

any, less than the sum named. It is true, that for many purposes, the present Water Works, might be made with a comparatively small outlay, to answer tolerably well for some years to come ; but in the all-important matter of protection from fire, it is their belief, that any patching of the present system, is mere trifling ; the only result of which will be, to waste money, and to engender a false security ; which may possibly terminate in some calamity, more serious than any that has yet occurred. When the water was first introduced into St. John—some years ago—the engineer recommended the laying down of a 24 inch instead of a 12 inch main, but the difference of cost—some £12,000, was thought to be an insuperable objection, and the 12 inch main was laid. Not many years after, the citizens of our sister city, lost one hundred and fifty thousand pounds, in one night, simply from the want of a sufficient supply of water.

It was the inefficiency of our Water Works for fire purposes, that first turned Mr. Edward Longard's attention to this subject. The Committee will leave the further consideration of Alderman Twining's Resolutions, for the present, in order to explain Mr. Longard's scheme. As an intelligent native mechanic, and an experienced fireman, who has devoted much time, and thought, to the question of water supply, it is but fair to Mr. Longard, to state his views in detail.

Starting with the conviction, that the Long Lake can never afford sufficient head pressure, by the natural power of gravitation,—Mr. Longard proposes to bring the water from the Birch Cove Lakes, into a Reservoir, to be built on Shaffroth's hill, and thence, by three main pipes into the city,—one for the north—another for the middle—and another for the south district. The Birch Cove Lakes having an elevation of 237 feet, which might be raised by damming to 240, or even to 245 feet, would be sufficient, without mechanical aids, to fill the reservoir on Shaffroth's hill ; the summit of which is some 230 feet above the sea, and admirably situated for command-