

**THE CROTON AQUEDUCT.**—When Mr. Fox resigned his appointment as a Water Commissioner, we put forth the name of Col. Zebedee Ring as a very able man, and the most appropriate person to fill the vacancy. Stone, the great gourmand of the "Commercial," with his usual verbosity and mock Duke Aranxa style of pomposity, put forth the name of R. C. Cornell, as the most proper person to receive the vacancy; and Stone was at some unusual pains to prove his position, and undertook to state, without knowing a syllable about the matter, that a large number of the people of this city were desirous that Mr. Cornell should receive the appointment. This attempt to manufacture public opinion, however, did not succeed. We stated what we knew, viz: that Mr. Ring was the most appropriate person to fill the office; and the Governor appointed Mr. Ring—and a very excellent appointment it is.

We have now obtained what we have so long been trying to effect, an entire change in the management of the Croton Aqueduct. For the present we are perfectly satisfied with the appointment of such men as Dr. Childs, Col. Ring, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Birdsall. They are thoroughly competent to discharge all the duties of the important task that has devolved upon them, if they continue disposed to do so, which we believe is the case at present. Nevertheless we shall keep a sharp eye upon them, and there will be no let up for them if they trifle with the im-

The first step they should take is to study the "Herald" of last September, which contains a full account of the Aqueduct; when they have well studied that, they should all of them go from one end of the work to the other, examine every portion of its construction, see that no part of it is in any way slurred over, and make themselves thoroughly conversant with all the practical details of the Aqueduct. Again, they must be careful, and allow no clique, political or financial, to influence their conduct or decisions; keep politics out of the affair altogether; and discharge none of the engineers or superintendents (who are thoroughly acquainted with the works) for political principles, and only remove them for incompetency or misconduct.

By pursuing this course, and attending very largely to their duties, our newly appointed Water Commissioners will do the city some valuable service.—They must get into no squabbles with the contractors and delay the work, as Stephen Allen did; they must not leave particular kinds of excavations unestimated for the length of whole sections, as he did; settle all the terms for excavating the different kinds of cemented sand and gravel, hard pans, cemented clay and gravel, clay and sand, &c.; and they must especially see that the arch of the aqueduct is so adjusted as not to make the sides bulge, and risk a caving in of the whole; and, above all, they must have all the various sections closed in

The position of the works on the Aqueduct at present stand thus : about 23 miles of the work between the dam and Harlem River are completed ; about 9 miles of that line remain to be finished at different points ; these 9 miles, together with the dam itself, can all be finished by next October, without any injurious haste ; and therefore it is the duty of the Water Commissioners to see that the whole line of the work down to Harlem River is completed before next winter. On New York island there are 8 or 9 miles of the work in a very irregular state, including the reservoirs. To this portion of the work the Commissioners should give their unceasing attention, and devote all their energies. The whole of it is under contract, except a small portion of grading in the upper part of the city, which ought to be put under contract immediately.

And if this plan be pursued, and as strong a force as can possibly work upon the Aqueduct, be placed upon that part of it which lies on Manhattan Island, it is our firm belief, that the pure, abundant and delicious stream of the Croton River may be brought to our doors by the 1st of May, 1841. It is true that the splendid high bridge over the Harlem River cannot be completed before 1843, because Stephen Allen's obstinacy prevented its progress; but still a temporary bridge can be erected for the transit of the water, at a small expense, until the High Bridge be ready to receive it.

The course of the new Commissioners, therefore, is a very clear one. If they avoid cabals, cliques, and rascally politicians, go ahead and do their duty, we shall support and applaud them ; if they act otherwise, we shall cut them up, demand their dismissal, and remove them as surely as we have been the means of removing their predecessors, and putting them in the places thereof.