

THE OSKALOOSA HERALD.

OSKALOOSA, MAHASKA COUNTY, IOWA

Leighton, Lee & Leighton Bros.

Editors and Proprietors.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1879.

THE WATER-WORKS.

Its our Turn for a Boom now, because we are going to have Water-works sure.—The Contractor here and at Work.

There is no longer any question about our having water-works. It is a fixed fact. Elsewhere we publish the ordinances conferring the rights to the company for the laying of mains and guaranteeing the use of a given amount of water. Mr. T. Cowell, the contractor, is here and at work. Last Monday we went out to the river to see where works would be located. After a careful survey of the ground it was decided to place them just west of the bridge, near Whitmore & Scott's mill, these gentlemen giving a free lease of a piece of ground 150 feet front along the river and 180 feet deep. This gives the company an abundance of ground room for all its works. At this point the building will be of brick and stone, 50x30, 16 feet high in the clear. This will be the pumping house where the machinery will be located. Aside from this there will be a filter cut out of the solid rock, 40x15, four feet below low water mark, and built above high water. From this filter a main pipe will extend to the center of the river, where a crib will be constructed to receive it and collect the water. The water is drawn from this crib to the filter, where it passes through successive layers of gravel, sand and charcoal, and from thence is sent into the main pipe which conducts it to the city. The work on the river end is now being prosecuted and will be completed and the machinery got in as fast as possible. If the weather keeps open it is not improbable that much of the pipe will be laid this winter.

All the work necessary to complete the system of a water supply will be under the direct personal management of Mr. T. Cowell, of the firm of Coverdale & Cowell, who were awarded the contract by the Oskaloosa Water Company. Mr. Cowell is a practical engineer and has been eminently successful in his work of supplying other cities with water and gas works. The firm of which he is a member put in the water-works at Burlington, Keokuk, Muscatine, Marengo, Anamosa, Lyons, and Clinton, all in this State, besides numerous others in other States. The fact that their work has proven highly satisfactory in these cities is good evidence that their work here will be equally

The fact that their work has proven highly satisfactory in these cities is good evidence that their work here will be equally as good. If so it will be all we can ask, as from all these places come the highest testimonials of the continued successful operation of their water-works system.

The company under whose franchises the work is being prosecuted is a home company, our own citizens. Its directors are John Siebel, President of the Farmers' and Traders' Bank; L. C. Blanchard, Judge of the Circuit Court; H. L. Spencer, of the wholesale grocery firm of Wright & Spencer; T. Cowell, of Coverdale & Cowell; I Frankel, of the banking firm of Frankel, Bach & Co., and the clothing firm of I. Frankel & Co.; J. A. Kalbach, of I. Kalbach & Son, lumber dealers; Wm. Loughridge, ex-Congressman; Hon. M. E. Cutts, President Oskaloosa National Bank; and D. W. Hunt, Superintendent of Oskaloosa Gas Works. It will be seen that this list of directors is made up of solid and substantial men, who are among our best citizens. The officers of the company are Wm. Loughridge, president; John Siebel, vice-president; I. Frankel, treasurer; and D. W. Hunt, secretary.

With the beginning of this work dawns a better day for our city, and every citizen should do all he can to encourage the business interests of the town. With a good water supply there is no reason why we may not command good manufactories and in time become one of the leading cities of the State. The coal we have; railroads we have; the location is unsurpassed; the country surrounding us is noted for fertility and the industry of its citizens; the water we are getting, and the boom is coming. Let us all talk about it, think about it, write about it, and get ready for it, because it will be here next year.