

a break down of the rock had occurred exposing the water to the cooling effects of the atmosphere, and allowing the escape of the natural gases. It was therefore considered necessary to close this place and construct the water chamber there. The fallen rock was removed and the cavity cleared out for a space of about 15 feet square. The source of the spring was thus exposed and the water chamber built over it of substantial masonry, with the valve chamber adjoining, from which the supply and waste water pipes were extended out.

This main supply pipe was carried along the face of the mountain at a moderate grade above the bath houses, and the branch pipes supplying these houses were attached to the main pipe at points opposite each building.

This simple and efficient mode of supplying the hot water to the bath houses was supposed to be sufficient for some time to come, but during the past summer applications were made by persons having hotels on the lower levels near the river to have the hot sulphur water conveyed down to their buildings.

The whole fall from the Hot Spring to the site of these buildings being over 600 feet, it was not thought advisable to bring the water down direct from the source, as the pressure being about 250 pounds to the square inch was more than ordinary pipe and plumbing would stand, and consequently it was found necessary to break the fall at some intermediate point and supply the lower levels of the Park from this lower point. For this purpose an iron tank was constructed at about half way down from the Hot Spring, and the supply to the lower hotels taken from it. The tank was completed this winter, the pipes laid, and everything necessary provided for the supply of the Canadian Pacific Hotel and Sanitarium when required.

During the summer of 1886 many fires occurred within the Park, which, but for the exertions of the men on the works might have resulted disastrously to the Park. It seemed impossible to trace those fires to their causes in many cases, and constant watch had to be kept for their first indications.

Much time and labor was lost in battling with the flames, and all the men on the works had frequently to be called off and occupied day and night in their endeavors to subdue the fires. The terrible disaster to the Park an extensive fire might produce is so apparent that great vigilance was exercised in detecting the first appearance of a fire, and afterwards in subduing it, and the large quantities of dead and fallen timber covering the ground in many places made the dangers much more imminent, and also the task of subduing them much more difficult. Besides these dangers to the Park many expensive buildings were now being erected, all more or less at the mercy of the flames if they were not kept under control. The magnificent Canadian Pacific Hotel would be in great danger from a high wind from the west, owing to the quantity of dead timber on that side, and nothing could save the building if the fire from that direction took place under such circumstances. For these important reasons it was judged of the greatest importance that as much of this inflammable matter as possible should be removed as soon as possible. Much of this clearing up and removal of dead timber was done during the summer months, and on into the winter, and as a result no fire of any consequence has occurred since last May, and the labor saved, over the previous year, has more than compensated for the cost of the clearing. Besides this a large quantity of firewood has resulted from the clearing up, which, when sold, will reduce the cost of clearing. Over one hundred acres of land has been chopped and cleared this past summer, with results of the greatest importance to the appearance and safety of the Park.

Soon after the passing of the Act of Parliament last session establishing the Park and regulating its government, the leasing of lots on the town site was proceeded with. Many persons had already taken lots and built places of business and dwellings. All of these with the exception of one or two, and many others who had not before taken lots, agreed at once to accept a lease under the favorable terms on which you had placed the lots in the market. Already 180 lots have been leased and the first year's rent paid, amounting to \$1,298, and many more lots would have been leased had the question of the final location of the railway station been decided.

Up to the spring of 1886 no permanent residents were found within the Park