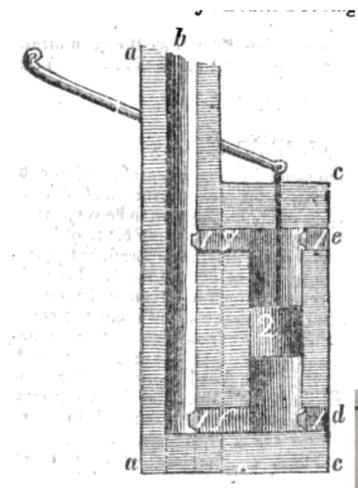
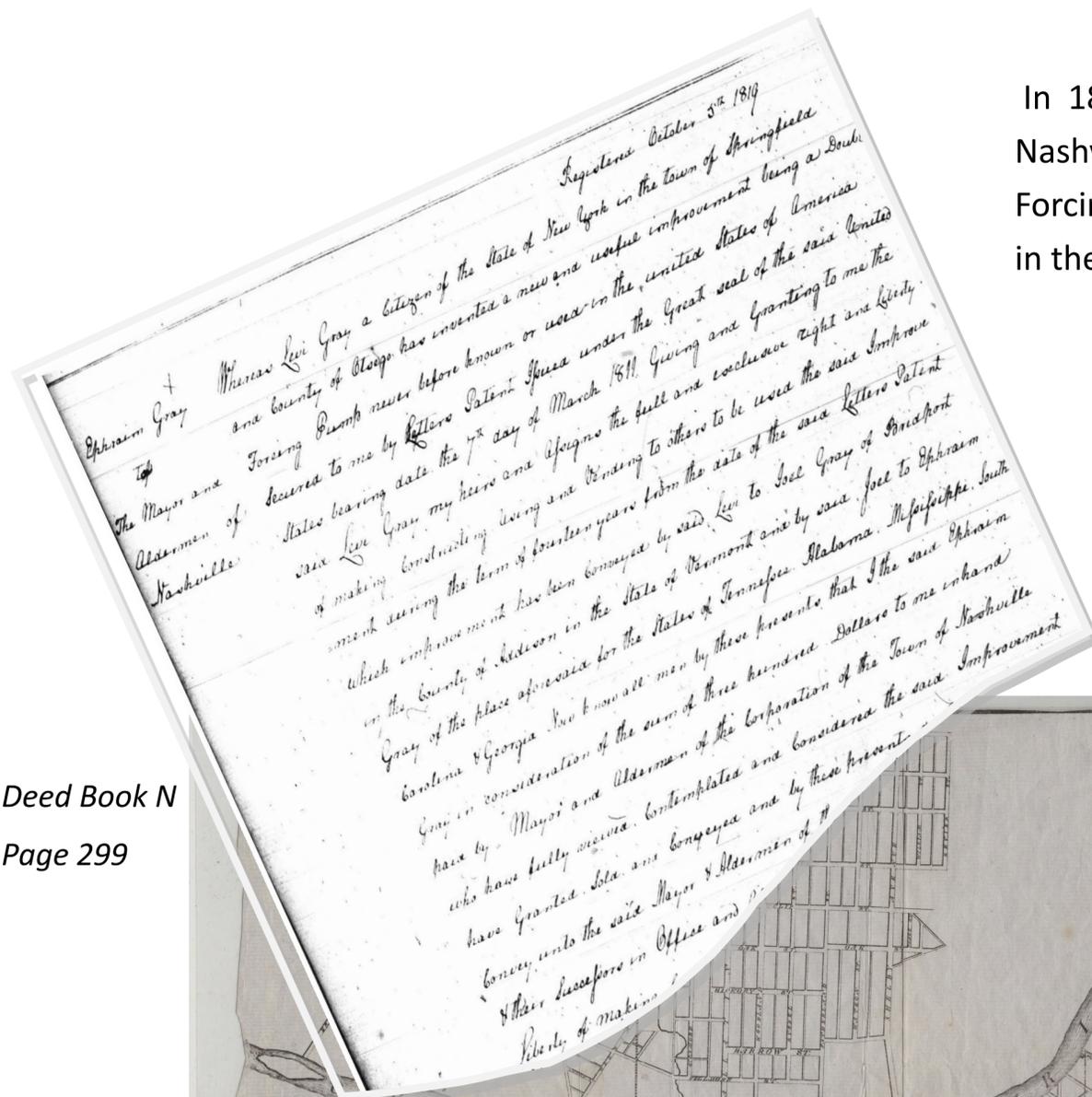


The First Water System

In 1819, the Corporation of the town of Nashville purchased the rights to a Double Forcing Pump “never before known or used in the United States of America” .



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In 1823, a contract was made with Samuel Stacker to install a pump and pipe system to carry water from the Spring at the foot of Spring Street (known today as Church Street) to a reservoir and the Public Square. The reservoir was to be built on property behind the Masonic Hall, which the Corporation had paid the Masons \$700 for. Stacker got water to the reservoir but had spent his entire contract amount and was unable to get water to the square. The city rescinded his contract and purchased the unfinished works for \$2,500.

By August 1826, the 1st system was completed and successfully in operation, under a new contract with the firm Avery and Ward. However, it had limited success, only delivering enough water to the cisterns on the Public Square to be used for firefighting. The pumping plant burned in 1829.