Hydraulic City
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This research on Mumbai’s water took me home to a world I did not know. Like many in Mumbai, I had for a long time lived in the city without needing to be conscious of the tremendous work of its social and material infrastructures. Through fieldwork, I learned of the extraordinary quotidian labor of employees of the city’s hydraulic engineering department and those that live in the city’s auto-constructed settlements, just to make water appear every day in city taps. And so it is with this more mundane book. Its appearance as a discrete thing conceals the generosity and work that has been invested in it by many others, just to make it appear in the world.

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