

The building of Leominster's waterworks was not universally acclaimed

The proposed establishment of a waterworks in the 1860's was not universally acclaimed by the people of Leominster who felt that existing water supply arrangements were more than adequate.

The following press article, which named two of Leominster's Victorian benefactors, appeared in the Hereford Times on 3 August 1867 – the year Leominster waterworks opened.

LEOMINSTER - A NEW PUBLIC PUMP

“The people residing in Dishley Street and parts of Bargates have long been annoyed with an old pump, which was nearly always out of repair and usually incapable of supplying that indispensable necessary, water for cleaning and cooking purposes. For 41 years the old pump had stood at the corner of Dishley Street and many a collection has been made by neighbours for restoring its impaired body and internal machinery. It appears that the pump was erected in the year 1826 by Thomas Bish, the lottery contractor, who for a short period represented the Borough as one of its members.

On Saturday evening last a new pump on the same site was formally opened to the public.

Bargates and Dishley Street were quite gay in appearance, there being a large garland suspended across the street and the following words printed on a large sheet of paper ...

‘Success to the gentleman that all Leominster respects, Henry Herbert Esq,’

The pump was opened by this respected gentleman, the donor himself, in the presence of a large concourse of persons living in the immediate neighbourhood, amid acclamations of joy from the assemblage. The pump is a neat, substantial iron one, erected by Messrs Wiles, engineers and iron founders of this town. On the one side of the house behind the pump is printed on a large poster, the following ...

**We have good water here you see,
Therefore, no waterworks need we.**

