

# NORTH HILL CHATTERER

ROYAL CORNWALL GAZETTE, AUGUST 12, 1887.

## New Reservoir for Kingbear?

*Budge's Plan for Water Supply*

### THE WATER SUPPLY.

Launceston Local Board met on Monday; present Mr. J. HAWKINS (chairman), the Mayor (Mr. G. G. White), Messrs. J. M. Strong, E. P. Nicolls, J. Treleaven, C. Congdon, A. J. Hender, T. B. Hender, T. White, and I. Shearm.

The report of the Medical Officer (Dr. Sergeant) for the month of July stated that there had been eight deaths and eight births during the month, equal in each case to a rate of two per thousand for the month. Although the death-rate for the month was a little above the average, yet no deaths had occurred from any zymotic disease, and the district was healthy.

Some discussion arose on the shortness of the water supply, and the clerk (Mr. C. L. Cowlard) stated, in answer to inquiries, that under the Act the Board simply supplied water for domestic purposes, and that anything else must be a matter of special arrangement. The supply should not include the washing of carriages kept for hire, or the watering of gardens, or supply of fountains. It was suggested that the surveyor should call upon persons who used water for garden purposes to discontinue the practice. At the same time congratulation was expressed that the supply of water had hitherto proved so good, and it was pointed out that all who had cisterns might rely upon being well supplied.—On the motion of Mr. Strong, seconded by Mr. White, it was decided that notices should be issued calling attention to the scarcity of water, and asking householders to be as careful as they possibly could, and not to use the water for anything but domestic purposes.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the new water supply scheme. A letter was read from Mr. F. W. Dymond, Exeter, giving the result of his inquiries.—A communication was also read from Mr. S. W. Jenkin, Liskeard, stating that he had had an interview with Mr.

Budge relative to the Kingbear supply. He submitted a plan of the course of the pipes, by which the water could be brought into a reservoir at a height sufficient to supply every portion of Launceston. Generally he believed there would be no difficulty in procuring and impounding a sufficient quantity of water for the supply of Launceston from Mr. Budge's land without the necessity of arranging with any other landowners, although, of course, it might be deemed desirable to negotiate with the adjoining landowners for greater convenience. He had carefully checked the levels of the ground between the proposed site of reservoir at Kingbear and the Windmill-hill at Launceston, and found that the water might be brought directly to Launceston through South Petherwin, the summits being all sufficiently low for that purpose. In a second letter Mr. Jenkin dealt with the cost. The distance from Kingbear to the top of Windmill-hill was 13,726 yards, or rather over  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles, whereas the length from Hawks Tor was only six miles. This  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles of pipe would add between £800 and £900 to the cost, while at Hawks Tor the storage reservoir would have been constructed at a cheap rate. Assuming that the reservoir at Kingbear would be capable of storing from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 gallons, and that a service reservoir to hold four or five days' supply would be erected on Windmill-hill, he estimated the cost as follows:—Pipes and laying, £3,602; works at Intake bay, £100; storage reservoir, £965; covered surface reservoir, £583; contingencies and extras, £525; total £5,775. This was rather over £1,000 in excess of the cost of the Hawks Tor scheme, this being accounted for by the additional length of pipes, and the extra cost of storage reservoir.—Mr. T. B. Hender expressed himself favourable to the Kingbear scheme, which would give them all they wanted in the supply of the higher levels. He hoped, therefore, that the Board would fix their attention on that scheme only.—In answer to the Mayor, it was stated by the Clerk that the present debt of the Board was £725.—Mr. Treleaven inquired as to the holding of a public meeting on the subject, to which many members had pledged themselves.—The Clerk said that the Local Government Board inquiry would be the proper means of testing the feeling of the town.—The Mayor suggested, in answer to another remark of Mr. Treleaven, that the public meeting should be deferred until the scheme was more matured.—Mr. T. B. Hender moved a resolution that, it appearing that a supply could be obtained from Kingbear from Mr. Budge at a less cost than the Hawks Tor scheme, having regard to the fact that the Kingbear water could be supplied direct to the town, the clerk be requested to apply to Mr. Jenkin for further particulars, that the necessary negotiations be entered into, and that the terms of Mr. Jenkin's remuneration be arranged.—Mr. Treleaven seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

An application was submitted from the committee of the South Petherwin mills road improvement, asking for an additional donation of £25 towards the cost. It was decided that it was not desirable to contribute anything further to the fund.

A letter was received from the Local Government Board pointing out the desirability of some comprehensive scheme for the disposal of the sewage which should obviate any infringement of the Rivers Pollution Act. Several members assented to the opinion that the water supply question should be settled first.

The Clerk drew attention to the neglect of dairymen to register under the Dairy, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order. Registration cost nothing, and he expressed the hope that those interested would register, and thus render proceedings unnecessary.—This concluded the business.