

WHAT ABOUT PUBLIC LIGHT?

WILL THE CITY ERECT ITS OWN ELECTRIC PLANT.

Resolution Pending Before a Joint Committee of the Council Having that End in View—Measure Asking for Bids to Furnish Illumination.

"Be it resolved by the Council of the city of Richmond, That the sum of \$35,000 be appropriated for the purpose of establishing and operating an electric plant to be owned and operated by the city, and that the Finance Committee be instructed to provide the means necessary for the same."

This resolution was introduced in the Common Council last Monday night by Mr. W. Deane Courtney, the chairman of the Committee on Electric Light, and was referred to a joint committee consisting of the Committee on Electric Light and Finance, and the superintendent of the gas-works.

At the same meeting of the Council Mr. Rollie Grier, member from Monroe Ward, introduced the following resolutions, which were adopted:

"Resolved, That the Committee on Electric Light, City Engineer, and Superintendent of the Gas-Works be, and are hereby instructed to make arrangements with the most reliable manufacturers, what will be the cost of establishing an electric-light plant to furnish 134 street are lamps of 1,300 candle power, and the same number of incandescent lights as are now in private use. Also, arrangements to be made and buildings suitable for said plant, due allowance and consideration to be made for the further future extension of the plant. All to be reported to this body at the earliest moment."

The Committee on Electric Light also asked for \$2,000 to pay for lights now in use up to January 1, 1891. This was referred to the Committee on Finance, and as yet there has been no report made to the Council concerning the questions involved, and there will be none made at the meeting of the Board of Aldermen, on Monday night, none of the committees having met.

WILL NOT ADOPT IT.

Talking with parties who seem to be well-informed, and who know the many difficulties in the way, it does not appear that the City Council will adopt the resolution offered by Mr. Courtney, and for \$35,000 to purchase and place in operation a plant which will be owned by the city. The present Council is a most careful and steady-going one, and while the fact is apparent to all, the action of the Council is to wait to see what light after January 1, 1891, when the contract with the present Electric Light Company expires, still the fact remains that temporary considerations can be made at a smaller cost to the city in looking out for lights than would naturally result from adopting a resolution which would carry with it an appropriation of \$3,000.

It is therefore thought that the Council, in view of the facts grouped in the light question, will probably take no action to the effect of a resolution, which calls for bids from responsible parties who will inform the Committee on Electric Light, of which Mr. Courtney is chairman, Superintendent of the Gas-Works, Mr. W. C. Adams, and the City Engineer, Colonel W. E. Cutshaw, who are in charge of the existing electric-light plant here, and such extension of the same as the growing condition of the city may demand from time to time.

FORMER ACTION.

The Committee on Electric Light at one time thought it would be best to order down-thirty-seventh of the electric lights, but after arriving at this conclusion, the action of the Council, resolution, and otherwise, which caused the committee to reconsider its action and withdraw its recommendation ordering out the lights. The lights had been ordered by the Council in a contract entered into with a company, which parties to the same, and this action on the part of the Council relieved the Committee on Electric Light from any of the personal obligation alluded to by Mr. Charles V. Murchison, in his speech before the Committee. It says that when they exercised their right to withdraw its recommendation, we must respectfully invite your presence if you can by any means attend.

"For the first time in the history of our country we are attempting to establish a National Thanksgiving Day for the colored people of the United States to be observed for all time."

"The first meeting, and the one to decide upon the day for the future, will be held at Richmond, Va., October 15th, 16th, and 17th, 1890."

"Representing us as do the colored people of the entire country, who have decided to observe this day, we are anxious to have the entire nation observe it. We will be present at the meetings, and march to the Theatre in lodges, where seats in the theatre will be reserved for them.

COL. ERICKSON.

"Colonel Erickson is one of the most distinguished members of that great family which has given to the country so many men eminent in the walks of life. He is the first cousin of the celebrated John C. Breckinridge, and has himself, for many years, been a member of the Lexington district of Kentucky in Congress. He is conspicuous among the foremost leaders of the Democratic party for his ability and as an orator has few superiors in this country. The coming to Richmond of this distinguished statesman, orator, and citizen will be a happy occasion for all."

"We would like, if you could do no more, to call attention through our city on the day of our celebration, and thus show our appreciation of our efforts to instill the great principles of freedom and patriotism into the hearts of our children."

Police Court.

Mr. Clarence A. Marshall, director of the Mozart orchestra, organist of All Saints' church, and of Richmond's best known musical organization, has been called to the city Thursday. When asked what he spent his vacation, he said: "Most of my vacation was spent on the coast of Maine, as far away from things musical as possible. I, however, sandwiched four days in Boston, and while in Boston, visited the Masonic Temple in November, 1888, and his oration then was universally regarded one of the finest ever listened to by a Richmond audience. He will speak at Chesapeake Courthouse to-morrow morning."

MR. CLARENCE A. MARSHALL.

Chat With Him About His Vacation and the Mozart Association.

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John J. Talton and Arthur Stewart, the two white men who were arrested Friday night, charged with beating two colored women, an account of which was published in THE TIMES, were before the Police Court yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Felicia Vass and Mrs. Moratia Jackson. They testified that they went to the Union Depot to meet a friend. On returning from the depot, the were assaulted and about an hour later met on the bridge. Felicia Vass was knocked down and robbed of her purse. The women told officers Mattern and Shields of their trouble, and gave them a description of the men. In a suit against the two men, Talton and Talton, while on their way to the station, Stewart attempted to throw something in the canal, but failed to reach the water and the officer picked it up and found it to be the lost pocket-book. The men were sent on to the police court.

John J. Rogers, who lives at 314 South Pitt Street, was before court charged with beating his wife, Mrs. Rogers testified that her husband came home drunk Friday afternoon, and began to quarrel with her, and when she attempted to defend herself he cut her with a knife. Three boys who saw the brutal act corroborated the testimony of Mrs. Rogers in court. Rogers received a blow in the back of the head, which she inflicted on him with a stick, and in attempting to take the stick from her, he accidentally cut her breast. Policeman Brown testified that the wound was only skin-deep and about an hour later Rogers was taken to the hospital.

Charles Rice was jailed for sixty days for stealing two gold rings, the property of John Smith.

THE MASONIC HOME.

The establishment, after long years of consideration, and hopeful intention, of a home for orphans, the Madeline Home, has become a solid matter. Captain A. G. Babcock is the man whose generous contribution of house and land made the home. The fruits of the philanthropic impulses of Captain Babcock's mind and heart are being brought to the attention of the public. In the last few days the Madeline Home, a dormitory, a school, a dormitory styled after a dormitory, hilariously funny, and embodies some ideas in characterization, scene and mechanism effect entirely new to the stage. Laughter is the object intended, and the scenes are full of fun, comedy, a plot deals with a beautiful young girl, who suddenly becomes the possessor of a large fortune. "Tom Brass" (Frank McFadden) makes violent love to her, and is reported to have made an emphatic hit in the part by her singing, dancing, and acting. The four leading parts are filled by the stars of the troupe for the first time in America their novel Elsie-Flower dance, which is, in its way, a decided sensation. A scenic surprise will be the roof-garden episode, which occurs in the third act. Manager Hermann has succeeded Messrs. Hilliard and Kelly with a clever company of comedians, and reports from Boston and Washington, where the company have been playing, are most favorable. Seats will be on sale tomorrow (Monday) evening.

FORMER CITY LIMITS.

A Valuable Old Map of Richmond Made in the Year 1811.

There hangs in the clerk's office of the County Court of Henrico, a map, of which some authority state was made in 1811. It was not, however, adopted by the Legislature as reliable and authentic until 1835. In its right hand, lower corner, is printed: "Plan of the city of Richmond, drawn from actual surveys and original maps by Major Thomas 1835." The eastern corporation line runs just below Seventeenth street, crosses Venable street (which was then the stage road to Williamsburg), goes into Eighteenth street, and continues down that street until it reaches what was known as Bloody Run branch. That part of the city, east of Seventeenth and north of Broad, was not settled at all that time.

The western corporation line was west of Henry street at Leidy, crossed Madison at Franklin, and brought in the northern part

of the penitentiary grounds. The line ran at right angles with the cross streets, and was bounded on the south by the public square, and what is now the Governor's mansion was the government house. From condemnation papers in the court-house, it is seen that at least one more property was condemned for the square, but that was used as the eastern limits of the square was being just above Shockoe creek.

In Rockett's was the Rockets warehouse, and from Rockets street to Bloody Run branch ran Bloody Run, since then known as Shockoe creek, which was then the boundary between Main street, and what is now the Governor's mansion was the government house. From condemnation papers in the court-house, it is seen that at least one more property was condemned for the square, but that was used as the eastern limits of the square was being just above Shockoe creek.

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