

not for personal honor and the good of the community, but for a chance to get a fat job, and make a nice thing of the position. These are the men who seek the office, the men who pull the wires and get up bar room and parlor nominations; these are the men who have an axe to grind, and who are always waiting to embrace an opportunity, having an eye single for the loaves and fishes. We do not wish to be understood that Arlington is especially cursed with this class of would-be-office-holders, but we do wish to protest against anything which even squints in that direction; we would avoid the very appearance of evil.

The importance of choosing the right men for the Selectmen of the town, cannot be over-estimated by the tax-payers. A faithful discharge of the duties, strict economy in conducting every department, a practical knowledge of what is required, and how it best can be accomplished, joined to a liberal spirit for needed improvements and necessary reforms, is absolutely requisite. Can we expect all these from a new Board, and from men entirely inexperienced in town affairs, no matter how honest they may be and desirous of doing their duty. This brings us directly to the point. In our opinion, unless for cause, only one on a Board of Selectmen should be changed each year, two should hold over, or if a change must be made two experienced men should be elected, with one new one. By this plan, we are yearly educating men to conduct the affairs of the town, and the town suffers no detriment in thus preparing her officers for the work. Let our voters think of this and govern themselves accordingly.

### TOWN MEETING.

Last Friday evening, January 21st, in response to the warrant issued by the Selectmen, our citizens assembled in Town Hall, to discuss and dispose of the five different articles to come before them. The town clerk called the meeting to order promptly at half-past seven o'clock, and Henry J. Wells, Esq., was chosen moderator, and without delay it was voted to take up

Art. 2. To hear and act upon report of Water Commissioners relative to claims for damages arising from the introduction of water.

Mr. Benjamin Poland, chairman of the Water Commissioners, presented the following report.

At a legal town meeting, held Sept. 20, the sum of \$25,000 was appropriated to be expended under the direction of the Water Commissioners, for the purpose of paying land and other damages incurred in constructing the water-works. The Commissioners submit the report of their doings to the present time. We have paid:

P. Mitchell for land,	\$ 208 54
David Hall, "	6,745 34
John Schouler and others, for mill-damages,	4,338 00
Charles Putnam, land,	300 00
John H. Hardy, expenses,	102 00
George Stevens, land,	1,000 00
Chas. B. Stevens, reg. and recording,	3 85
John H. Hardy, expenses,	388 00
John H. Hartwell, witness fees,	20 00
B. F. Thomas, counsel,	300 00
Chris. Robbins, sand,	1,300 00
L. G. Farmer, services in mill suit,	109 89
J. B. Brewster, witness fees,	45 00
Geo. F. Trippe, sand,	1,750 00
C. M. & C. V. Winstrip, sand,	2,320 00
<b>\$12,095 04</b>	
Balance cash in hand and unexpended,	6,119 90
<b>\$25,000 00</b>	

We have also made a settlement with

At the conclusion of the report, the "water question" was discussed by several gentlemen present, the general one being that it was for the interest of the Town to settle where it was possible, rather than engage in law-suits. The report of the Water Commissioners was accepted, and placed on file, and on motion of Hon. John Schouler, it was

**Voted.**—That the Water Commissioners be authorized to settle with Mr. Blodgett, by paying the award of the Commissioners, and the Commissioners are authorized to purchase fifteen acres located in the four of the land taken by the town for the sum of \$500, he giving a warranted deed for the land taken and purchased; and the Water Commissioners are authorized to release to Mr. Blodgett one acre more or less of land, located near the reclaimed meadow land, and being a part of the land first taken by the town.

Art. 3. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of fourteen thousand dollars for the settlement of claims arising from the introduction of water.

On motion of Mr. Wm. G. Peck, it was

**Voted.**—That the sum of fourteen thousand dollars be and is hereby appropriated to be expended under the direction of the Water Commissioners, for the purpose of settling claims arising from the introduction of water, and the Board of Selectmen and Town Treasurer, are hereby authorized to issue and dispose of Arlington Water Scrip, to an amount not exceeding said \$14,000 whenever said Board of Water Commissioners or majority of them, shall require said sum or any part of the same for the purpose above named.

It appears that this \$14,000 is all that remains unappropriated of the entire amount of water bonds which the act of the Legislature authorizes the town to issue, and this amount will be needed to meet the recommendation of the Water Commissioners.

Art. 4. To see what action the town will take in regard to lighting Arlington Avenue, from Mt. Vernon street to Park Avenue, as asked for by J. C. Hobbs and others.

This article was disposed of by reference to a committee, consisting of J. S. Pinkham, Wm. G. Peck, and Warren Rawson, with instructions to report at the March meeting.

Art. 5. To see if the town will authorize the Selectmen to locate an abattoir in the town for the purpose of slaughtering neat cattle.

The motion to authorize the Selectmen to locate an abattoir, called a lively discussion, and some considerable feeling, but was finally disposed of by indefinite postponement. The vote on the motion, (a rising vote) being 82 in favor and 42 opposed to indefinite postponement.

The meeting then adjourned.

**FAIRY GROTT.**—Last Tuesday evening a company of Arlington's young folks, under the direction of Mr. S. P. Prentiss, their musical instructor, performed Stratton's beautiful operetta, "The Fairy Grotto," in the Town Hall, to the delight of a large and appreciative audience. The stage was neatly arranged, and the opening scene, which discovers fairy queen asleep on the banks of a stream, surrounded by her faithful guardians, who sleep as they watch, was very pretty. Miss Eugenia Eden sustained the rôle of fairy queen, and

quartette, and was followed by a tenor solo by Mr. Cooper, a very good substitute for Mr. Wiggin, the gentleman who was expected. The selections were varied and excellent, especially the "Bright Beyond," by Miss Cleveland, and "Then you'll remember me," by Mr. Cooper. Mr. Hunt and Mrs. Beardsly were almost inimitable in their rendering of "Master and Scholar," "Don't Marry," and "Jamie and Jeanie," and the audience heartily appreciated them. Unfortunately, Mr. Hunt had accidentally left his music in Boston, but in place of songs, he gave recitations, etc., all of which were comical and enjoyable. The "Laughing Trio," by Mrs. Beardsly, Miss Cleveland and Mr. Hunt, we considered the gem of the evening. There was no "make believe" to the laughter of the audience which followed the piece all through, and burst into roars at its close. Miss Parker, the accompanist, entertained the audience with several piano solos, and showed herself a brilliant performer. She was twice encored. The audience was larger than on any previous occasion, and the "hop" which followed was very enjoyable.

**THE BIBLE.**—It is one of the characteristics of the Bible, that it is written as if its object were to get work out of men. It exhorts every faculty to action. It sends its charge thrilling along every fibre. It worries indolence into action. It sends a strong, crisp current of oxygen into shrunken lungs. It shocks spiritual paralysis into life. Has it never occurred to you that it is among an active-minded and a quick-handed people that the Bible finds its home? The South, with its slumberous atmosphere, its lazily-moving vapors, its ease and lassitude, with its heavy abundance of vegetable life, does not seem the proper abode of the Bible. It was written by men who were born and reared in a cooler air. From their earliest growth they had lived in a land of mountains and torrents and waves; and through their images and similitudes they carried the stir and action of nature into the sacred books. There are entire chapters in the Bible that are full of winds and waves and the roarings of tempest. There are passages in the New Testament that sound like the splashing of rain and the shriek of circling winds. Here you find the fragrance of a lily, and anon a verse which rises upon the mind as a breeze comes to the senses when it has blown through and taken to itself the fragrance of a pine. The Bible is therefore, as you see, even in its verbal expression, a book of action. It is full of stir and rustle and movement. It is quick, lively and active,—more like a sanitary commission than a nunnery, more like a battle-field than a convent.—*Golden Rule.*

Mr. A. Webster Carter, of Charlestown, who committed suicide by shooting, last Thursday, was a member of Hiram Lodge, F. A. M., of Arlington. The funeral took place last Saturday.

The well-known Arlington House, on Arlington Avenue, was sold at auction last Saturday, to Charles S. Jacobs, Jr., the present occupant, for \$20,000.

one, a member of the Ontario Legislature. He has introduced a bill which would punish by a fine of five dollars, every man who might vote but would not.

**POUND PARTY.**—This is the name selected by the management for a very pleasant party and sociable which will come off next Monday evening, in Menotomy Hall, under the auspices of Mt. Horeb Lodge, L. O. I. Ticket can be obtained of the members.

The arguments in the water cases were delivered last Monday, in the Supreme Court room, Boston. A very large number of our citizens attended, and listened to the speakers with much attention. The action of the Commissioners is anxiously looked for.

The lecture committee of Bethel Lodge informs us that after paying all the expense of their course, there are \$60 remaining in the treasury.

We call the attention of our readers who have surplus funds they desire to place in a perfectly secure institution, to the card in another column, of the Mercantile Savings Institution of Boston. With a guarantee fund of over \$200,000, it affords perfect security to its depositors.

**THE SNOW.**—Thursday morning it commenced snowing, and there were indications that good sleighing was close at hand, but about noon it turned to rain and soon vanished.

Rev. Dr. Buddington is reported to have said that a Congregational Council would soon be called to make a searching investigation into Mr. Beecher's affairs, and endeavor to prove him guilty or innocent.

**LEG BROKEN.**—Last Monday afternoon, a horse belonging to Andrew Mc Mannus, engaged in teaming stone, fell from an embankment on the west side of the street running by the Poor House, and broke one of his legs.

The House of Representatives passed the bill last Wednesday, repealing the law by which the postage on transient newspapers was doubled.

**OYSTERS.**—Mr. H. B. Mitchell, at the fish market, on Arlington Avenue, is now selling fresh Virginia oysters for thirty five cents per quart.

Our storms this winter are like the speeches of some town meeting orators,—light, and mostly wind.

Rev. Mr. Knapp, of West Somerville, will preach for the Methodist society, next Sunday evening, at Menotomy Hall.

[Correspondence.]

MR. EDITOR:—Will you, through your paper, ask the gentleman who first spoke in opposition to the abattoir at the last Town Meeting, if that means that he is a candidate for a Selectman, and also, if he thinks being one will carry him to the Legislature?

VOTER.

certainly  
He  
chief for  
the Post  
absent fr  
and peop  
he is kne  
tune of a  
calls him  
A  
Northam  
Wednes  
to the h  
his entir  
and gagg  
the water  
accompl  
Tl  
1876, car  
tains cor  
in regard  
turns, e  
It is sent  
B  
all bills  
school b  
in the af  
evening  
dances.  
A  
house w  
day nig  
and the  
Fr  
for a ne  
been bro  
ments d  
In  
Parents  
who said  
give up  
Tl  
the with  
address  
for bring  
to justic  
O  
child m  
ing the l  
connects  
hended.  
I  
whale fi  
38,883, a  
against  
208,339  
T  
already  
The bod  
Adams,  
burial.  
G  
resented  
Executi  
Wright,  
pointed  
and his  
A  
300 cara  
Beers, C  
the nam  
superb  
weighed  
sold it f