

The Shilly Water Works

The District Engineer and Surveyor speaks as follows at the first public display of the Shilly water works in that place last Tuesday, the Fourth of July:

A. B. P. M. the day brightened, the sun shone and the hills gleamed. A few rays of sun later and Central Avenue witnessed a scene seldom presented. The street from

Sixth to Front was crowded with men, women and children, of all ages, witnessing the simultaneous uprising, to a height above our three-story buildings, of six streams of water, requiring five stout firemen to hold each of the nozzles. The stream on the corner of Fourth street was over a 100 feet in height, with a pressure of 100 pounds. The streams were from the hydrants at the intersection of Front, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth streets, with Central Avenue. Engine Co. No. 1 handled the hose on Front and Second; No. 2 on Third and Fourth, and the Independents (No. 3) on Fifth and Sixth.

The pressure first applied was 90, increased to 95 and 100 and, for five minutes, to 110. During this five minutes the pipe (6 in.) burst on corner of Second and Dove and upon Robin near Dr. Smith's. But twenty minutes afterwards, with water enough running to waste to run three saw mills, the Holly machinery proved itself capable of throwing the six streams and of pumping from the lake at the rate of three million gallons of water in 24 hours. (The works were made for two million gallons only in 24 hours.) After more than an hours display Engine Co. No. 1 attached 50 feet of hose to their well tried engine with suction from the old reservoir independent of the Holly supply, and threw three streams of water over the *Advertiser* and *Union* office from the west corner of Second and Center Streets. The stream was higher than the Holly streams, excepting that on Fourth Street, but differed entirely in the time of duration. The Holly stream is incessant, while that of Engine No. 1, worked by even such well trained firemen as those who managed it, with a Baker to give the command, was of necessity intermittent. The difference is that of unaided human endurance contrasted with the power of steam. The most satisfactory streams were from the spray nozzle—a nozzle allowing of a direct stream and also simultaneous throwing out water in the form of spray diffused over a surface of several rods. For drawing smoke out of a room no steam is more effective. Engine No. 1, will be for sale after the Holly is in full operation, and the purchasers will have in it the only engine of its capacity that has showed to such advantage in contrast with the Holly.

The Holly was worked by Messrs. A. P. and Carlos Holly. The rotary pumps were dispensed with, the four domestic pumps being only used; also but one boiler. The display was not a test: The rest of the pipe, however, to be laid at once by Mr. C. E. Hequembourg, who has the contract, will, with that already laid, be subjected to a pressure of 175 lbs. which will be kept up until every defective length is broken and properly replaced, when Dunkirk will then have beyond question in the Holly Water Works all it can ask for. In fact, the Holly Co. have raised their price \$8,000 above what Dunkirk pays for machinery like that here introduced.