

RESERVOIRS.

To secure such important customers as the Public Buildings, some storage would be needed if none existed; but as there are Water Tanks there, and as the existing works would doubtless be kept in readiness to meet any emergency, I do not think reservoir provision absolutely necessary on that account; and with two complete sets of machinery suited to domestic or fire service, one ought to be always in working order.

The fact that the Holly system produces a fire pressure when reservoirs could not do the same, has induced some persons to undervalue reservoirs of all kinds. As has already been explained the reservoirs at Montreal and Hamilton may be useless while the pumps are in motion, yet it would be as absurd to ignore their value as for a man who was earning more than his expenses to despise his balance in the Savings' Bank.

Any water works system without a reservoir must be to a certain extent helpless under many circumstances; or, if all these are guarded against, the extra outlay for this purpose may exceed the cost of a reservoir. The pumping main cannot be unwatered for an hour, therefore every branch pipe leading from it must be commanded by a stop-cock, and if one of these becomes deranged, it can only be put right by stopping the pumps. For these reasons a reservoir with only capacity for one day's supply is invaluable to any city.

I have provided a small sum of \$5,000 for such a reservoir, but circumstances may render even this small outlay unnecessary.

The Montreal reservoirs only contain about two days' summer consumption, at the present time. The chief reliance there is on the machinery.

There are only two sites sufficiently elevated to keep all the pipes full; the one on Ashburnham, the other on Barrack Hill. At the former place the conditions are favorable for a cheap reservoir. The latter would be more central, and much nearer the route of the pumping main, but it is prohibited to the City as Government Property, as well as by the cost of rock excavation. But it is highly probable that in connection with the laying out and improvement of these grounds, some ornamental water would be provided for, if the proper supply could be secured. Such a sheet of water placed near the flag-staff would work the foun-