

REPORT

ON

Milwaukee Water Works,

SUBMITTED BY

E. S. CHESBROUGH,

CIVIL ENGINEER,

TO

HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

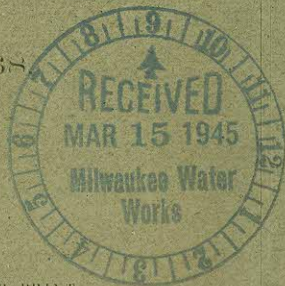
AND THE

COMMITTEE ON WATER WORKS.

OF THE

CITY OF MILWAUKEE,

October 28th, 1868.



SECTION. DIVISION. BOOK.
M
-772.1 - 1a

MILWAUKEE:
DAILY NEWS STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINT.
1868.

REPORT

ON

Milwaukee Water Works,

SUBMITTED BY

E. S. CHESBROUGH,

CIVIL ENGINEER,

TO

HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

AND THE

COMMITTEE ON WATER WORKS,

OF THE

CITY OF MILWAUKEE,

October 28th, 1868.

MILWAUKEE:

DAILY NEWS STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINT.

1868.

REPORT.

CHICAGO, OCTOBER 28TH, 1868.

To His Honor the Mayor, and the Committee on Water Works, Milwaukee.

GENTLEMEN :—In seeking to supply a city with water the first and most important question should be, where is the available source from which to obtain this supply in undoubted purity and in sufficient quantity, not only for present, but for probable future wants? Where several such sources present themselves, it is evident that the one from which the city could be supplied most economically should be selected.

Fortunately in the case of Milwaukee there are several sources from which the city might be supplied, either of which in the absence of the other, would be considered very satisfactory as compared with the water, especially that of wells, now used in many cities of this and other countries. Well waters in large cities while they retain their coolness and clearness, and are drunk with pleasure by those accustomed to them, often become contaminated by infiltrations, from privies, cess-pools, stables, &c., which are causes or promoters of disease. Three principal sources present themselves for the supply of Milwaukee; these are Lake Michigan, the Milwaukee River and the small lakes west of the city, sufficiently elevated to supply water without the aid of pumping machinery, or, as usually expressed, by gravitation alone.

The quality of the water in two of these sources, the Lake and the River, together with that of the town pump, has been analyzed by Mr. Gustavus Bode, of the firm of John H. Tesch & Co., of Milwaukee, and a copy of his report to the Mayor will be found in appendix A.

It will be seen from that analysis that the water of Lake Michigan is chemically much purer than that of Milwaukee River, and there can be no doubt of its pleasanter taste. It is said however, that for washing purposes, the water of the River is preferred to that of the Lake. If this is generally the case it must be owing to a neutralizing effect upon each other, of the various constituents of the river water.

