

## MILFORD.

The water question is exciting a great deal of interest and provoking much discussion among the voters and property owners, and a lively town meeting is looked for next Monday. The town voted last fall very decidedly not to put in water works, and soon after a company was formed which secured a property in Hopkinton which is expected to furnish water sufficient for a town double the population of Milford. The company proposes, under its charter, to build reservoirs, lay 15 miles of pipe and supply its patrons with water. What it wishes the town to do is to lease 60 hydrants at \$50 each for fire purposes. This annual rental will, it is thought, prove the cheapest method for the town and also satisfy the water company. The town maintains an expensive fire department, and water is obtained by pumping from 18 small reservoirs, which last season were seriously affected by drouth. One of the principal insurance agents says the saving of premiums to private individuals will be about \$7000 if water works are introduced. Two years ago the town constructed water works through the manufacturing district for fire purposes only, and the rates of insurance in that section, it is alleged, have been materially reduced, but those works could not be extended without a vast outlay, and the only available water supply is situated a few miles from the centre of the town. It is said that the annual expense of maintaining reservoirs, including interest, repairs, etc., is nearly \$1000. The water company has provisions for a capital of \$100,000, divided into shares of \$50 each, and is ready to begin operations with \$90,000.

are as soon as the preliminaries are arranged, and complete the principal portions of the work during the summer. The charter gives the town the right at any time to purchase the property, rights and privileges belonging to the water company at a sum to be mutually agreed upon, or in case of a disagreement, three commissioners are to be appointed upon application by the supreme judicial court, which is to render a final decision.\* But the town cannot buy the water works except by a two-thirds vote. The incorporators are Moses Joy, Jr., Charles W. Shippen, John P. Davis, and Charles F. Cladio.

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