

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.

The city of Rochester (N. Y.) is one of the most flourishing and attractive towns in the interior of the country. It is located on both sides of the Genesee river, but seven miles from its entrance into Lake Ontario. The Genesee river affords unlimited water power, full advantage of which has been taken by the inhabitants, especially in the department of flour manufacture, the flouring mills being perhaps the most extensive of their kind in the United States. The 22 mills which were in operation in 1860 had a capacity for producing over 7000 barrels a day. The town was settled in 1812, and was incorporated as a city in 1834. Its rapid progress in all the elements of prosperity is indicated by its great increase in population, which in 1860 amounted to 48,000, and in 1865 to about 80,000. The Water Works Company of the city, which keep even pace with the other institutions of the city, have thrown a limited amount of their first mortgage seven per cent. bonds upon the Philadelphia market. These reliable and profitable securities may be obtained of Glendenning & Davis, the agents in this city, at No. 48 S. Third street, at the low rate of 87½ per cent., with the accrued interest from the first of July last. The interest is payable semi-annually, in January and July, and altogether the bonds present one of the most desirable investments now obtainable. In this connection, the following correspondence is of interest:—

Mr. A. H. Nicolay wrote, July 28, 1868, to John Williams, Esq., President of the ROCHESTER WATER WORKS COMPANY, desiring to know the condition of the Water Works of that city, also to ascertain the time when the company contemplated introducing the water in the City of Rochester, to which he received the following reply, together with a long report of the Chief Engineer of the Company, under whose direction the works are being constructed, giving an explicit and interesting account in detail of the enterprise, and furnishing information worthy of perusal, a copy of which is herewith attached.

ROCHESTER, August 3, 1868.

Mr. A. H. Nicolay—Sir:—Yours asking information respecting the Rochester Water Works Company, was received a few days since.

Having been confined to my house by sickness for the past two months, I could not answer you as fully as desired. I, therefore, addressed the Chief Engineer in charge, requesting him to give me a full statement, which I send herewith, and have every reason to believe the report to be a correct statement of the work.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN WILLIAMS,
President Rochester Water Works Co.

Chief Engineer's Report.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., July 31, 1868.

John Williams, Esq., President Rochester Water Works Company—Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request, and in accordance with the letter of Mr. Nicolay, of New York, which you have handed me, I beg to submit the following report on the present condition of the work:—

At the commencement of the undertaking, it was confidently believed that the works would be so far completed as to let on the water by the first or about the middle of the present month; but, notwithstanding it has been pushed forward with great energy and judicious management, many impediments have been met with, and causes herein explained have presented themselves, delaying the completion of the work. Legislation has been necessary in order to render the securities of the company unquestionably safe. The corporation has existed since 1852; the parties interested deemed it advisable to have every act (including the contract for building the work) legalized by the Legislature up to the present time. This has been done.

Considerable trouble has presented itself in procuring the rights of way, in consequence of the belief among the farmers, agitated by mill owners on the stream of supply, that the mills would be deprived of water. All this trouble has been obviated by the decision to go nine or ten miles nearer the Hemlock Lake, and by the location of the large reservoir near Richmond Mills, which comprises an area of fifty acres, and will hold when completed, and independent of the reservoir at East Henrietta (twenty acres in extent), a sufficient supply for the city of Rochester for the whole dry season.

It is the intention to store water in these reservoirs when the water in the lake is abundant (and the mills are even endangered by the swollen stream), for use in the dry season, when it would interfere with the working of the many mills on the line to take the supply from the outlet.

Since this plan has been adopted, mill owners and farmers are giving every facility to the prosecution of the work. The great obstacle to an amicable adjustment of rights of way has been removed; the vexed question of interfering with the rights of mill owners, which has done more than anything else to retard the work in its early history, is entirely and satisfactorily adjusted; and by taking the water in all its purity from the gravelly outlet of Hemlock Lake, the only prejudice the citizens of Rochester have had to the water is most agreeably dispelled; and when it becomes generally known that the company will get the supply from the lake, the fact will operate most beneficially on the securities and public confidence in the character of the work.

The foregoing will fully explain the reason why the water is not to be introduced as soon as has been expected.

As concerns the mechanical construction of the work, notwithstanding it was required to be completed in July, and every means which energy and money could command have been actively used, it has been impossible, in my opinion, to push the work to a more advanced state than it is at present in.

Large quantities of materials have had to be procured; machinery for erecting pipe had to be erected, in order to make even a proper commencement to so large an undertaking; laborers have been extremely scarce during the whole season, notwithstanding the contractor has procured men from New York and other places at different times, and is paying twenty-five cents per day higher wages than is paid on any other work; notwithstanding those difficulties, the constant importation of emigrants from New York, has kept up a very large force, and the work has progressed with great rapidity. After the completion of haying and harvesting, there will be a great increase in the force employed upon the work, and the latter part of the work will be completed with despatch.

The work may be included in the following divisions, viz:—The distributing pipe in the city; the distributing reservoir near the city line, the Henrietta Reservoir, seven and a-half miles from the city; the storing reservoir near Richmond Mills; the supply main, seven and a-half miles from the city to the Henrietta Reservoir, of sixteen miles from the Henrietta Reservoir to the storing reservoir, and one-half mile from the storing reservoir to the source.

There are about ten miles of cast-iron pipe laid in the streets of the city, and a considerable quantity of pipe now on hand, ready to be laid. The pipe laid includes all the most difficult part of the work; the sixteen inch cast-iron main under the bed of the Genesee River is laid in a trench blasted out of the solid rock, and re-filled, to preclude the possibility of damage to the pipe under any circumstances. Cast-iron pipe mains have been laid under the canals at all the necessary crossings.

Of the conduit pipe, from the city to the Henrietta Reservoir, between two and three miles are laid and covered up, and the trench has been excavated the whole distance, ready to receive the pipe which is now being supplied at the rate of four miles per month.

The Henrietta Reservoir comprises twenty acres of land, on a clay and hard pan soil; the banks are of this material, ninety-five feet thick at the base, and twenty-two feet high; have stood the storms and weather of the fall, winter, and spring, without showing any damage whatever. This work was interrupted by the early winter frosts or it would have been

completed with the force then employed, in about two weeks.

Of the sixteen miles of conduit pipe to be laid south of the Henrietta Reservoir, and to connect with the storing reservoir at Richmond Mills, about four miles are laid and being covered up. A large force is at work opening the trenches, and a quantity of pipe is ready to be laid. This work was progressing before harvest time, at the rate of three miles per month.

Another pipe factory is being established at Richmond Mills, and when harvest is over and laborers plenty, extra force will be put at work on the different sections, so as to ensure a completion of the work at the earliest possible time.

The large reservoir at Richmond Mills will be completed simultaneously with the other work.

Considering the extensive preparations made, the facilities for prosecuting the work, the prospect of a large influx of laborers after harvest, and the quantity of material provided, I have every reason to expect that the work will be ready for the introduction of water into the city during the early part of November.

This work, when completed, will be of a character unsurpassed by any water works in the country. Rochester, with a population of 70,000, and fast increasing, is on a limestone formation, and, consequently, has none but hard water. Many portions of the city are out of the reach of the river and canals, and when fires occur are entirely unprotected, so much so, that in many places insurances cannot be effected without difficulty. Along the line of the pipe the farmers and villages have been almost without water for the last two summers, except what they have hauled from long distances in barrels, wells having become dry. On the whole route of the supply pipe through the country, the inhabitants will generally become water-takers.

These works will cost but little to operate them, the water being supplied and distributed by gravitation, with an abundance beyond a question or contingency, of very excellent soft water (see analysis of waters in accompanying report), from a source one hundred and seventy feet above the distributing reservoir, which is one hundred feet above the city of Rochester.

From a careful enumeration of the uses which will be made of this water in the city, and the villages and farms through which the pipe passes, it is estimated that the rental from these works will not be less than \$160,000 yearly. Accompanying is my report, made in 1860.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) DANIEL MARSH,
Chief Engineer R. W. W.

CITY ITEMS.

BARGAINS offered in Summer Clothing and in Summer Goods made to order, to close out stock. Assortment still good, but being rapidly closed out. All prices guaranteed lower than the lowest elsewhere, and full satisfaction guaranteed to every purchaser, or the sale cancelled and money refunded.

Half-way between } BENNETT & Co.,
Fifth and } TOWER HALL,
Sixth streets. } 518 MARKET ST.,
PHILADELPHIA,
AND 600 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

CINCINNATI, AUG. 28, 1868.

MESSES. S. M. PETTINGILL & Co., No. 37 Park row, New York, and No. 19 State street, Boston, are our agents for the East, and specially authorized to contract for advertising in "The Commercial" at our lowest cash rates.

Eastern houses desirous of advertising in "The Commercial" are requested to contract through them.

M. HALSTEAD & Co., Proprietors "Commercial."

JEWELRY.—Mr. William W. Cassidy, No. 12 South Second street, has the largest and most attractive assortment of fine jewelry and silverware in the city. Purchasers can rely upon obtaining a real, pure article furnished at a price which cannot be equalled. He also has a large stock of American watches in all varieties and at all prices. A visit to his store is sure to result in pleasure and profit.

CHARLES STOKES & Co., Charles Stokes & Co.,
To buy your Clothing surely go.
Charles Stokes & Co., Charles Stokes & Co.,
Clothes well made—prices low.
Stokes' First-class Clothing Store,
In Chesnut street, 824.

DRINK the famous Arctic Soda Water, and read THE EVENING TELEGRAPH, at Hillman's News Stand, at North Pennsylvania Depot.

FINE CUSTOM-MADE BOOTS AND SHOES for Gentlemen. Bartlett, No. 33 South Sixth street, above Chesnut.

GROVER & BAKER'S Highest Premium Sewing Machines, No. 730 Chesnut street.

IF YOU WISH for fine reading matter, pay a visit to No. 107 S. Third street; you can there choose from a large and varied stock. All manner of pictorials, magazines, news journals, fashion plates, semi-monthlies, novelettes, nick naxs, and light or standard works will be found upon the shelves. Mr. Trenwith, the proprietor, has effected an arrangement whereby he furnishes his patrons with the New York journals several hours before the regular mails arrive.

AUTUMNAL ATTIRE

FOR

GENTLEMEN AND JUVENILES.
WANAMAKER & BROWN.

MARRIED.

EMERY—SIMMONDS.—August 18, 1868, by the Rev. A. Loderback, Mr. BENJAMIN G. EMERY to Miss ELIZA D. SIMMONDS, all of this city.

KIGER—BECHTEL.—On the 27th of August, at the residence of Mr. George Straughn, near Sharptown, N. J., by Rev. E. C. Hancock, Mr. ELWOOD E. KIGER, of Manning, N. J., to Miss EMILY BECHTEL, of Philadelphia.

DIED.

BASTIAN.—On the 27th ultimo, JOHN BASTIAN, aged 78 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary Bastian, No. 417 Catherine street, on Friday morning at 8 o'clock. Services at St. Philip de Neri Church. Interment at St. John's Vault, South Thirteenth street.

COOK.—On the 2d instant, ADDIE, infant daughter of Robert and Fanny Cook, aged 11 months.

Funeral from the parents' residence, No. 1824 Arch street, on Friday morning, the 4th instant, at 11 o'clock. To proceed to Laurel Hill.

HAMILTON.—On the 2d instant, WILLIAM HAMILTON, in the 77th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from the residence of his son, John Hamilton, N. W. corner of Seventeenth and Lombard streets, on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. To proceed to Mt. Moriah Cemetery.

JOHNS.—Suddenly, on the 31st of August, ANNA B., in the 17th, and HANNAH M., in the 12th year of her age, daughters of Thomas B. and Adelaide S. Johns.

Funeral from their father's residence, near New Egypt, W. J., on Friday morning, September 4, at 10½ o'clock.

WILSON.—On the 2d instant, at South Camden, Captain James Wilson, aged 56 years.

The relatives and friends of the family, Solomon Lodge, No. 114, A. Y. M.; Mount Moriah Masonic Mutual Association, and Masonic Relief A., No. 4; Lafayette Lodge, No. 18, I. O. of O. F.; Siloam Encampment, I. O. of O. F.; S. B. H. K. A.; also Captains and Merchants of Philadelphia, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, Fourth street, above Walnut, South Camden, on Sunday afternoon, the 8th instant, at 1 o'clock. To proceed to Odd Fellows' Cemetery.

AMERICAN

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Of Philadelphia.

S. E. Corner Fourth and Walnut Streets.