



**This PDF is part of the
Philadelphia Water Department Historical Collection
Accession 2004.071.0001
Frederic Graff Jr. Scrapbook, 1854-1857**

**It was downloaded from
www.phillyh2o.org**



LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Commerces of Philadelphia—Foreign arrivals during the year 1855:—Ships, 93; barks, 132; brigs, 197; schooners, 119. Total, 539.
Coastwise arrivals:—Ships, 116; barks, 128; brigs, 161; schooners, 6,092; sloops, 3,240; steamers, 962; barges, 774; boats, 10,159. Total, 23,939.
List of foreign and coastwise arrivals at the port of Philadelphia for the month of December, 1855:—
Foreign—Ships, 4; barks, 12; brigs, 12; schooners, 4. Total, 32.
Coastwise—Ships, 9; barks, 6; brigs, 9; sloops, 306; sloops, 209; steamers, 73; boats, 795; barges, 716. Total, 2,126.
Imports (including warehoused) during the years 1852, '53, '54 and '55:—

	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.
Man. of Wood	16,176,241	28,214,156	29,599,658	16,834,832
Do. Cotton	11,143,465	16,305,473	15,522,806	10,489,203
Do. Silk	22,958,869	34,129,878	26,628,028	23,439,405
Do. Flax	6,687,947	8,799,135	7,633,573	6,696,324
Miscellaneous	4,713,743	5,766,879	6,099,244	5,978,738
Total	61,654,144	93,774,711	80,922,936	65,466,458
Entered for warehousing	5,424,030	8,774,506	15,607,796	6,927,374
Withdrawn from Warehouses	6,164,182	5,601,079	16,936,570	8,584,568

The following are some of the principal articles imported at this port during the year 1855, in comparison with 1854:—

	1854.	1855.
Brandy, packages	1,984	2,721
Brims, tons	2,371	1,632
Coffee, bags	172,065	222,265
Cotton, bales	52,322	53,391
Hides, No.	197,325	163,146
Honey, packages	19,641	5,595
Iron, tons	18,965	3,019
Iron, bars	323,547	200,461
Iron, bbls.	153,939	130,579
Lead, pigs	21,763	20,392
Lemons, boxes	15,470	30,679
Logwood, tons	4,923	8,296
Molasses, hogsheads	13,229	13,561
Molasses, bbls.	23,158	17,296
Fish, barrels	29,453	31,004
Naval Stores, barrels	83,444	88,460
Oranges, boxes	19,679	58,232
Rice, tierces	8,577	7,730
Salt, sacks	169,569	248,295
Salt, bushels	225,716	183,163
Saltpetre, bags	13,639	19,571
Sugar, hogsheads	43,310	41,605
Sugar, boxes	23,855	25,422
Sugar, barrels	2,910	3,353
Sugar, bags	33,618	41,931
Wine, packages	910	369

Exports.—Domestic articles exported from this port:—

Flour, bbls.	230,078	Beef, bbls. and tierces	6,615
Wheat, bushels	29,973	Lard, lbs.	1,000,798
Corn Meal, bus.	13,430	Butter, lbs.	314,168
Rye Meal, bbls.	21,836	Cheese, lbs.	39,504
Sea Bread, bbls.	5,380	Oil, gallons	39,129
Potatoes, bus.	979	N. Stores, bbls.	23,083
Apples, bus.	2,122	Coal, tons	19,905
Rice, tierces	207	Bark, hds.	1,247
Cotton, bales	555,414	Bark, bags	4,271
Candles, lbs.	285	Oil Cake, pigs	1,845
Tobacco, hds.	187,816	Vinegar, bbls.	1,595
Tobacco, lbs.	7,360	Wax, lbs.	15,371
Beans & Peas, bus.	1,089,101	Gunpowder, lbs.	101,450
Soap, lbs.	2,534	Alcohol, gall's	5,440
Domestic pkgs.	520,261	S. Turp. gall's	23,638
Codfish, bbls.	1,077	Hops, lbs.	17,601
Fish, bbls.	2,058,513	Ale and Cider	1,701
Tallow, lbs.	10,907	Oats, bus.	3,295
Pork, bbls. and tierces	5,629,307	Rye, bus.	45,763
Herces			
Bacon, lbs.			

Supply and Consumption of Water by our Water Works.—Philadelphia is supplied with water from three different water works: Fairmount, Schuylkill, and Delaware. The supply of water from these three sources last year was as follows:—

	Fairmount.	Schuylkill.	Delaware.
January	176,162,481	160,428,903	40,855,632
February	152,638,839	113,036,586	35,001,448
March	194,339,452	117,718,300	41,600,328
April	263,191,870	111,923,244	43,862,230
May	256,897,816	129,917,333	62,317,936
June	291,869,742	135,402,241	51,462,900
July	294,370,103	177,186,379	94,751,181
August	264,342,305	178,316,531	51,830,016
September	249,349,509	130,914,220	51,496,936
October	235,299,978	107,318,832	49,364,605
November	184,610,701	97,754,939	43,318,363
December			
Total	2,782,736,530	1,525,967,729	567,804,060
Inc'this yr.	496,334,623	159,776,166	50,369,161
Daily average	7,611,756	4,178,496	1,554,197

Total quantity pumped into the different reservoirs by the whole works, were as follows:—

	Gallons.	1855.	Daily Av.	Gals.
January	319,435,021	January	10,304,355	
February	300,711,876	February	10,739,719	
March	353,658,141	March	11,408,327	
April	373,587,304	April	12,525,746	
May	445,423,572	May	14,368,662	
June	443,762,657	June	14,794,687	
July	523,746,306	July	16,895,042	
August	519,015,700	August	16,742,442	
September	448,706,461	September	14,966,981	
October	429,227,649	October	13,946,053	
November	394,165,154	November	13,138,933	
December	325,088,708	December	10,489,732	
Total	4,876,528,635	Total	13,344,323	

At the works in the Twenty fourth Ward, started last August, about 2,916,765 gallons per month have been supplied.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in pumping with the Cornish engine, at the Schuylkill works, on account of the inadequate size of the mains. A stand-pipe has been erected at the engine-house, and all difficulty has been overcome thereby. The stand-pipe is 137 feet high, 6 feet diameter at the base, made of boiler plate iron.

The iron pipes laid in 1855 amount to about six miles, as follows:—In the old city proper, 2,549 feet; north of do., 22,769 feet; south of do., 4,526 feet; Twenty-fourth Ward, 1,518; total 31,362 feet, making the total of water pipe laid in the city nearly 190 miles.

Mr. George W. McMahon, the Register of the Watering Department, has kindly furnished us with the following statistics, showing the revenue for the past year. The annual rents collected amounted to \$327,333 75; penalties for neglecting to conform to the ordinances regulating the Water Works, \$7,734 60; new permits granted, \$25,316 (3 iron pipes, \$20,975 79—making a total of \$31,410 17. The duplicates for 1855 amounted to \$330,921 47, and \$1,100 additions, making \$331,921 49—leaving \$4,637 74 outstanding.

The duplicates for this year will reach nearly \$350,000.

Month	Annual Rents	Amount
January	\$24,538 25	\$16,123 46
February	28,955 50	8,235 47
March	169,726 81	5,078 81
April	36,542 75	2,577 17
May	11,454 79	1,034 80
June	27,522 25	
July	4,665 29	327,333 75

Gold's Steam Heating Apparatus.—An apparatus, patented by Stephen J. Gold, adapted to the heating of public buildings or dwellings by steam.

Weather Statistics for 1855.—The following interesting statistics of the weather for the past year, are gleaned from the record kept at the Pennsylvania Hospital, by Dr. John Conrad.

The mean temperature of December, was 36.73°, which is 2° above the average of the last 30 years—and the amount of rain 5.42 inches. At Trenton, there was 5.35 inches of rain, and at Paoli, 6.43 inches.

The following table shows the highest, lowest, and mean temperature of each month in 1855:—

Month	Maximum degs.	Minimum degs.	Mean degs.
January	65	17	35.44
February	49	2	25.50
March	67	17	42.00
April	83	24	53.26
May	95	40	61.47
June	95	63	70.19
July	95	66	78.50
August	87	60	73.73
September	81	47	67.61
October	75	33	53.69
November	69	27	48.00
December	61	14	36.73

The mean temperature of the year is 53.61 degs. The mean temperature of the preceding 30 years, 53.31 degs. The warmest day of the year was the 19th of July, the mean temperature of which was 86° degs., and the coldest was the 7th of February, the mean of which was 8 degs. The range of the thermometer was from 2 degs. below Zero to 95 above.

The temperature of the seasons, as deduced from observations for 31 years, is as follows:—

Season	Mean degs.
Winter months	33.76
Summer months	73.44
Spring	51.87
Autumn	64.78

The warmest year was 1838—mean, 55° degs. The coldest year was 1836—mean, 55° degs.

The mean temperature of the months for 31 years:—

Month	Mean degs.
January	32
February	32
March	41
April	51
May	62
June	71
July	82
August	85
September	75
October	65
November	54
December	44

Amount of rain for each month of 1855:—

Month	Amount of rain
January	2.31 inches
February	2.35 "
March	1.68 "
April	2.05 "
May	2.96 "
June	7.95 "
July	6.40 "
August	2.79 inches
September	4.00 "
October	4.11 "
November	2.04 "
December	5.42 "
Total	44.09 inches.

Amount of rain for each year, from 1838 to 1855:—

1838	45.29 inches
1839	45.09 "
1840	42.73 "
1841	47.40 "
1842	55.50 "
1843	49.53 "
1844	46.91 "
1845	40.17 "
1846	40.00 "
1847	44.38 "
1848	45.29 "
1849	45.09 "
1850	42.73 "
1851	47.40 "
1852	55.50 "
1853	49.53 "
1854	46.91 "
1855	40.17 "

The average amount for these eighteen years is 44.16 inches. The greatest amount which fell in any year was in 1841, (55½ inches), and the least, in 1848, (35 inches).

Average amount of rain for each month of the year, for 18 years, from 1838 to 1855 inclusive:—

Month	Amount of rain
January	3.01 inches
February	3.03 "
March	3.60 "
April	3.64 "
May	3.97 "
June	3.66 "
July	4.37 inches
August	4.60 "
September	3.50 "
October	3.29 "
November	3.43 "
December	4.09 "

The greatest quantity which fell in any month of these years was 11.80 inches, in July, 1842; the least was in September, 1846, ¼ inch.

Market Street Bridge.—The great necessity for using every precaution to guard against fire on the Market street bridge, has recently had the effect to direct the attention of the proper authorities to the subject, and upon an examination of the very imperfect apparatus intended to be used there in case of fire, the Committee of Councils immediately ordered a more substantial and efficient apparatus to be constructed. Formerly, the only means the attendants at the bridge had at their command to battle against fire, was a section of leather hose, enclosed in a small box, which required to be attached to a plug some twenty feet distant from the Eastern end, and other sections to be attached at different places along the bridge. This was deemed an insecure mode of checking a fire, should one occur, for the reason that considerable time would naturally be consumed in adjusting the hose to the plug, and a longer period of time might elapse before the sections on the bridge could be taken from the locked box in which they were kept at either end and arranged on the openings. Since the investigation of the Committee was made, Messrs. Rice & Kelley, of Arch street, have laid a four inch cast-iron pipe across the bridge, 650 feet in length, and connected it with the tenth main at Market and Bridgewater streets, in the Twenty-fourth Ward, making the entire length 1600 feet. At different places on the bridge eight two and a half inch patent brass valves have been inserted in the pipe, to each of which a section of hose fifty feet long is to be attached and hung in a safe position, so that in case of fire on any part of that structure the water can be turned on, and eight streams directed to it, in less than three minutes. The cast iron pipe is encased in an air-tight box, and the winter the boxes are to be packed, in order to prevent the water from freezing. Yesterday morning a trial was made of the distance water can be thrown from the attachments at the valves, and through a three quarter inch nozzle and thirty feet of hose, water was thrown 105 feet from the nozzle and through fifty feet of hose a stream was thrown horizontally 120 feet. A trial was also made through a one and a quarter inch nozzle, and the distance attained was 85 feet. Thus it will readily be perceived there is greater security against fire now, than before the iron pipe was laid. Should anything occur to the West Philadelphia Water Works, the residents of the Twenty fourth Ward can be supplied from the works at Fairmount.

Lehigh Coal and Lumber Trade, for the week ending November 10, 1855.

Names of the Rulers of the World.
 The following is a list of the names of the illustrious personages—male and female—who held the government in chief of the principal divisions of the world, in Europe, Asia, Africa, the United States, and Central and South America in their hands at the close of the past year.

COUNTRY.	NAME OF RULER.	TITLE.	DATE OF ACCESSION.
United States	Franklin Pierce	President	1853
Great Britain	Victoria I.	Queen	1837
France	Napoleon III.	Emperor	1852
Russia	Alexander II.	Czar	1855
Austria	Francis Joseph II.	Emperor	1848
Spain	Isabella II.	Queen	1833
Turkey	Abdul-Medjid	Sultan	1839
Belgium	Leopold I.	King	1831
Prussia	Fredk. William IV.	King	1840
Portugal	Don Pedro V.	King	1849
Greece	Otho I.	King	1833
Bavaria	Maximilian II.	King	1854
Holland	William III.	King	1849
Hanover	George V.	King	1851
Sweden & Norway	Oscar I.	King	1844
Baden	Louis	Grand Duke	1852
Wurtemberg	William I.	King	1841
Hesse Cassel	William I.	Electoral	1845
Saxe-Coburg-Gotha	Ernest II.	Duke	1847
Denmark	Fredrick VII.	King	1848
Two Sicilies	Ferdinand II.	King	1830
Sardinia	Victor Emmanuel II.	King	1849
China	Hein-Fung	Emperor	1850
Persia	Nasser-ad-Din	Shah	1848
Egypt	Said Pasha	Viceroy	1854
Hesse Darmstadt	Fredk. William I.	Electoral	1847
Mexico	Francis Comonfort	President	1855
Haiti	Faustin I.	Emperor	1849
Brazil	Don Pedro II.	Emperor	1831
Society Islands	Pomare I.	Queen	1855
Sandwich Islands	Kamehameha IV.	King	1855
Julleria	J. B. Vodi.	Pres. Concl.	1853
Bolivia	Stephen A. Pando	President	1856
Peru	General Castilla	President	1855
Guatemala	Rafael Carrera	President	1851
Honduras	Trinidad Calmas	President	1852
Nicaragua	Jose Antonio	President	1855
Costa Rica	Patricio Rivers	President	1855
Entre Rios	Juan Raphael Mora	S. Director	1855
Uruguay	J. J. Urquiza	Governor	1855
Buenos Ayres	Mano B. Bustamante	President	1855
Chile	Phillippe Lavallol	President	1855
Ecuador	Manuel Montu	President	1855
Dominica	Jose Marie Urbina	President	1855
New Grenada	Santa Ana	President	1855
Tuscan	Jose Obaldia	President	1855
Paraguay	Leopold II.	Grand Duke	1854
Venezuela	Carlos Antonio Lopez	President	1855
Siam	Jose Tad. Monagas	President	1855
Anhalt Bernberg	Chan Yu Hua	King	1854
Anhalt Dessau	Alexander Charles	Duke	1854
Brunswick Duchy			