

candidate, and asked him which would he like to have, Bath or Wells? The prompt reply was "Bath," which his Lordship rightly understood, but the clerk was born in another part of the country; he wrote "Bath," and naturally added, "Bath and Wells." That settled the matter to this day.

A SPLENDID BANNER. We saw at the store of Adams Brothers, yesterday, an elegant banner which they have just completed for the St. John's Catholic Total Abstinence Society, and of which they will undoubtedly be justly proud, especially as it is a splendid affair and was made at home. The cross-piece is surmounted by a gilded cross, at the foot of which twines the dearest of emblems to the Irish heart, the shamrock, finely carved from wood. The drop curtain is of white velvet, and, like the banner proper, is bound with heavy gold bullion fringe. The material of the banner is green silk, bearing on its front the words "St. John's Catholic Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society," and in the centre a painting representing St. John the Evangelist, having a scroll in his right hand, while over his shoulder is seen the American Eagle. The back side has the same inscription as the front, with the words: "Organized June 1873, Bangor." In the centre on this side is a painting representing a fountain in full play. The committee of the society who have had charge of the matter are: J. W. Toney, James Murphy, Thomas Gillespie, John Loney and Timothy Finnegan. The banner was designed by Adams Brothers and Mr. Toney of the committee, and cost \$350. It speaks well for home manufacture and will bear the sharpest comparison with affairs manufactured elsewhere. The same firm have made a "sample" chapeau for the Society, which if adopted will add to their fine appearance on parade.

CITY COUNCIL.

Important Special Meeting Last Evening—Report of the Water Commissioners Concerning their Recent Tour of Inspection.

Action Taken Authorizing the Erection of a Dam and the Issuance of Bonds—Instructions to the City Marshal.

A special meeting of the City Council was held last evening, at which there was a full attendance.

Joint Convention.

At 7.45 o'clock the two Boards met in joint convention for the purpose of considering the water question; His Honor, Mayor Loughton, presiding.

REPORT OF THE WATER BOARD.

The Board of Water Commissioners made the following report, which was accepted:

To the Honorable Mayor and Council of the City of Bangor:

Gentlemen:—In conformity with the expressed wish of your Honorable Body, and in conformity with their own judgment of the proper course to pursue, that the Board of Commissioners for the Bangor Water Works should make a journey of enquiry and observation into the working of different methods of water supply of cities, a majority of said Board accompanied by one of the Aldermen of the city left home on the tenth day of June instant, for the purpose indicated above, and at various points examined as thoroughly as was considered needful the two systems, by gravitation and by direct force, obtained the opinions of hydraulic engineers of eminence in their profession, and of others, intelligent men, connected with water works, in order to gain knowledge of the comparative efficiency, reliability and economy of the two methods. And having made such examination respectfully submit this report:

We find very generally, in fact universally, so far as came under our observation, cities very strongly in favor of such methods as they chance to have adopted. In Massachusetts and the Eastern States generally a decided opposition to the direct forcing system, known as the Holly, the result, as we are compelled to believe, more of conservative adherence to an old and long-tried method than of a fair and unbiased comparison of merits and demerits.

The objections to the direct forcing system expressed by engineers and others consulted who favored the gravitation method we found to be comprehensively as follows:

1st.—There is no supply held in reserve so that in case of accident to machinery or force main, the entire supply would be cut off, to the inconvenience to water takers, and danger to the city from fire until repairs could be effected.

2d.—The complicated machinery of the Holly system making it expensive to run and keep in repair, where steam is used as a motor.

3d.—The heavy strain of fire pressure is the same on all the pipes, including service pipes, endangering the bursting of service pipes and consequent flooding of houses.

To these objections the following answers are made:

1st.—It would cost much less to duplicate the exposed portions of the works,—say the pumps and the force main to its first branch, than to build an expensive reservoir and provide the pipe leading to it; again the rarity of accident as tested by the service in many cities, shews the danger from this source to be almost insupportable. And again, there is nearly if not quite as much danger of an accident to a reservoir and to the supply main to it, as to the pumps and pipes of the direct forcing method. Ordinarily it would be safe, as tested as above stated by many cities, to depend upon the direct service from a single set of pumps and mains, and if in the future to accommodate the increased growth of the community or to make assurance doubly sure the resort may be had, if localities are favorable, to either a reservoir or to duplicating machinery.

2d. The Holly machinery as now constructed with automatic pressure regulators works well and safely, as we ascertained from cities where it is used, and also from our own observation and examination; with water power it costs comparatively nothing to use it; with steam it shows as high a duty as other reliable pumps; with the rotary pump and with the old system of gang pumps it is not claimed by the inventor himself, as we understood him, that so high a duty was attained. In the City of Auburn, N. Y., they have the gang pump arrangement, supplemented both by rotary and reciprocating pumps, the two latter not in use except upon extraordinary occasions. The gang pumps are single acting vertical cylinders, geared in such a manner as to take and discharge water at separate points of revolution. They have worked eleven years successfully and are very efficient, needing but little care. We could not perceive but that Holly's latest improved pumps worked as well as any pumps we saw.

3d. This objection, excepting the danger to service pipes, which upon testimony of parties we conclude to be small, seems to us to be really an argument in favor of the direct forcing system as follows: Here we have a pressure available at all times in all places, at high points as well as low and capable of being increased to meet the wants at fires or upon other extra occasions; whereas by the gravitation system the flow must necessarily be the same at all times in the same place without the power of increasing it in cases as above stated, and with the very important exception that with the increased use of water, as at fires when most is needed, the pressure is lessened from the increased number of openings of hydrants,—with each additional hydrant opened the pressure upon the others must necessarily be reduced, and consequently an inferior flow of water when it is of the utmost importance to maintain the force of the streams, having by the gravitation system a reserve of water with constantly diminishing force, and in the direct forcing system a plentiful supply of water with a sufficient reserve of force to meet all contingencies.

Again, these portions of the district argued laying at an elevation of not more than fifty feet below the reservoir can not

avail themselves of hydrant streams of sufficient force to be of service. In case of fire without the immediate use of Fire Engines, and in cities where the reservoir or stand pipe system is in use, large and expensive Fire departments have to be maintained. The Holly system furnishes the necessary increase of force to meet the demand for fires far beyond the heights usually found in cities, and in no place have we learned, that the full capacity of the works have been called for in this direction.

Another very material point in favor of the direct forcing system is its low cost as compared with the gravitation system.

We have therefore come to the conclusion that the method of supplying cities with water by the direct forcing system is preferable to the method of supply by gravitation—and we are the more convinced of the fact by observing that in many cities where they have adopted the gravitation method they supplemented their works with forcing apparatus as in case of Lawrence, Mass., Manchester, N. H., Troy, N. Y., and other cities.

The delay in making this report has arisen mainly from the fact, that the question of validity of the act for supplying the city with water was to be submitted to the Court, and as they have dismissed the case without a hearing and without prejudice we are prepared, if after conference with your body, it is deemed best, to proceed to the construction of the works upon being furnished with the means to do so.

GEO. STETSON,
WM. T. FEARSON,
L. H. EATON.

Commissioners Stetson and Eaton spoke briefly in regard to their trip, the more important facts being embodied in the above report.

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR.

In response to a call for information concerning the action taken by the Law Court on Tuesday, City Solicitor Vose reported substantially as follows:

To the City Council: Since the last regular meeting of this Council a petition for an injunction to restrain the Treasurer from signing the "City of Bangor Water Loan Bonds" and the Mayor and members of the Water Board from countersigning the same, which were voted by this Council to be issued, at their meeting June 5th, 1873, signed by ten taxable inhabitants of the city, was presented to the court sitting *in nisi* prior at the April term, 1873, upon which petition a notice to the respondents was ordered. At the return day I appeared for the respondents and filed a demurrer to the bill, with an arrangement with the counsel for the petitioners that under certain contingencies which might arise I might withdraw the demurrer and answer the allegations in the bill. The court held the demurrer good, and the counsel for the petitioners filed exceptions to the ruling of the Court, which took the case to the Law Court. I thereupon fully prepared myself to defend the ruling of the Court below before the Law Court, and on the morning of the 23rd instant the case was called and the counsel for the petitioners commenced to state his case, when he was interrupted by a member of the court, and asked if this was not a moot case. After a brief discussion on that point, that member of the court withdrew, leaving but three members to sit, as the two local Judges had before declined to sit. A further discussion was held solely upon the point suggested above, when the court decided to confer upon the question and report in the afternoon. About 4 o'clock the court came in and announced the following rescript:

1st. The bill must be dismissed because the city of Bangor, in its corporate capacity, was not a party in the bill.

2d. That certain allegations in the bill were admitted by the demurrer; which brought this case within the decision of this court in *Allen vs. Jay*; and

3d. That it appeared that the petitioners were friendly to the action of the City Council, and therefore the "bill is dismissed without prejudice."

This action of the Court was a surprise to both parties, for the following reasons: Some of the petitioners, instead of being friendly to the objects of the act of the Legislature and City Council, are extremely hostile to both, and in good faith intended and desired the defeat of the whole project, and the petition contained every allegation which the enemies of the measure could possibly introduce against it, and their counsel was prepared to urge upon the Court all possible objections to the act of the Legislature, Water Board and City Council. And there was nothing appearing upon the papers in the case, or from suggestions of counsel or from any *amicus curie* of the the Court that it was a moot case.

As no other question was discussed before the Court, counsel expected that nothing else would be considered by the Court, as they were prepared to meet and answer the two other objections passed upon by the Court.

Alderman Tobin inquired the opinion of the City Solicitor in regard to the constitutionality of the bill. To which Mr. Vose replied that he feels morally sure of its constitutionality, having given it the most careful attention, and is also sure the Court would have sustained the bill, and overruled the motion filed by the counsel for petitioners, if they had been granted a hearing. The action of the Court leaves the bill exactly as it was before.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Alderman Tobin moved a vote of thanks to the Board of Water Commissioners for their zealous efforts in the discharge of their duties thus far, which was unanimously passed.

The joint convention then dissolved, and the two Boards proceeded to the transaction of business.

Board of Aldermen.

At 8.30 o'clock the Board of Aldermen was called to order, His Honor, Mayor Loughton, presiding.

The report of the Board of Water Commissioners was accepted.

WATER WORKS AT ONCE.

Alderman Tobin offered the following resolution, which was passed:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the City Council of Bangor that the Water Commissioners proceed at once to contract for a system of water works, and also for the erection of a dam not to exceed twelve feet above mean high tide, and do all other things necessary to be done for the purpose of supplying the city with water for municipal purposes.

ORDER FOR ISSUANCE OF BONDS.

Alderman Tobin also offered the following order, which was passed:

Ordered, That the Treasurer be and hereby is directed to issue "City of Bangor Water Loan Bonds" to the amount and in the manner provided in Section Six of an act of the Legislature entitled, "An Act for Supplying the City of Bangor with Water," forthwith, and raise money from time to time as the same shall be needful, by selling the same.

And that the City of Bangor forever hold the Treasurer who shall sign said bonds, and the Mayor and Water Board who shall countersign said bonds, harmless from all loss, cost or damage which may hereafter arise to each and every one of them by reason of signing and countersigning the same, in accordance with said Section Six of the act aforesaid.

DEATH TO DOGS.

J. F. Rawson, Esq., appeared before the Board, and spoke in opposition to the action of the City Marshal in offering a reward of fifty cents each for all the unlicensed dogs brought to the police station. He considered it a premium offered for thieving on the part of the boys, for which the City Government was responsible. After some discussion the following order was presented and passed:

Ordered, That the City Marshal be and hereby is requested to withdraw his offer of fifty cents per head for unlicensed dogs, and employ some suitable person or persons in whom he may have confidence, for a reasonable compensation, to bring him all unlicensed dogs belonging to, or in possession of, any citizen of Bangor, found within the city limits.

NO FUN FOR THE FOUNTAIN.

The petitions of several persons for licenses to retail fire-works were refused.

THE LIQUOR LAW.

Alderman White addressed the Board