

THE WATER WORKS QUESTION.

The Question Settled Affirmatively by Unanimous Vote.

At the very large meeting held in the Council room last night, to consider the question of pledging the city's credit for the purpose of introducing water into the city by adopting the Holly Water Works, Mayor Bennett was called to the chair, and Recorder Wilson appointed Secretary.

The Mayor called the meeting to order, and in a few remarks stated the object of the assembling, when the following preamble and resolution was offered by Recorder Wilson:

WHEREAS, A company, known as the "Jackson City Water Company," has been organized for the purpose of supplying the city of Jackson with water, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, divided into two thousand shares, and

Whereas, The Mayor of said city has issued his proclamation calling this meeting by order of the Common Council of said city, for the purpose of voting upon the proposition to authorize the Common Council to subscribe for the stock of said company to the amount of \$99,750, upon the conditions in said proclamation mentioned, therefore,

Resolved, That the Common Council of the city of Jackson be and is hereby authorized to instruct the Mayor or other proper officer, of said city, to subscribe for one thousand nine hundred and ninety-five shares of the stock of said company, amounting to said sum of \$99,750, for and on behalf of said city; and said Common Council is hereby authorized to issue the bonds of said city therefor, as provided by said proclamation and an act of the Legislature of the State of Michigan, entitled "An Act to Authorize the Formation of Companies for the Introduction of Water into Towns, Cities and Villages in the State of Michigan," approved April 8, 1860; Provided, no more than ten thousand dollars of said bonds should be made payable in any one year.

James C. Wood, Esq., was called upon, and made an effective speech in favor of adopting the Holly system. He showed that the adoption of the Holly system in Eastern cities reduced the insurance from 25 to 50 per cent. As a sanitary measure the system was a vital question, and besides it reduces vastly the expenses of a fire department.

Wm. R. Gibson, Esq., followed in support of the measure, and entered into an argumentative detail of the advantages to be derived. He showed that private companies were everywhere volunteering to erect works on the Holly plan, but showed the great advantages which would accrue if the city would build and own its own works.

Dr. Pratt, from Kalamazoo, was next called for and addressed the meeting. He would not make a set speech, but, as a representative of the Holly works he was *willing to be pumped*. He answered various questions, and showed the great advantages which his town was now reaping, among other facts giving the water rates, which are from \$5 to \$8 per dwelling, and showing that the rates were less than the cost of maintaining wells. The works have reduced insurance nearly fifty per cent. in Kalamazoo, and Dr. P. showed that in his own case, his insurance was so much lessened that his water tax still left him a gainer.

G. T. Gridley, Esq. also made a few remarks, hoping there would be no dissenting voice on this question.

Fidas Livermore, Esq. followed in a few energetic and characteristic remarks in support of the resolution.

The resolution was carried by a unanimous vote, and the meeting adjourned in jubilant spirit.