

WATER-COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

To the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Middletown: The undersigned Board of Water Commissioners beg leave to report as follows:—

Since making our last annual report to your honorable body, we have finished what is called the New Extension Works, that is, the pipe and pumps connecting our reservoir with the Shawangunk Kill. On testing the works, we had no difficulty in sending the water through the pipes, but found the water wheel too small, or the gearing too low, to furnish the daily amount of water guaranteed by the makers of the pumps. The Commissioners believe the wheel is too small; while the makers state that there is simply a mistake in the gearing. But, in either case, they are willing to correct the error, and make the pumps and works all that the contract calls for, and by mutual consent are waiting pleasant weather to finish up the works.

The increase of water in the reservoir has rendered it unnecessary to be at the expense of doing it in the winter. As soon as the weather is warm and settled, we propose to have the matter corrected and a thorough test made, when, we have not the least doubt, the works will be found all that the guarantee calls for.

We are pleased to report that the increased use of the water, and the consequent increase of revenue, being \$1,002.87 more than last year, show that our works will not only pay for themselves and be self-supporting, but that, in a few years, we shall be able, without further appropriation or tax upon the citizens, to extend our pipes so that all within the limits of the corporation may enjoy the benefits of the water.

Considering the continually increasing use of the water, and the consequent decreased pressure in the pipes rendering the water less useful for fire purposes, the Commissioners would call the attention of and cannot too strongly urge upon the Trustees the importance of laying another main pipe from the reservoir, to connect with the pipes in or near the village. The importance of this improvement has several times been agitated in our Board, and the Commissioners have long seen the danger of relying on the present main. Should it by any means become disabled, it would leave the village totally at the mercy of fire; it therefore becomes a serious question, whether it is safe to tolerate so great a risk as this in protecting the property of the village from an extensive conflagration by limiting the entire quantity of water supplying the village to pass through a single line of pipe. Considering the swampy nature of the ground through which our main is laid for a considerable distance, it is liable at any time to break, from which disastrous consequences might ensue.

Our report shows a balance on hand of \$7,705.22 the same being the proceeds of bonds sold of the last issue. Their remains yet unsettled claims against us for the extension of the Water Works, which will nearly or quite use up this amount.

In order to meet the current expenses and pay the interest on the bonds for the coming year, we would respectfully ask your honorable body to add to the tax levy, Twenty-Five Hundred Dollars for the above use.

While our report shows a deficiency of \$3,003.71 on interest and current expenses, we think the amount asked for will be sufficient, considering the natural increase of water rents.

For receipts and disbursements see statement annexed.

E. M. MADDEN,
U. T. HAYES,
JOSHUA DRAPER } Water Com's.
J. M. MATTHEWS,
JAS. B. HULSE,

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, 1873	\$ 22 14
Village appropriation for 1873.....	2500 00
Water rents to date.....	7707 84
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	\$10229 98

DISBURSEMENTS.

Repairs acc't	311 76
Expenses.....	843 29
Interest on bonds	9551 50
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	\$10706 55

EXTENSION WATER WORKS.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand, 1873.....	\$7464 81
Bonds sold at par	30000 00
Accrued interest on same.....	427 90
Rebate on freights from E. R. W.....	1542 80
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	\$39435 51

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid real estate account.....	\$232 68
Canal and pump-house account	215 60
Trenching and pipe-laying	9131 87
Wood pipe account.....	15770 20
Extension expense account	108 01
Pumps and machinery on account....	5248 05
Freight account	463 31
Interest J. W. Ostram	84 00
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	\$31253 72

RECAPITULATION.

Cr. receipts old works.....	\$10229 98
Dr. disbursements do.	10706 55
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Dr. Balance	\$476 57
Cr. Receipts extension.....	\$39435 51
Dr. Disbursements "	31253 72
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	\$ 8181 79
Balances, Cr.	\$8,181 79
" Dr.	476 59
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Balance	\$ 7705 22