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CITY DOCUMENT.

[No. 32.]

CEREMONIES
ATTENDING THE
INTRODUCTION OF WATER
INTO THE
CITY OF PROVIDENCE
FROM
PAWTUXET RIVER,
ON THANKSGIVING DAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1871.



PROVIDENCE:
HAMMOND, ANGELL & CO., PRINTERS TO THE CITY.
1871.

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WATER CELEBRATION.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR.

(Presented to the City Council, November 13, 1871.)

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
CITY OF PROVIDENCE, November 13, 1871. }

GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

The introduction into this city of a supply of pure water is of sufficient importance to deserve recognition by public services. I therefore recommend the appointment of a committee to make arrangements for a proper celebration of the event at an early day.

THOMAS A. DOYLE, *Mayor*.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

(Approved November 20, 1871.)

RESOLVED, That, in conformity with the recommendation of His Honor the Mayor, Aldermen Coggeshall and Brayton, with Messrs. Binney, Van Slyck and N. F. Potter, Jr., of the Common Council, be and they are hereby appointed a committee to arrange for a proper celebration in commemoration of the introduction of water into this city; and that this committee be authorized to draw upon the City Treasurer for a sufficient sum to defray the expenses of the same; to be charged to the appropriation for contingencies.

RESOLVED, That the Mayor be hereby added to the foregoing committee.

**PROGRAMME OF THE COMMITTEE OF
ARRANGEMENTS.**

**MUNICIPAL CELEBRATION,
OF THE INTRODUCTION OF WATER INTO
THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE,
THURSDAY, November 30th, 1871.**

THE Committee of Arrangements appointed by the City Council, announce the following as the Order of the day :

A procession will be formed at the City Building at 9½ o'clock a. m., under the direction of John M. Knowles, Esq., Chief of Police, as follows :

Section of Police.

American Band.

Police force under command of Capt. Ayer, as escort.

Committee of Arrangements.

Mayor and Chaplain, preceded by the City Sergeant.

Water Commissioners and Chief Engineer of the Water Works.

Committee of the City Council on the Introduction of the
Water.

Ex-Mayors of the City and Commissioners of the Dexter
Donation.

The Board of Aldermen and City Clerk.

Members of the Common Council and Clerk.

The Orpheus Club.

Judge of the Municipal Court and Clerk.

Justices of the Police Court.

City Treasurer and City Auditor.

City Solicitor and Superintendent of Health.

Board of Assessors.

Recorder of Deeds, Register of Transfers, and Overseer of the Poor.

Surveyor of Highways, City Engineer, and Superintendent of Public Buildings.

Board of Engineers and Presidents of the Fire Department.

Engineers, Inspectors and other Officers of the Water Department.

Harbor Master and Port Wardens.

Superintendent of the Dexter Asylum.

Trustees and Officers of the Providence Reform School.

Commissioners and Superintendent of the North Burial Ground.

Superintendent of Lights and Clerks of the several Departments.

The School Committee.

Other City Officers.

Section of Police.

The procession will move up Westminster street to Dorrance street, through Dorrance street and Exchange Place to the platform, where the following services will be held.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

Music— American Band.

Prayer by President Caswell, of Brown University.

The one hundredth Psalm of David, sung by the Orpheus Club and People.

Congratulatory remarks by the Mayor.

Reply by Moses B. Lockwood, Esq., President of the Water Commissioners.

Opening of the Water Gate, by the Mayor, during Music by the American Band.

At the opening of the Water Gate a Salute of thirteen Guns will be fired by a detachment of the Providence Marine Corps of Artillery and the Bells of the several churches will ring for ten minutes.

The water will continue to play, through a three-inch pipe, until 4½ o'clock, p. m., and on the ensuing day (Friday) four streams, each 1½ inch in diameter, will play from 12 o'clock, m., until 4 o'clock, p. m., and at 11.30 a. m., the Fire Department will test their steamers at the fire hydrant, corner of Exchange place and Washington Row.

THOMAS A. DOYLE,
 JAMES H. COGGESHALL,
 LODOWICK BRAYTON,
 WILLIAM BINNEY,
 NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK,
 NATHANIEL F. POTTER, JR.,

} Committee
 of
 Arrangements.

In accordance with the foregoing programme, a procession was formed on Market Square and marched by the designated route to Exchange Place.

The procession having arrived and taken position upon a platform erected for the purpose, the exercises were as follows:

VOLUNTARY BY THE AMERICAN BAND.

PRAYER.

BY REV. ALEXIS CASWELL, D. D., LL. D.

PRESIDENT OF BROWN UNIVERSITY.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we worship Thee as the Father of mercies, and the God of all grace. All wait upon Thee, and thou givest them their meat in due season.

We, this day, join with all thy people throughout the land to praise Thee for the bountiful harvest with which Thou has crowned the year, and for the peace and prosperity, which have waited upon us in all our borders. Verily may we say, that through Thy great mercy, the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places, and we have a goodly heritage.

We specially praise Thee for the mercies which thou hast vouchsafed to this, the city of our habitation. Thy guardian care has been over us for good. Thou hast graciously preserved us from the pestilence that walketh in darkness and from the destruction that wasteth at noon-day. Our dwellings have escaped the violence of the storm and tempest, and have not been laid waste by devouring flames. Labor has received its due reward, and the poor have not wanted bread. We have continued to enjoy, in large measure, the means of intellectual and moral and religious improvement. For all these blessing we devoutly thank Thee.

And we now invoke thy blessing, O Lord, upon this great enterprise, which has called us together at this time. Thou hast taught us in thy word that "except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." We thank Thee that in thy good providence and by thy favor, this undertaking, so conducive to the health, comfort and prosperity of our city, has been commenced and carried forward with success, and is now so near to its consummation. Let Thy blessing rest upon it to its completion. Give all needful knowledge and wisdom and skill to those who are charged with its execution. And grant that it may be to our citizens, in all their habitations for generations to come, as a fountain of living water.

In thine abounding mercies we beseech thee, O Lord, to pardon our manifold offences, and bless us in all that we call upon Thee for, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

ONE HUNDREDDTH PSALM.

Sung by the Orpheus Club and the assemblage, and accompanied by the American Band.

With one consent let all the earth
To God their cheerful voices raise ;
Glad homage pay with awful mirth,
And sing before Him songs of praise.

Convinced that He is God alone,
From whom both we and all proceed ;
We whom He chooses for his own,
The flock that He vouchsafes to feed.

Oh enter then his temple gate,
Thence to his courts devoutly press ;
And still your grateful hymns repeat,
And still His name with praises bless.

For He's the Lord Supremely good,
His mercy is forever sure ;
His truth which always firmly stood,
To endless ages shall endure.

ADDRESS OF HON. THOMAS A. DOYLE,

MAYOR.

FELLOW CITIZENS :—Almost twenty years have elapsed since the City Council began to take action in relation to obtaining a supply of water for our city ; and although they were then unsuccessful, the friends of the project did not abandon it, but from time to time renewed their efforts only to meet with failure, until they had almost ceased to hope that the work would be accomplished during the present generation. And now, on this Thanksgiving day, we have assembled to witness the realization of their hope, and with grateful hearts to ren-

der thanks to the Giver of all good, as well for the abundant supply of pure water which is now flowing through our streets, as for the great mercy which has hitherto protected our city from the ravages of extensive fires.

By your partiality I have been permitted to assist in carrying forward many public works for the permanent improvement of our municipality, but all of which united do not equal the important work which we this day celebrate. I regard the introduction of water as the greatest event in the history of our city, in the effect which it will have upon its future growth. From to day, our manufacturing interests will take new life, and with their rapid development will come an increase in population and prosperity.

I most heartily congratulate you that you have permitted this work to be done; for thereby you have secured to yourselves and the future generations a priceless blessing.

I congratulate you also upon the honest and thorough execution of this great work thus far, and that its completion has been entrusted to most faithful men. I congratulate you still further upon the security from fire which this supply of water will afford, and upon the beneficial effects to the health of the community which will result therefrom.

GENTLEMEN OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS AND MR. CHIEF ENGINEER:—Our relations together have been exceedingly pleasant, and I take the present occasion to acknowledge the uniform courtesy which the Chief Executive has received from you. Although an independent branch of the government, you have ever been prompt to respond to the numerous calls I have made upon you, and as the representative of the citizens of Providence, I thank you for the energy and honesty with which you have pushed forward the work under your charge. You may take just pride in the excellent work which has been done and the fact that so much has been accomplished in the short time which has elapsed since you entered upon your official positions. It has not been done without hard labor, but the labor is appreciated by a grateful community,

and will be more and more realized as its magnitude is understood. May you be as successful in the completion of this great undertaking, and be able in after years to enjoy the blessings which will result from your services.

ADDRESS OF MOSES B. LOCKWOOD, ESQ.,

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS.

GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT AND FELLOW CITIZENS :—I sincerely thank His Honor the Mayor, for the flattering manner in which he has spoken of the Commissioners and their associates,—the more so, because that I know his heart is in the work, and that he has given the Commissioners all the aid in his power.

On the 29th of September, 1869, the Water Commissioners held their first meeting and were legally qualified for the discharge of their duty, to wit:—the introduction of water from the Pawtuxet river into the city of Providence. On the first of January following, in their first quarterly report, they ventured to express the hope that water might be brought into the city in the fall of 1871.

Many thought the Commissioners rash in thus encouraging expectations which, it was supposed, could not be fulfilled. But, gentlemen, through the zealous and persistent coöperation of my colleagues, and of our able chief engineer and his faithful coadjutors, on the eighteenth of this present month of November, the good old Pawtuxet, the familiar friend of my childhood, guided by science and in spite of gravity, rose one hundred and eighty feet above the sea, and following a subterranean passage, poured its waters across the line from the town of Cranston into the city of Providence. And now, on this day of public thanksgiving, we are called together to witness the outpouring of a blessing for which, I am sure, we must all be profoundly thankful,—a blessing which will not only slake the thirst, but will promote the health, augment the growth and add vastly to the safety of our beautiful and beloved city.

In the twenty-six months since the date of their appointment, the Commissioners have erected on the banks of the Pawtuxet a steam pumping engine which will raise five million gallons of water every twenty-four hours, one hundred and eighty feet above tide water, into a substantial reservoir now nearly completed, and capable of holding fifty-one millions of gallons. They have laid upwards of thirty miles of iron pipes, from six inches to thirty-six inches in diameter, and have now on hand ready to be laid, thirty miles more of pipes. The expenditure thus far has been one million four hundred thousand dollars.

The Hope reservoir and its pumping engine and an additional engine at Pettaconsett are yet to be built; another force-main and another leading main are yet to be laid and much work yet to be done to complete the system. I think the whole may be accomplished within the original estimate of four and a half million dollars.

Thus far the work, as a whole, has been substantially and economically done. It would be strange if some minor defects, which could not be foreseen, did not exist. They will at once appear when the water is let into the pipes, and may be quickly remedied. Subject to these contingencies, those persons upon the lines of pipe who desire water, will in a few days be supplied, and it is hoped before the close of the year that, in case of fire, some sixty hydrants may be ready to use for its extinguishment.

The Commissioners have full confidence in the ability of their Chief Engineer, whose whole heart and soul are in the work, which, when completed, will be a monument of his skill and energy.

In the five minutes allowed me, I cannot enter more into detail, but I must not close without thanking you, gentlemen, and especially you of the city government, on behalf of the Commissioners, for your uniform support and confidence during the progress of the work, and asking that that confidence and support may be continued unto the completion of this great undertaking.

And now, Mr. Mayor, I ask your Honor and the Chief Engineer to go with me, and to demonstrate to the people assembled here, in a manner even more convincing than the eloquent words which you have just spoken, that their anticipations with regard to water are about to be realized.

At the conclusion of the addresses, His Honor the Mayor, the Water Commissioners, the Chief Engineer of the Water Works, and Zachariah Allen, Esq., one of the earliest advocates of the introduction of water, took their places at the gate, which was gradually opened in full view of the participants and a large concourse of spectators.

When the water rose from height to height as the gate opened wider and wider, the music of the band, the loud guns of the Marines and the hearty cheers of the assembled thousands rose, with the bright waters of the Pawtuxet, in the air; and the bells of the various churches, signalled by the artillery, united in the universal joy and delight, while nature approvingly caught the sparkling particles of spray and arched over the whole scene a beauteous bow