

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
SUPERINTENDENT  
OF THE  
JACKSON CITY WATER COMPANY,  
OF THE  
City of Jackson, Michigan.

To his Honor the Mayor, Recorder and  
Aldermen of the City:

GENTLEMEN—It affords me pleasure to  
comply with the request of the Jackson  
City Water Company to present you with  
a detailed statement of the cost of con-  
struction, the present condition and gen-  
eral workings of our system of water works,  
and I think I can safely say that, in all re-  
spects, they exceed the expectations of their  
most sanguine supporters.

The works have now (May 1st) been in  
operation for 8 months and 15 days, during  
which time the machinery has run inces-  
santly, requiring comparatively very little  
expenditures for repairs, and is, in fact, in  
much better running condition than when  
accepted by the citizens' committee appointed  
for that purpose. This can safely be at-  
tributed to the proved superior excellence  
of its construction, and largely to the close  
attention given to it by the experienced  
and competent engineers who have it in  
charge. We have been very fortunate in  
this respect, as both the chief and his as-  
sistant—being practical workers in iron,  
and thoroughly conversant, in all respects,  
with such machinery—have been able to  
detect and repair at once any little derange-  
ment which otherwise might have caused  
serious loss.

It will not be necessary here to enter into  
a detailed statement of the cost of construc-  
tion, &c., for annexed will be found tables  
showing definitely, everything pertaining  
thereto.

For the quantity of each size of pipe,  
and on what streets laid, see appendix,  
schedule A.

For the number and location of each  
hydrant, see schedule B.

In schedule C. is shown the number and  
location, and size of each stop gate.

For quantity of pipe and material on  
hand, with inventory of the effects of the  
Water Co., you will find in detail, in sched-  
ule D.

Schedule E. gives a list of the different  
establishments using water.

You will also find annexed a detailed ab-  
stract of the whole cost of the works up to  
May 1st.

For the net expenses of running the  
works from August, 15th 1870, to May 1st,  
1871, 8½ months—see "Recapitulation of  
running expense."

And for the work done by the engine,  
the number of revolutions made—the quan-  
tity of water pumped—duration of fires—  
water pressure &c., I refer you to "engine  
record."—Also treasurer's report annexed.

On the opening of Spring, we found the  
pipes and hydrants all sound and in perfect  
working order—not requiring an expendi-  
ture of ten dollars for repairs.

When starting the works, economy in  
fuel was an early consideration, as this is  
usually a large item of expense. We ex-  
perimented with Ohio coal, costing \$6.50  
per ton, with coal from mines in this local-  
ity, costing \$5.50, \$4 and \$2.50 respective-  
ly, and found that more tons of the best  
coals were burned to produce the same re-  
sults, than of the cheapest. Therefore none  
except the coal at \$2.50 per ton has been  
used since the experiment was tried. There  
are kept on hand a few tons of Ohio coals  
for the upright boiler when found necessary  
to use it.

Allow a word upon the quality of water.  
We fail to understand why our river water  
taken directly into the pipes, from only a  
few miles from the springs which supply it,  
and passing through a gravel filter six feet  
in thickness, should be inferior to the Croton  
or Cochituate, which are brought from 20  
to 30 miles in the river bed, and collected  
in large open reservoirs, the acknowledged  
receptacles of all kinds of filth. Surely we  
need have no fear of lizards and other  
creeping things in our water pipes, as is  
the case under the old Croton system.

There is no doubt that the water delivered  
from the pipes is much better than from  
any well in the city that has been used for  
five years or more.

Our city, during the past winter has been  
remarkably exempt from fire. We have  
had enough, however, to thoroughly test  
the efficiency of this system of fire protec-  
tion. How far this tends to deter incendi-  
aries from doing their work, is a question  
for thought. It is safe to affirm that with  
the proper management of the hose by our  
wide-awake hose companies, a fire will  
rarely, if ever, extend beyond the building  
in which it originates. For the number of  
fires, their duration, fire pressure, &c., see  
"engine record."

You will perceive in the "engine record"  
that the velocity of the engine is increased  
as the demand for water increases. I would  
consider it advisable, without much delay,  
to procure a set of gang pumps to be used  
for ordinary supply, thereby saving the  
rotary pumps for fire purposes. This would  
ultimately result in a great saving to the  
city.

As it is difficult and next to impossible  
to approximate very nearly to the quantity  
of water delivered, where much is required,  
I would recommend the use of water  
meters, which would materially increase  
the revenue, and also prevent so great  
waste of water. A pair of scales is needed  
at the works for reweighing the coal when  
delivered. Also a different whistle upon  
the engine building, which would give no  
uncertain sound, in case of fire.

I have taken the liberty, gentlemen,  
to make these suggestions, feeling and know-  
ing their importance, and thinking perhaps  
that few, if any, not familiar with the  
works, would realize their necessity.

Thanking you for your kind attention  
while hearing this, of necessity, lengthy  
report, I will take this opportunity to ex-  
press my sincere thanks to the members  
of this Council, and to all the members of  
the Jackson City Water Company, for their  
uniform courtesy and indulgence. Respect-  
fully submitted.

W. M. BENNETT,  
Supt Jackson City Waterworks.

APPENDIX TO REPORT.

SCHEDULE A.

Pipe of all sizes now laid, and where laid,  
for the distribution of water.

FIFTEEN INCH.

307 feet from engine building to Water  
street.

TWELVE INCH.

940 feet from Water street to Washing-  
ton.

EIGHT INCH.

900 feet on Mill from Washington to  
Main.

2,580 feet on Main street from Mill to  
North Main.

3,570 feet of eight inch.

SIX INCH.

2,890 feet on Main from N Main to W av-  
enue.

673 feet on Blackstone from Main to  
Washington.

3,027 feet on Milwaukee from Mill to  
Ganson.

276 feet on Ganson from Milwaukee to  
Cooper.

680 feet on Cooper from Ganson to Pris-  
on.

600 feet on Prison from Cooper to Me-  
chanic.

200 feet in prison yard.

2,715 feet on Washington from Mill to  
Blackstone.

11,700 feet of six inch.

FOUR INCH.

192 feet on engine lot to supply hy-  
drants.

72 feet on Mill to supply hydrants.

451 feet on Main to supply hydrants.

3,887 feet on Mechanic from Main to  
Prison.

706 feet on Jackson from Main to Clin-  
ton.

1,880 feet on Blackstone from Main to  
Travail.

2,006 feet on N. Main from Main.

2,071 feet on E. Main from Milwaukee to  
E. Avenue.

126 feet on Milwaukee to supply hy-  
drants.

19 feet on Ganson to supply hydrants.

28 feet in Prison to supply hydrants.  
170 feet in prison yard.  
68 feet on Washington to supply hy-  
drants.  
207 feet on Franklin to west side M. S.  
H. R.  
1,003 feet on Washington from Blackstone  
to Fourth.  
671 feet on Fourth from Washington to  
Main.  
3,132 feet on Franklin from M. S. R. R. to  
Blackstone.  
662 feet on Blackstone from Franklin to  
Washington.  
2,130 feet on Francis from Franklin to  
Mitchell.  
1,301 feet on Wilkins from Francis to  
Jackson.  
617 feet on Jackson from Wilkins to  
Franklin.

22,050 feet of four inch.

RECAPITULATION OF PIPE LAID.

Diameter in inches.	No. of feet.
15	307
12	940
8	3,570
6	11,709
4	23,030
Total, 39,063 feet, or 7 miles 1,703, feet.	

SCHEDULE B.

Number and Location of Fire Hydrants now in  
use.

No.	Street.	Location.	Side.
1	Engine lot	W side of engine building	
2	Mill	Near Westley	West
3	"	N W corner of Cortland	"
4	"	S E corner of Main	"
5	Main	Alley at Hurd House	North
6	"	Alley at P. Morrison's	"
7	"	Alley at Marion House	"
8	"	Alley at Webster's block	South
9	"	Alley at Reynolds' old block	"
10	"	N E corner of Mechanic	"
11	"	S W " Jackson	"
12	"	Front of Turner's block	North
13	"	S W corner of Blackstone	"
14	"	S E " Second	"
15	"	S W " Fourth	"
16	"	Near P. Livermore's readnc.	North
17	"	N E corner W avenue	"
18	N Main	Opposite Lydia street	North
19	"	Near E. Webster's	"
20	E Main	S E corner of Van Dorn	"
21	"	N W " State	"
22	"	N W " East Avenue	"
23	Milwaukee	N W " Liberty	"
24	"	N W " Detroit	"
25	"	N E " Franklin	"
26	"	N E " Quarry	"
27	Ganson	N E " Cooper	"
28	Mechanic	N E corner of Prison	"
29	"	Between Ganson and Trail	West
30	"	N W corner of Trail	"
31	"	Near Adams' Lumber Yard	West
32	Jackson	N E corner of Clinton	"
33	Blackstone	N E " Luther	"
34	"	N E " Van Buren	"
35	"	N E " Trail	"
36	Mechanic	N W " Clinton	"
37	Washington	N W " Mechanic	"
38	"	S W " Jackson	"
39	"	Blackstone	"
40	"	First	"
41	"	Second	"
42	"	Third	"
43	"	Fourth	"
44	Franklin	N W " Milwaukee	"
45	"	S W " Franklin	"
46	"	N W " Mechanic	"
47	"	S W " Jackson	"
48	"	N E " Blackstone	"
49	Francis	N E " Wilkins	"
50	"	N W " Morrill	"
51	"	N E " Mitchell	"
52	Wilkins	N W " Mechanic	"
53	"	S W " Jackson	"
54	Blackstone	N E " Wesley	"
55	total		

SCHEDULE C.

Number and location of Stop Gates.

No.	Street.	Location.
1	12	Water
2	8	Main
3	8	Main
4	6	Milwaukee
5	6	Prison
6	6	Main
7	6	Main
8	6	Washington
9	4	Washington
10	4	Washington
11	4	Main
12	4	Main
13	4	Main
14	4	Main
15	4	Main
16	4	Main
17	4	Main
18	4	Main
19	4	Main
20	4	Main
21	4	Main
22	4	Main
23	4	Main
24	4	Main
25	4	Main
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85	4	Main
86	4	Main
87	4	Main
88	4	Main
89	4	Main
90	4	Main
91	4	Main
92	4	Main
93	4	Main
94	4	Main
95	4	Main
96	4	Main
97	4	Main
98	4	Main
99	4	Main
100	4	Main

RECAPITULATION

Of size and number of Stop Gates.

Outside diameter. Inches.	Number.
4	17
6	2
8	2
12	1
Total 26	

SCHEDULE D.

Inventory of property in Engine building, and  
pipe, &c., not used.

PIPE AND OTHER CASTINGS.

FOUR INCH.  
2,652 feet common joint.  
8,154 feet Patent joint.

SIX INCH.  
10,836 feet four inch.  
60 feet common joint.  
2,038 feet Patent joint.

EIGHT INCH.  
2,088 feet six inch.

RECAPITULATION.

4 inch	10,836
6 inch	2,088
Total, 12,924 feet, or 2 miles 2,261 feet.	

ODD CASTINGS.

2	8 and 4 inch tees
1	6 and 6 "
25	4 and 4 "
1	6 and 4 " cross
5	6 and 4 "
5	4 and 4 "
3	15 inch sleeves
3	12 "
2	8 "
5	6 "
6	4 "
1	6 " caps
3	4 " stop gates
4	Gate covers
15	Hydrants

IN ENGINE BUILDING AND COAL HOUSE.

1 Arch frame double cylinder 16 inches cut  
off piston engine, with cylinders 16 inches in  
in diameter and 27 inches long

1 Holly's patent elliptical rotary steam engine, of  
one hundred and fifty horse power

2 Holly's patent rotary pumps, with capacity of  
three million gallons in twenty-four hours

1 Holly's patent pressure gauge

1 Donkey engine

1 Boiler feed pump

1 Rotary blower

1 Horizontal boiler

1 Upright boiler

1 Water safety valve

Also all necessary gearing, shafting, steam pipes,  
valves, water and vacuum gauges, and all  
valves, &c., needed in connection with said  
machinery.

10 Gallia machine oil

1 Barrel lard oil, No. 1

30 Gallia kerosene oil

1 Cord huswood kindling

20 lbs raw packing

6 Tons Ohio coal

2 Tallow cans

2 Oil cans

9 Open wrenches

2 Screw do.

2 Yankes do.

1 Oil Drainer

1 Socket wrench

1 40-gall. oil can

2 Hoes

1 Steel scoop shovel

2 Fire poker

1 Steam blower

1 Flue scraper

1 Coal car

1 Work bench and vice

1 Grindstone and frame

4 Kerosene lamps

8 Saws

70 Feet 1 1/2 inch rubber hose and pipe

1 Wheelbarrow

2 1/2 inch ferrules

14 " "

2 1/2 inch "

2 Ratchets and drills

1 Saw

3 Files

SCHEDULE E.

Table of establishments using water to May 1, 1871.

65 Dwellings

4 Saloons

2 Meat markets

1 Carpenter shop

2 Retail stables

2 Drug stores

2 Printing offices

2 Barns

1 Farming tool manufactory

1 Bake house

1 Foundry and Machine shop

1 Livery stable

1 Jackson, Lansing and Saginaw Railroad

1 Michigan Central Railroad

3 Groceries

1 Planing mill

2 Flouring mills

1 Church

5 Dry goods stores

2 Eating houses

1 Daguerrian rooms

1 Barber shop

1 Bath room (public)	
1 Liquor house	
2 Fish market	
3 for building purposes	
2 Book stores	
1 Hardware store	
1 Jewelry store	
2 Boarding houses	
1 Dentist office	
1 Boot and shoe manufactory	
1 Sprinkling car	
1 Furniture manufactory	
1 Pottery	
1 Carriage shop	
1 Crockery store	
1 Vinegar manufactory	
1 Club room	
1 School room	
1 Hotel	
1 State Prison	
126 Total	