), 65; s. c. 8 Gray, 504; Howard v. No. Bridgewater, 16 Pick. 189; Hayden v. Attleborough, 7 Gray, 338; Coggswell v. Lexington, 4 Cush. (Mass.) 307; Sparhawk v. Salem, 1 Allen, 30; Richards v. Enfield, 13 Gray, 344; Rowell v. Lowell, 7 Gray, 100; Keith v. Easton, 2 Allen, 552 : Campbell v. Race, 7 Cush. (Mass.) 408, and authorities cited; Morse v. Belfast, 77 Me. 44; Kelley v. Columbus, 41 Ohio St. 263; Fitzgerald v. Berlin, 64 Wis. 203. "Where there is no visible boundary to the line of the street, and a portion of the roadway travelled on is so near the actual line (although really out-Me. 46; Rusch v. Davenport, 6 Iowa, 443. is within such line, if such portion is for

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porations to keep the roads and streets in repair extends as much to sidewalks for the use of pedestrians as to the travelled way for the use of carriages.1 Where an ordinary public highway is out of repair, the public have a temporary right to go on the adjoining land for the purpose of travel.2. So sidewalks and street-crossings are constructed for the use of foot-passengers; but if these hap-

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any reason rendered dangerous for travel, ton, 3 Cush. (Mass.) 174 (1849), relating Neg. 766. Post, sec. 1016.

1 Burns v. Toronto, 42 Up. Can. Q. B. 560; Hutton v. Windsor, 34 Up. Can. Q. B. 487; Ray v. Petrolia, 24 Up. Can. C. P. 73; Boyle v. Dundas, 25 Up. Can. C. P. 420; Bacon v. Boston, 3 Cush. (Mass.) 174; Lowell v. Spaulding, 4 Cush. (Mass.) 277; Drake v. Lowell, 13 Met. 292; Hart v. Brooklyn, 36 Barb. (N. Y.) 226; Kirby v. Boylston Market Assoc., 14 Gray, 249; Manchester v. Hartford, 30 Conn. 118; Hubbard v. Concord, 35 N. H. 54. rington, 42 Me. 332; Barker v. Savage, 45 N. Y. 191. But it is not a duty to plank from each man's house across a ditch to McCarthy v. Oshawa, 19 Up. Can. Q. B. 245. Post, sec. 1012 as to sidewalks.

Under the statute of Michigan, cities are responsible for injuries caused by defects in the carriage-ways or streets proper and cross-walks, but not for those caused by defects in side-walks. O'Neil v. Detroit, 50 Mich. 133; Detroit v. Putnam.

WIDTH TO BE KEPT IN REPAIR UNDER 26 Wis. 56. THE NEW ENGLAND STATUTES (ante, recognized in Shepardson v. Colerain, 13 cases. Met. (Mass.) 55, 59 (1847); Bacon v. Bos-

and the city has notice thereof in due to width of sidewalk, and distinguished time, and such danger can be remedied by from Howard v. No. Bridgewater, supra; the exercise of reasonable care, . . . and Smith v. Wendell, 7 Cush. (Mass.) 498; the city neglects to guard it, we see no Kellogg v. Northampton, 4 Gray (Mass.), reason why it should not be held liable to 65, 7 Gray, 338; Mochler v. Shaftsbury, one who is injured outside of such limits 46 Vt. 580 (1874); s. c. 14 Am. Rep. 634. under such circumstances, he being him- Whether wide enough to be safe is for the self free from any neglect contributing to jury; so, whether it should be made safe the injury." Peckham, J., in Jewhurst v. and convenient its whole width. John-Syracuse, 108 N. Y. 303 (1888). Further, son v. Whitefield, 18 Me. 286; Aldrich v. as to width to be kept in repair. 2 Thomps. Pelham, 1 Gray, 510; Savage v. Bangor, 40 Me. 176; Craig v. Sedalia, 63 Mo. 417 (1876); Perkins v. Fayette, 60 Me. 152; Dickey v. Maine Tel. Co., 46 Me. 483: Morse v. Belfast, 77 Me. 44; see also Brown v. Glasgow, 57 Mo. 157 (1874); Monongahela City v. Fischer, 111 Pa. St. 9; Scranton v. Hill, 102 Pa. St. 378; Keyes v. Marcellas, 50 Mich. 378: Durant v. Palmer, 29 N. J. L. 544. If a street is opened for travel throughout its entire width, it is the duty of the city to keep the entire width in a reasonably safe con-So to street crossings. Raymond v. Low- dition. Stafford v. Oskaloosa, 57 Iowa, ell, 6 Cush. (Mass.) 524; Coombs v. Pur- 748. Compare Fulliam v. Muscatine, 30 N. W. Rep. 861; Crystal v. Des Moines, 65 Iowa, 502. Infra, sec. 1016. note. Shearm. & Red. Neg. (4th ed.) secs. 351, the street, and keep such planks in repair. 352 and cases; 2 Thomps. Neg. 766, and cases. Infra, sec. 1011. The obligation to keep in repair is only as "against such accidents as are likely to, and actually do" occur in using a highway for the purpose of travel. Sykes v. Pawlet, 43 Vt. 446: s. c. 5 Am. Rep. 295 (1871).

LIABILITY FOR LATENT DEFECTS. Prindle v. Fletcher, 39 Vt. 257. Cited with approval, 24 Wis. 342 (1869). See

<sup>2</sup> Carrick v. Johnston, 26 Up. Can. Q. SEC. 1000, NOTE) AS CONSTRUED BY THE B. 65. But see Arnold v. Holbrook, L. Courts. Infra, secs. 1011, 1016; Howard R. 8 Q. B. 96. Right to go extra viam, v. No. Bridgewater, 16 Pick. 189 (1834) Campbell v. Race, 7 Cush. 408, 410, and pen to be obstructed, or to be in such a dangerous condition as to deter an ordinarily prudent man from using them, then one may walk elsewhere. If he does so however without sufficient reason, and is injured, his injury cannot be imputed to the negligence of the city.1

§ 1009. Defective Streets; User of Land as Street; Estoppel. — There have been many cases where the injury has occurred upon property used as a highway or street which has never been legally laid out or dedicated as such, and the municipality has sought to defend upon this ground. But where the corporation has treated a piece of land within the limits of the municipality as a public street, taking charge of it, as such, it is chargeable with the same duties as though it were legally laid out; and it is liable for damages by reason of neglect to keep the same in safe condition for travel. It is, under such circumstances, estopped to claim that it is not a legal highway; and it is affected with the consequences of the knowledge and acts of its officers and agents.2

539 (1876); Scranton v. Hill, 102 Pa. St. Allen, 552 (1861); Baltimore v. Branman, 378; Zettler v. Atlanta, 66 Ga. 195; Al- 14 Md. 227 (1859); Bassett v. St. Joseph, line v. Le Mars, 71 Iowa, 654. A city 53 Mo. 290, 301 (1873), a well-considered is not bound to provide approaches from case; s. c. 14 Am. Rep. 446; Stone v. private property to its streets, nor liable Attleborough, 140 Mass. 328; Stockwell for injuries caused by its failure to guard such approaches. Goodin v. Des Moines, 55 Iowa, 67, where plaintiff fell from private property into a street which had been 507. recently excavated. Where a street was years' use, and the plaintiff was compelled to go round by reason of the fence, it was held that he was specially damaged and the city liable to him in damages. Beaudean v. Cape Girardeau, 71 Mo. 392. In Massachusetts an injury received by traveller outside of the road, though the road itself was dangerous, is not within the statute, of which the words are "injury by reason of any defect" in the highway. (Ante, sec. 1000, note.) Tisdale v. Norton, 8 Met. 388 (1844). Nor ordinarily actionable. Sparhawk v. Salem, 1 Allen, 30 (1861). The doctrine in Massachusetts is, that the damage, in order to be actionable, must be occasioned by causes entirely within the highway. Richards v. Enfield, 13 Gray, 344, 346, per Bigelow, J., citing and following Rowell v. Lowell, 7 Gray, Potter v. Castleton, 53 Vt. 435; Cart-

1 O'Laughlin v. Dubuque, 42 Iowa, 100 (1856). See, also, Keith v. Easton, 2 v. Fitchburg, 110 Mass. 305; Sullivan v. Boston, 126 Mass. 540; Lowe v. Clinton, 136 Mass. 24; Aston v. Newton, 134 Mass.

<sup>2</sup> Coates v. Canaan, 51 Vt. 131; James fenced up by the city after over twenty v. Portage City, 5 N. W. Rep. 31; Kittredge v. Milwaukee, 26 Wis. 46; Weisenberg v. Appleton, 26 Wis. 56; Harper v. Milwaukee, 30 Wis. 365; Colby v. Beaver Dam, 34 Wis. 285; Prideaux v. Mineral Point, 43 Wis. 513; Sewell v. Cohoes, 75 N. Y. 45; Todd v. Troy, 61 N. Y. 506; Conrad v. Ithaca, 16 N. Y. 158; Weet v. Brockport, 16 N. Y. 161; Hyatt v. Rondout Trs., 44 Barb. 385; Houfe v. Fulton, 34 Wis. 608; Stark v. Lancaster, 57 N. H. 88; Aurora v. Colshire, 55 Ind. 484; Phelps v. Mankato, 23 Minn. 277; Manderschid v. Dubuque, 25 Iowa, 108; Matthews v. Baraboo, 39 Wis. 674; Johnson v. Milwaukee, 46 Wis. 568; Kelley v. Fond du Lac, 31 Wis. 179; Seward v. Milford, 21 Wis. 485; Gallagher v. St. Paul, 28 Fed. Rep. 305;

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 $\S~1010$ . Lighting Streets, as connected with Defects therein. — A corporation which by its charter has the power to lay out, improve, light, and keep its streets in order, is liable in damages at the suit of an individual who sustains injuries by reason of the neglect of such corporation to keep its streets in a safe condition.1 The grant of power in the charter of a city to the council to lay out streets, is a grant to the corporation, and is of such a character as to prevent its exercise by any other person or body.2 A city is under no obligation to light its streets with lamps, and simply neglecting to light the streets is not a ground of liability.3 But where it assumes to light a street, and does it so negligently that a person is injured in consequence by falling into an excavation in the night-time, the character of the light may be shown as a circumstance to establish negligence.4 A person employed and paid by one who has contracted to light and take care of street-lamps is not a servant or agent of the corporation, and if, while engaged in his work, he

wright v. Belmont, 58 Wis. 370; Davis for public travel and its recognition by the municipal authorities). By merely N. Y. 476 (1889); infra, sec. 1012, note. permitting the public to use a sidewalk nized street, a city will not render itself its defective condition. Bishop v. Centralia, 49 Wis. 669. Where a city in enyears, it was held, in an action for an injury caused by a defect in it, that it had for defects in which the city was liable. 679. Veale v. Boston, 135 Mass. 187. A village in Illinois was held liable for injuries sustained on a sidewalk built and maintained by it upon private property within its limits. Magruder, J.: "Having as- 540 (1875). See cases cited infra. sumed to perform the same duty in regard to it as though it was a part of one of the reference to other sidewalks within the Cambridge, 136 Mass. 419. limits of the corporation," citing text. (1888). The use of a road for many years v. Bangor, 67 Me. 388.

v. Fulton, 52 Wis. 657; Cronin v. Del- town officers as a highway were held sufavan, 50 Wis. 375; Estelle v. Lake Crys- ficient to make the town liable, under a tal, 27 Minn. 243 (a platform, erected by statute, for injuries sustained by reason of a private person, used by the public as a its negligence in failing to keep the road part of the street with the knowledge of in proper repair. Ivory v. Deerpark, 116

But the principle stated in the text does which is not within the limits of a recog- not apply where a bridge and its approaches belong to the State as part of liable for injuries sustained by reason of its public works, for in such case the city has no right to enter upon or repair the same, and hence it is not liable for an inclosing a common placed the fence so that jury caused thereby to a traveller, ala strip remained along a public street, though used by the public as a highway, such strip being afterwards paved and with the acquiescence of the State. Where used as a sidewalk for more than twenty there is no duty and no power there can be no liability. Carpenter v. Cohoes, 81 N. Y. 21; Veeder v. Little Falls, 100 become by prescription a part of the street, N. Y. 343; Brusso v. Buffalo, 90 N. Y.

- 1 Noble v. Richmond, 31 Gratt. 271; followed, Clark v. Richmond, 83 Va. 355 (1887); Gordon v. Richmond, 83 Va. 436; Barnes v. District of Columbia, 91 U. S.
- 2 Ib., cases supra.
- 3 Randall v. Eastern R. R., 106 Mass. streets, they were bound to use the same 276 (1871); s. c. 8 Am. Rep. 327; Gasdegree of vigilance as they exercised in kins v. Atlanta, 73 Ga. 746; Lyon v.
- 4 Freeport v. Isbell, 83 Ill. 440 (1876); Village of Mansfield v. Moore, 124 Ill. 133 s. c. 25 Am. Rep. 407. See, also, Butler

suffers an injury from an actionable defect in a highway, he can maintain an action therefor against the corporation, if free from contributory negligence.1

§ 1011. Defects and Obstructions calculated to frighten Animals. - For an object in a public street calculated to frighten horses ordinarily gentle, and which causes an accident resulting in an injury, municipal corporations have been held liable, if they have been guilty of negligence in allowing it to remain for an unreasonable time. The decisions to this effect generally rest upon statutory provisions and involve a construction thereof. But such objects may come within the notion of a public nuisance, which it is the duty of the municipality to remove as incident to its duty to keep its streets in a safe condition, for failure to discharge which it may be liable to any one specially injured thereby.2 Where there is a defect or object in a street which is calculated to frighten horses and an injury occurs by reason thereof without the fault of the driver, the corporation, if it has been negligent in respect thereof, is liable; but objects outside the travelled way, and not near enough

s. P. Kimball v. Cushman, 103 Mass. 194; 2 Thomps. Neg. 778; Cooley, Torts, 617. Johnson v. Boston, 118 Mass. 44.

Infra, sec. 1013. drinking-troughs), 125 Mass. 526. A city held not to be liable for damages resec. 722, note. Turner v. Buchanan, 82 Young v. New Haven, 39 Conn. 435;

1 Eaton v. Woburn, 127 Mass. 270; Ind. 147. See supra, sec. 953, and note;

The following may be mentioned as a ? Chicago v. Hoy, 75 Ill. 530 (1874); few from the many cases mostly but not McKee v. Bidwell, 74 Pa. St. 218; wholly arising under the New England stat-Crissey v. Hestonville M. & F. Pass. Ry. utes (ante, sec. 1000, note), as to what have Co., 75 Pa. St. 83; Fritsch v. Allegheny, been held to be particular defects or ob-91 Pa. St. 226 (1879); s. c. 20 Alb. L. structions. A pile of stones. Bigelow v. J. 373; Rushville v. Adams, 107 Ind. Weston, 3 Pick. (Mass.) 267; Smith v. 475; Crawfordsville v. Smith, 79 Ind. Wendell, 7 Cush. (Mass.) 498; Kellogg 308; Bennett v. Fifield, 13 R. I. 139. v. Northampton, 4 Gray, 65; Foreman v. Canterbury, L. R. 6 Q. B. 214. A rock. <sup>8</sup> Cushing v. Bedford (bright red-colored Card v. Ellsworth, 65 Me. 547; s. c. 20 Am. Rep. 722. Sticks of timber, logs, &c. Castor v. Uxbridge, 39 Up. Can. Q. B. sulting from a horse becoming frightened 113; Springer v. Bowdoinham, 7 Me. 442; at an implement run by steam, to repair Snow v. Adams, 1 Cush. (Mass.) 443; a street, and without negligence. Sparr Johnson v. Whitefield, 18 Me. 286; Davis v. St. Louis, 4 Mo. App. 572. In the ab- v. Bangor, 42 Me. 522; Gorham v. sence of express legislative authority a Cooperstown, 59 N. Y. 660 (1875). A city cannot lawfully grant to a street tent. Ayer v. Norwich, 39 Conn. 376; railway company the right to operate a 12 Am. Rep. 396. A portable furnace. "steam" motor along its streets, and if it Rushville v. Adams, 107 Ind. 475. Pile of does so it may be liable for injuries sus- lumber. North Manheim v. Arnold, 119 Pa. tained by a traveller on the street whose St. 380. Steam thresher. Burrell Township team is frightened by the steam motor. v. Uncapher, 117 Pa. St. 353. Steam motor. Stanley v. Davenport, 54 Iowa, 463 (1879); Stanley v. Davenport, 54 Iowa, 463; ante, S. C. 9 Cent. L. J. 392, citing text. Ante, sec. 722, note. A steam roller and engine.

to the line of public travel to interfere with or incommode travellers, are not defects in the highway.1 It is not requisite, as we

s. c. 12 Am. Rep. 400 n. Pole. Mochler Allen, 552. See, also, Corby v. Hill, 4 v. Shaftsborough, 46 Vt. 580; s. c. 14 C. B. N. s. 556; Pickhard v. Smith, 10 Am. Rep. 634; Turner v. Buchanan, 82 C. B. N. s. 470; Tarry v. Ashton, L. R. Ind. 147. But not a broken-down wagon. 1 Q. B. Div. 314; Soule v. Grand Trunk Rounds v. Stratford, 26 Up. Can. C. P. Ry. Co., 21 Up. Can. C. P. 308; Vars v. 11. Posts. Soule v. Grand Trunk Ry. Grand Trunk Ry. Co., 23 Up. Can. C. P. Co., 21 Up. Can. C. P. 308; Coggswell 143; Crawfordsville v. Smith, 79 Ind. v. Lexington, 4 Cush. (Mass.) 307. But 308. The onus is on the plaintiff to give see McComber v. Taunton, 100 Mass. 255. affirmative evidence of negligence. Lester See, further, Ray v. Manchester, 46 N. H. v. Pittsford, 7 Vt. 158; Perkins v. Con-59. Holes or excavations. Reed v. North- cord R. R. Co., 44 N. H. 223. Evidence field, 13 Pick. 94; Congreve v. Morgan, to show that other horses besides the 5 Duer (N. Y.), 495; Doherty v. Wal- plaintiff's were frightened at the object tham, 4 Gray, 596; Willard v. Newbury, is admissible. Darling v. Westmoreland, 22 Vt. 458; Batty v. Duxbury, 24 Vt. 52 N. H. 401; s. c. 13 Am. Rep. 55. 155; Murphy v. Gloucester, 105 Mass. The jury are not to infer a defect on the 470; Ghenn v. Provincetown, Ib. 313. highway at a particular time and place Loose planks, projections, or other inequal- merely from the fact that an injury was ities of surface. Irwin v. Bradford, 22 sustained at that time and place. Church Up. Can. C. P. 19, 421; Hall v. Man- v. Cherryfield, 33 Me. 460; Sherman v. chester, 40 N. H. 410; Winn v. Lowell, Kortright, 52 Barb. 267; Collins v. Dor-1 Allen, 177; Raymond v. Lowell, 6 chester, 6 Cush. (Mass.) 396; Packard Cush. (Mass.) 524; Hubbard v. Concord, v. New Bedford, 9 Allen, 200; Cal-35 N. H. 52; Smith v. Wendell, 7 Cush. kins v. Hartford, 33 Conn. 57. But see (Mass.) 498. An ash pile. Ring v. Co- Kearney v. London, B., & S. C. Ry. Co., hoes, 77 N. Y. 83. Machinery left on L. R. 5 Q. B. 411; s. c. L. R. 6 Q. B. roadside. Bennett v. Lovell, 12 R. I. 166. 759; Feital v. Middlesex R. R. Co., 109 As to rope extended across the street being Mass. 398; s. c. 12 Am. Rep. 720; Mulan obstruction or defect. French v. Bruns- len v. St. Johns, 57 N. Y. 567; 15 Am. wick, 21 Me. 29 (1842). But see Barber Rep. 530; Harrison's Munic. Manual v. Roxbury, 11 Allen, 318 (1865), that it (5th ed.), 486 et seq. is not. "Obstructions," or want of repairs, defined by Bartlett, J. Ray v. Manchester, lett v. Kittery, 68 Me. 358; Rounds v. town, Ib. 190, note; Keith v. Easton, 2 Neg. 766, and cases.

1 Farrell v. Oldtown, 69 Me. 72; Bart-46 N. H. 59 (1865). Loaded wagons Stratford, 26 Up. Can. C. P. 11; Nichols standing on a street under care of a driver v. Athens, 68 Me. 413. Thus where the not a "defect or want of repair" of wrought part of a highway was sufficiently streets. Davis v. Bangor, 42 Me. 522 smooth and wide for safe transit, a trav-(1856). Any object upon or near the trav- eller's horse, meeting cows with boards on elled way, which in its nature is calculated their horns, became frightened and ran to frighten horses of ordinary gentleness, the wagon against a blasted rock lying may be held, under some circumstances, to outside the wrought part, but inside the constitute a defect in the way itself. highway limit, it was held that the town Morse v. Richmond, 41 Vt. 435; Cham- was not liable for the consequent injury berlain v. Engfield, 43 N. H. 356; Winship to the traveller. Perkins v. Fayette, 68 v. Enfield, 42 N. H. 197; Lund v. Tyngs- Me. 152, approving Moulton v. Sanford, boro', 11 Cush. (Mass.) 563; Dimock v. 51 Me. 127; s. p. Rockford v. Tripp, 83 Suffield, 30 Conn. 129; Hewison v. New Ill. 247; Marble v. Worcester, 4 Gray Haven, 34 Conn. 136. But see Horton v. (Mass.), 395. Compare Blake v. New-Taunton, 97 Mass. 266; Kingsbury v. field, Ib. 365; Shearm. & Red. Neg. (4th Dedham, 13 Allen, 186; Cook v. Charles- ed.) secs. 350, 351, and cases; 2 Thomps.

have already seen, that a highway, in its whole width as located, should be fitted for travel. It is sufficient if it be of suitable width, and in good condition for the needs of the public.1

 $\S$  1011 a (1021). Licensed Exhibitions rendering Streets unsafe. - Where the municipal authorities expressly allowed the street of a city to become unsafe for public use by licensing or authorizing the exhibition of wild animals thereon, in consequence of which the horses of a person lawfully using the street took fright, and injury was sustained, the city was held by the Supreme Court of Wisconsin (conformably to the line of decisions in that State holding towns and cities liable for defective streets) to be liable in damages, on the ground that it had authorized a use to be made of a street which rendered it dangerous or unsafe to travellers.2 But in the same case it was afterwards held that the city was not thus liable where it had not licensed such an exhibition in the street, but simply licensed the exhibition of bears, and the police negligently suffered it to take place in the street. The latter case seems to qualify and limit the former.3 In a somewhat similar case in Massachusetts a city was, under the circumstances appearing in the note, held not to be liable for an injury caused by a horse taking fright from an authorized exhibition of an animal known as the "Sacred Ox." 4

Fayette, 68 Me. 152; Seeley v. Litchfield, N. s. 383; O'Connor v. Otonabee Tp., Rep. 847.

35 Up. Can. Q. B. 73.

s. c. 24 Am. Rep. 435; Same v. Same, just cited was decided on demurrer to 49 Wis. 605. "We should certainly hes- the declaration, which in substance alitate," says Cole, J., "to sanction the leged that the city, by its clerk, duly auprinciple that a municipal corporation thorized, contracted with the owners of an might knowingly and unnecessarily per- animal known as the "Sacred Ox," aumit or authorize a nuisance or danger- thorizing them to erect a booth on Market ous obstruction to be placed in one of Square, and to occupy the highway for its streets, without being answerable for the use and exhibition of the animal for damages occasioned thereby." Ib. See the consideration of \$2.50 a day; that the Stanley v. Davenport (steam-motor case), mayor and aldermen of the city, by the 54 Iowa, 463, referred to, ante, sec. 722, city ordinances, are authorized to grant note. Compare Stange v. Hill & W. D. permission to maintain tents and booths

<sup>1</sup> Supra, sec. 1008; post, sec. 1016; Street Ry. Co., 54 Iowa, 669; supra, secs. Farrell v. Oldtown, 69 Me. 72; Perkins v. 953, note, 1011, note; Cooley, Torts, 617.

3 Little v. Madison, 49 Wis. 605. City 49 Conn. 134; Shearm. & Red. Neg. (4th licensed a shooting gallery. Plaintiff passed.) sec. 352. A new side line or con- ing along the street was injured by the cession line, opened in a township thinly firing of a gun from the inside of the galscattered, could scarcely be expected to be lery, which was near the street. Held, that found in as perfect a condition as an old the city was not liable. It was not the case highway in a well-settled township. Col- of defect, want of repair, or insufficiency beck v. Brantford, 21 Up. Can. Q. B. 276; of the street under the Wisconsin statute. The Queen v. Epsom Union Guard., 8 L. T. Hubbell v. Viroqua Wis.), 30 Northwest.

4 Cole v. Newburyport, 129 Mass. 594 <sup>2</sup> Little v. Madison, 42 Wis. 643 (1877); (1880); s. c. 23 Alb. L. J. 3. The case

§ 1012. Defective Sidewalks. — The liability of a city or town for actionable defects extends, as already remarked, to sidewalks, they being deemed to constitute part of the street. Where the charter

in public places and upon the public high- See, also, Atchison v. Jansen, 21 Kan. ways for the purpose of exhibition, and 560; Hubbard v. Concord, 35 N. H. 52 are authorized to lease and grant permis- (1857), reviewing Raymond v. Lowell, 6 sion to use the same; that the ox was also Cush. 524; Boucher v. New Haven, 40 of an uncouth and strange shape and ap- Conn. 456 (1873). A cover made partly pearance, and was caparisoned in a gaudy of glass and partly of iron, forming a porand strange manner, so that he was an tion of the surface of a sidewalk in a city. object of terror to horses and cattle; that and so changed by wear as to become the plaintiff's cart and horse were lawfully smooth and slippery, on which a traveller travelling along Merrimac Street, the horse using due care slips and falls, solely by being well broken and kind and being reason of its smoothness, is such a defect driven by a safe and experienced driver, in a highway as to render a city liable. who exercised due caution, and near Mar- Cromarty v. Boston, 127 Mass. 329; ket Square met the ox, which was being Morse v. Boston, 109 Mass. 446; Kelled back and forth on the highway for logg v. Janesville, 34 Minn. 132; Noonan his usual and necessary exercise, and that the horse was frightened by the odor and frightful appearance and caparison of the Pa. St. 373; Beazan v. Mason City, 58 ox, and ran and overturned the cart, dam- Iowa, 233; Thomas v. Brooklyn, 58 Iowa, aging it so that it was substantially de- 438; Smalley v. Appleton, 70 Wis. 340; stroyed, and seriously injuring the horse. Stack v. Portsmouth, 52 N. H. 221 (1872), The defendant demurred. The demurrer and defining measure of duty, as respects was sustained, on the ground that at the sidewalks. Duty as respects crossings; time of the accident the ox was not in the foot-passengers, where to cross. Raymond place for the use of which the city received compensation, nor in charge of any agent of the city, and the city was not responsible for the fright while both ani- which had been habitually used by passenmals were travelling along the highway. gers along the sidewalk, was considered a Shearm. & Red. Neg. (4th ed.) secs. 263, 358; 2 Thomps. Neg. 778.

1 Ante, sec. 1008. Studley v. Oshkosh, 45 Wis. 380; Furnell v. St. Paul, 20 Minn. 117 (1873); Warren v. Wright, 3 Ill. App. 602; Rockford v. Hilderbrand, 61 Ill. 155 (1871); Chicago v. Langlass, 66 Ill. 361 (1873); Chicago v. Crooker,

v. Stillwater, 33 Minn. 198; Nanticoke Boro' v. Warne (rotten sidewalk), 106 v. Lowell, 6 Cush. (Mass.) 524 (1850): Brady v. Lowell, 3 Ib. 121 (1849). A bridge over a drain at a street crossing part of the sidewalk, and the city held liable for injuries caused by defects in it. Atlanta v. Champe, 66 Ga. 659. Ante, sec. 1009, and note. Where a sidewalk is constructed by a private person, without the authority or direction of the city, the city will be liable for injuries sustained by reason of defects in it, if it has assumed juris-2 Ill. App. 279; Atlanta v. Perdue, 53 diction over it - as, by ordering the owner Ga. 607 (1875); Chicago v. McCarthy, to repair it, or by permitting it to be 75 Ill. 602 (1875); Moore v. Minneapolis, used as a part of the continuous sidewalk 19 Minn. 300 (1872); Market v. St. of a travelled thoroughfare. Plattsmouth Louis, 56 Mo. 189 (1874); Barnes v. v. Mitchell, 20 Neb. 228; Russell v. Can-Newton, 46 Iowa, 567 (1877); Higert v. astota, 98 N. Y. 496 (giving notice to an Greencastle, 43 Ind. 574 (1873); O'Neil abutting owner to repair a sidewalk does v. New Orleans, 30 La. An. 202; Bacon v. not release the municipal corporation from Boston (a deep opening made by adjoin- liability). A municipal corporation held ing owner for cellar window), 3 Cush. liable for an injury sustained by reason (Mass.) 174 (1849); Lowell v. Spaulding, of a defective sidewalk constructed with-4 Cush. 275; Ib. 277; Kirby v. Market out its authority, the defect having ex-Association, 14 Gray, 249 (1859); Man- isted a sufficient length of time to charge chester v. Hartford, 30 Conn. 118 (1861); it with notice. Saulsbury v. Ithaca, 94

of a city gives it the power to cause sidewalks to be kept in repair, and makes adequate provision for so doing, the exercise of the power, according to the prevailing judgment of the courts, follows as a duty. In such case the city is liable for actionable defects in sidewalks, although the charter requires the lot-owner to build the sidewalks, and imposes a penalty for his failure in this regard. The abutting owner is not bound to keep the sidewalk in repair unless by virtue of the requirement of a statute, and is not responsible to travellers for defects therein not caused by himself.1 The lot-owner has been held not liable over to the city for damages resulting to passers-by from the non-repair of a sidewalk in respect of which he was under no legal obligation to make the repairs, and which was not defective by reason of any obstruction caused or other act done by him.2

to construct sidewalks may adopt one tion of a plank crossing was the same as already constructed, it must do so by a that of other crossings in the city. Bauer corporate act; but where the plan of a v. Indianapolis, 99 Ind. 56. One who had sidewalk has been changed by an owner full knowledge of an obstruction in a sideof adjoining property without objection walk, held not entitled to recover for an by the city, its omission to take any ac- injury caused by it, though the accident tion in reference to it, after notice, cannot occurred when by reason of darkness it constitute a defence in its favor to an action brought by one who has received Cook, 99 Ind. 10. For illustrations of injury by reason of defects in the walk. faulty construction of cross-walks see Whit-Urquhart v. Ogdensburgh, 97 N. Y. 238. ney v. Milwaukee, 57 Wis. 639; Schroth Right of foot-travellers to travel along and v. Prescott, 63 Wis. 652; Stilling v. Thorp, across street. Ib.; Coombs v. Purring- 54 Wis. 538; Hill v. Fond du Lac, 56 ton, 42 Me. 332 (1856); Bacon v. Bos- Wis. 242; Grossenbach v. Milwaukee, 65 ton, 3 Cush. (Mass.) 174; Barker v. Wis. 31; Shearm. & Red. Neg. (4th ed.) Savage, 45 N. Y. 191 (1871); Robinson sec. 353, and cases; 2 Thomps. Neg. v. Western Pac. R. R. Co., 48 Cal. 409 (1874). What inequalities in surface to repair sidewalks and cross-walks is actionable. Raymond v. Lowell, 6 Cush. considered. (Mass.) 524 · Hubbard v. Concord, 35 N. H. 52; Smith v. Wendell, 7 Cush. Warren v. Wright, 3 Ill. App. 602.

posing liability for injuries caused by de- 397. Ante, sec. 1006, note. fective streets, &c. Pequinot v. Detroit, 2 Keokuk v. Keokuk Indep. Sch. Dist., sidewalk without injury is not admissible, Gray (Mass.), 249; Flynn v. Canton

N. Y. 27. While a city having a power nor is proof (as here) that the construcwas difficult to see it. Indianapolis v. 781-784, where the extent of the duty

1 Moore v. Gadsden, 87 N. Y. 84; s. c. on another appeal, 93 N. Y. 12. These 498; Winn v. Lowell, 1 Allen, 177; two decisions hold that although by an Lacon v. Page, 48 Ill. 499; Loan v. Bos- ordinance in the nature of a police regulaton, 106 Mass. 450. See as to gross neglition the abutting owner is required to regence, Chicago v. Langlass, 66 Ill. 361. move ice and snow within a fixed time, he As to ordinary care and diligence, see is not thereby made liable for injuries caused by his neglect to comply with the A walk crossing an alley is a "cross- ordinance. Hill v. Fond du Lac, 56 Wis. walk" and not a "sidewalk" within the 242; Knupfle v. Knick. Ice Co., 84 N. Y. meaning of the statute of Michigan im- 488; Weller v. McCormick, 47 N. J. L.

16 Fed. Rep. 211. Proof that others 53 Iowa, 352; s. c. 5 N. W. Rep. 503; have passed over an obstruction in a Kirby v. Boylston Market Association, 14