EXTENT OF SOROCOLD'S WATER SUPPLY AT DERBY.

By F. WILLIAMSON, F.R. Hist.S.

In this Society's Journal for 1936 (Vol. LVII), the present writer tried to summarize all that was known of George Sorocold of Derby, one of the pioneers of civil engineering in England, and particularly noted for his practical work in water supply. It has since become abundantly clear that less than justice has been done to Sorocold and other contemporary engineers some of whom were associated with him in a few of his undertakings, and students of industrial history are anxious to find out more and more about these men.

The dates and places of Sorocold's birth and death are still unknown, but about twenty references to members of the Sorocold family have come to light in the parish registers of Winwick, four miles north of Warrington in Lancashire, showing connections with the Sorocolds of Barton near Manchester, of which branch we assumed

George to belong.1

Although we know little more than we did about the man himself, a document has now turned up which throws light on the extent of Sorocold's water supply at Derby. This is in the form of a notebook containing details of the wooden supply-pipes which carried water from Sorocold's water-works through the streets of Derby. The notebook has been for many years in the possession of Mr. Sidney Thompson of Derby, who has kindly allowed a transcript of it to be made and to be printed, for which privileges thanks are tendered.

In the agreement made in 1692 between the Corporation of Derby and George Sorocold only five streets are

 $^{^{1}}$ MS. details of all Sorocold references have been placed in the Derby Ref. Lib. $=\!$ Author.

named, all lying between the River Derwent and Markeaton Brook. We now see that the pipes were carried through no fewer than twenty-three streets, so that Bagshaw's² statement that there were four miles of pipes must have been very near the mark. Moreover pipes were carried over the Markeaton Brook in three places, over Sadler Gate bridge to Friar Gate and the Wardwick, over the Gaol Bridge to St. Peter's St., past Bag Lane (East Street) and the pipes in the Morledge were probably taken down Tenant St., and over Tenant St. bridge.

Not only does the notebook include a complete account of the streets supplied from Sorocold's installation, but also describes the course followed by pipes from Becket Well, which is said to be in "a close at the back of the Calvinist Meeting House", across Markeaton Brook along St. James' St. to the "Reserver" near the end of the Town

Hall "where the pump stands".

The diameters of the pipes in the various streets are given, and the distances from definite well-described points are given in feet and inches but the names of subscribers are not given. The pipes vary in diameter from one inch to four and a half inches thick. This presumably refers to the bore of the pipes.

The same notebook contains particulars of the siting of the "Suffs", soughs or drains through the streets, measurements being taken from the same points as were

those of the pipes.

Although the list was not completed until 1799, more than a hundred years after the supply was installed, there is no evidence to suggest that it does not show the system substantially as put in by Sorocold. Since the end of the 17th century the town had grown considerably and the population exceeded 10,000, but none of the new streets had been supplied with pipes, which were still confined to the ancient parts of the borough.

There is no difficulty in identifying the streets through which the water-pipes ran, as there have been few changes of name since they were installed. Among names which have disappeared are Leather Lane, Nanny Tags Lane, Rotten Row and Bag Lane. These and other names are

² History, Gazeteer and Directory of Derbyshire, 1846, p. 81.

more fully discussed in a paper on "Old Derby Street Names" by the present writer in D.A.J., Vol. LXIII,

1942.

The notebook is $7\frac{7}{8}$ ins. x $6\frac{1}{4}$ ins., twelve leaves, the last three blank, with cover of thicker paper. Front cover "The Suffs and Pipes in the Town of Derby taken July 25th, 1799, by Charles Labin, Surveyor, Derby". On the back cover an engraved figure of a man in riding dress, bare headed and carrying a riding switch under his left arm. Beneath is the following inscription: "A REVD MACARONI. Pubd Accor' to Act Octr 1t 1773 by M. Darly 39 Strand".

Matthew Darley was a printseller and caricarturist; he and his wife Mary were engravers, they flourished about

1770.

The Oxford Dictionary (s.v. 2) describes a Macaroni as a type of fop or dandy which arose in England about 1760 and took its name from the Macaroni Club.

The title on p. I reads:

"The Enginneer Guide to the Suffs and Pipes in the Town of Derby in the Streets and Lanes from the Engine to Different Parts of the town, by Charles Lakin, Derby, SurveyorJuly 15th 1779, by order of Mr Chambers."

Index or An Alphabetical List of the Streets and Lanes with the Suffs and Pipes in the same.

Treat the bonne of the			
St. Alkmunds Churchyard	I	Nany Tags Lane	17
Amen Alley	2	St. Peters Street	18
Bridgegate the uper end	3	Queen Street	19
Bridgegate the lower end	4	Rotten Rowe	20
Bold Lane	5	Sadler Gate	21
Cornmarket	6	Ward Wick	22
Full Street	7	Walker Lane	23
Fryer Gate	8	The Cundit Pipes	
Iron Gate	9	the first from the	
St. James Lane	10	Cundy or well	
King Street	II	Down the Close	2
Leather Lane	12	a long by Calvinist Wal	3
Market Place	13	Crosses the Bruck	4
St. Mary Gate	14	St. James Lane	- 5
Morlidge	15	Corn Market	6
St. Michaels Lane	16	Leather Lane	7

	North	South	East	West	Suffs	Pipes
No. 1 St. Alkmunds Church Yard only the West Side to the top of Bridge-gate Opposite Mr. Barber Allens shop corner within the Church yard, from the wall At Mr. Manloves Coach house wall contiguous same distance to the steps At the Corner going down the steps into Bridgegate is the same distance	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in. 12.0 14.6	ft. in.	Diam. ins
SOUTH SIDE St. Alkmunds Church yard South side from Eagle and Child to Mr. Lattiefers this is a Branch At Eagle and Child from the wall and Lieth Regular at the same distance of 7 ft. 3 in. all the way to Mr. Lattyfers Corner EAST SIDE At Mr. Lattyfears Corner At Mr. Wrights Wall At the Stop Cock from the Wall At the Corner of Richard Rowes Painting Shop		7·3	7·3 8.0 5·4	14.0		1
N.B. this pipe goeth down Bridge- gate No. 2 Amen Alley at Bottom End (East) At the Bottom of the Church Yard Wall Corner At the Poach from Church Wall At Corbutts house from Church Wall (West) At the top of the Alley Church Wall. N.B. this pipe joins the Main Pipe at Doctor Menells Door in Iorn Gate.	6.0 6.0 2.8 2.0		2.0		4.9 4.8 5.4 4.9	ı
No. 3 Bridgegate The upper end is supplied by a pipe crossing the road at St. Alks. upper steps. [This is a correction of the first draft] At the Corner of ye wall where the Poasts and Rails joins At Richard Rowes house door and lieth under foot path At Mr. John Cromptons Blank Wall At Mr. John Cromptons Circular Blank Wall	5·3 6.6 11.9 14.0					

	. 37			1 337		. D. /
At the toll House Shop wall	N.	S.	E.	W. 5.0	Su.	Р.
At the Old Gate Way				5.0		
At the Sign of the Plow and Goes no further		1		6.0		
				0.0		
No. 4 The Lower End of Bridgegate is						
The Lower End of Bridgegate is supplied by a pipe which goes						
down the lower Steps in St. Alks. Church yard.						
At Church yard		2.0				10
At the Gardeners Shop wall At Mrs. Johnsons Gate way White		3.6				
hart		5.6			10	-
At Mrs. Marshalls Entry End N.B. From Marshall's Entry it		4.9				
Crosses over the street to Mrs.						
Palmers Parlow window and there ends.						-
No. 5 Bold Lane at Star Corner to the sign						
of the half Moon Powels and	1					
their Ends. At Star Corner the Pipe lieth close						
to the Poast from wall			2.0			14
At Play house ³ Door At Johnsons Basket Maker			8.6 6.8	,	4 5	
N.B. And this Branch continues	10		0.0			
to the half Moon and no further. At Powels house			2.9			
NB theirs is a Nother Branch to			2.9			
this pipe and joins at Johnsons Basket makers and turns over						
Saddlergate Bridge and joins that						
in the Wardwick. At the Corner of Bridge Wall	287.0			6.0		11/4
At the Center of Bridge wall				9.3		-4
At Walkers Brush Makers house wall NB their is the Pipe that comes				33.0		e4 ,
down Saddler Gate that joins this						
pipe at opperset Tommy Bottoms house at the Distance from	*					
Bottoms house	,	16.6				
No. 6						
The Corn Market from Fletchers the						
Silver Smiths to Jail Bridge 5. At Fletchers Silver Smiths house wall				17.9	18.3	3
At Mr. Nortons house wall At Doctor Bruckfield house Wall				21.0	22.6	
At St. James Lane End	3			19.3	19.10	
At Browns Mercer Shop Wall At Goodwins Breeches Maker		1961 3		21.2	21.6	21/2
NB This Pipe finishes operset				19.10	20.0	2 2
Goodwins but their is a Pipe Joines to it and it is turned to the						
Oather Side the Street.						

<sup>The old theatre in Bold Lane opened 1773.
Sadler Gate Bridge is now under the road.
The Gaol or St. Peter's Bridge is now under the road.</sup>

	N.	S.	E.	W.	Su.	P.
Against the Angel Inn on the East Side			17.3 7.6 6.9 5.6		17.3	11/4
No. 7 The Full Street from Evans Shop at Bottom of nanny tags Lane to Semby [Assembly] Room. At Joseph Evans Peteryfaction Shop Wall At Taylor Cullumbs Door At the Centre of the Dukes Almeshouses NB from Cullumbels house to Bealands Corner the Pipe Crosses the Street and Now we Measure from Bealands house wall wich is West Side. The Full Street Continued at Bealands corner of wall. West			5.4 8.8 7.4 15.6		13.3 15.3 12.0	14
Side of Street. At Bealands Corner of the Wall At Jessops house Wall At Needhams Door At Richardsons New house Wall At Simpsons Yard End At Simpsons Yard End At Simpsons house Corner At the Next Angle At the horse and trumpet At Charles Brentnors house At Mrs. Booths house wall At the Assembly Room Corner NB the Last Dimention is taken from the West Side Same as the Rest.				8.8 9.3 11.3 12.6 14.0 11.3 10.7 10.0 7.4 14.6 33.0	14.6 14.6 15.3 18.6 21.9 15.9 14.6 11.3 11.3 6.0	11
No. 8 Fryer Gate From the Buck in the Park. At the Buck in the Park house Wall West	*			14.3 14.0 14.0 14.0 8.6	9.0 9.0 9.6 10.0	112
Fryer Gate Continued and we Measure now from Mrs. Wholeys Poach on East Side. At Mrs. Wholeys Poach wall At Mrs. Mellows house Wall At Gillums Entry End		_ :	20.6 17.3 17.3			11/2

⁶ Assembly Rooms opened 1765.

At Mr. Fancoats house wall At the Twitche! Fand NB Their is two Branches at this Place one goeth to the house where Esqr. Port liveth and it lyes on the Outer Side of the Poasts and Rails near to them.	N.	S.	E. 17.3 17.3	W.	Su.	Р.
NB the Oather Goeth to the house Where Brick Maker Roe used to live in a Direct line from twitchel End to Roes house but not Been used for some years. The Suff in this Street is near to the Gutter all the way up to the house Where Miss Bingham lived and goeth no further than Miss Binghams Celler on the West Side of the Street.						
No. 9 Iorn Gate From Marshalls house opperset All Saints Church to Mr. Drewrys Corner is the West Side Street.						
At Marshalls house Corner At Poast Office Pallasaids At Whitehursts house wall At Ealeys Gateway At a Gardeners Shop Wall At the Talbut Gate Way At Dethick Grocer Wall At Robin Hood Gate Way At the George Gate Way At Mr. Drewreys Corner				22.6 11.3 9.6 6.9 8.0 6.8 8.0 6.7 6.7	11.10 11.9 13.3 13.3 14.6 13.3 13.11 12.6 10.7 9.3	4½
No. 10 At James Lane From Parkers Corner to the Rookery ⁸ but we measure South Wall.						
At James the Saddlers Corner At Swan and two Necks		4.0 4.7 5.4 5.9 4.0			5.9 5.9 5.4 6.8 4.0	34
tinues Down the Middle of the Lane. No. 11 King Street From Butchers Bridges to					8	ş v
Whites Mercers Shop. At Butchers Bridges Shop At John Finneys Yard End At the Old Tyger Door®				8.0 8.4 8.4	19.0 18.6 18.6	$4\frac{1}{2}$

⁷ Twitchel, "a narrow passage".
8 Nothing is known about this.
9 "Old" to distinguish it from the newer Tiger in the Cornmarket, mentioned in section No. 12.

At Turners Grocers Shop at top of	N.	S.	E.	W.	Su.	P.
Walker Lane				4.9 7.7 8.9 7.6 6.0 6.11	15.9 17.3 19.9 16.6 13.3 11.3	
No. 12 Leather Lane Including the two Ends that is to say Royal Oak End & the tyger End, the Apple Market which Joins the main pipe in the Corn Market South Side [This has been crossed-out in pencil and the following substituted] Market Place South Side including Leather Lane. At Royal Oak corner wall At John Redferns Saddlers Door At Lees house Brewer At Common Yard End At Sign of the Barly Mow At Sargent Titleys Door Cross Keys At Bruckfields Mercers At an Angle beyond Bruckfields At the Sign of the Tyger Yard End NB at the place where it joins the main Pipe.		10.0 10.6 10.6 7.0 6.0 8.0 6.2 5.0 5.3 25.9			10.6 14.0 14.3 7.6 5.6 5.6	I ½
No. 13 Market Place the East Side From the Assembly to the Royal Oak Corner. At the Assembly Room Corner from wall			6.0 5.6 5.3 8.7		32·4 34·3 32·3	11
Royal Oak The North Side of Market Place. At Mr. Coxes Corner of House At Mr. Rooms Door At Mr. Snodens Door At Mr. Marshalls Shop Door At Mr. Battels Door the Suff Ends At Mr. Leeks Confectioners Corner The North Side of Apple Market	9·3 9·3 7·5 6.0 6.9 7·4		3.6		13.3 18.6 14.0 15.3	11
Their is a Pipe that joins the Main Pipe in the Rotten Rowe. At Lord Smiths Corner of Shop At Evans the Milliners Shop Corner NB and turns up by the Side of the Piazes West Side at the	11.3				8.0	I
Bottom End At the middle of Ditto NB the Suff is taken from this Side all the way up.				2.0	15.9	

	N.	S.	E.	W.	Su.	Р.
At Butcher Radfords the Suff Ends at	1	0.	٠.	,,,,	Ju.	
Celler window. St. Mary Gate From Whites Shop						
to the Hotel agains the County Hall.					1	
At Whites Shop Mercer at top of	12.0				15.0	2
At the Fire Plug	12.0				15.0	2
At Mr. Batemans Coach house NB And continues Very Regular	12.3				15.3	
all the way Down the Street till						
you come to the Marlborough head.						
At Marlborough head Wall	12.3				15.3	2
At County Hall Gates it is More to the oather Side of Street	25.9				15.0	
At the Hotell Corner from Gates	29.0				15.0	
At the Corner of Ditto N.B. this Pipe Crosses at Marl-	29.1				15.9	
borough head to an Entry facing County hall Gates and lieth under						
under the flaging.					,	
At Star Corner the Pipe Lyes between the Wall and the Poast		2.0				
No. 15 Morlidge From Richardsons to						
Campbells Door at Bottom. At Richardsons			3.6		14.0	11
At the Lower Corner of Ditto			8.0		28.6	
At Lawyer Edwards house At Doctor Pigatts house			9.8		17.9	
At Campbells Door where the Pipe						
NB this Pipe goes no further.			15.0		17.9	7
No. 16						
St. Micheales Lane From Engine	3					
to the Church where the Reservoyer is.						
At Bottom of the Lane South Side and at the first Building on that	,		-			. 1
Side	20	3.3			4.0	$4\frac{1}{2}$
And Goeth up the lane Nearly the same Distance from the Wall till						
you come to Taylor Cullumbells house Corner		2.6			4.0	
At a Bout the Middle of the Church		3.6			4.0	
yard Wall and from the wall At the Church Corner	-	7.0 5.3			7.0	
At the Upper Corner of Church		5.3	1 .		6.9	
NB and then it turns Regular into the Queen Street.						
No. 17 Nany Tags Lane From the Bulls head						
Corner Down Mr. Linneys. At Bulls head Corner North Side	2.0				8.7	11
At the Bulls head Back Gates	3.4				8.7	-4
At about the Mid Way from Back Gates and Mr. Linneys	5.4				12.3	

At Mr. John Linneys in the Angle NB and then it Joins at Joseph Evans Peterafaction Shop with the full Street Pipes.	N. 12.0	S.	E.	W.	Su. 24.0	Р.
No. 18 St. Peters Street From Mr. William Strutts at Jail Bridge to Coopers Newhouse East Side. At Center of Bridge			5.6 8.0 46.0 13.3 12.6 8.10 5.6 14.0 6.10 5.9 7.4		6.9 12.0 8.10 5.6 14.0 7.4 6.0 8.0	r1
No. 19 Queen Street From St. Micheals Church to St. Alkmunds Church- yard At Butcher Bridges Shop West Side At Mr. John Hopes house At Sanders Shoe Makers Shop At Rubottoms Corner of Shop NB this Pipe is Joined to that in the Church Yard at Barber Allens Door.				12.0 13.3 12.0 12.0	21.6 21.6 20.0 19.6	2
No. 20 Rotten Row from Simmonds Corner to Fletchers Silver Smith Shop. At Simmonds Corner West Side At Hows hatters Door At Mile Stone ¹⁰ At Docter Mennells Door At Fletcher Silver Smiths Shop			9 2 3	4.9 6.9 9.3 14.6 17.9	8.0 13.3 15.3 15.9 18.3	4½ 3
No. 21 Saddler Gate From Drewrys Corner to Powells at half Moon. At Mr. Drewrys Corner At Wiltons Back Gates ¹¹ At the Mark of the Parish on the Wall At Shake Speer Wall At Turnstiles house fish Mongers NB this Pipe at this Place Goeth in a Straight line for the Poast on Saddler Gate Bridge but the Dimentions is taken from the same side as before to half Moon.	5·3 7·3 9·3 10.7 4.0				8.3 11.3 13.3 13.9 14.3	2
At Powells house Corner Crown of Bridge NB and now the Pipe Goeth Over the Bridge and Joines that Pipe in the Ward wick at a Bout Ellises Door.	26.6			5.1	13.3	

A brass tablet marks the spot, "London 126 miles".
 The boundary between All Saints and St. Werburghs in Sadler Gate cuts through buildings.

	N.	S.	E.	W.	Su.	P. 1
At the Poast on Saddler Gate Bridge		6.0			Ju.	2
Belongs to No. 21 Saddler Gate continued on to Ellises Door South Side.		4.0				2
At the Center of the Bridge At Tommy Bottoms house Wall		4.9				-
Corner At Butcher Houghton's Shop Corner		16.6				
At Denstons Bakers Wall At Willsons Seedsmans Corner NB This Pipe from 21 ft. from Willsons Corner of Wall the Pipe Goeth with a Regular turn and		4.0				2
joins that in Ward wick and Fryer Gate at Ellises Door and from						
Ellises Door		7.3				
Ward Wick From Ellises Door to Baker James house South Side. At Ellises Door		7.3		6.8	9.4	2
At Lawyer Evens house Wall At Mrs. Willsons house Wall At Mr. Harrisons house Wall At Mr. Thomas Loves house At Baker James house Wall NB this Pipe Goeth no further Down this Street.	2			10.7 12.7 6.8 9.3 6.9	15.10 14.9 13.3 15.3 17.2	•
No. 23 Walker Lane From Turners the Grocers at top of Lane to Workhouse. At Turners the Grocers Shop End At Evans Back Gate NB This Pipe Crosses the Street from a Parrish Mark AP at Evans Back Gate to the Oather Side of the Street where An Napper lived. At An Nappers Door North Side NB and Continues Down this side the Street at the Distance of NB and the Suff the Distance of This Pipe only Goeth to the Workhouse celler window.	3.6	2.0			6.6 10.6 10.6	ı
The Cundit Pipe at the well ¹² in the Close From the Close to the End of the Town Hall Where the Pump is. This Well is in a Close at the Back of the Calvinist Meeting house Covered Round with Stones with an Inscription on the Stones Dated 1651 Done by RP and IB on the left hand and on the Right hand IT and RB on the Oatherside.			2			

¹² Becket Well.

A	the Distance from a Wall of a Garden NB this Pipe Goeth	N.	S.	E.	W.	Su.	Р.	-
	Down the Close and is 22 feet West [sic] from the Wall						- 1	i
	At a little house at the Bottom of			22.0			11/2	1
	the Close the Pipe Goeth Under							1
	one End of house.							l
	At the Second Angle of the Cal-							ı
	vinist Meeting house yard		-					١
	Wall from the little house							ı
	Above Mentioned			3.6				
	At the Third Angle of the yard wall			1.0				ĺ
	And Continues the Same Distance			4.0				١
	at The Meeting house Corner			4.0				i
3.	NB Now we Come to Bromly			4.0				
	Bridge ¹² from thence it crosses							
4.	Markeaton Bruck At the							l
	Oather Side at St. James Lane							l
	End their is a house fronting to the Bruck, the Pipe Comes							l
	in a Direct line to a window in							
	that House NB and turns							l
	through a Door Way into St.							l
	James Lane						$1\frac{1}{2}$	
5.	Now we are in St. James Lane							
	At John Willcocks house Wall South							
	At Hewses Garden Wall		5·7 6.7					
	At Hewses Coach and Horses Door		9.3					
	At Sarrisons head Back Gates		8.7					
	At Sarrisons head Door		7.3					
	At Swan and two Necks Door		7.3					
6	At Joneses Saddler Corner NB and we Now Measure from		8.0					
0.	Kings head Side up to the							
	Pump.							
	At Kings head Wall — East Side			17.10				
	At Sturdyvans Soap Boyler house			32.3				
	At Tyger Corner			29.0				
	At Tyger Corner a Second ¹³			21.10				
	At Bruckfield Mercer Shop At Cross Keys Door			15.3		1		
	At Titleys Door			15.3				
	At Barley Mow Corner in Leather			11.3		. 1		
	Lane			9.3				
	At Common Yard End			11.3				
	NB and turns into the Reserver							
	Near to the End of the hall where the Pump stands ¹⁴ .	1						
	"Hore the I dilly stands".	()		l l	1	1	1	

To Make this Book Compleat Their must be a Blank leaf put in between Every One or of two leaves For the Enginneer to Make Alterations on Where found Necessary and in time you will obtain the truth of the Whole Pipes and Suffs.

What I mean by a leaf is a leaf ruled in the same manner as these leafs Are and one Put in between two for the Enginneer to Wright Down the truth where it is not found to be right at the Menchioned Places and Particular Care should be taken when any place is opened To measure the true Distance of Eather Pipes or Suffs when open for their is No Oather Oppertunity buthent. Please so Put this next to the Index as it may be seen the Intents of the above few lines.

¹³ Bramble Bridge over the Bramble Brook.

¹⁴ From here the rest is crossed out in pencil and the following inserted:— "in a Direct line to the Pump in the Centre of the Market Place".