The Philadelphia Water Works Ornamental Pumps

Our readers will remember the illustration of the ornamental pumphouse in the West Philadelphia Water Works, which was published on page 61 SCENIC AMERICANA, and stated to be designed by Wm. H. Howson, of Camden, N. J. We have received a letter from Messrs. Birkhahn & Trotter, Engineers and Contractors of said Water Works, in which they state that Mr. Howson did not design the stand pipes, and we believe the same statement to be true, as the form as designed by Mr. Howson being in their employ as draughtsmen for a portion of the time the works were in the progress of erection. We would also state that we have read a very suggestive communication from Mr. Howson being the designer of the ornamental stand pipe in question, and such evidence was, and is, satisfactory to us, respecting the authorship of the stand pipe in question.

LOCAL AFFAIRS

The Old Independence Bell—The old bell which first proclaimed liberty to the United Colonies from Independence Hall is to be removed to the State Capitol, and the metal from which it is composed will be melted down as a patriotic act.

The editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer, in a recent number, has an object of situation in Independence Hall, and it is stated that the old bell is to be placed in a prominent position in the hall, and that the metal from which it was made will be melted down as a patriotic act. It is further stated that the old bell will be placed in a prominent position in the State Capitol, and that the metal from which it was made will be melted down as a patriotic act.

The Inquirer says:—

"A double acting engine with two nine-inch cylinders, two pistons, two connecting rods, and a two stroke—making about ten revolutions in the minute. The two pistons were connected by a double acting engine, and all the parts of the cylinder were upon the ground indicated by the bell. The engine was described in the Stearns' Lighted, and in every minute the three".

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