

Local Affairs.

The deep snow and severe weather has been exceedingly bad on rail road operations. The most powerful engines are frequently unable to start with even a light train, after having stopped.

The snow storm on Sunday had added some five or six inches more to the abundance which already covers the ground. On an average the snow, as it is, is about fifteen inches deep. A sudden thaw would certainly cause a high flood if not a dangerous one.

THE WEIGHT OF SNOW.—The great weight of accumulated snow on the roof of a building, requires some attention. Unless the rafters are very strong, or the roof is otherwise supported and strengthened, there is great danger if the snow that falls in a wind like this, is suffered to remain. It is much better to remove a portion of it, if possible, to avoid the danger of breaking down.

REBEL PRISONERS.—On Tuesday last about 500 rebel prisoners stopped at this place several hours, while on their way to the front to be exchanged. They looked as if they were hearty and had been well fed, affording a sad contrast with our poor fellows, in rebel hands.

ICE BRIDGE.—For several weeks the ice on the river at this place, has been crossed by sleds, sleighs and all kinds of vehicles. The ice is ten to twelve inches thick and perfectly safe. This natural bridge affords some idea of what might be expected if a substantial bridge were erected which could be used at all seasons. There is scarcely a moment in the day, that one or more teams can not be seen crossing. We have no doubt, that a bridge would pay 10 per cent dividends the first year.

MEAN THIEVES.—We learn that the house of Lieut. Wm. Hendricks, in the southern part of this borough, was robbed last week of a number of valuable articles. This we consider, is a contemptible law, and the individual who commits an act of this kind, in the family of a soldier who is absent in the army, should meet with scorn and contempt from every man, woman and child. If he would reflect for a moment, he will see that he has become a doggedly low thief, and is a little the meanest of the mean thieves who are prowling about in this place.

COLD WEATHER.—The thermometer, on Monday morning, stood at 10 and on Tuesday morning at 12 degrees below zero.

The Board of Directors of the Bank of Northumberland at this place, on Thursday last, resolved to build a new banking house, at the corner of the Walnut lot, opposite the residence of J. D. Packer, Esq. It will be a handsome building.

OUR army correspondent, H. D. WADSWORTH, whose graphic letters are always acceptable to our readers, has been home on a visit to his friends and relatives in this place. He leaves again for the front, today. He has been in the service since the war began, and we are pleased to say, we never saw him look better. He has shown his patriotism in his actions as well as his words and richly deserves promotion for the steady and faithful performance of his duty.

The Philadelphia & Erie rail road, we learn, refuses to forward passengers from Philadelphia to Erie until further notice. The road runs for nearly 100 miles through narrow valleys between the mountains. The first step was to clear a track from the track which another fall, making the obstruction greater than before. This has been a terrible winter on all roads, but especially for one so open and running through mountain gorges.

MORE SNOW.—On Wednesday the weather being moderated some, there was another fall of snow. The snow crops becoming exceedingly abundant.

THE DANGERS OF COAL OIL.—On Saturday a variety of fire and a cloud of smoke brought together a considerable crowd at Finner's Eating Saloon, under Hecht's Clothing Store. The fire originated in the stove room, occupied by Lewis, Shuman & Co. A barrel of coal oil, lying on the floor in the back room, had sprung a leak, and the oil had escaped through a passage through a door, on to the cooking stove, in full blast, below the whole kitchen was soon enveloped in a sheet of flame and a cloud of smoke. The fire was, however, so subdued by a number of persons present.

This accident which, fortunately, resulted in but little loss, should be a warning for the future, and cause our borough authorities to take some action in the matter. Coal oil is a dangerous commodity, a community should be restricted and guarded in as much as coal and carbon or powder itself.

THE CASE OF EDWARD KNOX.—A special jury was held at this place, on Monday and Tuesday last, present, Judge Jordan and his associates Turner and Shipman, for the purpose of hearing the testimony and arguments of counsel, on a motion for a writ, made by the counsel of Edward Knoke, Jr. It will be remembered, was tried and convicted, on January Court, for the murder of Mrs. Chamberlain, wife of Lewis Chamberlain, of Shamokin township, in September last. The murdered woman, who had been left alone, that day, was found in the evening, by her husband, a short distance from the house, and had been shot through the side, and the gun belonging to the husband, was used as a weapon.

Among the reasons filed and argued for a new trial, made by the counsel of Edward Knoke, Jr. It will be remembered, was tried and convicted, on January Court, for the murder of Mrs. Chamberlain, wife of Lewis Chamberlain, of Shamokin township, in September last. The murdered woman, who had been left alone, that day, was found in the evening, by her husband, a short distance from the house, and had been shot through the side, and the gun belonging to the husband, was used as a weapon.

That the jury, during the trial, had not been kept together, but during the night, had slept in two separate rooms, guarded by one constable.

That the constable, Mr. Snyder, had furnished to the jury a bottle of brandy in the morning, and one in the evening.

That the two constables, Frank and Hite, had in the room on Saturday night, with the jury in deliberating upon and making up their verdict.

That Mr. Frank, one of the constables, during that he had been called to the door and was spoken to by the prisoner. He was followed by Messrs. Messinger & Zwicker, on behalf of the Commonwealth, who earnestly contended that there was nothing in the evidence that would warrant the return of a new trial. J. B. Packer Esq., counsel for the prisoner, after Mr. Lawson had finished his speech over three hours. His argument was an earnest, eloquent and most able effort, which of the unfortunate man. He well substantiated his case and understood it in all its bearings, and whatever may be the fate of the prisoner, he has certainly shown that he is a lawyer of the first class.

List of Crimes, For Trial at the Adjourning Court, commencing March 23d, 1863.

List of Crimes, To be tried at the Regular Session, commencing March 23d, 1863.

List of Jurors, For the Adjourning Court, to commence March 6th, 1863.

List of Jurors, For the March Term of the Northumberland County Court, commencing March 13th, 1863.

List of Jurors, Grand Jurors.

TRAVERSE JURORS.

NOTICE.

PHYSICIAN & SURGEON, DR. ISAAC HUFF.

COAL OIL LAMPS.

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AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry.

UP DE GRAFF'S Eye and Ear Infirmary.

THE LONDON QUARTERLY REVIEW.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW.

J. H. BELL'S GROVER, Enamelled Slate Mantel.

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