

Los Angeles News.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1868.

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DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

WM. T. WALLACE, San Francisco
THOS. J. HENLEY, Mercedino
E. J. C. KEWEN, Los Angeles
A. B. DIBBLE, Nevada
GEORGE PEARCE, Sonoma

ALTERNATE ELECTORS.

FRANCISCO RICO, Monterey
JOHN R. KITTRELL, Solano
J. BURCKHALTER, Mariposa
B. E. MYERS, Placer
J. N. MARTIN, Butte

FOR CONGRESS, (First District.)

S. B. AXTELL, San Francisco

The Common Council and the City Water Works.

We have no disposition to become connected with the struggle now going on between private parties to obtain possession of the City Water Works, and would not here refer to the subject, were not the remarks of our cotemporary, the Los Angeles Star, (unintentionally we believe) calculated to mislead the public and do injustice to the members of the Common Council who supported the or-

last winter, when there was no water in the pipes for four months, and sought to avoid a like occurrence in the coming winter; they well understand, and so does the public understand, that the supply of water for domestic purposes is now dependant upon a temporary dam in the river that will be destroyed by the first fall rain, and that the only remedy for the city is to build a dam which will cost more than the entire revenue of the city, without any security that it will resist the floods for even a single season, or make such arrangements as will induce private capital to furnish water the entire year. The increase in the value of real estate in this city may truly be said to have commenced with the founding of the present water works; vacant building lots having advanced since that time from \$25 to \$600, and the advance in real estate and the improvement of our city and its increase in population and business importance depends, to a very great extent, upon a permanent supply of water for domestic purposes. This the Council understood, and as prudent men, availed themselves of the best and most reliable proposition to accomplish that object.

New State—Southern California.

injustice to the members of the Common Council who supported the ordinance vetoed by the Mayor. After briefly stating the proposition of Messrs. Griffin, Beaudry and Lazard, in which they propose to lease the Water Works for a term of fifty years, offering as an equivalent therefor, the sum of \$24,000; \$10,000 in gold coin, \$6,000 in city warrants deriving 10 per cent. interest per annum, and \$8,000 in outstanding claims against the city; and to lay down in the streets of the city, twelve miles of iron pipes of sufficient capacity to supply the inhabitants of the city with water for domestic use, and make other improvements to the value of over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and to give a bond, to be approved by the Mayor, in the sum of fifty thousand dollars, conditioned for the faithful performance of the conditions of the ordinance; the whole of the improvements to revert to the city at the expiration of fifty years, upon the payment by the city of their costs without interest. After remaining before the Council for more than one week, the ordinance was so amended as to give the grantees a quit-claim deed of the personal property of the present Water Works, upon the conditions that the greater part of the improvements stipulated to be made, should be made within one year. As it is sought by parties *interested* to throw odium, both upon the above proposition and the Councilmen who gave it their support, we notice briefly the proposition made by John Jones, for a lease of fifty years, for which he offered the sum of

eilmen who gave it their support, we notice briefly the proposition made by John Jones, for a lease of fifty years, for which he offered the sum of \$50,000; being an annual rent of \$1,000, or to pay that sum in installments of \$2,000 per annum for twenty-five years, without any stipulation as to what improvements would be made, if any, during that time, or any statement of the means by which the city would be furnished with water during the continuance of the lease. The third proposition to lease came from P. McFadden, and simply offered \$30,000 in gold, for a lease of the present Water Works for a term of twenty years from the expiration of the present lease: being a yearly rental of \$1,500 for the term of the lease, and a complete monopoly of the sale of water for domestic purposes. Mr. McFadden is the owner of another Water Work, from which of course, he would supply the city with water, paying the city \$1,500 per annum for the purpose of preventing their being leased by others who would offer competition in the delivery of water for domestic purposes. It is claimed by the Mayor in his veto message, that the present Water Works are leased for the sum of \$1,500 per annum. If that be true, then we fail to see the advantages offered to the city by either the proposition of Jones or McFadden; neither of them increasing the revenue now derived by the city from the water, and neither of them proposing to make such improvements as would make the Water Works a great public good; while the proposition vetoed

neither of them proposing to make such improvements as would make the Water Works a great public good; while the proposition vetoed by the Mayor, would have made the present Works permanent by making improvements within one and two years, to the amount of two hundred thousand dollars, and the inhabitants of the city would have been secure against water monopolies in the future by there being two water works in successful operation, naturally producing sufficient competition to keep the price of water at reasonable figures. The present lessees need no defence in the premises; those gentlemen naturally consulted their business interests before they proposed to expend so large a sum of money either for the public or private good. The members of the Council however, who gave the measure their support, remembered the condition of the city.