

1845, the supply in Philadelphia seldom exceeded 30 gallons, as the average, and 40 gallons as the greatest daily amount for each inhabitant. By a statement in Mr. McELROY's proposition to your city, it appears that the average for 1853 was 40 gallons, and the maximum 50 gallons. Thus, it seems that Philadelphia had gradually increased its consumption up to the year 1853, and that in 1854 its maximum was 54 gallons.—In that city, though water is obtained by pumping, it is cheaper than in New York or Boston. The works were erected at small expense, and the pumping is done by water power. The statement in Mr. McELROY's paper, that 90 gallons is the maximum in New York, is believed to be an error. Take the last season, when the city contained (say) 600,000 people, at 90 gallons, the consumption would have been 54,000,000 gallons. The maximum flow of the aqueduct has, at no time, been over 35,000,000, or say, 60 gallons for each inhabitant per day. Of this quantity it is believed that full one-third is wasted. Probably no measures could prevent a large portion of this waste, if the water be used under pressure. In New York the consumption by shipping and steamboats is large, and this is an item that is not needed by towns situated on fresh water.—Very extensive manufacturing is carried on in both New York and Philadelphia, and in the former, from its situation on salt water, the Croton water is used for most of its steam engines, as well as for the general purposes of manufacturing. For the purposes of substantial usefulness it cannot be necessary for the City of Hamilton to provide as high a ratio as for either of those cities. It may happen after water is freely introduced into your city that there may be found a taste to use it for ornamental purposes, and thus equal

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