

*Public Water Works.*—The Committee of the Corporation on the Fire Department, yesterday visited, with the Presidents of all the Fire Insurance Companies, the Public Water Works for the extinguishment of fire, in Thirteenth-street.—They proceeded up the Bowery, and at the junction of Division-street therewith, a length or two of hose, with a pipe, was attached to the hydrant, and the water played at this high situation, in such a manner as would have enabled them to have extinguished any fire at this point. The Committee then proceeded to the corner of Grand-street and the Bowery. Here the water was in like manner thrown without an engine upon the roof of the highest house in the vicinity—not less certainly than 40 feet. Afterwards another trial was made at the corner of Broadway and Canal streets:—but the water was discharged into two Engines, both endeavoring to play it off; but they were each overrun in less than half a minute, and it was estimated that one Hydrant would supply more water than six Engines could play on a fire at once. It was found at this point that the pressure from the head threw the water to the elevation of fifty feet; and with the additional velocity, arising from playing for some time, the column would no doubt have gone over the highest roofs at this place.

The committee proceeded to the Well and Reservoir, and we understand that the present level of Thirteenth street, is 40 feet above high water—that the natural foundation of the tank is 12 feet above the street—that the mason work foundation is then carried up 30 feet more—the Iron Tank being placed on the same, the dimensions of which are 44 by 44, and 20 feet 6 inches high—making 62 feet 6 inches above the level of Thirteenth, and from 70 to 80 feet above the major part of the city, and 104 feet 6 inches above high tide.

¶ The Well is already excavated 90 feet deep, and 16 feet diameter, and though abundance of water is already supplied for the extinguishment of fire, yet we understand the Committee have deemed it advisable either to bore for an additional supply, as the water is pure and soft, or to continue the excavation.

We consider the establishment as one of great public advantage; we hope to see the pipes extended; and the more so, when we reflect that we are thus effecting a part of the work necessary for the introduction and supply of good water for all family purposes. We understand that Aldermen B. M. Brown and P. W. Engs have taken an active part in reference to the improvements; and, in our opinion, they deserve much credit for their services.