

Kings.

Ald. Murphy thought 1100 volunteers had left his ward—the 14th, and he believed that 800 of them were Democrats. He knew the families of those who were now in the field, and knew what they had to suffer, and he knew those who would willingly go if a liberal bounty was offered.

Ald. O'Keefe was surprised to see the opposition raised to this. He stood up there as an American citizen, and he was astonished that the Alderman of the 15th ward had not the moral pluck to say who was in the New York mob. He meant to say that the Irish robbers were in it.

Alderman Taylor—I call the gentleman to order, he is impugning my motives.

Alderman O'Keefe had seen posters about the streets which said: "Sam, Organize." Well, "Sam, Organize." I have respect for Sam. Let us calmly discuss this subject. I am an outgrown citizen, and have sworn to sustain the laws of the State and the United States, and if the Government abrogates any section of those laws to which I have sworn, I feel myself at liberty to be independent and act against it. *If you don't want to have the streets of Brooklyn running thick with blood, you will do this thing.* It isn't as if the Government wants, they want money with which to oppress the poor paupers of our country.

Ald. Nodine said his whole heart was with the Government of this country. He thought the debate had taken too much of a political turn. He would ask if the the mob meant draft, why did they sack and burn houses? Why did they hang and burn colored persons? Why did they cheer for Jeff. Davis? Why did they other things that were inconsistent with loyalty to the Government.

Ald. O'Keefe called the speaker to order. His point was that the speaker was reading a document which he had copied from papers which that Board did not believe in.

Ald. Perry who was in the chair, decided that Ald. O'Keefe was out of order, as Ald. Nodine was reading his speech.

Ald. O'Keefe wanted to ask the Alderman of the 10th if it was his own production.

Ald. Nodine—It is. I have only to say, Mr. President, that in any other place I should have answered the Alderman of the 12th, as he deserved to be answered.

Ald. O'Keefe—I am ready to receive and reply to the gentleman's answer here or any other place.

Ald. Wallace was sorry that the debate had taken a political turn. He was in favor of sustaining the General Government, and for a vigorous prosecution of the war, until its power was vindicated and its authority respected. He proposed that the Board adjourn till next Monday evening.

Ald. Kimball never before felt so much responsibility. He was in favor of adjourning. He was in favor of considering the interests of the property-owners and the rent payers. He believed that if anything was done, it ought to be on the Rochester plan—giving the money to the man drafted, his substitute, or to the General Government.

Ald. Wallace moved the following amendment to the resolutions submitted by the Committee: to take the place of all after the word "therefor" at the middle of the first resolution in the report:

Resolved, That from the fund created from the foregoing resolutions, a bounty of \$300 per man for each non commissioned officer and privates be paid for volunteers for three years or for the war, payable when mustered into the U. S. service, and that such bounty be continued until the quota of Brooklyn be filled, or the draft be made.

Resolved, That when the draft is commenced, the bounty named in the foregoing resolution be discontinued, and the balance of the fund, or so much thereof as may be necessary to be appropriated to relieve cases of hardship under such regulations as this Common Council may hereafter adopt.

Resolved, that the Committee be authorized to make such arrangements as will most facilitate volunteering, and to arrange with the General Government, to have such volunteers accepted so as to reduce to that extent the number of men to be drafted and to report the progress of such volunteering to the General Government, that the Government may decide on the propriety of a further postponement of the draft.

Ald. Taylor moved that the whole subject lay over till the next meeting, and that the report, with all the resolutions and papers submitted, or which may be submitted on the subject by members of the Board, be referred to the Committee with their report, and that the report of the Committee be made the special order immediately after the reading of the minutes.

Adopted—Ayes 11, nays 5.
The Board then adjourned.

Kings.

BROOKLYN.

Eliters Before the Grand Jury.

James Wood and William Hartless, two rough-looking characters, were brought before Justice Boerum this morning on a charge of having extorted money by threatening storekeepers. They represented that they were among the leaders of the New York mob, and that they were instructed to levy contributions in the name of the mob, and that in case the persons upon whom they called did not pay the mob would beset them. They obtained money from all the storekeepers they visited. Justice Boerum held them for examination before the Grand Jury.

THE COMMON COUNCIL.

THE DRAFT IN BROOKLYN.

Report of the Special Committee on the Mayor's Message.

Proposition to Raise One Million of Dollars to Purchase Exemptions.

WHO FAVORS AND WHO OPPOSES IT.

INTERESTING DEBATE.

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen, was held last evening, pursuant to adjournment, in the Common Council Chamber. Present, Ald. Dennis O'Keeffe and a quorum of members.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, was dispensed with.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the Message of his Honor, the Mayor, on the subject of the Draft, submitted the following report:

To the Hon. the Common Council:
GENTLEMEN—The Special Committee appointed on the Message of the Mayor, of the 20th instant, to confer with the Board of Contracts, beg leave respectfully to

REPORT:

That they have duly considered the matter, and are of opinion that the interests of the city will be promoted by the procurement of substitutes, or the payment of three hundred dollars to the General Government to purchase the exemption from draft of such persons as may be drafted under the conscription act from this city, and under such rules and regulations as may be deemed proper under the circumstances.

This proposition appears to your Committee to be so manifestly a prudential as well as an economical measure, that under proper safeguards, it cannot fail to prove highly satisfactory to our citizens in its results, they would, therefore respectfully submit the following, in which the Board of Contracts concur, for your adoption:

Resolved, That the Mayor and Comptroller be and they are hereby authorized and directed to borrow upon the faith of the city, a sum not exceeding one million of dollars, payable with interest not exceeding seven per cent per annum in one year from date, and issue certificates of indebtedness therefor. The avails thereof, to be used for the payment of either the procurement of substitutes, or for the payment of the exemption fee as required by the conscription act, of such persons as may be drafted to fill the quota require from this city for the Army of the United States.

Resolved, That the Joint Committee heretofore appointed upon this subject, be and are hereby continued and empowered to carry the provisions of the foregoing resolution into effect, and to establish all needful rules and regulations for the purpose of guarding against any and all imposition or frauds that may be attempted to be practised upon this city.

Brooklyn, July 22d, 1863.

RICHARD TERNAN,
JOHN A. SAAL,
LEWIS F. NEWMAN,
DENNIS O'KEEFFE,
Special Committee.

Ald. Ternan moved that the resolutions be adopted. He had a preamble and resolutions he wished to offer, after the reading of the report which he believed, in connection, would embrace all that was necessary on the subject for proper action.

Ald. Belknap desired that there might be ample latitude given on the question, and the whole subject dealt with impartially.

Ald. Wallace suggested that the preamble and resolutions of the Alderman of the 9th be read.

Kings

Ald. Ternan withdrew them for the present. Ald. Fisher hoped to have heard the views of the gentlemen who had not signed the report. It was naturally a subject to elicit discussion, and those not agreeing with a majority of the Committee doubtless had views which might be of interest to hear.

Ald. Perry, as a member of the Committee, explained that the report did not meet his approval although he had not prepared a minority report nor a substitute, for the reason that the money was to be raised by the Board of Contracts, and was to be under their charge, not of the Committee. He presumed that no proposition could be carried out relative to the subject unless it met with the approval of that Body. His own views were, briefly, that the money should be applied to the relief of families, or for procuring substitutes for those unable to respond to the draft. He should vote against the resolutions in their present form.

Ald. Belknap offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That the Mayor and Comptroller be authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding \$300,000 at 7 per cent. interest, payable in ten years, and issue certificates of indebtedness therefor, the same to be used for the following purposes, to wit:

First—To provide substitutes for all active and exempt firemen who may be drafted; provided, however, that no more than \$300 be paid to any one substitute.

Second—To pay \$3 per week to the families of all drafted men who may have a wife, children or a mother, depending on them for support.

Ald. Belknap offered the substitute for simple reasons: He had conversed with a great number of people, and had a pretty correct knowledge of public feeling. All were patriotic so far as related to providing soldiers to aid the government but on the other hand they could not see the necessity of raising a million of dollars for that purpose. Such a proceeding would be unlawful and had so been declared to be in the State of Maine and other places. It was also not in accordance with the spirit of the charter. If a proper sum were agreed upon there would be no objections; but if the amount named were adhered to then it would be stopped by some legal process. His reason for mentioning firemen was, that they were exempt from military and jury duty under the law. Many of them had served fifteen years in good faith for exemption from such a crisis as the present, and the city should now uphold them. If \$3 were not enough for families he would be willing to increase the amount to \$4 or \$5. In some respects the report was objectionable and not clear. If it meant substitutes for all it should say so; and so it should be expressed if the money was intended for the government. But the government did not want money, which should be used as bounty to fill the regiments with men.

Ald. Ternan believed the report would be more explicit to the Board if it was again carefully read. The object in view was to follow the example of other cities. The design of the Government with the money was, to obtain men; and this was the sole object of the Committee. As regards the feeling of the people, he had some opportunity to know what it was. The Collector of Taxes had conversed with many of the largest tax-payers and there was a decided feeling among them to have this work done thoroughly. Yesterday morning the sum was fixed at \$500,000, and this morning it had been increased to \$1,000,000, and why? Public opinion was strong in reference to the subject, and was specially anxious to have all excitement on the question of the draft allayed. For himself, he believed there would be great trouble if the matter was not judiciously managed; and it was in obedience to public expression that the amount of the sum to be raised was changed. Collector Driggs had told him that the quota of the 14th Ward, 214 persons, could be raised in two weeks or less, with the requisite funds. Com-

ptroller Faron had assured him that with a million or less he could send more men to the field to support the flag of the country, than the quota called for, and who would be worth in service more than double as compared to conscripts. This was the belief of the Committee, and he earnestly appealed to the members to pause and consider—to take into consideration that it is the intention to raise the quota. If there should be a conflict of authority, let none force it; for it would be but adding a match to a heap of flax. Both sides should be willing to yield some points, and he himself was ready to make a sacrifice for peaceable adjustment. A million could as legally be raised as three hundred thousand or one hundred thousand dollars. Rochester had raised an amount to redeem every man, and Westchester, with Senator Haslins presiding, at a meeting recently pledged the same thing. At West Farms, the lawyer of Horace Greeley had cooperated in like action. Such was the prevailing sentiment, and he hoped it was that of every Democrat about the Board. He conjured them to throw

Kings.

aside all party questions, and only act to once more have a united country.

Ald. Taylor thought the subject was like being between the upper and nether mill-stone, as it would be crushed in either case. He was prepared to be crushed. He wished to do no injustice to the resolutions of the Committee, but would anybody on perusing them suppose that it was the intention of the Common Council to contribute one man to sustain the flag of his country? It was proposed to pay the Government \$300 for every man that may be drafted. Admitting that quota to be 4,200, here was a proposition to keep 4,000 men at home, away from the service the country now needs. Had the proposition been to give the \$300 to men who are drafted and serve, there would not be any dilemma; as it is, we should have three millions to pay and 4,000 men less to help pay it. He had been told that men unable to pay the \$300 would be helped. In the case of the man who had saved by dint of toil and great frugality some three hundred or four hundred dollars, he, if drafted, would be asked for the first question if he had sufficient to pay for his exemption. Replying in the affirmative, he would be told that having means he must help himself. In the case of another man who had lived all his life on the "live while you live" principle, and had not a dollar, he would be helped, thus offering a direct reward for prodigality. The Alderman of the 9th had referred to Rochester as an example, but Jersey City had set a better one, and it ought to be followed. There a bounty of \$300 is offered to volunteers who enlist. It had been remarked that unless this measure was carried through, the volcano on which we were standing would burst. Let it burst—and burst now! He wanted to know if he lived in a land of law and order? If the rab-

ble and murderers were to make the laws, that also he desired to know. They had declared that they would rule us again. Did he live in a land of constitutional liberty or of mob law rulers? He had asked gentlemen to ignore party, but he had not found one in the Board to do it. He had been alone, and had ignored party during his whole career. A Democratic Mayor he had supported unflinchingly, and now was asked to forget party. He would inquire if the mob was composed of party men? Who did compose it? Every gentleman present knew, and he would not insult their intelligence by pressing such a question. (Voice—"Let us know." "Out with it.") There were no Republicans found in the mob, because they are a law-abiding party; yet he would not say Democrats were not law-abiding, for he saw some around him. He insisted, however, that there were no Republicans who originated or participated in the mob, nor did the rumors circulating about town originate in Republican brains. Therefore it is a mill-stone in either case. The Alderman of the 9th had said that he had been called on by his constituents respecting the matter. The same was his own case, and to such an extent that he had hardly been able to put pen to paper during the day. His constituents wished to know if he was going to vote a million dollars to-night, and so leave the Government unprovided for. In short, if he was to be ground anywhere, it should be by the law.

Ald. Whitney presumed the members would bear out his endeavor to economize money and prevent inordinate expenditures. But there were times when we must be liberal, and one of those occasions had arrived. No man condemned the proceedings more than himself, proceedings which every Democrat disapproved. (Hear, hear.) There was, however, no denial of the fact that there existed a deep seated opposition to being drafted, and the case may as well be met intelligently as otherwise. The gentleman of the 15th said, there had been a violation of the law, and asked where it had begun? Had there been a violation of the law by the General Government? Was there not a superceding, in the fact, a non-observance of the law in the passage of the Emancipation act? Or what might be called the shutting up of men in Fort Lafayette, and the denial of the benefit of the *habeas corpus*? Were these acts observing the law? Republicans had violated the law as well as the Democrats, had in fact set the example. The people had committed violence and had done wrong, and among them were as many Republicans as Democrats. Indeed the assemblage was largely made up of the various classes of plunderers and robbers, who rushed in when only a slight disturbance had been committed. The opinion that the quota would not be filled was a mistake, for the Democrats would supply all the men asked for, as it would be found they had done when the quota was first filled. It was, then, presumption to say that Democrats would not stand by the flag of the country. some-

Kings

thing which they had always done. As regards the use of the money to be raised, he believed that if it were devoted to paying voluntary enlistments, men enough to fill the quota could be had in 30 days.

Ald. E. Murphy begged to say, that since the question had been put into a political aspect, that 1,100 volunteers had left his ward since the commencement of the war. Of this number 800 were Democrats. The question, however, was never asked whether they were Democrats or Republicans he well knew, for he was present on several occasions when the opportunity was given him to ascertain the facts. There were hundreds of men in his ward who could not raise \$300; indeed the families of men still at the war were suffering this day for mere necessities. Still he was of the opinion that the quota in the ward could be filled if the money was paid to the substitutes or to their families.

Ald. O'Keeffe did not suppose that at any time before in his life had he felt such a lack of power to direct the requisite attention to the matter under consideration. He did not rise in his place simply to give his views, for he felt as there was not language for their expression. He was surprised to see any opposition to the measure before the Board. Individually he did not stand there as a Democrat or as a Republican, but simply as an adopted citizen. The Ald. of the 15th had made charges, and it was surprising that he would not let the Board know who were meant under the title of rabble. Had he given the information he could have but echoed the words of the *Tribune* and the *Post*—Irish robbers and Irish democrats.

Ald. Taylor called the speaker to order, as he had not made use of these terms.

Ald. O'Keeffe was only giving his opinion of what the insinuations of the Ald. of the 15th meant. But he could not make any one believe that the brave men who fought at Manassas, Centreville, Antietam, and during the seven days on the Peninsula, would inaugurate a disturbance for the sake of subsequent plunder. If robbers and thieves take advantage of honest men who were averse to unlawful measures, was it any reason that the latter should be branded in complicity with the former? Was it a reason for exhibiting around the street certain posters, with words "Sam, organize?" As for Sam, he loved him as he loved himself, for he never without his countenance would have been elevated to the honorable position of representing a portion of the city without his assistance. Not, then, to have a regard for him, would be to become a renegade, and not worthy to live. In God's name let the present state of feeling be waived, and the country restored to its wonted prosperity. Let the North and the South be united once more if possible. Let there be no

ambly at the tone or the resolutions, but all try and bring about the best results. He wished the Federal Government would do this, that it would put men who were competent in charge of soldiers' lives, men, too, whom the soldiers love. Had this been done long ago there would have been no need of conscription now; but as it was upon us, it was our duty to raise the pecuniary relief. He did not mean to furnish men if he could help it. Why were there 30,000 soldiers in New York to-day? Why were they not where they were they were wanted? Why were they here to shoot down citizens? Where was General Lee? Would not these men be of any use to Gen. Meade? Would they not occupy the time of at least one Brigadier-General? They were 30,000 strong, and ready, and why should they not go back into the Army, where men were needed? The Alderman of the 15th had said that the draft reached all persons alike. Look at the poor grain shoveler! A man invariably with a large family, six or seven children. A man bountifully endowed by nature to perpetuate his race. It cost him at the very least ten shillings a day to support his children, not as any of the gentlemen present would like to have their's supported. Was he in a position to pay \$300, a sum he never had and never could expect to have at his control? The members were there not to represent the rich man the tax payer, but to represent every citizen of Brooklyn that was interested either directly or indirectly. The burden would fall in one way or another on those least able to bear it, if not directly, then in the way of rent or the advance of necessities. Plainly then it was but duty to take care of these men who were the first to go out and fight for us. He was not in favor of rebelling against the laws, but rather of perpetuating the institutions of the glorious country. He had taken an oath so to do, and after taking it felt that he was on an equality with those born on the soil. If, however, the government failed to observe the conditions of that oath, or abrogate any part of it, he did not consider himself bound by it, nor

Kings.

would he hold it a perjury if he acted antagonist to it. And this he was willing to do. The Alderman of the 5th had also said that the riotous movements came from his party, the Democrats. To that political branch he belonged true enough, and he was sorry to say that it had been misrepresented in the leaders of the newspapers. Why should they not fight against this misrepresentation? They had a right to do so. The press in doing wrong incited rebellion and mob law, and when himself or another on reading a paper discovered that the whole fault was cast upon adopted citizens, was it not natural to feel indignant? When he knew that his countrymen and other foreigners had come here at the instigation of the Government, had they not a right to feel aggrieved when fired upon by some flash officer? Thus the stigma has fallen upon a particular race. If they did not want the streets to be flooded with blood, and when they might be would not be known until the moment it should be done, some proper provision must be made to avoid such a calamity. If men alone were wanted by the Government, the \$300 clause ought not to have been put in the Conscription Act. It seemed to him to be a raid on poor citizens and a cloak to screen the rich man, behind which he might stand, while others went out to be shot. The gentleman of the 15th had averred that he had supported a Democratic Mayor. Well, if so! For himself he had been charged with being an apostate by—well, it was no matter who, for there was no truth in the charge. When the Mayor was wrong he did not and would not sustain him; if on the contrary he was right, it was his bounden duty to give him countenance. In the hands of the Mayor and of the Committee, the money would be carefully disbursed and with the strictest inquiry. The citizens might rest assured that not a cent would be disbursed to any one not worthy and deserving.

Ald. Ternan asked permission to read his preamble and resolutions which, leave being granted, he read as follows:

Whereas, A strong feeling exists in this city that Brooklyn has been sufficiently credited for the troops she has sent to the field since the Rebellion broke out, and great uncertainty appears to prevail about the actual number the General Government requires from her, under the Conscription

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be now appointed, whose duty shall be to confer in conjunction with other municipalities should they so deem fit, with State and General Governments, and particularly to urge upon the latter the wisdom and expediency of suspending the draft to allow the proper number of men required from each county to be raised by them as volunteers.

Resolved, That the sum of \$250 be appropriated to defray the expenses of said Committee, such sum to be expended solely under the direction of the Mayor.

If these resolutions were adopted with those in the report of the Committee, there would be ample authority to complete the quota.

Ald. Nodyne regretted that the subject had taken a political turn, for politics did not belong here, and their introduction caused words to be said that were out of place. He would stand by the Government in its need, and do as much for the aid of the poor and helpless families as his neighbor. Indeed, he had already done more than he could afford. He did not approve of the report in all its bearings, and for reasons he was about to present. It was the most important matter which had been before the Board, and if it was discussed in an impartial manner, and without bias, it would occupy more than this meeting. He had prepared his views on the subject, and would, by permission, read them:

The Mayor, in his message, says: "In the first place, let it be fully and distinctly understood that we cannot consent even to appear in the remotest degree to concede or yield to the demands or threats of a mob, or of persons inclined to riotous demonstrations."

There must be good reasons for this. If we concede or yield—

- 1st. It gives recognition to violators of law.
- 2d. It is an admission of weakness on the part of our civil government.
- 3d. It will encourage a mob spirit to set the laws at defiance in this city, when any future demand, just or unjust, be denied.
- 4th. If the third city in the Union falters or retreats before the mob, riot and bloodshed, or submission to the mob, will be the order of things in every city, town, or village, throughout the land.

It is proposed to tax the people of Brooklyn \$1,000,000, to pay the exemption of every person drafted from this city.

To understand this thing fairly, we should carefully con over the bloody record of the past ten days, and remember that it is by the light of the burning buildings of a neighboring city that we are to present to the men who made night and day fearful with their deeds, a portion, at least, of this sum. This, too, while we are threatened with a repetition of the same scenes.

Kings

Hence the Hon. Mayor observes justly :
 " We can not afford to appear, even in the remotest degree, to concede or yield."

Does the proposed action " appear, even in the remotest degree, to concede or yield " ?

1st. Would the citizens consent that we should vote their money away thus, except that we would have riots else, and that this action would be a preventative ?

2. Is not this consideration the *animus* of our action ?

3. Will not the riotously-disposed portion of the people so understand it ?

4. Hear the words of the Hon. Mayor :—" And there is the other consideration, which, however we may deprecate it, we are forced to take into account, and that is, should any omission to take some action on our part result in failing to prevent the enactment among us of the scenes that have recently transpired in New York, we may have a destruction of property, to say nothing of life, to reimburse which, would impose upon the taxpayers a burthen compared to which the appropriation suggested would be a mere trifle." If we act as proposed, remembering this " other consideration " presented by the Hon. Mayor, will not all the people,—riotous and law-abiding,—say ' we acted thus in fear of the mob ' ?—and however much we wish to avoid the appearance, ' we are conceding and yielding to the demands and threats of the mob ' ?

5. Is the civil arm so paralyzed that we must buy up rioters, as individuals in New York were recently coerced to buy off house-burners and assassins.

6. Nothing can be inferred from all this but an admission that the civil authorities are powerless before the mobocrats, and that, in our cowardice, we are willing to give them *one million* to keep quiet for a time longer.

But, before we make this humiliating admission and before we send our commissioners to rioters, let us ask if this will stay the tide of riot ?

If the draft was the only cause for riot, why were houses plundered in New York ? Why did the mob cheer for Jeff. Davis ?

Ald. Newman called the gentleman to order, as the cheering for Jeff. Davis had nothing to do with the matter.

Ald. Terman—Let him give us the evidence that there were cheers for Jeff. Davis.

Ald. Nodyne proceeded :

Why was Fancher's Elevator burned ? Why are the neighboring woods full of homeless, starving colored men, women and children forced to flee from the mob ?

Apart from all question of your right to use money for such purpose, (and I believe the Courts will decide we have no such right) I am opposed to the measure as a humiliating one, and one too that clearly will not effect its object.

For the law-abiding men, we could not pay. If drafted, they will either furnish substitutes, pay \$300, or join the army.

Would it not be grossly unjust that any portion of the tax necessitated by the passage of this, should be borne by a man who, in obedience to the law, furnishes a substitute or pays his \$300, or goes bravely to the battle-field ?

Would it not be foul injustice to our brave taxpayers now in the army, and who are calling loudly to us for reinforcements, to make them pay a portion of this sum which is to prevent them from being reinforced ?

Why should our people who have been heavily taxed that men might be paid to join our armies, now be also heavily taxed, that men may be encouraged *not* to join our armies ?

Ald. O'Keeffe called the gentleman to order.

The Chair—(Ald. Perry)—State the point of order.

Ald. O'Keeffe—The gentleman is reading extracts from a document published in a factious newspaper, something which is not pertinent to the question.

Ald. Nodyne—I do not wish to make any unpleasant remarks, but if the gentleman says that I am reading extracts, he says what is not true.

Ald. O'Keeffe—Is it the gentleman's own speech ?

Ald. Nodyne—Yes.

Ald. O'Keeffe—(not hearing the reply distinctly)—I have asked a plain question, and expect as plain an answer.

Ald. Nodyne—I have said it was my own convictions on the subject before the Board. The Ald. of the 12th has no right to cast any reflections.

Ald. O'Keeffe—If it is his own speech, let him go on.

Ald. Nodyne—He has no right to cast reflections, and in any other place, he would be answered as he deserves.

Ald. O'Keeffe—What does the gentleman—

The Chair directed the Alderman of the 10th to proceed.

Kings.

Ald. Nodyne continued:
Is the proposed action not unjust to all the tax payers?

Is it not especially unjust to three classes of the tax payers?

1st. A., who is drafted and pays his \$300 for exemption:

2d. B., who is drafted and furnishes his substitute:

3d. C., who is drafted and who shoulders his musket like a patriot.

It is urged that this money would only be used to procure substitutes for drafted men, and would not hinder the operation of the law of Congress.

This could not be;—the substitutes could not be procured.

How much could you afford to pay a substitute?
Only the \$300, which you propose to vote for each.

How many men are there in the city that could be procured to go as substitutes, who have not already been in the army?

You might number them on the fingers of your two hands—especially after the draft.

If this is true, you must rely on men who have been in the service? Can you get them?

| | |
|--|---------|
| They are now offered, for re-enlistment, | \$2 00. |
| Congressional Bounty, | 100 00 |
| From the Exemption fund, | 300 00 |

\$402 00

Will a man go as a substitute for \$300, when he can procure \$402 for the same service?

The "National Enrollment act" might undoubtedly be bettered by exempting husbands with helplessly infirm wives, and other cases that might be named of a kindred nature.

But that there are many heads of families in this condition, who now afford neither help or protection to such family, but are lazy, vagabond and thriftless, we cannot doubt.

Why should these have the benefits sought to be conferred on better men?

These men drafted, their families would be subjects of public justice and not of private charity, and in many cases that might be named would be better for the change.

Judging the present and future by the past, there can be no doubt in the mind of any man but that public-spirited individuals would step in and pay the exemption of every provident husband or other person who has helpless persons dependent on his exertions, and whose presence is at all necessary to the happiness or comfort of the helpless ones.

It is much to be preferred that this matter should be left in the hands of public-spirited individuals.

"It should be fully and distinctly understood that we cannot consent even to appear in the remotest degree" to oppose any constitutional law of the United States, either in letter or spirit. And while by our action here we admit the constitutionality of the "National Enrollment act" (for if the law is unconstitutional there is no necessity of

passing this), yet are we not "consenting to appear," to say the least of it, to oppose its spirit.

The law was framed to increase the army, and it must be obvious to all, if we pass this, it will tend to prevent that increase.

Such legislation, three months ago, was unknown to the history of the world, and it is to be hoped that Brooklyn will not join those cities or towns that are willing to let it be written "We were forced to surrender to the mob."

Far better is it that we should spend or lose millions in sustaining the Government, than give farthings to conciliate a mob.

Therefore let us be firm now, and all will be well.

I will vote one or five millions, if necessary, to support the wives and families of these men while they are gone, and will vote to pledge the city to pay a just pension to their families if they should die in the service of our country.

Let our motto be, "Millions for the comfort of the wives and families of our brave defenders, but not one cent as tribute to a mob."

Ald. Wallace was sorry that the debate had partaken of a political character, inasmuch as he had attended for the purpose of discussing the matter without reference to politics. Since he had seen and conversed with returned soldiers and learned how many adopted citizens were in the army, he felt more liberal towards them in their endeavor to sustain the flag of the country. He was for sustaining the general government, and for a vigorous prosecution of the war until the authority of the government is maintained on every foot of territory belonging to it. To that end the army must be kept full, and to achieve the purpose every man must bear his part of the burden. He held that the soldier who perils his life for his

country, who interposes his own body between his family and his property (Ald. Wis.) and danger, should be well paid as well as taken care of. For this purpose he was willing to have his own property taxed or encumbered. If the draft was necessary, and he believed it to be, he was willing to alleviate its hardships in any manner in his power. If a man is drafted with which to support that but his own hands, with which to support that family, he would be willing to have his property taxed to provide a substitute or furnish an exemption fee. Or if a man should be granted and willing to go who has no means to provide himself shelter or food, or if he returned home wounded or sick, he would freely submit to a tax to pay that man the same bounty he would have received to go as a substitute. He desired to see some modification in the resolutions of the report, and had therefore prepared some which he would read. After the words "indebtedness therefore," in the first resolution, he would amend by adding as follows:

That from the fund created by the resolutions a bounty of \$300 per man be paid for volunteers for three years, or the war, payable when mustered into the U. S. service, and that such bounty be continued until the quota of Brooklyn be filled, or the draft be made.

Resolved, That when the draft is commenced the bounty named in the foregoing resolution be discontinued, and the balance of the fund, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be appropriated to relieve cases of hardship, under such regulations as this Common Council may hereafter adopt.

In place of the 2d resolution offered by the Committee, he would like to substitute the following:

Resolved, That the Committee be authorized to make such arrangements as will most facilitate volunteering, and to arrange with the General Government to have such Volunteers accepted, so as to reduce to that extent the number of men to be drafted—and to report the progress of such volunteering to the Government, to the end that they may decide on the propriety of further postponement of the draft.

He did not assume to have any more wisdom than other members of the Board, and indeed he did not know but what his own amendments might be improved after further reflection. In this view of the case, he proposed that the matter be laid over until next Monday evening, and the resolutions be referred back to the Committee for further consideration and report.

Ald. Kimball had not had presented to him since he had been a member of the Board, any subject which imposed so grave a responsibility as did this one. He wished to act thoughtfully and candidly, and without any partizan feeling. Sufficient time should be devoted to the question so that all might act with unanimity; and, therefore, the proposition to lay the subject over was judicious. In the meantime, opinions would be heard from the people, and various reasons expressed for and against, from which something might be learned. The people had a right of expression in the premises; and, therefore, he wished to show a proper regard, without haste, to the interests of all alike, the rich as well as the poor. He had settled upon one point, so far as he had been able to inform himself; and that was that the Rochester plan was the true one for adoption. In that city money had been raised for every man in the quota. If the drafted man went, he received \$300, or if not the amount was given to his substitute; or, if neither responded, then the money was paid to the Government. Thus the burden was just on all classes of citizens, because they would all pay a just proportion of tax. He was not prepared to vote even for this plan to-night, nor did he believe there was any disposition to urge the matter through. If there was, he should vote against it. He saw many hardships about the conscription bill; and, indeed, it seemed almost impossible to frame a bill without hardships. Some believed that under the Rochester plan the Government would obtain but few recruits; but he had no fears about such a result. If a drafted man sent a substitute, he was clear for three years, while if he paid \$300 he was only exempt until another draft should be ordered. This, it was reported was the opinion of General Cushing. That being the case, there would be hardly a citizen who would not add a little more to the \$300 and procure a substitute, so as to exempt him for three years or for the war. Such, in his opinion, would be the course pursued by the rich men, who were comparatively out of the reach of the act. He did not believe the war men were all gone. It would be remembered that for a time recruiting was dull, but that after the seven days' battle, the people made up their minds that men must be had, and soon a sufficient number came forward for a small bounty. It was not to avoid any responsibility that he urged deferring final action until Monday night, but only for the purpose of acting judiciously and safely.

Ald. Terman had listened to the remarks of the Ald. of the 3d with great pleasure. It was an agreeable calm after a tirade of words, and he had shown himself to be a prudent merchant and a sensible man. He thought, however, in the resolutions presented by the Alderman of the 3d, that a part of his thunder had been stolen and its effect not accomplished. He could not see the effect in laying over the matter, for it was hardly

Kings.

possible to make any provisions that would sway the Government. If the resolutions of the report were adopted with those offered by himself, all contingencies would be provided for, the money would be raised, and the Committee would have their instructions to act.

Ald. Taylor wished only to say that the Alderman of the 12th was usually courteous in his remarks, but this evening he had misconstrued what had been said by himself. While he had charged the mob as belonging to the same party as the Ald. of the 12th, he had made no reference to any nationality. He thought it was possible to concoct a scheme so that the Board would be unanimous on the question, if the views of the opposite party were consulted. It would be observed that of the Committee of ten there were but two Republicans, and this he submitted was evidence that the Republicans had not been sufficiently consulted.

Ald. Whitney—that is the fault of the people of Brooklyn in returning so many Democrats. (Laughter and applause in the lobby.)

Ald. Taylor suggested that as the Republicans would be called on to foot as much of the bill as others, it might be in good taste to have one or two more gentlemen of his complexion as members of the Committee.

Ald. O'Keeffe explained, that as President of the Board he had appointed the Committee in accordance with the custom generally observed, giving to the dominant party of the Board a majority of the members.

Ald. Taylor moved that the report be laid over until next Monday evening, the resolutions to be referred to the Committee, and the whole subject to be the special order, immediately after the reading of the minutes.

The motion was agreed to, on the following division: Ayes—Ald. Whitney, Wallace, Newman, Belknap, Nodyne, Kimball, O'Keeffe, Taylor, Perry, Kalbfleisch, and Fisher,—11. Nays—Ald. McLaughlin, Emis, M. Murphy, Ternan, and E. Murphy—5.

Adjourned.

Brooklyn City News.

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1863.

THE DRAFT EXEMPTION—PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

Contrary to general expectation, the Board of Aldermen last evening failed to take any decisive action on the proposition of the Mayor, in reference to the purchase of exemption from the draft. There was a great deal of discussion, and many conflicting propositions offered, when finally the whole subject was referred back to the special committee for further consideration.

It is to be regretted that considerations of political partizanship should have been introduced, and thus discussions incited, and expressions indulged in under the circumstances entirely uncalled for, and out of place, and preventing candid and unprejudiced action. We give in our report of the proceedings a very full sketch of the debate. To Ald. TAYLOR, of the 15th ward, pertains the credit of first introducing partizan, political considerations in the discussion of the question. This gentleman has never been noted in his public course for any great liberality of sentiment or discretion of action, and his course last evening, was but in keeping with his entire career. And the retort which was provoked from Ald. O'KEEFFE was much more violent than the provocation would justify. The dispassionate, conservative and patriotic view and sentiments of Alderman WALLACE, were as especially deserving of commendation as an example to his Republican colleagues, as were those of Ald. WHITNEY to his democratic brethren, on the other side of the house.