

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**Of the Watering Committee,**

To the Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia.

Read January 13, 1825.

THE WATERING COMMITTEE respectfully present their Annual Report and Accounts.

It will appear, by the Report of last year, that there was appropriated for laying Iron Pipes for 1824, the sum of \$42,040 32 Of which there was expended, \$38,475 75

Leaving unexpended, \$3,564 57

By a Resolution of Councils on the 16th. of September last, the Watering Committee were authorized to contract for such iron pipes as they might deem necessary for 1825, not exceeding in amount twenty thousand dollars. They have accordingly contracted for 480 pipes of 12 inches, 206 pipes of 10 inches, 52 pipes of 6 inches, and 110 pipes of 4 inches diameter, amounting to \$14,500 00 And the expenses of lead, laying, &c. will amount to 7,250 00

Being together \$21,750 00

From which, deducting the sum unexpended, as above stated, 3,565 00

There remains to be provided, \$18,185 00

which the committee recommend should be raised by loan; and they herewith offer the draft of an Ordinance accordingly.

The amount expended for distribution, for raising water, for work upon the dam and canal, purchase of surplus water power, salaries, &c. &c. was \$40,790 01

For which there was appropriated, \$12,000 00

And also by ordinance of 3d. June, 1824, for purchase of water power, 26,000 00

38,000 00

Showing an excess of expenditure of \$2,790 01 the cause of which will be explained, in a subsequent part of this Report.

To meet this excess, and the amount estimated for raising water, distribution, &c. for the year 1825, there is in the Treasury, arising from water rents of 1824, the sum of \$25,135 29

Paid into the Treasury by the Superintendent, for rent of old engine house, and articles sold, 843 08

Also paid into the Treasury by the Register, for repaving over private pipes, 569 00

For water rents in advance for 1824, and for permits, 869 91

1,438 91

Amounting together to \$27,417 28

Applicable to the payment of the above mentioned excess of \$2,790 01

And also to amount estimated for 1825, per Account No. 5, 14,147 89

\$16,937 90

Leaving a surplus of \$10,479 38

to go in aid of the other City Funds, in lieu of taxes.

The sum remaining unexpended for damages for overflowing ground, as appears by last report, was \$9,636 09

Of which there was expended, 2,943 18

Leaving for this object, \$6,692 91

It will be seen that the appropriations have exceeded the expenditures, except for Fair Mount Works, which has exceeded the appropriation by \$2,790 01, arising from a desire on the part of the Committee to strengthen the Dam by a plentiful banking of earth and small stones, and at the same time adding to its tightness, upon which depends its value. The Committee believe they have succeeded in this object, and that not much remains to be done.—The quantity of material, deposited was about ten thousand cubic yards, principally in the deepest water, and raised above the over fall of the Dam, which has afforded a fair opportunity of ascertaining its tightness. Some further backing towards the western end, will yet be required.

Another cause of the excess was contingent on the purchase of the whole Water Power of the River, and the delivery to the City of the Canals and Locks opposite Fair Mount. As soon as possession was taken, it was found that owing to the peculiar location of the lower end of the Canal, and the want of a sufficient bank on the west side, a very considerable quantity of earth had been washed in and choked the mouth, which it was necessary to remove, and to extend the bank about 110 feet further south; this has been done, and the Committee believe it will be efficual.

When the present lock-gates were put in, they were done according to the examples before us at other works; but the plan is found to be defective: besides which, a great waste of water takes place from the wickets in the present form, an object of great importance to the City, now possessing all the water power. It has therefore been found indispensable to put in new gates, the timber for which is contracted for, and partly delivered; the estimate for which, and the backing, and other work relating to the new purchase, will be found in the estimates of the present year. The truest economy will be found in doing the work substantially at first: this is fully exemplified by the New Mills and Works, which have been in operation for upwards of two years, without requiring, or appearing to require for a long time to come, any repairs whatever.

It will be seen by the Accounts, that the annual cost of working the wheels and pumps falls short of the estimate, the expenses being only three dollars and seventy cents per day, for which, in case it should be required, four millions of gallons of water can be raised, and increased to three times that quantity without doubling the expenditure.

On the score of damages, the Committee have little to add to their Annual Report of last year. A very material claim of eighteen thousand dollars for the Bridge at the Falls, was determined in favour of the City, in February last.

Although a greater extent of Iron Pipes has been laid during the past year than was estimated for, yet, owing to the decrease in the price of pipes, and the expense of laying, arising from a regular system,

There is an excess of \$3,564 57

To which may be added the excess of the stock of pipes, stop-cocks, &c. on hand, beyond the quantity at the end of the year 1824, amounting to 2,501 55

Making a total of 6,066 12

The new contract for iron pipes, authorized by Councils on the 16th. of September last, has been made on terms still more favourable than the last; and as a very material advance has taken place abroad on the price of iron, it may be considered fortunate that the opportunity was seized to procure this contract, which is already well forward in its execution.

The quantity of Iron Pipes laid in 1824 was 20,500 feet, and of wooden pipes 1055 feet, besides 2017 feet of wooden pipes used in repairs, which the Committee are happy to say is very little more than one-half the quantity used in repairs in 1823, which may be attributed to the laying of iron pipes in lieu of the wooden pipes, in the most defective parts. The wooden pipes laid in new situations have been put down only where there was no pavement, or where it is intended to lay a main, the expense of which for

a short distance at the present moment would do away all the benefit derived by the city from a sale of so limited a quantity of water. The whole quantity of iron main and pipes laid, to the present period, is in extent upwards of thirteen miles.

Agreeable to the Ordinance of 3d. June, 1824, the purchase of the whole Water Power of the River Schuylkill at Fair Mount was made from the Navigation Company. The value of this property it is difficult to estimate, but it is unquestionably of great importance to the City, and by proper employment may be made essentially beneficial to the City revenue. The sale of it to manufacturers, to be used on the Schuylkill, is one mode which will be advantageous; and another has been suggested, of supplying a Canal from the Schuylkill to the Delaware.—Both these objects may be accomplished: but, without a more extensive knowledge than the Committee at present possess, they do not venture to express any opinion upon the best mode of employing it. The Committee have already looked into the subject, and propose to make further inquiries, so as to enable them fully to report to Councils for their decision, should Councils approve of their doing so; they herewith offer a Resolution on the subject.

The purchase of the ground next east of the Reservoir, with certain privileges, from Messrs. Biddle, Nixon and Williams, has been completed, agreeably to the Ordinance of the 3d. of June last. With a view to ascertain precisely the line of this, as well as the former purchases at Fair Mount, it was found necessary to have a complete survey made of the City property, and part of the adjacent grounds, and to place suitable corner-stones: this has been done, and the draft of the survey is herewith exhibited for the inspection of Councils.

The Committee have deemed it prudent to have a new iron shaft cast, to be ready should it be determined to make a new wheel, or in case of accident to either of the old ones. It is a thing which is not to be had without delay, and is so heavy (upwards of five tons) that very few furnaces will or can undertake it: the expense of this will be found in the estimates.

The gradual but certain increase of the Water Rents leads to the pleasing prospect, that they will in a few years, with the addition of what may be sold to adjoining Districts, go very far towards relieving the City from its present taxes. The certain progress of the Sinking Fund will in a few years relieve the City Debt, and at the same time the heavy appropriation for its interest, which amounts to full one-half of the City Taxes. The increase of the Water Rents, during the year 1824, was 1086 dollars 50 cents.

The expectations held out by the Committee to Councils, in previous Reports, as to the effect of the Iron Pipes, and of the new Water-Works, have been fully realized, and after another year's experience; and it may be said with truth, that if the City should require twelve millions of gallons of water, or even more, it can readily be supplied, at an annual expense of less than two thousand five hundred dollars, whilst the same quantity, by the system of steam-engines, would require an annual expenditure of upwards of two hundred thousand dollars.

It may be added, that if the twelve millions of gallons per day should be disposed of at the same rate which the quantity at present taken by the citizens produce, to wit, 27,292 dollars per year, the annual income will be upwards of one hundred and sixty thousand dollars.

By order of the Watering Committee.

JOSEPH S. LEWIS, Chairman.

Philadelphia, January 5, 1825.

List of the Members of the different Committees appointed by Councils to manage the construction of the New Water Works.

1819.	1822.
Joseph S. Lewis,	Joseph S. Lewis,
William Rush,	William Rush,
John Moore,	Anthony Cuthbert,
Joseph Watson,	Thomas Hale,
John Miller, Jr.	John Miller, Jr.
John McCauley,	John Markland,
Samuel Williams,	Benjamin Jones, Jr.
Francis G. Smith.	Thomas Williams.
1820.	1823.
Joseph S. Lewis,	Joseph S. Lewis,
William Rush,	William Rush,
Anthony Cuthbert,	Anthony Cuthbert,
Joseph Watson,	Thomas Hale,
Thomas Harper,	Benjamin Jones, Jr.
Joseph Burden,	Thomas Williams,
Samuel Jackson,	John Markland,
Michael Fox.	Ephraim Haines.
1821.	1824.
Joseph S. Lewis,	Joseph S. Lewis,
William Rush,	William Rush,
Anthony Cuthbert,	Anthony Cuthbert,
Joseph Watson,	Thomas Hale,
John Miller, Jr.	Benjamin Jones, Jr.
Samuel Jackson,	Thomas Williams,
John Markland,	Ephraim Haines,
Benjamin Jones, Jr.	Alexander Purves.

Washington City, January 13.

The bill "to abolish imprisonment for debt," was yesterday rejected in the Senate of the United States, by a majority of three voices. Five members of the Senate were absent on this vote, but it is not supposed that their presence would have varied the result.

There was a vote taken yesterday, in the House of Representatives, which we regard as a favorable augury of the success of the bill for the continuation of the Cumberland Road. We refer to the vote, by a majority of 10, to fill the blank in the bill with the sum of 150,000 dollars.

The House was full, and we consider the vote as almost decisive of the success of the bill.—The vacant places and privileged seats of the Hall were crowded with ladies, and the gallery was filled with the lords of creation, and attracted by the expectation, apparently, of hearing Mr. CLAY speak on the occasion—in which expectation, it will be seen, they were not disappointed.

Among the numerous auditors that crowded the Hall of the House of Representatives yesterday, to hear the speech of Mr. CLAY, we observed General LAFAYETTE and Son. [Nat. Intell.]

From Harrisburgh, January 18.

The following is the result of four ballotings for United States' Senator. The convention stands adjourned for two weeks.

CANDIDATES.	1st.	2d.	3d.	4th.
William Marks,	31	34	35	37
Thomas Burnside,	16	17	19	19
John Sergeant,	20	20	20	24
W. Darlington,	12	12	14	14
S. D. Ingham,	22	21	22	24
James Todd,	11	9	6	3
Molton C. Rogers,	12	14	14	12
David Scott,	4	2	00	00
George B. Porter,	1	00	00	00

Liquorice Paste and Orange Peel.

TWENTY cases prime Liquorice Paste, 3 bales Orange Peel, received per schr. Pilot from Boston. And for sale by E. & C. YARNALL & Co. 1st. mo 20—d No 24 North Front-street.

Some literary analysts should select all the facts, recipes, and prescriptions, useful to man, and condense them into a portable volume.—Locke.

THIS DAY is published, by ABM. SMALL, No. 165 Chesnut-street, Philadelphia, Five Thousand Receipts in all the Useful and Domestic Arts, constituting a complete and universal Practical Library, and Operative Cyclopaedia. By Colin Maekenzie. Jan 20—6t

WANTED,

A YOUNG Woman to assist in the work of a Family. Apply at No. 357 Arch-street. Jan 20 dtd

LOST,

OUT of an entry, a light drab great coat with three capes, and a velvet rolling collar. A reward will be given on restoration of the same to No. 112 South Third-street. Jan 20—1t