

The Temporary Water Supply.

The jury of inquisition to inquire into the damages claimed to be done to property along the line of Roland run by the temporary supply of water from the Gunpowder river had a recess Saturday, and will meet this morning at Lake Roland, when the examination will be proceeded with. Witnesses for the city will be examined, first to show what is proposed to be done with the run in connection with the temporary supply, and the jury will then, after examining witnesses for the other side and investigating the operations of the works, decide whether any damages will accrue to the property-holders. Roland run is one of the main tributaries to Lake Roland, and supplies the lake with about as much water as Jones's falls. The distance from where the run is tapped by the temporary supply to Lake Roland is about two and one-fourth miles. The temporary supply is only used in summer, when the streams supplying Lake Roland run low, and it is claimed that the addition of the temporary supply does not raise the run above its natural flow in the spring; hence no damage can be done to property-holders. The supply was used last summer, and no damage was done nor any complaint made thereof. Before the works were ready to be put in operation last summer Samuel Appold obtained an injunction from the Circuit Court of Baltimore county, upon the ground that damage would be done his property. This injunction was dissolved when the supply was ready to be turned on, by the city giving security, and then took an appeal to the Court of Appeals. The latter tribunal in its opinion in the matter stated that owners of property along the line of the stream had the right to have the flow of water kept as it had been in the past, that is neither increased nor diminished; that any attempt to increase the supply would subject the city to a suit for damages, and in that event nominal damages would have to be given. The jury of inquisition is to determine what, if any, damage had to be paid by the city, implying that no actual damage had been done. The present jury of inquisition is therefore following out a technical proceeding of law.

The persons applying for damages are Samuel Appold, Sarah Ann Hiser, Lewis J. Roberts, Samuel Cole, Daniel Hynes, Lewis Job Rider, Harrison Rider, Salvadora M. Davidson, Henry Kellog and John Baker, trustees, &c.; George O. and D. G. Stevens, Jasper M. Berry, Catharine and Melinda Tristle and D. C. H. Emory. It has been intimated that some two or three of those claiming damages, after seeing the temporary water supply in operation, were willing to waive their claims for damages provided the city would keep the stream cleaned out and the sides protected from overflow. No such proposition has been made, however, to Mr. James L. McLane, City Solicitor Ritchie, or R. K. Boorman, who represent the city, and it is claimed by counsel on the other side that a contest will be made for damages, not technical only, but for actual damages. The witnesses in all the cases will be heard together, and all the cases argued at the same time.