

Rice & Helm's Carson Water Works.

[From the *Carson Appeal*, November 10.]

We yesterday made a tour of inspection as far as to the head of the new water works projected by Messrs. Rice & Helm. The reservoir is on Porter Warren's place—old Camp Nye. Here is a reservoir capable of holding 200,000 gallons. The supply of water to be relied on to fill this receptacle will be taken, at present, from what is known as Taylor's Spring, which, on the first day of August last, was found, by actual test, to yield at the rate of 4,320 gallons per hour. A conduit has already been constructed to what Mr. Rice calls "Middle Spring," a natural outflow of water which yielded by measurement, on August 1, 9,600 gallons per hour. This will not be tapped till needed. There is still another spring available, known as the "Quail Spring." This will yield, in the dry season, about 2,000 gallons per hour. All these sources of water have come under the ownership of Messrs. Rice and Helm. Just above the reservoir is a substantial wooden tank arranged with compartments and strainers, so that the water will enter the reservoir pure. Some idea of the magnitude of the pipe-system of these works is conveyed by the following facts: The "main" which conducts the water from the reservoir and which, like all the other pipes, 1 1/2 inch, tested, wrought iron, known to be capable of sustaining a tremendous pressure, is 974 feet in length and 12 inches in diameter; then comes a section of 10 inch pipe 717 feet in length; then 1,058 feet of 9 inch; then 2,350 feet of 8 inch; then 2,352 feet of 7 inch; then 2,737 feet of 6 inch, all coated with asphaltum. These smaller pipes will be used on the line of Carson street and thereabout. This pipe is furnished by Francis Smith & Co., San Francisco. The elevation of the reservoir above Carson street is given at 250 feet—something more, we believe—but we have forgotten the exact figures. The supply of water for these works is clear, cold and pure—right from the heart of the Sierras, in fact. It is expected that this important undertaking will be so far along as that water will be flowing into the city within a very short time. The main pipe will come down to Robinson street—the street this side of the Mint.