

THE GORDON STEAM PUMP COMPANY.

Two pattern makers in Cincinnati, Messrs. Cope & Maxwell, devised and patented an improved steam pump and, in a small way, they began its manufacture. The business grew upon them and they took in partners with capital and formed the Cope & Maxwell Manufacturing Company. Their factory in Cincinnati was on the usual city style, heavy work being done in upper stories and no possible chance for extensions. In 1871 the establishment moved to Hamilton and erected a splendid factory with facilities for doing the work properly. They still retained the business office in Cincinnati, but the important fact is to be noted that within one year after moving to Hamilton there were more Cope & Maxwell pumps pumping water in Egypt than in Cincinnati, and to-day there is no country in the world in which they are not well known. These steam pumps were made for every possible duty and of a great variety of sizes.

In 1873 the establishment built its first water-works pumping-engine for supplying the city with water. This machine was erected at Newport, Kentucky, and was followed in 1874 by the pumping-engines for the water-works at Clinton, Iowa, and in 1875 by the water-works engines of Anamosa, Iowa, and the Athens Ayclum, of Ohio, and in 1876 by the engines at Logansport, Indiana, and others.

In 1884 Mr. Cope retired and the entire establishment was purchased by the Gordon & Maxwell Company, a new Company composed of Messrs. Gordon, McKinney & Gaff of the Niles Tool Works, and Mr. Maxwell of the former Company. Soon after that Mr. Maxwell retired entirely from active manufacturing business and entered upon the profession of Consulting Engineer, and in 1890 the name of the concern was changed to the Gordon Steam Pump Co.

The shop has been many times enlarged until now it is very extensive and splendidly equipped and turning out an enormous output of everything in the way of steam pumping machinery, principally duplex steam pumps for general purposes and water-works engines for the supply of municipalities.

The first steam pump manufactured by the concern had fixed upon it a small plate bearing the legend "No. 1" and ever since that the practice has been followed of consecutively marking the machines sent out. The number of the last plate, at the present time of writing was 8290. The variety of product will be understood from the fact that the number of styles and sizes of steam pumps for which patterns are on hand and for which orders are being constantly filled is nine hundred. The capacity of the establishment, as large as it is, is always over-taxed and night work is constantly being done.

Special attention has been given to water-works engines for cities, and up to the present writing this establishment has furnished two hundred and seven pumping engines for water-works use, and it may be of interest to note that these water-works pumping engines have been distributed as follows, viz: Alabama 1, Arkansas 1, Colorado 3, Canada 4, Dakota 2, Delaware 1, Georgia 3, Illinois 19, Indiana 11, Iowa 21, Kansas 4, Kentucky 3, Mississippi 1, Minnesota 2, Missouri 3, Montana 2, Michigan 18, New York 4, New Jersey 4, Nebraska 1, North Carolina 1, Ohio 48, Pennsylvania 17, Tennessee 1, Texas 7, Virginia 2, West Virginia 4, Washington 2, Wisconsin 6.