

THE HOLLY WORKS AT A FIRE IN SARATOGA, N. Y.—From a private letter from the engineer of the Holly water works at Saratoga Springs, to a gentleman in this city, we extract the following, as it may be of some interest to our city readers in showing what the Holly water works are capable of in a great fire:

“On Wednesday night, the 13th inst., during the Fireman’s Tournament in this place, we had a terrible conflagration to visit this town. There were three distinct fires started by some villains in human shape, and before the firemen were ready the flames had gained a fearful headway. Our works were ready some time before the firemen opened a hydrant. However, everybody turned out, and plug after plug was opened on the fire until there were *twenty going at one time*; but our works kept them all fully supplied. To illustrate the difference between our stream from a plug and that of a steam fire engine, I will state the following facts: During the prevalence of the fire a steam fire engine coupled their suction to one of our hydrants near the scene of the fire, and to another hydrant near by men had attached 150 feet of hose, and the stream of water thrown from the hose beat that thrown from the steamer at least 25 feet. So you will see that the steamer was only in the way, as water could have been thrown further directly from the hydrant than passing through the pumps of the steamer. The streams from our works were kept going with a uniform force all night long. Nothing wearied, nothing gave out—continually was the water flowing in streams, far exceeding the several steam fire engines, and at last the flames were subdued, and Saratoga was saved. Hundreds of people visited our works the morning after the fire, to see the machinery and express their admiration of its great powers and efficiency. Everybody said steam fire engines are of no use where Holly reaches. Our water pressure during the night of the fire was kept at 110 to 115 pounds. All worked smoothly and satisfactorily, and nothing broke or got out of place.”