

The Lexington Intelligencer.

MASS MEETING OF CITIZENS

Up in Arms Against the Lexington Water Company are the People

COMMITTEE NAMED TO INVESTIGATE.

Estimated Cost of New Plant—Water Company Openly Violating Contract.

A mass meeting of Lexington citizens was held at the court house Thursday night to consider the matter of the relations of the Lexington Water company to the citizens of the town and for the purpose of providing means, if possible, to either force the company to live up to its contract, put in a municipal plant or find other means to remedy existing conditions.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Young and Capt. J. Q. Platenburg was called to the chair.

Col. Sanford Sellers, on the part of a committee previously appointed to look into the matter, submitted a report to the effect that an effort to right matters had been attempted with owners of the plant at New York, but without success. He also told of a proposition which had been made to put in a plant at a cost of \$75,000, furnishing 87 hydrants and taking water direct from the river in case the city would grant a 30 years' franchise and agree to pay the company \$5,000 per annum for that period of time, the plant, at the expiration of the term to become the property of the city. This proposition could not be considered for the reason that the law prohibited the granting of franchises for a longer term than twenty years.

Col. Sellers went on to state that City Clerk Gratz, acting under instruction, had placed advertisements in eastern papers looking to the putting in of a new plant and that in answer to these advertisements answers were now being received.

The speaker, upon taking his seat, read the following communication from Councilman William Marrs, who was unable to attend the meeting:

Mr. Chairman and Citizens:

As chairman of the water works committee of the council, I will read the following report, supplementary to the one made by Col. Sellers, chairman of the joint committee appointed by the mayor, at the last meeting of the council. Prof. Cook had a friend, Mr. Porter, visiting him, who is a designing engineer and contractor, and has had a wide experience in designing and constructing water works systems. He was invited to give us his views on the subject. He did so, and on the advice and request of the committee, the mayor called a special meeting of the council. The council asked him a number of questions, and while he could not give us an exact estimate without a detailed survey, he could give us an approximate one. Figuring on an average of 8-inch mains, which he thought ample, and the probable length at 8 miles, would cost \$4,000 a mile.

Cost of mains	\$32,000
Stand pipe	15,000
Machinery and building	15,000
Suction pipe to river	10,000
Hydrants, valves, etc.,	3,000
Surveys and other expenses	3,000
Total	\$78,000

He also stated that we ought to have at least 100 hydrants, and that with the present financial condition of the city the city ought to issue bonds, build and operate it. He also said that the mains should be of cast iron pipe.

W. S. MARRS.

A general discussion followed the submission of these reports and there was not a voice raised in favor of the water company. Oswald Winkler exhibited a quantity of increment from an inch to an inch and a half stick which had formed in his boilers after using this water and stated that valuable machinery of his company was being literally ruined through its use. Mr. Winkler spoke very earnestly in favor of relief from existing conditions and under certain

circumstances said that he favored municipal ownership.

Dr. Bartsens had analyzed the water and said that it is surely injurious to health, producing diseased kidneys.

Talks were made by Judge Richard Field, Judge John E. Burden, E. M. Taubman, Geo. Wilson, Judge John Welborn, Prof. Z. M. Williams, H. C. Wallace and others, from which the assembled citizens learned, if they did not already know, that the water company is openly and momentarily violating its contract with the city, and the plant, being mortgaged for more than it is worth, the company, as Judge Field stated it, "is a law proof." The charter of the company especially provides that water shall be taken direct from the river, which all know is not done.

Judge Welborn's remedy for the existing evil, submitted to the meeting, was to cut off the pay of the water company unless it immediately complied with its contract, instruct the city council to call an election at which the people may vote on giving up the present charter and organizing under the state laws as a city of the third class, with the view to issuing bonds in the sum of \$75,000 for the purpose of putting in a municipal plant.

There was some objection to mixing the question of charter abandonment with the present effort to secure good water for Lexington, Judge Field assuring the citizens that bonds could be issued under the present charter.

Instead of acting hastily and without due consideration Prof. Williams suggested that the chair appoint a committee of ten, composed of leading lawyers and citizens to go over the situation and report to another mass meeting to be held at the court house next Thursday night. This plan was adopted and the following committee was named.

Prof. Williams, Prof. White, Col. Sellers, Judge John Welborn, John E. Burden, Judge Richard Field, E. M. Taubman, Jesse Crenshaw, Oswald Winkler, Louis Gratz.

At the suggestion of Judge Field, and on motion of Judge Hale, W. H. Chiles was added to the committee.

This committee will hold a meeting at the office of Judge John Welborn Monday evening.

During the progress of the meeting a vote was taken and not a man stood up for the arbitrary methods of the present water company.

Delightful Reception.

One of the most delightful social functions in Lexington so far this winter was the reception given Saturday evening by Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Stier at their pretty home on Franklin avenue, which was enjoyed by fifty of the friends of this estimable couple. The home of the host and hostess was artistically decorated with palms and carnations and a most inviting supper was served. Roses and carnation pinks were presented to the guests.

The occasion was the anniversary of the twentieth year of married life of Mr. and Mrs. Stier, but this fact, as they thought, had been carefully concealed from their friends. It became known, however, through other sources and the pleasant surprise of Mr. and Mrs. Stier can be imagined when they were presented with a number of pieces of beautifully hand-painted china ware.

Hereford Cattle Sale.

T. C. Sawyer and Walter B. Waddell went to Kansas City Wednesday morning to attend T. F. P. Sotham's Kansas City Ketterion Sale of Hereford Kattle.

Mr. Sotham is not the only contributor of fine animals, however. The pavilion is well filled with the best representatives of the Hereford breed the country affords. They are from Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.

Mr. Sotham says the sale will be a pronounced success. There are buyers present from Pennsylvania to Washington, and from all intermediate points. Many of them are men who have recently embarked in the Hereford breeding business.

Mr. Sotham gave a banquet to the bidders at the Midland hotel Tuesday night. Over 300 covers were laid. Mr. Sotham presided, and a number of speeches were made.

COL. MULLIGAN'S STUBBORN DEFENSE.

Story as Told by Mulligan Himself of the War Event at Lexington, Missouri.

IN THE TRENCHES FOR TEN LONG, HOT DAYS.

Virginia Grand Army Post Named for Colonel Mulligan Who Fell at Kernstown.

The following story of the battle of Lexington is taken from a recent issue of the Evening Star, published at Winchester, Virginia:

There were heroes on both sides during the civil war—a war which for display of bravery, tenacity and brilliancy of its generals and wonderful courage and devotedness of its privates has never been equaled. One of these heroes was Colonel James A. Mulligan, who was killed in 1864 at the battle of Kernstown, and after whom Mulligan Post No. 30, of this city, is named. Colonel Mulligan before he died told the following story of how he fought for ten days in the trenches at Lexington, Mo., and then surrendered because his men had no water, no bread and no cartridges:

"On the night of August 30, 1861," said Col. Mulligan, "as the 'Irish brigade' (Twenty-third Illinois) lay at Jefferson, Mo., I received orders to go out my way through the enemy, go to Lexington and hold it at all hazards. Next morning the brigade started with 40 rounds of ammunition and three days' rations. We marched nine days without meeting the enemy, foraging over the country for support. The trouble was not so much in getting into Lexington as in getting out. We found there Col. Marshall's cavalry regiment and 350 home-guards, Col. Peabody joined us September 10 with the Thirteenth Missouri. He came into the trenches with Gen. Sterling Price and 10,000 confederates at his heels.

"I took command of the defenses. We mustered 2,780 men, with seven 6-pounders and 40 rounds of rifle cartridges, with but few rations. The enemy had five batteries, numbering 18 guns. We commenced throwing up intrenchments on College hill, an eminence overlooking Lexington and the broad Missouri. All day the 11th our men worked with pick and shovel. That evening our pickets were driven in. We waited until the morning of the 12th, vigilant and without sleep, and then a messenger rushed in, saying: 'Colonel, the enemy is pushing across the bridge in an overwhelming force.' With a glass we could see them as they came, Gen. Price riding up and down the lines urging his men. Two companies of the Thirteenth Missouri with Company K of the Irish brigade, drove the enemy back and burned the bridge.

"The enemy now made a detour and approached the town on the Independence road. Six companies of the Missourians and the cavalry met them in Lexington cemetery, and the fight raged furiously over the dead. We succeeded in keeping the enemy in check, and meanwhile had thrown up intrenchments three or four feet high. At 3 o'clock the engagement opened with artillery. The contest raged for half an hour, when a lucky shot knocked over the enemy's big gun and also exploded a powder caisson. The fight continued until dusk, and as the moon arose the enemy retired to camp, two miles away, and Lexington was our own again.

"On Friday, the 13th, it rained all day, and the men stood knee deep in mud building intrenchments. A quantity of powder was obtained, and our cisterns were filled with water. The men made cartridges and cast 150 rounds of shot for the guns. All this time our pickets were engaged with the enemy. On the night of the 17th we heard sounds of preparations for attack in the enemy's camp.

"At 9 o'clock on the 18th the drums beat to arms, and the terrible struggle commenced. The enemy's forces had been increased to 18,000 men. They came in one dark, moving mass. They planted two batteries in front, one on the left, one on the right and one in the rear and opened with a ter-

rible fire. Our spies informed us that the enemy intended to make one grand rout and bury us all in the trenches at Lexington. The batteries opened at 9 o'clock and for three days never ceased to pour deadly fire upon us. About noon our hospital was taken. It was outside the intrenchments. I had taken it for granted that it was not necessary to build fortifications around the sick man's couch. But I was inexperienced. They besieged the hospital, took it, and from the balcony poured a deadly fire into our intrenchments.

"The hospital contained our chaplain, surgeon, 120 wounded. It could not be allowed to remain in the possession of the enemy. Two companies of Missourians were ordered in turn to retake the hospital, but both refused. The Montgomery Guards, Captain Gleason, of the Irish brigade, were then ordered in. The commander with a brief exhortation to uphold the historic name they bore, gave the word to charge. The distance was 800 yards. They started, first quick, then double quick, then on a run, then faster. The enemy poured a deadly shower of bullets upon them, but on they went up the slope to the hospital door and with irresistible bravery drove the enemy before them. The hospital was retaken. Captain Gleason was shot through the arm and through the face.

"Toward evening word came from the enemy that if the whole garrison did not surrender before next day they would hoist the black flag and give no quarter. We told them when we asked for quarter it would be time to settle that. We were in a terrible situation. The men caught rainwater in their blankets and wrung it out into their canteens for drinking purposes. Our surgeon was held by the enemy against all the usages of war. Captain Moriarty went to the hospital and with nothing but a razor acted as surgeon.

"On the morning of the 19th the firing was resumed and continued all day. The day was signalized by a fierce bayonet charge upon a regiment of the enemy which showed them that our men were not completely worried out. The officers had told them to hold out until the 19th, when they would certainly be re-inforced. Through that day our little garrison stood with straining eyes, watching to see if some friendly flag was bearing aid to them, with straining ears awaiting the sound of a friendly cannonade. But no re-inforcements appeared and with the energy of despair they determined to do their duty at all hazards.

"The 19th was a horrid day. Our water cisterns had been drained and we dare not leave the crown of the hill and make our intrenchments on the bank of the river, for the enemy could plant his cannon on the hill and bury us. The day was burning hot and as the men bit their cartridges their lips were parched and blistered. But not a word of murmuring. That night two wells were ordered dug. We took two ravines and expected to reach water in about thirty hours. During the night I passed around the field and smoothed back the clotted hair and by the moonlight shining through the trees recognized here and there the countenances of my brave men who had fallen. Some of them were my favorites in the days gone past who had stood by me in those hours of terror and fallen on the field. Sadly we buried them in the trenches.

"The morning of the 20th broke but no re-inforcements appeared. Still the men fought on. The enemy had constructed movable breastworks of hemp bales, rolled them up the hill and advanced their batteries in a manner to command our fortifications. Heated shots were fired at them, but

they had taken the precaution to soak the bales in the Missouri. The attack was urged with new vigor and during the forenoon the outer breastworks were taken by a charge. The whole line was broken and the enemy rushed in upon us.

"Captain Fitzgerald, whom I had known in my younger days and whom we called by the familiar name of 'Saxy' was then ordered to oppose his company to the assailants. As I gave the order, 'Saxy go in,' the gallant fellow at the head of Company I, with a wild yell rushed upon the enemy. The firing suddenly ceased and when the smoke arose from the field I saw the Michigan company under its gallant commander, Captain McDermott, also charging the enemy and driving them back.

"Many of our good fellows were lying dead, our cartridges had failed and it was evident the fight would soon cease. It was now 3 o'clock, and all of a sudden an orderly came saying that the enemy had sent in a flag of truce. With the flag came the following note from General Price: 'Colonel, what has caused the cessation of the fight?'

"I returned it with the following message written on the back:

"I hardly know, unless you have surrendered.' He took pains to assure me that was not the case. I learned soon after that our Home guard had hoisted the white flag. The lieutenant who had hoisted the flag was threatened with instant death unless he hauled it down. At that one of the officers exclaimed: 'This is butchery.'

"The conviction became general and a council of war was held. The place was given up and the enemy came pouring in. We were placed in file and led through the streets of Lexington. As we passed the ladies came from the houses and jeered us. We (the officers) were taken to a hotel with no proprietor and no rations. After we had boarded there for some time we started for the 'land of Dixie.'

"Thus ends Colonel Mulligan's story. When he and his field officers offered up their swords, General Price said: 'You gentlemen have fought so bravely it would be wrong to deprive you of your swords. Keep them.'

"After his exchange Mulligan returned to service in the Shenandoah Valley. He fell at Kernstown with three mortal wounds. Some of his officers attempted to carry him from the field, but he stopped them, saying: 'Lay me down and save the flag.' After obeying his command they returned and carried him to the surgeon.

Opera House Surprises.

The Ward and Wade minstrel drew a good sized crowd to the opera house Saturday night and gave a show that pleased all who were in attendance.

A pleasant feature of the evening's entertainment was a surprise that was sprung on one of the proprietors of the minstrel show, who at one time resided in Lexington and has many friends here. During a brief intermission, Mr. Ward, speaking for several of Mr. Wade's Lexington friends, presented his partner with a valuable package of gent's furnishings, consisting of half a dozen silk handkerchiefs, a dozen ties, a pair of kid gloves and an elegant scarf. It had been originally intended to present Mr. Wade with a valuable watch chain, but the discovery was made that he was not partial to that kind of jewelry.

At the conclusion of Mr. Ward's brief talk Mr. Wade was so moved that he could not respond.

Ward and Wade travel in their own car and went from Lexington to Higginsville.

Nearly Frozen.

Charles Allen, a stranger, was brought into Lexington Wednesday morning nearly frozen. He was taken to the office of Dr. Ryland for treatment.

Allen was found in the woods two and a half miles northeast of Lexington by Mack Galle.

He was standing against a tree asleep—probably his last sleep on earth. He was partially aroused and told a rambling story of being chased by ghosts while on his way to Waterloo.

Allen stated that he had been out in the cold all night, having lost his way. His ears were badly frozen.

AN OLD STORY RETOLD.

Sedalia's Part in the Capture of Frank James.

"SHOT OFF HER OWN ARM."

Says the New Chronicler of War Event, Who Was a "Pinkerton."

In a recent issue of the Sedalia Capital a citizen of that town talks of the wounding of the mother of the James boys and says that the injuries that resulted in the loss of Mrs. Samuels' arm did not come from the Pinkertons but that it was accidentally self-inflicted. For many, many years the belief has prevailed that Mrs. Samuels was injured by the pinkertons and it would seem that the Sedalia has allowed a long period of time to go by before telling what he knew in the matter. The Capital's story is appended:

"A new history of the life of the James boys might be written from facts which could be supplied by R. M. Dolph, now a resident of Sedalia, who was connected with the Pinkertons in their efforts to capture the famous Missouri outlaws.

"Mr. Dolph is a cousin of the Pinkertons, and once arrested Frank James in this city. He was at that time sheriff of Freemont county, Iowa, and Frank and Jesse James were wanted there for the robbery of a Rock Island train. Mr. Dolph traced the James boys to Missouri, to Sedalia, and located Frank at the home of Major John N. Edwards, then editor of the Sedalia Democrat.

"Mr. Dolph gained admittance to the house and placed Frank James under arrest. James volunteered to go with the Iowa sheriff to Jefferson City, where Governor Crittenden was expected to honor the requisition papers from the governor of Iowa. Major Edwards offered to accompany the sheriff and his prisoner, and they went to the governor's mansion where Governor Crittenden promptly and decisively refused to honor the papers. Then the sheriff realized that he was "up against it" and could do nothing but return to Freemont county without his man.

"Later Mr. Dolph was present when the home of Mrs. Samuels was surrounded by the Pinkertons in an effort to capture the James boys, who had been run to cover, and he says that quite a different and a truer story of that attack could have been told by the Pinkertons if they had ever cared to talk. It has long been accepted as a fact that Mrs. Samuels lost her arm by the explosion of a bomb thrown into the house by the Pinkerton force, but this, Mr. Dolph says, is not true. Mrs. Samuels blew her own arm off. She had a small hand grenade which she lighted and attempted to throw through the window into the ranks of the detectives, but she held the grenade too long, or threw it against the wood-work, and it exploded within the room, with disastrous results to herself.

"Mr. Dolph says that the tip the Pinkertons had received was a "plant," and that the explosion of the grenade was the signal for an attack by a force of fifteen or twenty of the James gang who had been hidden in the orchard near the house. Frank and Jesse were both in this gang, and their attack on the Pinkertons, taking them completely by surprise, resulted in a rout. There were several men wounded, among them Mr. Dolph."

Home Talent Minstrel.

On the 11th of February a home talent minstrel show will be given at the New Grand opera house of Lexington for the benefit of the helpless poor of the city. Some of the very best citizens of the town are interesting themselves in the entertainment and the very best of home talent will be enlisted. In addition to the fact that the show will be a good one, the cause in which it is to be given—charity for the deserving—should guarantee a full house, for "the thank giveth to the poor leadeeth to the Lord."