

LOCAL MATTERS.

The Water Question—New Plans to be Submitted to the City Council.—The water question, as applied to both a permanent and a temporary supply of water for city consumption, was brought up yesterday by the presentation of a communication to the city council by Durus Carter, Esq., submitting an entirely new plan for the introduction of the waters of the Gunpowder river. This gentleman, after reviewing the past mistakes in the construction of works designed to supply only the existing, and losing sight of the future demands of the city, proposes to tap the stream at Glencoe, a station on the Northern Central railway twenty-two miles from Baltimore, and convey the entire body of water, equal to 100,000,000 gallons per day or more, through a conduit line by natural flow to Lake Roland, seven miles from the city, by way of Roland run, one of the tributary streams of the present supply.

The line laid down extends westward and southward from the starting point, which is described as being 295 feet above tidewater, giving ample fall for a natural flow. At a distance of about 2½ miles the waters of Western run are availed of, and at this point it is claimed that a natural reservoir is formed by the surrounding hills, which would afford storage capacity for at least 1,000,000,000 gallons. Passing through rocky hills a mile further, the Beaver Dam run, another fine productive stream, is crossed at a level. From thence the line diverges to the eastward, near to Texas, and follows the line of the railway track to a point near Lutherville. From thence it again diverges southwest to the Roland run stream, which is struck about two-thirds of a mile from Rider's Switch, where a direct fall of nearly 20 feet is claimed sufficient to furnish power for the elevation of water to the new reservoir in the park for high service purposes. The total estimated cost for dams, reservoirs, conduit and land damages is estimated at \$3,500,000.

The advantages claimed for this plan are numerous. In the first place, the author states that by going far above the point named in other plans submitted, he overcomes the difficulties occasioned by the polluting influence of the cotton mills, paper mills, distilleries, &c., on the line of the stream, and obtains a pure supply for drinking purposes. He also claims that by tapping the stream at Glencoe he obtains an elevation of 295 feet, which is sufficient to give a natural flow, without pumping, to Lake Roland, or to a reservoir elsewhere located. The route through which the line is run will be subject, it is claimed, only to very small comparative land damages, thus lessening the necessary outlay. The author of the new plan also states that the natural topography of the country admits of large storage reservoirs with but small expense, and the conduit passes through a series of rocky hills, which will necessitate but little arching.

Another feature of this plan consists in the claim by the author to be able to utilize a portion of the conduit line to introduce the Beaver Dam and Western runs on or before August 1st, 1873, with a water-head equal to 10,000,000 gallons per day, the quantity required, as estimated by the water board, for a "temporary supply" until the balance of the line shall have been completed. His proposition sets forth that the cost of completing the line to the junction of the Western run would come within \$700,000—the lowest amount as yet named to give a temporary supply equal to 10,000,000 gallons per day—whilst the temporary line would also become a portion of the "permanent supply line," when the whole is completed, and thus economize nearly \$1,000,000 in cost to the city.

The same gentleman also submits another plan for a "temporary supply," proposing to introduce the waters of Gwynn's falls by natural flow into Mount Royal reservoir to the extent of 10,000,000 gallons per day on or before July 1st, 1873. The plan proposes to tap the stream near the Five Mills, from which point a fall is obtained equal to 40 feet, and convey the water through 36-inch pipes, to be laid 12 to 18 inches under ground. The estimated cost of this plan is less than \$400,000, and the author proposes to undertake the work for that amount and give satisfactory bonds for its faithful performance. The plans above described are all new, and seem to possess attractions sufficient to justify careful investigation. By this natural flow system pure water can doubtless be obtained, and if the above estimate be correct, the work would be done much cheaper than by any other plan yet submitted. The communication was read yesterday in the second branch, and referred to a joint special committee of the two branches for consideration.



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