

in Detroit and in many other places in addition to fire hydrants and are maintained with as much care.

Their usefulness would be measured of course by the quantity of water they contained but in the case of a total suspension as on the night of the 22nd ultimo, an hour's supply even might prove of incalculable value in arresting the progress of a newly discovered fire.

Some of the old wells that formerly existed in the City—such as that on the northern side of King Square—should be cleaned out and reserved for work of this kind. This is a matter of no small importance and should not be overlooked by the proper authorities.

The above recommendations it may be remarked are substantially the same as were made in my Reports of 1864 and 1865.

Respectfully submitted,

GILBERT MURDOCH,  
*Supt. S. and W. Works.*