

ENGINEER'S REPORT.

17. Great George Street,
Westminster, S.W.

23rd February, 1859.

To the Directors of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Co.

Gentlemen,

Since the last Half-Yearly Meeting of Shareholders the Reservoirs at Lichfield and Walsall, the Pumping Engines, the Heading connecting the Reservoirs with the Pumping Shaft at Lichfield, and the Pumping Main from the Engines to the Walsall and Wednesbury Reservoirs, have been completed and are in good condition.

The inauguration of these Works took place on the 26th October last, since which time the Engines have been employed in pumping the water from the Heading, to enable the Contractor to execute a short length of brick lining required for the support of the roof of the Tunnel. This he was unable to do by means of his own Engines in consequence of the large quantity of water. It has also enabled us to calculate the quantity of water now obtained from the Tunnel and Borings alone, and which fully bears out our previous estimate - the yield of water being about 1,500,000 gallons daily; this together with the supply from surface Streams passing into the Reservoirs, will ensure you a weekly supply of at least 20,000,000 of gallons, which, if sold at the average price of 6d. per 1,000 gallons, would give you a gross revenue of £26,000 per annum.

For the last three months our attention has been turned more especially to the Distribution Mains and General Service.

The Main to be laid under an Agreement with the Wolverhampton New Water Works Company to Bilston was completed before the time specified (31st December last), and the Water laid on, thus becoming a source of revenue to the Company, as provided by the Agreement.

The Wednesbury Reservoir has been partially filled, and the Works will soon be sufficiently completed to allow that Reservoir to be fully charged.

A considerable extent of Distribution Pipes has been laid in the town of Wednesbury, and many houses there are now supplied with water. The Contractor is engaged in laying other Distribution Pipes through the most populous parts of the town.

The Main between Wednesbury and Darlaston will be complete in a fortnight, and in the mean time Service Pipes are being laid into the houses at Darlaston.

Numerous applications have been made for the supply of Water in large quantities for Works as well as for household purposes. The largest quantity taken at present for one Establishment is 50,000 gallons per diem.

We recommend the attention of the Directors to an extension of the Mains to the populous Districts of Tipton, Prince's End, Great Bridge, Horseley Heath, and also to West Bromwich, where it will be necessary to provide a Service Reservoir for the supply of Smethwick and the adjacent Districts.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servants,

M'CLEAN & STILEMAN.