

in the easterly part of the town of Lexington, from Lewis' mills or any point westerly of said mills, for the purpose of collecting a supply of pure water for the inhabitants of the town of Arlington.

The act contained further enabling sections, the sixth providing that the town of Arlington might, at any time after the passage of the act, purchase of the said corporation its franchises and property in the manner provided in chapter 93 of the acts of 1870. The town accordingly, having purchased of the company all its franchise and property, obtained from the legislature, in 1873, an act confirmed and ratifying this purchase, and conferring upon the town certain powers and rights, and imposing upon it certain duties, of the sort that would naturally suggest themselves in such cases. On June 19, 1873, the town took the land located across Sucker brook, and on July 8th the Great Meadows, and on Oct. 17th the Slocumb, or, as it was formerly called, the Lewis-mill property, already, on July 1, 1872, completed a reservoir for the reception of the water, laid pipes and made general preparations for the introduction of water into the town.

In this condition of affairs, the owners of mill privileges on the Sucker brook, below the Great Meadows dam, applied to the water commissioners for compensation for the loss of water power to which they had been subjected, and being unable to agree upon any sum as damages, petitions were filed in 1874, in the superior court for Middlesex county, wherein damages were claimed of the town to the amount of \$350,000, a sum which appeared to the water commissioners excessive. The result was the appointment of the commission and the consequent hearing above mentioned. The cases are seven in number, the petitioners being Samuel A. Fowle,

et als., trustees of the Arlington land company.

On the part of the petitioners evidence was introduced to the effect that the water shed taken by the town was some 2000 acres in extent, and that the mill owners had thereby been deprived of a large and valuable water power, the result of which was that their business was interrupted and injured, and their entire mill property rendered of little or no value to them, the entire valuation in all the cases amounting to \$350,000, as stated above. The estimates set by the various owners on their respective powers were based upon what was claimed to be an exaggerated idea of the extent of the water power, and such estimates it was contended were largely in excess of the power that existed at the mills. Expert testimony was also introduced as to the market value of the mills and machinery, the extent of power, and on other minor points.

For the defence it was claimed and evidence was received to show that the water shed taken was not so large by 100 acres as it had been stated to be; and the stream on which the mills were

the installation exercises. Mr. William Parkman, from Boston, was introduced, and delivered an address, and was followed by another representative of the Grand Lodge. Judge Parmenter of our own town, also spoke referring pleasantly to the early days of the order. The speakers all received the marked attention of the audience. The following is the full list of officers for the ensuing term:

N. G.—S. E. Kimball.  
V. G.—J. H. Peabody.  
R. Sec'y.—W. W. Rawson.  
Treas.—W. L. Clark.  
Trustees.—D. Macfarlane, Wm. H. Soles, S. C. Winneck.  
W.—John C. Hill.  
C.—Thomas Higgins.  
R. S. N. G.—Duncan Macfarlane.  
L. S. N. G.—Frank Wyman.  
R. S. V. G.—Rollo Puffer.  
L. S. V. G.—James G. Wyman.  
S. S.—George Morrison, Chas. Gott.  
I. G.—W. S. Swett.  
O. G.—John W. Marsh.

**POLICE RECORD.**—We are indebted to Mr. John Hartwell, Chief of Police, for the following items in regard to his department for the year 1875:—

Whole number of arrests, 60; males 59, females 1. Of this number 9 were Americans, and 50 foreign birth. The causes of arrest were as follows:—drunkenness, 18; bail bond, 1; assault and battery, 20; disturbing the peace, 3; breaking and entering, 1; setting fires, 3; cruelty to animals, 1; truancy, 1; assault on officer, 1; violation of licence law, 1; malicious mischief, 3; larceny 1. Among other items are 10 cases investigated but not acted upon; 4 stray teams cared for; 2 lost children found and restored; two dead bodies recovered; 3 buildings found open at night and secured; and other duties

the previous one, than the cases were on warrants, complaints of others, and there has been less trouble on the streets. public places than ever before. believes a permanent day and night police should be appointed for the upper part of the town, and will so state in his report to the Selectmen. From what we can learn of the facts, we think he is right about the matter, and we trust the subject will be considered at the next town meeting.

**MASONIC SOCIABLE.**—The entertainment committee of Hiram Lodge have engaged Wyzeman Marshall and Miss Lucette Webster, for their next sociable. The entertainment will consist of dramatic readings, and the high fame of the artists should secure a full attendance. The social hops with which the entertainment closes, are the most enjoyable affairs.

**CONCERT.**—Mr. Wm. P. Force, Superintendent of the Trinity Mission Sunday school, Charlestown, speaks at the Sunday school concert, at the Congregational church, to-morrow evening.

The number in attendance and shooting was about 50 per cent. larger than ever and, with a few exceptions, the practice was better than ever before.

Maj. Henry Fulton of the New York team was among the new comers, and shot a string, but was not attended, with his usual good fortune. A meeting of the directors was held during the afternoon, but they transacted no business of public interest. The next meeting for practice will be held on the 12th instant.

Correspondence,  
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.,  
Dec. 30th, 1875.

Among the useless and condemned vessels sold by our government at the close of the war, was the steamer *Vanderbilt*, a gift from Commodore Vanderbilt to the government for the special purpose of capturing the Alabama, which she did not do. She was purchased by the Howe Brothers, for a small sum, and at great expense was altered for merchant service, and named the *Three Brothers*, for the owners, Jabez, George and Edward. She is 335 feet in length, 199 feet from deck to main truck, or top of mainmast; her main yard 110 feet long; carries a crew of 48 all told; has made trips to Liverpool and Harve, 108 days each, and to-day sails from here for Liverpool. Declining an invitation from her owner to accompany a party of ladies and gentlemen who were to go outside the Golden Gate on her, returning on the tow boat, I stood and saw her leave her moorings for her long journey; preferring a long life on shore to a few hours on "the rolling waves," even on an excursion. Her freight is 4500 tons of wheat, or 150,000 bushels, or more than 30,000 barrels of flour. Her charter for one time was over \$90,000 on a cargo of wheat to Europe.

I am seeing San Francisco in holiday trim, and her people are given to festivities, but not much to reading, as I judge by the advertisements for holiday presents, as the *Daily* of this city, being the largest circulation, contains the most notice of books, while its columns are crowded with those of jewelry and dress goods. I had expected to see a general dullness and depression, such a consequent falling in prices, and that not for real estate is full as high as one year ago; rents are as high, and in some cases; labor commands the same prices as before; much building is going on in the last twelve months; and the markets have taken place, and the prices are high. Farmers are busy putting in a large increase of acreage sown over the previous year. Much of the grain is ready in, and many fields are covered with their green carpets, for six inches high. The markets are abundantly supplied with choice produce, including strawberries, and fresh vegetables from out-door gardens. As we walk about the streets, and show my eastern friends the flowers blooming in the open air around every house, they can hardly believe their eyes.

address before Teachers' Association do puncture the gaudy bubbles of our complacency in a most cruel fashion. If the diligent student of moral reform continues to collect his facts and publish them in volumes, as he seems likely to do, the very fronts of our palatial churches will shrivel up and reced at the explosion. The fact is, even Massachusetts is in a bad way morally.

Counting supreme indifference to religious doctrines as one part of heathenism, Boston is more heathen than Christian to-day. Figures do not lie when properly arranged, and the figures are against us. And the worst of it is, they are growing, day by day more and more against us.—*Golden Rule*.

The Sunday School connected with the Unitarian church, held their regular monthly concert at their vestry last Sunday afternoon, the attendance being quite large. The exercises consisted of pieces spoken by the members of the school, some being illustrative of the New Year, and addresses by the pastor and Mr. Stowe. After the addresses, Mr. Cutter proceeded to give out presents to those who had not been absent during the year.

The following is the list of names of those who were the recipients of the presents: Frank Wellington, W. H. Thorpe, Herbert Goodwin, David Davis, Arthur Wellington, Cora Green, Nellie Hodgdon, Ethie Wellington, Mary Shattuck, Alice Shattuck, Nettie Wellington, Marion Fessenden.

**WEEK OF PRAYER.**—Throughout the Christian world the past week has been observed to a greater or less extent, as a "week of prayer." Services have been held each evening in the vestry of the Orthodox church, and have been well attended. At the Baptist church there have been several extra meetings, the one on Monday afternoon being of especial interest.

**DIVIDEND.**—The Arlington Five Cent Savings Bank has declared a semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent. The following items in regard to the business of the bank will doubtless be of interest:

Amt. of deposits in Bank,	\$622,672 42
Amount deposited during the past year,	199,132 95
Amount withdrawn during the past year,	95,160 00
Net gain in deposits,	103,972 95

The pastor of the Universalist church will begin a series of discourses on doctrinal subjects in his church next Sunday morning, Jan. 9. Subject of first discourse, "Universalism: What it is—What it is not." Services begin at 10.45, a. m., to which the public are cordially invited.

Last Sunday, at the Episcopal services in Menotomy Hall, the rite of confirmation was administered to twelve persons. Bishop Paddock officiated, assisted by four clergymen.

Ex-Governor Clifford died last Saturday.

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