

WINCHESTER  
FREDERICK COUNTY

*Historical*  
SOCIETY



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# Winchester Early Water Works

*J. Floyd Wine*

A very aged woman by the name of Mrs. Sperry, who was living at what is now 135 N. Braddock Street<sup>1</sup> informed Samuel Kercheval that when she first saw the place where Winchester now stands, she was 22 years of age, and from her age at the time Kercheval conversed with her (which was in 1809) he found the year in which she first saw Winchester to be in 1738, at which time she stated there were but two small log cabins, and those near the run!<sup>2</sup> The names of the first settlers in this town has not been ascertained but tradition relates that they were German families and that the cabins were built in 1732. The cabins were on opposite sides of Town Run just west of present Loudoun Street. The one on the south side was located in the rear of a lot at 21 South Loudoun Street once the residence of the late George W. Kurtz.<sup>3</sup> A family member who occupied one of the first two log cabins may have been a Molly Wood.<sup>4</sup> Apparently water was drawn for their families from the run which flowed from Town Spring a few blocks west on present Amherst Street.

About 1735 James Wood secured from the Governor and Council of Virginia a tract of land of approximately 1300 acres on the branches of Opequon Creek. On March 9, 1744 James Wood, Clerk of the newly formed Frederick County asked permission of the Justices of the county to dedicate a certain number of lots to be "laid off from the tract of land on which he now dwells at Opequon." The Justices approved this request. Col. Wood laid off a total of 26 numbered lots and four unnumbered lots. These lay between present day Piccadilly Street and Cork Street. All but six of them bordered on present day Loudoun Street and six of them lay on the West Side of Cameron Street.<sup>5</sup>

By 1752 many of the original 26 lots had been purchased and buildings were erected on them. James Wood by this time had reached an agreement with Thomas Lord Fairfax concerning title to his land and later received an official patent from the Proprietor. In 1752 James Wood and Lord Fairfax joined

in a cooperative effort to establish a town. James Wood proposed laying off an additional 18 lots on his land, and Lord Fairfax laid off 36 additional inlots and eighty outlots of approximately five acres each. The Virginia House of Burgesses in February 1752 passed an act complying with their requests and the name of Winchester was officially adopted for the town.<sup>6</sup>

## Town Spring

In 1765 Colonel James Wood's widow gave to her son, James who later became a Brigadier General in the Revolutionary



*Town Spring, Amherst Street  
Circa 1864*

War and subsequently Governor of Virginia, a tract of 570 acres which included Federal Spring now known as Town Spring. He built his home on the summit of the hill then known as Federal Hill.

In 1803, General Wood sold the 570 acres and the house to Lawrence A. Washington and he occupied the house until 1811, when he sold it to Alfred H. Powell, a prominent lawyer.

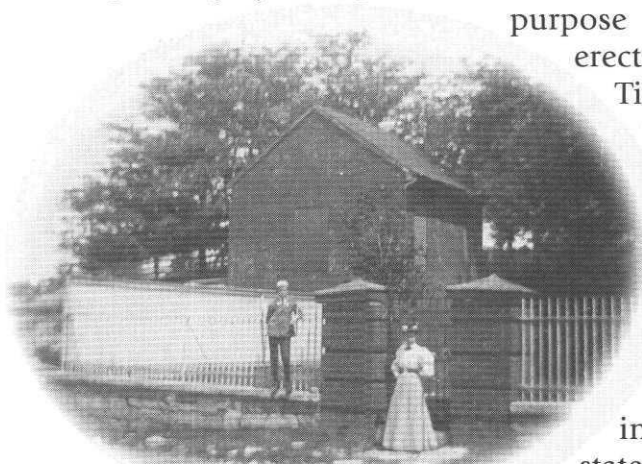
Powell sold it to Joseph Tidball and his son Thomas A. Tidball, then acquired the property and lived there until 1856 when the house and 60 acres were sold to Angus W. McDonald. His family lived there until 1863. The house was used as a hospital in the War between the States and it then passed out of the McDonald family. The property, in 1953, was owned by Dr. and Mrs. E. C. Stuart, Sr.<sup>17</sup>

## An Act

Authorizing the Purchase of Tidball's Spring and For Other Purposes

Whereas it is deemed expedient that the right of property in the spring from which the Town derives its supply of water should be exclusively vested in the Corporation.

Be it enacted that the terms proposed by the proprietor Thomas A. Tidball for the exclusive ownership of said spring in the Corporation be accepted; and that the sum of (\$750) seven hundred and fifty dollars in money be paid him on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November (1835) and that a building of brick eighteen (18) feet square in the clear a single story for the



*Town Spring, Circa 1890  
Amherst Street*

purpose of a dairy be erected on said Tidball's premise to be completed on or before the first day of November next.

A stipulation in the contract stated that "Tidball requires that a neat and commodious house of brick for the purpose of a dairy 18 feet square in the clear a single story, shall be erected by the Corporation in his meadow and provided that the main spring should at any time fail to furnish a competent supply of surplus water for the use of his stock and the ordinary purpose of his family, he, Tidball, reserves to himself the privilege of inserting a leaded pipe of ½ inch calibre in the main spring for that purpose which permission shall cease whenever the usual supply of water shall be reinstated."<sup>8</sup>

Apparently the deed was not immediately executed for the following minutes of Common Council appears five years later on May 23, 1840.

An act providing for the purchase of the exclusive and fee simple right to the spring on the land of Thomas A. Tidball from which the inhabitants of the Corporation are supplied with water.

Whereas it is deemed expedient and important to the interest of the Corporation and convenient to the inhabitants and exclusive rights, and control of the spring from which they derive their supply of water, shall be vested in the Corporation.

Be it enacted by the President and Common Council of the Corporation of Winchester, that William L. Clark, Bushrod Taylor, Daniel Gold, and Jacob Rinker, be a committee to contract for the purchase of the said spring, with the right of ingress egress and regress to and from the same provided the price shall not exceed \$2,250.

A deed was made by Thomas Allen Tidball and Susan W., his wife, on May 15, 1840 conveying to the Mayor (Obed Waite) and commonalty of the Town of Winchester, for the sum of \$2,250 a piece of land including the spring from which the town is supplied with water, the building over the said spring and extending six feet beyond the said building on the North, East, and West sides, the right of ingress and egress on the South side of the spring where the pipes are laid for the purpose of rebuilding or repairing the house over the spring or attending to the cleanliness and preservation of the spring, and for relaying, removing, or repairing the pipes to conduct water to the said town.

Mr. Tidball reserves to himself, his heirs, and his assigns the right to use as much water from the said spring as will pass through a pipe of one-half inch calibre, for the use of his dairy.

Mr. Tidball, also, covenants for himself, his heirs, and his assigns that they will erect no building within thirty feet of the Northern or Western boundaries of the house erected over the spring or do anything in the vicinity of the said spring that would affect the purity of the water.<sup>9</sup>

In 1866, the Council appropriated \$350 for the enclosure of the Town Spring by a substantial stone wall and iron railing on the top.<sup>10</sup>

Richmond, 27<sup>th</sup> Decem., 1794

Dr. Brother

*I received a letter from you in the early part of the Session respecting a proposed Application of the Inhabitants of Winchester for permission to carry the water in pipes to the Town. The application has not been made. When it is I shall answer that if it can be done with the General Consent of the people and without injury to Individuals, I shall not have the least Objection. I shou'd have answered your Letter sooner, but have been disabled in my right hand for some time past by accident, which rendered writing extremely painful. It is now perfectly well, and I am happy to inform you that my health is much better than it has been for more than twelve months past. During that time I had little hopes of ever recovering. However, I am now so well as to conclude I have got a reprieve for a few years to come.*

*Inform my dear and affectionate Mother that I am well in health and happy. This I know will afford her affectionate heart the greatest pleasure. Tell her at the same time that nothing shall prevent my making a trip this winter on purpose to see her.*

I am.

Dr. Brother

Yrs. Affly.

J. Wood<sup>n</sup>

Mr. Robert Wood  
Near Winchester

## Contributors for the Proposed Water Line Notice

PURSUANT to the provisions of an Act passed by the Common Council of Winchester, entitled "An act making provisions for watering the Corporation of Winchester," by such persons respectively into the Treasury of the Corporation, as follows, to wit - one fourth part thereof on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March next, one other fourth part on the first day of June next, one other fourth part on the 1<sup>st</sup> day January next, and the remaining fourth part on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 1804.

	<i>Dollars</i>
Aldred, Michael	.57
Alexander, Wm	.25
Ambler, John	.75
Anderson, Nathan	.35
Appleby, Margt.	.10
Babb, Thomas	.10
Baker, Henry	.100
Baker, Henry W.	.30
Baldwin, Cornelius	.25
Bell, William	.50
Balmain, Alex	.36
Barnett, Lewis	.30
Beatty, Henry	.30
Beelor, Benjamin	.10
Bowen, Richard	.50
Boyd, Sam. Heirs	.10
Brady, John	.75
Brent, Charles	.25
Briscoe, Eliz.	.20
Brown, Isaac	.25
Brown, Jesse	.15
Brown, Thomas	.20
Brown, W. Free Neg.	3
Burke, Isaac	.
Bush, Henry	.44
Bush, Philip	.50
Calvert, Samuel	.30

Carson, Beatty . . . . .	20
Chandlee, Goldsmith . . . . .	30
Chipley, James . . . . .	10
Chisler, Michael . . . . .	5
Churchill, Mrs. . . . .	10
Clarke, Daniel . . . . .	10
Conrad, John heirs . . . . .	25
Copenhaver, John . . . . .	12
Copenhaver, Mich. . . . .	13
Critwell, Sam . . . . .	20
Crockwell, John . . . . .	10
Daugherty, Patrick . . . . .	50
Davison, William . . . . .	70
Dosler, William . . . . .	20
Douglas, Adam . . . . .	75
Dowdall, J. G. . . . .	60
Dromgoole, Mrs. . . . .	5
Duffield, Mary . . . . .	15
Egan, James . . . . .	25
Elliott, Peter . . . . .	10
English, Robert . . . . .	4
Evans, Thomas . . . . .	18
Fry, Christ. Estate . . . . .	5
Galloway, Mar. . . . .	10
Gamble, Joseph . . . . .	26
Gill, Joseph . . . . .	25
Gray, Robert . . . . .	40
Haas, Frederick Sen. . . . .	25
Haymaker, A. Sen. . . . .	5
Haymaker, John . . . . .	6
Henning, J. G. & Co. . . . .	25
Hoff, John . . . . .	5
Hoff, Lewis . . . . .	50
Holliday's large stone . . . . .	
House & Isaac Burke's . . . . .	50
Holliday, James . . . . .	60
Holliday, Jane . . . . .	15
Holliday, William . . . . .	50
Holliday, Wm. M. . . . .	40
Holmes, Hugh . . . . .	75
Holmes, Jos. Heirs . . . . .	30

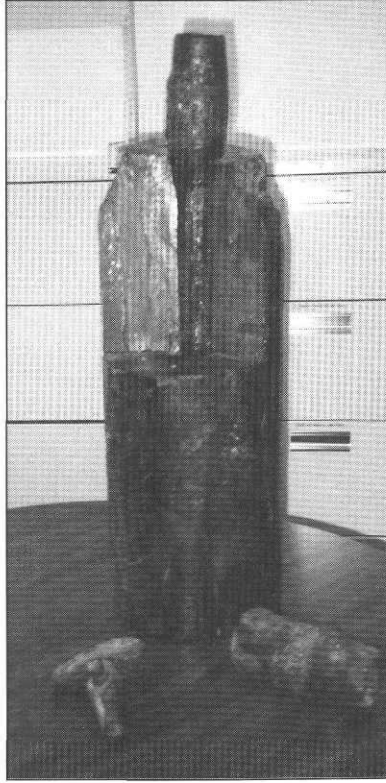


Hooper, Philip . . . . .	50
Kean, Ann . . . . .	40
Keenan, Thomas . . . . .	10
Kehoe, Peter . . . . .	15
Kerlin, Robert . . . . .	10
Kiger, Adam . . . . .	5
Klipstein, Philip . . . . .	15
Kurtz, Adam . . . . .	10
Kurtz, Frederick . . . . .	16
Laubinger, Bar. . . . .	20
Lauck, Abraham . . . . .	30
Lauck, Peter . . . . .	100
Lauck, Simon . . . . .	40
Lentz, John . . . . .	5
Linn, Geo. Estate . . . . .	30
Linn, John . . . . .	30
Little, James . . . . .	10
Long, Thomas . . . . .	5
Lupton, David . . . . .	20
Macky, Robert . . . . .	100
M'Dougal, Cath. . . . .	3
M'Guire, E. Sen. . . . .	60
Meem, Gilbert . . . . .	12
Messmer, Nich. . . . .	32
Miller, Godfrey . . . . .	75
Moore, Henry . . . . .	50
Morgan, Abigail . . . . .	50
Neil, Abraham . . . . .	40
Newbrough, John . . . . .	10
Newby, William . . . . .	20
Newham, James . . . . .	10
Norton, Geo. F. . . . .	25
Overaker, Daniel . . . . .	40
Parkins, Isaac . . . . .	10
Passmore, Joseph . . . . .	10
Peyton, John . . . . .	130
Poe, Jacob . . . . .	20
Powers, Edward . . . . .	15
Pugh, Jesse . . . . .	5
Read, John . . . . .	8
Reed, George . . . . .	30

Reily, Elizabeth	.30
Reily, Michael	.25
Re_ndle, John	.20
Roberdean, Jane	.20
Russell, David	.36
Schultz, John	.25
Senseny, Peter	.25
Seymour, Joseph	5
Sherrard, Robert	.25
Sittler, Isaac	.50
Slater, Edward	.20
Sowers, John Jun.	.40
Sperry, John	.30
Sperry, Nicholas	.15
Swords, William	.20
Tidball, Joseph	.50
Trisler, Geor. Shoe'r	.10
Tucker, Hon. St. G.	.25
V_well, Thomas	.45
Waite, Obed	.50
Walker, Rachael	.30
Wet(zel), Christoph.	.15
White, Robert	.50
Williamson, T. L.	.10
Wolfe, Catherine	.20
Wolfe, John	.20
Wolfe, Lewis	.30
Wood, Robert	.20
Young, Adam	5

To have a plentiful supply of pure wholesome water convenient at all times, is an object so desirable, that it is hoped every person will be punctual in paying his quota towards a work of such importance, and save the expense of collecting the money by an officer on commission.

OBED WAITE, Treasurer.<sup>12</sup>



*The above log is in the Public Utilities  
Department in Rouss City Hall*

## The First Water Line

William Greenway Russell gave the history of the introduction of the water into the town of Winchester in 1808. The authorities of the Corporation contracted with a Dr. Brown to have water brought in by wooden pipes. I cannot tell where the Doctor came from. [the pipes were made by boring a two inch hole in the center of a 10 inch log by means of a horse-driven device. A one inch hole was bored into the side of the log for service connections.]

After the logs were bored, they were joined together by an iron ring some three inches in width, made sharp on each edge and placed in the end of each log, where a circle had been cut for the ring to enter. Then with a heavy maul they would drive the last laid log up, thus bringing the ends of the logs together, and the ring buried half in each log, thus preventing the water from escaping, but some years later they used tubes, which were slightly tapered at each end, which were driven into the log. The latter were the best and least expensive.

The contract was only to bring the water to Loudoun Street, and the citizens were required to open the ditch in front of their property; the Corporation would furnish the logs and lay them down. They were placed in the streets and any person wishing to introduce water to their respective property had to do so at their own expense, and so it progressed until it began to be generally used over the lower part of the town.

In 1826, they used one six-inch iron pipe from the spring to Cameron Street. Then from time to time iron pipes were laid as the wooden ones gave out.

Before the introduction of the wooden pipes, the persons who had no wells in their yards, would have to go in the mornings to where the run comes into Washington Street and get water for cooking and washing. For drinking water they used the well.

“When a boy I had a small wagon, made for me by my father, which had a ten- gallon keg on it. I had to take it to the

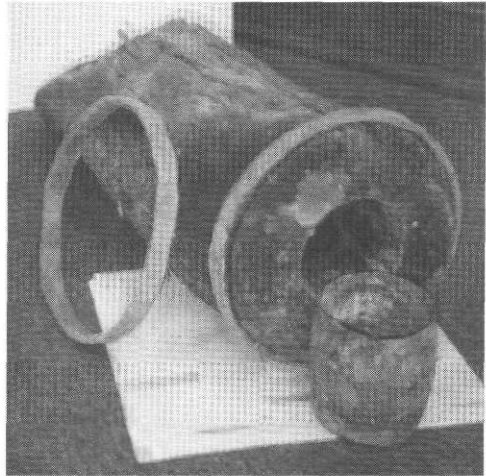
run and fill it every morning for cooking purposes. When the street or road was bad, our older brothers had to go and so we had the happiest days I have ever see."<sup>13</sup>

In May 2004, construction workers making water and sewer improvements, as part of the Town Run Utilities Project, unearthed an 80 foot section of a five inch wooden oak water pipe under Amherst Street near the old Town Spring.

A local newspaper account stated that the pipe with some bark intact was used to carry water eight feet under the city.

William Greenway Russell stated that the original water-line built in 1808, had a two inch hole drilled in the center of a ten inch log. He said that the logs were placed in the streets and citizens were required to open the ditch in front of their property, at their own expense, in order to introduce water into their respective property.

The writer believes that the original line was not placed eight feet under the street, but in successive years that there was a filling in of earth as streets were graded and improved. Mr. Russell wrote that in 1818 the road passed north of the town spring. It is the opinion of the writer that the five inch water line was laid sometime after 1808 as the town residents increased and desired more water than could be supplies through a two inch water line.



*This oak wooden log with a five inch hole in the center, with some bark intact, was unearthed on Amherst Street, in May 2004, by construction workers making water and sewer improvements as part of the Town Run Utilities Project. It was eight feet below the street pavement.*

## Conveying Water in Leaden Pipes

Less than 20 years after the first water line was conveyed in wooden pipes, lead pipes were considered for extensions of the water line. Leave was given Mr. [Issac] Russell to introduce an act to amend an act to convey water in leaden pipes along Washington Street to a point on or near the corner of Wolfe Street and for other purposes. This action was taken in Common Council on October 22, 1822, and again in 1825.

For reason unknown this line was not immediately constructed for another act was passed on October 15, 1842, authorizing Commissioners Jacob Lauck, David Rupell, and James Keene to lay leaden pipes to convey water from Water Street along Washington Street southwardly to the farthest corner of Wolfe Street or near the corner, and to erect a hydrant there. The sum of \$85 was approved provided that the ditch to lay the pipe to be opened and closed at the expense of any person or persons interested in having the water conveyed.

Council also approved laying a leaden pipe from the hydrant at the corner of Piccadilly and Kent Streets to some point on Kent Street near Fairfax Lane and to erect a hydrant there. Authorization, also, was given to lay a leaden pipe from the hydrant at the corner of Market and Clifford to a point near the residence of George Hoover on Clifford Street and to erect a hydrant there.<sup>14</sup>

Three years later, in 1845, George W. Ginn was given permission to erect a private hydrant for the use of his foundry on his lot on Market Street and to lay a leaden pipe which shall not exceed ½ inch in diameter.<sup>15</sup>

The following day Smithfield Lane was given permission to be supplied with water by attaching a leaden pipe of one inch caliber to the public pipe of the Corporation for the purpose of furnishing their locomotive engines and workshop with the necessary quantity of water and every year on the first day of August to pay the Corporation the sum of \$60. Failure to pay this sum will result in the severing of the pipe which supplies it.<sup>16</sup>

Lead pipes continued to be used until about 1848 when, in some sections of the Corporation, they were replaced with iron pipes. The discontinuance of using lead pipes was not due to any known health hazard but to the manner in which they were constructed. Lead pipes were made in a horizontal position and the hot lead congregated at the bottom leaving the wall of the pipe without uniform thickness. The top of the pipe was thinner than the bottom, which made it more susceptible to puncture or rupture.

## Iron Pipes

R. H. Lemmon in his article on "Modern Water Supply for Historic Winchester" states that "in 1808 ...Winchester was the first town in the United States to lay pipe lines for its public water" ... and, "in 1826 the first cast iron pipe was used." The Common Council considered laying iron pipes at that time but on September 11, 1827, rescinded that action and passed the following minute... "Whereas it is deemed expedient for various reasons to substitute cast iron pipes for conveying the water to the Corporation, instead of those now in use. ...Be it further enacted ...that John Heiskel, Alexander Tidball, John Bell, William S. Clark, and Henry M. Brant be a Committee to contract for the purchase and conveyance ...a sufficient quantity of iron pipes for the purpose of conveying the water from the spring now owned by Thomas A. Tidball to the Corporation through various streets that are now supplied by the pipes already in use.

"The said iron pipes to be of the following dimensions: viz the main pipe from the spring to the jail to be six inches in diameter, those for Loudoun Street to be three inches and those to be laid on other streets to be 1<sup>1/2</sup> inches in diameter and those to be used for conveying water from the several pipes to the public hydrants to be two inches in diameter, provided that the said Commissioners shall first purchase and lay the main pipe from the spring to the jail, and provided also that the Commissioners be restrained from making any further contract or engagement until the said pipe so laid . . . shall in the estimation be sufficiently tested" before proceeding to purchase and lay the other pipes. The Common Council voted to borrow \$10,000 to defray the expense of purchasing, transporting, and laying the said iron pipes.<sup>17</sup>

This order was not immediately executed for on February 7, 1829 the following statement appears in the Order Book – “Whereas the measure about to be taken by the authority of the Common Council for obtaining cast iron pipes with a view to remedy the injury and inconvenience under which certain portions of the inhabitants ...have for a long time labored on account of the decayed state of the wooden pipes at present use...” This indicates that the first iron pipe was not installed in 1826 but probably in 1829 or 1830.

More than 20 years later on September 3, 1853, Common Council ordered that \$4,000 be appropriated to lay an additional iron pipe of six inch caliber from the Town Spring to Cameron Street. This action was amended on April 10, 1856, when the Council voted to appropriate \$5,000 for the purchase and laying down an additional iron pipe of six inch caliber from Town Spring to Cameron Street.<sup>20</sup>

After the laying of the second pipe one of them was connected to the North and one to the South end of town. The iron pipes proved satisfactory and were used in extension of service to new parts of town and gradually replaced all leaden pipes.

## **Salaries of Superintendent of Water Works and Other Winchester Employees**

### *Annual Salaries for Year Ending June 1, 1836*

Superintendent of Water Works	\$75
Clerk of Common Council	\$65
Superintendent of Police	\$75
Sergeant for notifying and attending Common Council	\$75
Lamplighter	\$50

### *Annual Salaries for Year Ending May 31, 1846*

John H. Nulton, Superintendent of Water Works	\$ 50
William L. Bent, Clerk of Court	\$100
Robert J. Crockwell, Sergeant at Arms	\$ 50
John Parker, Clerk of the Market	\$100



Jacob Horner, Superintendent of Police	\$ 66
John S. Gallager, Publisher of <i>The Republican</i> for publishing the Laws and Proceeding of the Common Council and the Official notices of the Officers of the Council and their committees	\$ 20
John C. Bowyer, publisher of <i>The Virginian for the same service.</i>	\$ 20
Lewis Lindsay, Treasurer	\$150
R. J. W. Polk, Superintendent of the Town Clock	\$ 40
George B. Graves, Commissioner of Revenue for taking list of dogs	\$ 20

## Wells

T. K. Cartmell, in his book *Shenandoah Valley Pioneers and Their Descendants*, mentions that the village of Winchester had abundant water for the first half century of its existence drawn from numerous springs and wells. Drawing water from springs became objectionable due to hogs running at large fouling their water, flood waters, and lack of proper drainage.

He states that several public wells were sunk by order of the court. I have researched the early order books and other records but have not yet found information regarding court orders or dates when the wells were dug. Cartmell mentions the location of five wells – one called the Helphenstine well near the old John Kerr School, and one was on a vacant lot south of the old jail – this well was on a lot of J. V. Arthur, Insurance Company known as 31 E. Piccadilly Street just west of Loudoun Street then known as Dunbar's Corner. The fourth public well was near the old wagon yard between Braddock and Loudoun Streets, south of the Town Run. A private well was near some law offices due north of Market Square. Then there was the famous well at Fort Loudoun sunk by soldiers in 1756 to a depth of 103 feet through solid limestone rock.<sup>19</sup>

## Reservoirs and Cisterns

Common Council in 1843 appointed a Committee consisting of a Mr. Baker, Mr. Rupel, Mr. Shearer, and Mr. Gold to report the probable expense of erecting three Reservoirs, one on Cameron Street near the new jail, one on Loudoun Street near Peter Miller's residence, and one on Braddock Street at Monmouth near Joseph L. Carson's residence for the purpose of giving a more abundant supply of water to the inhabitants of that part of town, particularly in case of fire.<sup>20</sup>

Seven years later, in 1850, the Council made an appropriation of \$394, in addition to the \$400 made on October 10, 1845, for each of two Reservoirs to be constructed, one in the Southern and one in the Northern part of town.<sup>21</sup>

The one in the Southern part was built a short time later as in 1852 Council approved \$200 for the purpose of raising the water level eight feet and to cover the same with a tin roof.<sup>22</sup>

The construction of Cisterns was discussed several times by members of Common Council and in 1839 they voted to extend the water line from the farthest end of Cameron Street to the farthest end of Monmouth Street and to construct a Cistern and a pump on Cecil Street and one on Monmouth Street.<sup>23</sup>

The proposed construction of a public cistern near the jail passed in 1844, and discussed again in 1848, was tabled by action of Common Council.

A public cistern was constructed on east Cork Street, for Jacob Senseney in 1858 asked permission of the council at his own expense to conduct water from the cistern where it now stands at the end of Cork Street by pipes to a point at or near his dwelling and to be placed upon the same footing as with owners of Private Hydrants within the corporation. Mr. Senseney lived at what is now 315 East Cork Street.<sup>24</sup>

## Water for Fire Control

The Common Council, in 1846, appropriated \$40 for the purpose of constructing gates in the Town Run in Cameron, Loudoun, Braddock, and Washington Streets to afford a supply of water in case of fire.<sup>25</sup>

A committee composed of Messers. Carson, Jackson, and Legg were appointed in 1856 to inquire into the expedience of laying a pipe from the fire (bay) west of Mr. Stackhouse's dam to connect with the main water pipes, at the nearest point, to afford a greater supply of water in case of fire.<sup>26</sup>

Three iron cases for fire plugs were purchased in 1858 at the cost of \$100. Eight years later an additional \$175 was approved for the above named project.<sup>27</sup>

The Committee on Fire Apparatus was instructed, in 1868, to place in Town Run, at suitable points, boxes for the purpose of affording a supply of water to the suction engines.<sup>28</sup>

The Superintendent of Water Works, in 1842, was directed to place a fire plug at or near the corner of Braddock and Amherst Streets.<sup>29</sup>

## Water Taxes

Some water taxes enacted during the period of 1840 to 1870 are:

Driver pens having hydrants on their property within the limits of this Corporation and draw water from the public pipes shall pay annually \$10.<sup>30</sup>

On all shower baths connected with the public pipes \$3, on all shower baths not connected to public pipes \$1. On all persons residing out of the Corporation \$10 for the use of water for bathing tub and for a shower or chamber both \$5. On every private hydrant or pump ...for watering horses for a livery stable \$10.<sup>31</sup>

When more than one family occupies the same dwelling where a private hydrant has been introduced, each additional family so using water from a private or public hydrant shall pay fifty cents water tax.<sup>32</sup>

On every private hydrant or pump used to supply a main with water for ordinary purposes \$2 per annum if but one spigot be used, and one dollar per annum for each additional spigot, and where a tenant in which there is a private hydrant or pump is occupied by more than one family, there shall be paid in addition the further sum of 50 cents per annum for each local family<sup>33</sup>

On each and every private hydrant or pump, which has been or may hereafter be erected within this corporation and which shall be supplied with water from the Town Spring, to be used only for ordinary domestic and family purpose, the sum of two dollars, and on each and every such private hydrant or pump which is or may be erected or used for supplying a bathing house or bathing tub, the further sum of five dollars. On each and every such private hydrant or pump which is or may be used for watering horses from a livery stable, or stable attached to, or use in connection with a house of public or private entertainment, the sum of ten dollars. For a brewery, the sum of \$20 if but one spigot is used, and if more than one is used, the sum of \$1 for each additional spigot.

For each and every person which shall use water from a public or private hydrant or pump for the purpose of a Foundry \$15 for one spigot and \$1 for each additional spigot. On carrying on the trade or himself a Hatter, Tobacconist, or Skindresser the sum of \$4.<sup>34</sup>

Ordered that the tax against H. Kinzel for use of water at his soda fountain be fixed at \$2 per annum.<sup>35</sup>

Mrs. Meredith has been assessed \$5 for a private bathtub. She asked that the amount be refunded as the assessment was erroneous and that she had used the bath tub during the whole year.<sup>36</sup>

## Some Water Squabbles

In 1858, twelve years after Common Council had purchased Town Spring, with right of ingress, egress, and regress, from Thomas A. Tidball, the members of Common Council were surprised and astounded to learn that a gross and unwarranted trespass upon the citizens of Winchester had been made by Angus W. McDonald present owner of the mansion overlooking the spring. He willfully and deliberately placed a heavy, impossible wall of stone masonry across the entrance thus preventing ingress and egress to the spring.

A Special Committee was appointed to call upon the said Angus W. McDonald to demand that he remove all legal obstruction so as to restore to the Corporation all of the former rights and privileges to the spring. If the said McDonald should fail or refuse to remove all obstruction, then legal action would be instituted against him.<sup>37</sup>

On March 11, 1859 the Superintendent of Water Works reported to Common Council that a Mr. Fauntleroy had refused to comply with the requirements of the Council in regard to the use of water on his premises, and that he used threats of violence to obstruct him in the discharge of his duty by refusing him access to his premises.

On motion by Mr. [Samuel] Trenary the council ordered that the Superintendent of Water Works be authorized to disconnect the private pipe conveying water from the public water pipe into Col. T. T. Fauntleroy's premises. It was ordered, also, that all persons residing in the neighborhood be notified not to permit Colonel T. T. Fauntleroy to use water from their respective hydrants or pumps, under penalty of having water turned off from their hydrants or pumps.

A week later, Mr. T. T. Fauntleroy, Jr., appeared before Common Council and addressed them in behalf of his father disclaiming all or any intention on their part of treating the Corporate authorities with disrespect or in endeavoring to obstruct the officer in the discharge of his duty. Mr. Fauntleroy then stated that water granted to them would be for ordinary domestic or family purposes.

Mr. [Samuel] Trenary then moved that the request be laid on the table. The motion failed to pass, and upon another motion by Mr. [George F.] Miller permission was granted Col. Fauntleroy to convey water to his premises subject to the withdrawal and restriction of the Council. Mr. [George F.] Miller then moved that the pipe be at once connected at the expense of the Corporation. This motion was negative.<sup>38</sup>

One of four wells sunk by order of the court and carefully guarded for many years was located on Piccadilly Street near what was known for many years as the Dunbar Corner. One, William Miller, who lived on the spot, exercised some control in 1856, and enclosed it with his lot. The court, upon the complaint of many citizens, promptly ordered the enclosure torn away, and fined Mr. Miller for encroaching on the street. The location of this well was in the pavement just west of the corner of Piccadilly and Loudoun Streets.<sup>39</sup>

The Council ordered the Superintendent of Water Works to notify Miss Roberta Aulick and Frederick Aulick that unless the hydrant in Mr. A. [?] Helpenstin's yard be restored and put in good order by Saturday next, that is, in the same order and condition as it was before the pipe was cut off by the said Aulick that the flow of water will be stoped from the premise of said Aulick.<sup>40</sup>

### **An Act to Prevent the Waste of Water in the Corporation of Winchester**

Due to unnecessary waste of water, the hydrants and pumps within this Corporation be respectively placed under the care and superintendence of the following persons: viz

#### *In Loudoun Street*

The pump at the Southern extremity of the town is assigned to  
George Bostyan

The pump near Peter Coontz to Peter Coontz

The pump on Monmouth Street to Joseph Sample

The hydrant at the foot of the hill in Loudoun Street to  
Michael Copenhaver

- The hydrant at Wetzell's corner to Abraham Grove  
 The hydrant at the Corner of Loudoun and Clifford Street to  
 Jacob Lauck  
 The hydrant at the Corner of Loudoun and Cork Streets to John  
 Wilson  
 Thy hydrant opposite A [Neillz] property to Thomas  
 [Gremshame]  
 The hydrant at then entrance of Rupell's Alley to Daniel Rupell  
 The hydrant between Jno. W. Miller's lot to John Miller  
 The hydrant opposite the Farmers Bank to George Orrick  
 The hydrant opposite the public square to Charles H. Clark  
 The hydrant opposite William Miller to William Miller  
 The hydrant opposite Joseph Gambles to Thomas Robert and  
 Thomas B. Campbell  
 The hydrant opposite John McClure to John McClure  
 The hydrant opposite to Loudoun and Piccadilly Streets to  
 George B. Graves  
 The hydrant opposite to William Jones to William Jones  
 The hydrant opposite to Daniel Maloney to Daniel Maloney  
 The hydrant near William S. Clark's to Isaac Kiger

### *In Braddock Street*

- The pump on the south end Braddock Street to Beatly Carson  
 The hydrant near Andrew Nolens to Jacob Horner  
 The hydrant near Calverts' property to John Crockwell  
 The hydrant at Jessie Brown's shop to Abraham Kurtz  
 The hydrant near Washabough's Brewery to William Washabough  
 The hydrant at S. Horn's corner to Solomon Horn  
 The hydrant opposite Barnhart's shop to George Barnhart, and  
 Wm. Jenkins  
 The hydrant near Wm. Henning's to Wm. Hennings

### *In Piccadilly Street*

- The hydrant at Shutby's assigned to Frederick Shutby  
 The hydrant at Mrs. Mackey's assigned to Dr. A. L. Baldwin, and  
 Jacob Nessmored

### *In Washington Street*

The hydrant near Judge White's assigned to Joseph Kean  
 The hydrant near Mrs. Galloway's to John Crockwell  
 The hydrant at Lydia Wood's to John Nesmed  
 The hydrant at [past] of Davison's lot to Robert Long

### *In Cameron Street*

The pump opposite to C. Kremer's assigned to Conrad Kremer  
 The hydrant at Haymaker's corner to Benjamin Langley  
 The hydrant at John Carter's to John Carter  
 The hydrant at James Wright's to John Heiskell  
 The hydrant near the Jail to Robert Brannan  
 The hydrant at John Bell's to John Bell  
 The hydrant near Hoover's property to Levi Brannan  
 The hydrant at Lemuel Bent's to Samuel Bent  
 The hydrant at Mrs. [Femiston's] to Henry Beatty, and  
     William Holliday  
 The hydrant at Mrs. H. Conrad's to Ephraim Hawkins

### *In Kent Street*

The hydrant at the corner of Washington Singleton's to  
     W. G. Singleton

Which said individuals and their successors are severally hereby invested with authority to enforce the laws of the corporation which have been or may be passed for preventing the waste of water and bring offenders to punishment, and shall have power to dispense all collection of boys, negroes, and others who may be found loitering about the public hydrants, and letting them flow unnecessarily, and shall have the general supervision of the Pumps and Hydrants respectively assigned to them.<sup>41</sup>

The Superintendent of Water Works, on August 1, 1868, in compliance with a resolution passed in Council July 20, 1868, reported 335 private hydrants in town.<sup>42</sup>



The Council authorized, in 1868, that police be furnished with and required to carry a wrench, and turn off water leading to any private hydrant found leaking willfully or neglectfully or wasting water in any way.<sup>43</sup>

## Robert Hazlewood

Hazlewood was a short, thick, dumpy little man, about as broad as he was long, with pickle-jar legs, and a body like the mandarins we see pictured upon China ware.

He possessed a good-humored face, looking as though he was always in a good humor with himself and everybody else.

Years ago he was engaged in the hatting business in a small way, at the south end of Loudoun Street, on Potato Hill, where we believe he lived and died.

He was retired sort of a person, (not more than three feet in altitude,) and attended as far as possible, to his own business, letting that of his neighbors take care of itself, always sweeping before his own door.

If a calculation was made of all the journeys Hazlewood performed between his house on the "Hill" and the old wooden hydrant at the corner upon which stood our honest (for he was so, if ever man was,) and memory-revered old acquaintance, George Wolfe's dwelling and hatter-shop, it would make a string of miles sufficient to span the globe once and half-perhaps more!

He made a practice of coming and going, as regular as clock-work, morning and evening, year in and year out, for water to the one place, that being the nearest point at which it could be obtained.

At that early period in the town's history water was conveyed from the Town Spring in large logs, bored through with huge augers, generally made by Mr. Jesse Brown. There were neither pumps nor wells – at least but few – anywhere on Potato Hill.

He could always be seen behind a wheelbarrow, upon which was mounted a common sized cask.

The hill from the bottom to top, and especially that portion of it opposite the dwellings of Mrs. Katy Moore's store and Richard Churchill's was rough enough to worry the life out of the stoutest bell-team that ever tugged up a hill; even Pelter, or Robert Hamilton, of the Red Mill, would have viewed it aghast.

It was surprising to see with what ease the little man exhibited his agility in climbing with his 'one-horse' vehicle that steep and tiresome ascent.

We think Hazlewood was an Englishman, but won't be sure.

Whether he died and was buried here, we do not know.

He had a fashion of saying, when anything was said in relation to his diminutive stature that he never grew much until he was nineteen years of age, and then he ran up all at once like a hemp stalk!

He must have been very lilliputian like when a youngster, for when an old man, he was hardly three feet three, shoes, stockings, and all combined.<sup>44</sup>

Where Gerrard Street crosses Loudoun there stands a house in which old Mr. Hollaback kept hotel, and always a fully supply of beer and cakes. A short distance north on the west side of Loudoun, Mrs. Hollaback's hotel was located probably at 2 East Gerrard Street. On May 1, 1787 Andrew Longacre conveyed to Robert Hazlewood half acre Lot No. 238, bounded on the south by Gerrard Street and on the east by Loudoun Street (See F.D.B.: 21 - Page 247.) Mr. Russell's language indicates that this house was not on the corner, but was further north, near the present site of 815 South Loudoun Street.<sup>45</sup>

Garland R. Quarles and Lewis N. Barton, editors of the republished *What I Know About Winchester* wrote that Mr.

Hollaback's hotel was located probably at 2 East Gerrard Street. On May 1, 1787, Andrew Longacre conveyed to Robert Hazlewood half acre Lot No. 238, bounded on the south by Gerrard Street and on the east by Loudoun Street (See F.D.B.: 21 – Page 247.) Mr. Russell's language indicates that this house was not on the corner, but was further north, near the present site of 815 South Loudoun Street.<sup>46</sup>

The hydrant from which Mr. Hazlewood obtained his daily supply of water was located at or near the corner of South Loudoun and Cecil Streets.

## NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Russell, William Greenway, *What I Know About Winchester*, third Printing, edited by Garland R. Quarles and Lewis N. Barton, Winchester- Frederick County Historical Society, 1953. Winchester Printers, Inc., Winchester, Va, 39.
- <sup>2</sup> Kercheval, Samuel, *A History of the Valley of Virginia*, Fifth Edition, Shenandoah Publishing House, Strasburg, Va 1973. 175.
- <sup>3</sup> Morton, Frederick, *The Story of Winchester in Virginia*, Shenandoah Publishing House, Strasburg, Va, 1925, 40.
- <sup>4</sup> Russell, William Greenway, *What I Know About Winchester*, Third Printing, edited by Garland R. Quarles and Lewis N. Barton, Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society, 1953. Winchester Printers, Inc., Winchester, Va, 133.
- <sup>5</sup> Quarles, Garland R., *The Streets of Winchester*, Prepared for the Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Winchester, Va, 1.
- <sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 1-2.
- <sup>7</sup> Richard, L. Adolph, *The Winchester Evening Star*, Winchester, Va, November 30, 1953, 11.
- <sup>8</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book. Passed July 11, 1835.
- <sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, May 23, 1840, F.D.B. 68, p. 407, June 15, 1840.
- <sup>10</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book (1852-1870). August 13, 1866, 206.
- <sup>11</sup> Greene, Katherine Glass, *Winchester Virginia and Its Beginnings*, Shenandoah Publishing House, Strasburg, Va 1926, p 272-273.
- <sup>12</sup> *Winchester Gazette*, March 1, 1803, 2 & 3. The list of contributors was arranged alphabetically by Ben Ritter and given to the author.
- <sup>13</sup> Russell, William Greenway, *What I Know About Winchester*, Third Printing, edited by Garland R. Quarles and Lewis N. Barton, Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society, 1953. Winchester Printers, Inc., Winchester, Va, 129-130.
- <sup>14</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book. October 15, 1843, 238.
- <sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, October 9, 1845, 274.
- <sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, October 10, 1845, 277.
- <sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, September 119, 1827, 90-91.
- <sup>18</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book (1852-1870). August 10, 1856, 76.
- <sup>19</sup> Cartmell, T. K., *Shenandoah Valley Pioneers and their Descendants*, 1908, 147.
- <sup>20</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1841-1849). October 9, 1843, 50.
- <sup>21</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1844-1851). June 22, 1850, 369.
- <sup>22</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book (1852-1870). November 13, 1852, 9.
- <sup>23</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book, May 28, 1839, 196.
- <sup>24</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1857-1870). June 1, 1858, 49.
- <sup>25</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book, (1844-1851), June 12, 1846, 291.

- <sup>26</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book September 24, 1856, 143.
- <sup>27</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book, (1852-1870), March 31, 1858, 108.
- <sup>28</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1857-1870), April 10, 1868, 314.
- <sup>29</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1841-1849), October 15, 1842, 28.
- <sup>30</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book, (1844-1851), October 10, 1853, 297.
- <sup>31</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book, (1852-1870), August 7, 1852.
- <sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, August 7, 1852.
- <sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, March 4, 1859, 125.
- <sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, 275.
- <sup>35</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1857-1870), August 1, 1868, 335.
- <sup>36</sup> *Ibid.*, December 11, 1899, 434.
- <sup>37</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book, June 28, 1858.
- <sup>38</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1857-1870), March 11, 1859, 75.
- <sup>39</sup> Cartmell, T. K., *Shenandoah Valley Pioneers and their Descendants*, 1908, 147.
- <sup>40</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1857-1870) August 7, 1862, 162.
- <sup>41</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book, January 29, 1831, 111-115.
- <sup>42</sup> Winchester Common Council Ordinance Book, (1852-1870), August 1, 1868, 335.
- <sup>43</sup> Winchester Common Council Minute Book (1857-1870) August 7, 1862, 351.
- <sup>44</sup> Wolfe, C. Toler, *Echoes from the Past or Winchester and its Environs in the Olden Times*, 1872. Indexed and copyrighted by Ben Ritter. Reprinted by Commercial Press, Stephens City, Va, 1981, 47.
- <sup>45</sup> Russell, William Greenway, *What I Know About Winchester*, Third Printing, edited by Garland R. Quarles and Lewis N. Barton, Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society, 1953. Winchester Printers, Inc., Winchester, Va, 48.
- <sup>46</sup> *Ibid.*, 59 (3).

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