

### THE CITY'S POSITION.

The people of Kansas City will sustain the Mayor in causing the arrest of the water works employees who were set to work yesterday on the streets without permits. It was an act which was plainly in defiance of municipal authority, and the interference of the police, under the circumstances, was wholly proper. The water works company may as well understand now as later, that in the contention which has arisen between it and the city, the latter has the advantage. It is backed by popular sentiment, and that is a force which no corporation can successfully combat. It is fortified by the argument of self-preservation, and that in itself is invincible. It is not disposed to abuse its authority, or to insist upon its rights and privileges in a way which will be offensive to the company. It has been all along disposed to make an equitable arrangement which would inflict injury upon no interest involved.

But the city is not going to lie down and permit itself to be ridden over by a corporation which has no interest in Kansas City save what it can get out of it. The people are not ready to submit to the insolent dictation of President TANTON. They are not to be intimidated by his threats nor frightened by his talk about shutting off the municipal water supply. They thoroughly understand the strength of their position and propose to maintain it.

The water works company ought to realize by this time that it is the sheerest folly to attempt to accomplish its object by force. It is strange that it cannot see that its silly game of bluff is inflicting incalculable harm upon itself. It appears determined to leave nothing undone by which it may invite the hostility of the public. Its audacity in putting a force of men to work to tearing up the streets without the permission of the authorities was a fair sample of its hardihood. The manifestation of this hateful spirit has created a determination on the part of the people to dissolve a relation which has been highly profitable to the company. It was the desire of the city in terminating this contract to deal with the company in a just and generous manner, but the latter has employed every means within its power to defeat and forestall such an arrangement.