

# REMINISCENCES

OF THE

# CITY OF NEW YORK

AND

ITS VICINITY.

*[Dawson, Henry B. & Davis, H.]*



NEW YORK :

1855.

carry out the plan, (afterward erected in the present Park, on the Broadway side of the City Hall—demolished a few years since.)

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**Chatham Street Named.**

1774.—Ordered that the street, beginning at the house of Andrew Hopper, nearly opposite St. Paul's Church, and leading to Fresh Water, be called Chatham street.

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**The First "Water Works."**

1774.—The proposal of Christopher Colles, heretofore preferred to this Board respecting the building of a Reservoir and the conveyance of fresh water through the city, being under consideration, it was resolved that it be carried into execution.

Messrs. Augustus and Frederick Van Cortland offered to convey to the Corporation sufficient ground, fronting Great George street, (now Broadway, above Chambers street,) as might be necessary for the Reservoir, at the rate of £600 per acre, which being thought reasonable, it was resolved to purchase the same, provided that upon sinking a well there, the water should be found of good quality.

Having subsequently tried the experiment of digging a well, and judging the water to be of a very good quality, the Corporation resolved to carry out the plan, and to issue notes to the amount of £2,500, to be drawn up in the following sums, 4,000 of sixpence, (£100,) 4,000 of one shilling each, (£200,) 4,000 of two shillings (£400,) 4,000 of four shillings, (£800,) and 2,500 of eight shillings, (£1,000;) and Mr. Colles was directed to enlarge the well and go on with the work.

The Board soon after entered into a contract with parties at Albany for 60,000 feet of pitch-pine timber, for the making of pipes for the water works, for the sum of £1,250. The land purchased for the purpose, (about two acres,) was paid for. The sum of £1,000 was advanced to Colles in 1774, and in 1775 £600. In January, 1776, the Board allowed Mr. Colles £10 per month toward his support. In March, 1776, new notes, to the amount of £2,000, were issued toward defraying the expense of the water works. The works were completed about April, 1776, and Mr. Colles was appointed to take charge of them, at £6 per month. This Reservoir stood on the present east side of Broadway, between Pearl and White streets.

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**PROGRESS OF THE PARK, COLLECT (OR FRESH WATER POND,) SWAMP, BROADWAY AND ADJACENT PARTS, FOR YEARS AFTER THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.**

**The Place of Execution removed from Tryon Row to a locality in the present Park, between the City Hall and Hall of Records.**

1784.—On reading the petition of a number of inhabitants in Chatham street and Tryon Row, praying that the building lately erected for the