

REPORT.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT,
SEWERAGE AND WATER WORKS,
SAINT JOHN, December, 1882.

A. CHIPMAN SMITH, Esquire,
Chairman of Sewerage and Water Commission.

DEAR SIR,—

The Water Supply of Saint John and Portland is taken from Little River at a point which is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Aboideau, or 5 miles from the City Court House.

This has been the source of supply for upwards of thirty years, having been chosen in 1849 by the Old Water Company, after the resolution had been formed to abandon the pumping system then in vogue, and obtained by gravitation a more constant and copious supply, as well as a better class of water, than was then furnished to the City.

Previous to this change the water brought to the City was taken from

LILY LAKE,

which was selected as a source of supply in 1836, by the advice of Col. Baldwin, a then celebrated American Engineer.

This Lake has a surface area of about 27 acres and an elevation above City datum of about 80 feet.

The first water was given to the City from this source in October, 1838, and it was first used for fire purposes during the great conflagration of August 17th, 1839, which swept both sides of Dock and Nelson streets as well as the North Market Wharf and part of Union street, and destroyed in its progress upwards of eight hundred thousand (\$800,000) dollars worth of property.

The fire plug used on this occasion stood on "Barlow's corner" (N. W. corner of King and Prince William streets), and was noticed as follows in the *Courier extra* of August 19th, 1839: "The supply of water furnished by the fire plug of the Saint John