## FROM THE MINUTES

of THE

## WATERING COMMITTEE,

APRIL 1, 1813.


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1813.

# WATERING COMMITTEE. 

APRIL 1, 1813.

## REPORT.

Your Committee beg leave to offer a plan for the reimbursement of the City Debt, which, after the new works are completed at Fair-Mount, will not be less than 440,500 dollars, as per annexed statement; the greatest part of which consists of the expenses for bringing the water into the city; therefore they think it their duty to suggest means for its extinguishment.

The plan intended is a tax on city property which receives the immediate advantages of the water, and where the distribution shall hereafter extend, until the whole of said Debt is extinguished. In this they conceive it unreasonable, not to say unjust, that such property, which has not nor can obtain any of its benefits, should contribute to the payment of the debt or towards the yearly expenses for the maintenance of the works, \&cc. before the water is carried to such parts. The yearly interest, being assessed in the general tax, to which all city property contributes, appears sufficient to entitle such property, as is not supplied, to the right of the water when so required.

The smallness of the rates of the proposed Tax on each building is such, that it cannot be an object for a Proprietor to introduce the water into it, for the sake of being exempted from the Tax, its great atility and conveniency will always preponderate in its favour; it would be only an inducement for such buildings as are rated at or about the price of the rent; in that case the Tax would prove unequal, as a building which occupies three or more times the ground of one which pays thirty cents, would be exempted from the tax altogether, by introducing the water; and there are at least five dwellings, from 20 to 30 feet and upwards, to one under twenty feet which are supplied with the water, and those are possessed or occupied by the wealthier class of the citizens.

## THE PLAN:

ALL kinds of buildings, for whatever use the same may be designed, and all lots of ground, not improved, fronting on streets, allies, lanes, or courts, supplied with the Schuylkill water, by means of the conducting pipes passing through the same, shall be taxed according to the ground occupied by the building or vacant lot on such streets. If bounding on two streets, or on one street and alley, or a lane or court, or either, both front and back part so supplied, whether improved or not, shall be rated as specified in the following schedule. viz:

A building of bricks, stone or wood, at or under 12 feet 30 Cents.

| do. | - | - | - | - | - | do. | - | 16 do. | 50 | do. |  |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| do. | - | - | - | - | - | do. | - | 20 do. | 75 | do. |  |
| do. | - | - | - | - | - | do. | - | 24 do. | 125 | do. |  |
| do. | - | - | - | - | - | do. | - | 30 | do. | 250 | do. |
| do. | - | - | - | - | - | above | - | 30 | do. | 500 | do. |

do. of like materials fronting on allies, lanes or courts, two thirds of the foregoing rates,
All vacant lots fronting on streets, one cent a foot.
All vacant lots fronting on allies, lanes or courts, two thirds of a cent per foot.

## Probable Product of the Tax at the above rates.



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The like net proceed of the yearly tax and rents, (which will increase in proportion as the distribution extends, and the vacant ground is improving) to be carried to the sinking fund, together with the yearly appropriation under ordinance of 28th Feb. 1811, to be invested as soon as any part thereof is paid into the treasury in any of the stock of the United States, bearing an interest of not less than fifty per cent per annum, payable quarterly.

Should such Plan or System be adopted, your Committee recommends that the levy of the tax may be fixed by Ordinance to commence in 1814, so that the investment of both the proceeds of the tax and water rents, (which become payable on the lIst of July each year) may be made, as part is collected and paid into the treasury to be carried, as before mentioned, to the sinking fund, the proceeds of it with the annual appropriation together with the accumulation of the interest, leaves no doubt but that the whole debt may be extinguished in less than fourteen years, if the the system is scrupulously attended to, from the annexed calculation.

By order of the Watering Committee.

## JAMES VANUXEM,

Chairman.

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## Statement of the different Loans and Debt of the City.

| Water Loan under Ordinance of 7th Feb. 1799 |  |  |  | 150000 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| do. | do. | 13 March 1805 | - - | 35000 |  |
| do. | do. | 26 March 1806 | - - | 25000 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 210000 |
| City Loan | do. | 12 March 1807 | - - | - | 50000 |
| New Loans | do. | 28 Feb. 1811 | = |  | 40500 |
| The probable cost of the new works at Fair Mount, (on account of which |  |  |  |  |  |
| Councils, under Ordinance of 12th August, 1812, directed the Mayor to |  |  |  |  |  |
| borrow \$ 128,000) wi |  | be | - - | - | 140000 |
|  |  | Total Loans and probable Debt |  |  | 440500 |

## State of the Sinking Fund to the 1st of July, 1813.

250 shares water Loan of 26 th March, 1806 , at $\$ 100$ each
15 thousand dollars of the new Loans, (which were first temporary
and afterwards funded)
Deferred Capital Stock nominal
$\quad$ deduct redeemed $\$ 34,1$ per cent
Total Stock, per value bearing interest from 1st January 1813
N. B: $\$ 105688$ are included in the amount of the Capital Stock invested in anticipation.

## [7]

# Progressive Statement of the Sinking Fund 

to July 1, 1825.


## [ 8 ]




[^0]:    10550 Supposed number of buildings which receive the benefits of the water.

