

### The Water Works Celebration.

Early in the morning of May 12th, 1870, people from the surrounding country poured into the city for the celebration of the completion and ultimate success of the water works.

The marshal of the grand parade was General Edward Harland. In addition to the local military companies there were present the Hartford City Guards, New London Rifles, Artillery Company G, Scott Rifles of Sprague, Lyon Guards of Dayville and Mystic Rifles. The local fire department had as guests Undine Engine Company of Stonington, and South Penn Hose Company of Philadelphia. The procession was reviewed at Chelsea Parade by Brigadier-General Wm. G. Ely, Chief J. B. Carrier and Chief Downer of Philadelphia. Five hundred of the militiamen were dined at Breed Hall

The hospitality of the city was lavished on this occasion upon the South Penn Hose Company who, on the following day, were taken in carriages to Hyde Tavern, Yantic, where a clam bake was served to 200 guests. The day was one of continual feasting as lunches were served to the company as they made the rounds of the various fire department quarters. The day ended with a banquet at the Wauregan House in the evening.

### Political Changes.

For the first time in many years the Democratic party nominees were elected to office at the June city election in 1870. The Democratic platform in this election was "Down with city taxes; down with city expenses; down with the ring; retrenchment and reform." James A. Hovey received 697 votes for mayor as against 356 for Zadoc C. Crowell, the Republican nominee. The Republican party was split up by individual squabbles and the additional burden of taxes for various public improvements was beginning to be felt. The expenses of the city had grown from \$30,025.72 in 1866 to \$56,029.85. The city debt increased from \$57,192.21 in 1867 to \$367,530.28 in 1870. Citizens of Norwich who were occupying distinguished positions in the national government in 1870, were Commodore Lanman, who was in command of the Brazil squadron and Henry Ruggles, who, in May, received his credentials as United States Consul to Barcelona, Spain. William A. Buckingham was a member of the national senate.

On June 20th, in Treadway's Hall, the central district voted to purchase a site for a school of Henry Bill for \$1,500 and to erect a four-room building 30 x 50 at a cost of \$6,000. The building com-