

Cincinnati



Advertiser.

## CINCINNATI WATER WORKS.

In our last number we promised some account of the *new water works*, erected for the purpose of furnishing the inhabitants of this city with a regular supply of good water. We have, for some time, been desirous of obtaining such information, on this important subject, as might be relied upon, and we can now assure our readers that the following account and description of the same is substantially correct.

By an ordinance of the Town Council, of the 31st of March, 1817, the Cincinnati Manufacturing Company were granted the "exclusive privilege, for and during the term of ninety-nine years, of conducting water by tubes, or otherwise, from the Ohio river, thro' the streets, lanes, alleys; and commons of the Town of Cincinnati, for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants thereof," on certain conditions and requisitions therein named:

The said Cincinnati Manufacturing Company, in March last, after expending large sums of money in erecting a very solid and permanent stone building, on the bank of the river, for the foundation of said water works, were apprehensive of a failure in completing the same by the time limited in said ordinance, and the difficulty of raising sufficient funds for that purpose, appeared so great, they assigned, for a valuable consideration, the said exclusive privilege and all their right and interest in the same, to Col. SAMUEL W. DAVIES, by whose enterprise and perseverance, directed by the great skill and experience of Mr. ALBERT STEIN, the chief engineer, the said water works have progressed & been brought to their present state of perfection. The said stone building, on the bank of the river, extends 130 feet, by a front on the river of 60 feet. In the front of this stone work is sunk, in the solid rock, a well several feet lower than the lowest water, and from said well has been excavated, in the solid rock, and covered with stone, a canal, extending 210 feet, to the channel of said river. Upon the stone building has been erected a lifting pump which raises the water from the well, and with the aid of pipes, conveys the same to a small reservoir on the north side of the Columbia road. In this reservoir is placed a forcing pump which propels the water through iron pipes, to the main reservoir on the hill, elevated about 180 feet above the river, at low water. In addition to a large filtering reservoir, which it is intend-

ed soon to erect on said stone work, all the reservoirs will contain partitions and apartments of stone and gravel, through which the water will pass and filtrate before it reaches the leading pipes that convey it to the city. The pumps, reservoirs, and all the pipes for conveying the water from the river to the main reservoir, on the hill, and from the main reservoir, across Deer creek, through Fifth street to Sycamore street, and down Sycamore to Market street, together with all the necessary buildings and machinery, are completed and now in successful operation. The pipes from the main reservoir, across Deer creek to Fifth street, are of large white oak logs, and from thence they are of yellow pine. Each log is twelve feet long, banded at both ends, with heavy iron bands, and connected to each other with iron tubes, on a plan the most approved, by experience, both in Europe and America. The water may be conveyed from the pipes, by hose, over the roof of almost every building in the city, and hydrants may be so constructed, with the use of hose, as to supersede the necessity of fire engines, on the bottom, in case of fires. The main reservoir will contain 100,000 gallons, and is so constructed as to be enlarged as necessity may require, to almost any extent, with great ease and facility. Its present capacity can be filled by the operation of the pumps in eight hours. The pumps are of cast iron, and the whole works are of the most solid construction, while no pains or expense has been omitted to render them as perfect and durable as possible. The whole has been planned and directed by Mr. STEIN, whose great skill in Hydraulics and Hydrostatics entitle him to the highest confidence. The very short time allowed him to complete the works, thus far, forced upon him the adoption of some plans of minor importance, which he did not entirely approve, but which, when time permits, can be exchanged for others more perfect, without any inconvenience to the public, or much expense to the proprietor.

The great benefits which the public must de-



The great benefits which the public must derive from a constant and plentiful supply of pure water, in contributing to the health and cleanliness of the city, and to the comfort and convenience of the inhabitants, together with the incalculable advantages in cases of fire, we have no doubt will insure to these works the prompt and liberal patronage of all classes of our citizens. Too much credit cannot be given to the persevering enterprise and indefatigable exertions of the present proprietor, when we consider the distressed and embarrassing circumstances of the times, and that some years must certainly elapse before he can expect to realize a clear annual income beyond the interest on his very heavy expenses. It is to the wealthy and enterprising of our citizens we must look for works of great public utility and convenience.

We understand the present proprietor of these works, some few weeks since made application to the City Council for the appointment of a committee from their body, who together with an equal number of citizens to be appointed by himself, should examine the works, together with the expenses of the same, and report what in their opinion would be a fair price for the inhabitants to pay for the use of the water, to which application no reply has been made. We do not think any blame can be attached to the present Council for not adopting any measures upon this application. The subject is placed on the most proper ground in the ordinance granting the exclusive privilege. No person is obliged to take the water from these works, but at such prices and on such terms as may be voluntarily agreed upon. It must, therefore, be the interest of the proprietor to furnish the inhabitants at as low a rate as they can procure it any other way.

We cannot close this article without congratulating the citizens of this city, upon the fair prospect, now presented, of soon being supplied with one of the most healthful and necessary articles of domestic and public use, good and wholesome water; and at the same time we indulge a hope the proprietor of these works will receive a reward equal to his expenses, and a patronage liberal as his exertions.