

tains in front of the Parliament Buildings, and answer all the purposes of a reservoir for the City Works, for the contingences referred to.

The summary of the Estimate, according to the foregoing principles is :

Distribution with 24½ miles of pipage, including	
main from Victoria Island.....	\$180,000
Pumping Machinery and Building.....	25,000
Water Power at Victoria Island .....	5,000
Reservoir, Ashburnham Hill.....	5,000
Fire Alarm Telegraph .....	10,000
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	\$225,000
Contingencies, Superintendence, &c., &c., .....	25,000
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	\$250,000

I have taken of course the cheapest of the water-power plans in the Estimate, and have not provided for any deepening of the Slide Channel.

The prices are liberal, and everything is designed to give a complete and efficient system, equal to the best, and superior to that in most cities. It would be possible (if necessary) considerably to reduce this Estimate, by diminishing the distribution, postponing Telegraph and Reservoir, and economizing a little more in the Wheel-house. It might be possible thus to keep down the cash cost so as not much to exceed two hundred thousand dollars. But I think it would be the worst possible policy to do so. The Fire Alarm Telegraph would practically double the efficiency of the Works in their most important aspect, and would, with a reservoir, however small, give that confidence to the Insurance Companies, which would secure the fullest reduction in the rates.

As to the distribution,—in a work to be undertaken by the whole city, it ought in common fairness to be at once extended as far as possible.

It will thus be seen that the amount is considerably within the limits fixed in my instructions. I do not think it possible to have anywhere, or under any system, (save one with a high level Reservoir,) better Works, or for less money than in Ottawa ; and as a consequence of this highly favorable condition of things, water can be supplied here at the lowest rates,—lower than it can be obtained by any other means. It can be furnished to the poor at less cost than the value of their labor in bringing it from the