

NEWS SUMMARY.

City Affairs. -Yesterday afternoon, in the United States District Court, before Judge Caldwell, in the case of the United States vs. George W. Alexander, before reported, the prosecution called...

contracts. It is the Independence Square (the Walnut street front) as the site for the new buildings. A motion to strike out Independence Square from the bill was made, and a considerable debate, and eventually in a motion to postpone the bill for the present...

London, Dec. 3. -Mr. Gladstone has gone to Windsor. There will be only an informal meeting of Parliament on December 10, and an adjournment on December 15 will be had, in order to give time for the election of a new Ministry.

Philadelphia Board of Trade. -The Board of Trade has received the French Ambassador's report, and assured him of its friendship for France.

Marine Telegraph. -For additional Marine News see First Page. ALBANIA FOR PHILADELPHIA-TODAY. SUN RISES 7:58 MOON RISES 5:16 SUN SETS 4:42 HIGH WATER 5:14

FOR THE LADIES. -MAGAZIN DES MODES, No. 1014 WALNUT STREET. For the better convenience of her Patrons, MRS. PROCTOR HAS REMOVED HER DRESS-MAKING ROOMS TO No. 1014 WALNUT STREET.

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Foreign Affairs. -London, Dec. 3. -The American Minister was entertained at a banquet last night by the Chamber of Commerce of Birmingham.

Affairs in New York. -New York, Dec. 3. -Judge Sutherland to-day discharged Superintendent Kennedy from custody, saying the Coroner had no right to issue the warrant for his arrest.

Fire Near Newark. -Newark, N. J., Dec. 3. -A fire this morning at 11 o'clock destroyed four miles from Newark, destroyed Belcher Brothers' rule and skate factory, with its contents. The loss is about \$30,000, and the insurance \$15,000.

Exploitations of Central Asia. -At the last meeting of the Royal Geographical Society in London, Sir Roderick Murchison said the attention of the society had been attracted to the attention of the society...

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Between one and two o'clock yesterday morning a private watchman, employed to protect stores on Eighth street, above Vine, and Policeman Outinger, in going to the rear of Messrs. Morris & Hoffman's dry goods store, frightened off a gang of robbers who were operating there. The robbers had commenced to bore through a back shutter, and had struck upon a sheet-iron lining, which prevented the bit from going through. The brace and bit were left behind by the thieves, all of whom made their escape.

A Destructive Fire. -FOUR MERCANTILE HOUSES BURNED OUT. Yesterday afternoon, at twenty minutes past 5 o'clock, a fire was discovered in the large five-story brick warehouse of T. Morris Perot & Co., No. 621 Market street. The origin of the fire is not known, but is supposed to have been caused by the explosion of a carboy of inflammable substance in the cellar; but the spread of the flames was so rapid as to prevent any investigation before the fire had destroyed the building. In less than five minutes after the alarm was first given, the flames had spread throughout the structure, five stories in height, and extending back to Commerce street. The combustible nature of the contents of the store aided the fire, and at 6 o'clock the fire was in every portion of the building, and, coming out of the windows, illuminated the neighborhood for squares. A general alarm was then sounded by the State House, and the firemen from all portions of the city were soon on the ground, but their efforts were directed to the preservation of surrounding property. The intense heat of the fire in the draughts, together with the large quantity of water, carried to the south and east by the wind, made this a very important one. For a distance of not less than two squares from the fire, buildings were in danger, and the constant attention of the occupants was needed to prevent fires at a distance. Near the drug store, where the danger was more imminent, firemen were at work. At one time the roof of the States Union Hotel, nearly opposite Perot's, was on fire, but the employees in the hotel succeeded in saving the building, and no further damage was done. On the same side with the burning building, it was found impossible to save the adjoining structures. No. 619, a five-story brown stone building, adjoining on the east, occupied by Kilburn & Co., was destroyed, and the large stock of furniture burned. No. 623, also five stories, adjoining on the west side, was destroyed above the third story, and below that damaged by the water. The building was occupied by the first floor by the Brothers, wire-cloth and stove manufacturers, and above that by William W. Paul, boot and shoe manufacturer. No. 617, occupied by Graft & Jarden, a large building, occupied by the firm as grocers, was damaged by water, and also the store No. 615, occupied by E. A. Coyle & Co. and Cogie, Laughlin & Co., wholesale grocers. The roof of No. 625, occupied by Lloyd, Siple & Walker, hardware merchants, was destroyed by water, and the store was also the store No. 615, occupied by E. A. Coyle & Co. and Cogie, Laughlin & Co., wholesale grocers. The roof of No. 625, occupied by Lloyd, Siple & Walker, hardware merchants, was destroyed by water, and the store was also the store No. 615, occupied by E. A. Coyle & Co. and Cogie, Laughlin & Co., wholesale grocers.

Domestic Affairs. -Gold sold yesterday at 135 1/2. -General Grant visited Harvard College yesterday. -\$18,000 in specie was sent to Europe from New York yesterday. -\$766,000 in remittances was shipped to China and Japan from San Francisco yesterday. -The Government loses \$100,000 by the fire at Fort Layne. Uncle Sam does not insure. -The reports from the fire at Fort Layne yesterday amounted to nearly one million dollars. -Judge Fullerton is again in Washington with charges against District Attorney Courtney. -Police Superintendent Kennedy was yesterday discharged from custody by Judge Sutherland. -The insanity of Commodore Meade is vouchered for by the physicians of the New York City Prison. -Rev. William C. Poovey was yesterday elected Bishop of the new Episcopal Diocese of Altan. -The tannery of Neal Dow & Son, at Rutland, Me., was destroyed by fire last night. Loss very heavy. -Eighty female clerks on the pay rolls of the Register of the Treasury's office have done no work for two weeks. -Belcher Brothers' rule and skate factory, near Newark N. J., was destroyed by fire yesterday evening. Loss, \$30,000. -The State Christian Convention of Minnesota assembled on Wednesday night, and is the largest religious gathering ever held in that State. -\$201,473,000 United States registered bonds were sold in the last fiscal year; \$27,000,000 of this amount was in exchange for coupon bonds. -Six companies of the 27th United States Infantry arrived at Omaha from the West on Wednesday evening, and on to winter quarters. -\$47,000 in conscience money to the Government was received from November, 1863, to July, 1867, and \$49,000 in the fiscal year closing with June of the present year. -The motion to quash the indictment against J. E. Davis was argued before Chief Justice Chase at Richmond yesterday. Richard H. Dana for the Government; Robert Ould for the chief of Rebels.

City Councils. -Street Council. -President Stokley was in the chair. A communication from the University of Pennsylvania...

Common Council. -President Mercer was in the chair. A petition of citizens of the Twenty-second ward protesting against the Fourth and Fifth Street Railway Company's selling the track, was referred. A communication from the City Commissioners asking an extra appropriation to pay increased salaries of the officers of the general courts was referred to Committee on Finance. R. H. Merston, in a communication presented to the city a fine portrait of General Grant, painted by J. R. Labadie, the artist. The donor asks that the portrait be assigned a place in Independence Hall. The portrait was accepted, and the artist was accordingly ordered to Mr. Grant. A communication from the superintendents of the public squares asking for an increase of salary was referred to the Committee on Finance. The Board of School Directors, in a communication, complained of the improper manner in which the Ladsenberger school house, on Fourth street, above George, has been finished, and asking for the appointment of a committee to investigate the matter. Agreed to. Messrs. Simpson, Hetzel, and Ferreira were appointed a committee. The resolution which was under consideration at the adjournment of the Chamber on Wednesday, to order the City Council to make an appropriation for the payment of the salaries of the Judges of the District Court and Court of Common Pleas to the City Solicitor, and directing him to prepare a case in order to obtain a decision of the Supreme Court in banc, as to the liability of the city to make the appropriation directed by the act of Assembly approved April 11, 1868, was called up and passed. A resolution to approve the sureties of Thomas J. Baizer, City Solicitor, was passed. Another to approve the sureties of the supervisors of the Fifth and Sixth wards was similarly disposed of. Ordinances appropriating \$462,650 to the Commissioners of Sinking Fund for the year 1868, and to pay the expenses of the contested election cases of 1867, were passed. An ordinance making an extra appropriation of \$6500 to pay fees of the District Attorney and Coroner was passed. The Finance Committee presented a minority report relative to fixing the rate of the city; the former recommending the rate to be fixed at \$2.20 on the \$100, and the latter at \$1.80 per \$100. The Chamber refused to consider the minority report. The majority report was then taken up, and was debated upon until the hour of adjournment.

FROM ALBANY. -The Episcopal Convention. -ALBANY, Dec. 3. -In the primary Convention of the Episcopal Church of the new Diocese, now in session at St. Peter's Church, the sum of \$2000 was collected by various churches for missionary purposes. The first ballot for a Bishop of the Diocese resulted as follows: -

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