

NEWS SUMMARY.

The will of the late Patrick Shern, admitted to probate yesterday, contains the following bequests: \$500 to St. John's Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, and \$500 to the Philadelphia Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo.

The Philadelphia and Baltimore Central Railroad is nearly completed from Oxford, Pa., to the Susquehanna river at the mouth of the Octara creek. Near the Susquehanna the road runs through a hill of solid granite, and the perpendicular sides of the cut attain an altitude of 65 feet, while its length is some 800 feet. The Octara is bridged by two structures—one of 192 feet span, and the other of 204 feet span.

A stated meeting of the Franklin Institute was held last evening. The Secretary, Prof. Henry Morton, having called the attention of the members to a number of important engineering and other works in progress, as well as to scientific exhibits, the meeting was adjourned to the 21st inst.

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The Finance Committee reported back the joint resolution pledging the faith of the United States to the payment of the public debt in coin or in gold, or in any other form of money that may be provided by law.

The President yesterday nominated Mr. J. N. Marks, of Philadelphia, to be Collector of this Port, in place of Mr. Mark.

Foreign Affairs.—London, Dec. 16.—The Telegraph, in a leader on the financial portion of President Johnson's message, and its treatment by Congress, complains that the resolutions condemning repudiation, and calling for the payment of the national debt in greenbacks.

Spain, Dec. 16.—The following official news from Spain is published to-day: The country is entirely tranquil, and the address prepared by the Government to be forwarded to the heads of the various departments in the provinces, enforcing the necessity for the restoration and preservation of order, have been consequently withheld.

Madrid, Dec. 16.—The leaders of all political parties have united in making a solemn pledge to use all their influence to preserve peace and order throughout the country until the Constituent Cortes be called and settled the questions at issue.

London, Dec. 16.—The ultimatum addressed by the Sublime Porte to the Government at Athens demanding the disbandment of the volunteer forces in Greece within five days; prohibiting further volunteering; the immediate dismantling of vessels used for carrying supplies to the Greeks; the restoration of Cretan refugees to the island; the punishment of the persons who assaulted and wounded a Turkish officer at Syra, and a strict conformity with the terms of all treaties.

of station, but they insist upon moderation in Constitutional amendments as a condition.

The Erie Railroad War. New York, Dec. 16.—Judge Nelson, of the United States Court, has rendered his decision in the Erie case. After discussing the points in controversy, he decides that Belmont & Locke shall be permitted to join as parties to the defendant; that the injunction be dissolved, and the order appointing a receiver be vacated and set aside, thus leaving the control of the road for the present in the hands of the directors.

From St. Louis. St. Louis, Dec. 16.—F. W. Winchou, of Chicago, has been elected President of the Leavenworth and Des Moines Railroad. Arrangements have been made for the immediate completion of the road from Leavenworth to Chicago.

Steamship Disabled. Norfolk, Dec. 16.—The steamer Key West, from Charleston for New York, left in with her machinery disabled. The ship is now at the wharf, and the cargo of the schooner Mistle, ashore on Cape Henry, has been saved, and the prospects are favorable for saving the vessel.

Miscellaneous Items. Patillas composed a song for herself. A New York paper contentiously says Rothschild would hardly have passed for a rich man in New York.

There is a negro woman on Long Island 108 years old, and the tough story is added that, from extreme age, her skull has become softened so that her head appears to be but a mass of pulp, a physician stating that he could squeeze it with his hand the same as he would a piece of sponge.

Verdi proposes that, in honor of Rossini's memory, the most distinguished Italian composers, with Mercadante at their head, should unite in composing a Requiem Mass to be executed on the 15th of November, 1869, that day being the anniversary of Rossini's death.

Marine Telegraph. For additional Marine News see First Page. Almanac for Philadelphia this Day. Sun rises 7:18, sets 4:52. High water 4:21.

Philadelphia Board of Trade. General Executive Committee. Monthly Committee. Andrew Weikert.

Movements of Ocean Steamers. Bellona, Liverpool, New York, Dec. 20. Fairlie, Liverpool, New York, Dec. 21. Madison, Liverpool, New York, Dec. 21.

Arrived Yesterday. Steamship Pioneer, Catharine, 6 hours from Wilmington, N. C., with cotton, naval stores, etc. to Philadelphia.

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CITY ITEMS.

"La Coterie Carnival" at the Academy of Music. "There was a sound of merriment by night, and Belgium's spires had a halo of light."

It is wonderful how cheap goods are sold at Gay's China Palace, No. 162 Chestnut street. The stock was well selected by Mr. Gay in person.

White French china cups and saucers, per set, 12 pieces, \$2.50. White stone china cups and saucers, per set, 12 pieces, \$1.50.

A Backing Cough is one of the most distressing as well as dangerous forms of cough one can be afflicted with. Its continuous action fatigues and irritates the lungs, and thus engenders consumption.

Coal, Coal. Coal for the million. Now is the time to lay in your winter's store of fuel. Old King Eber is drawing pictures on the windows, and the most snow is wetting your feet.

At the Annual Meeting of the South West Soup Society, held at the Soup House, 217 North Second street, below Chestnut.

A Fair for the sale of Useful and Fancy Articles will open THIS EVENING, in the Lecture-Room of the Bethesda Presbyterian Church.

Public Notice.—Department of Public Highways, Office of Chief Commissioner, Fifth Street (West side), below Chestnut.

DIED. On the 15th instant, CAROLINE, wife of George D. Callahan, and daughter of the late George D. Callahan, Jr.

AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Of Philadelphia. S. E. Corner Fourth and Walnut Streets.

WILLIAM S. GRANT, COMMISSIONER MERCHANT. No. 58 DELAWARE STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

COLD WEATHER DOES NOT CHASE AWAY A DELICIOUS CUP OF HOT CHOCOLATE. It is a beverage that is both refreshing and nourishing.

PIANOS.—PIANOS.—PIANOS.—GREAT SALE OF ELEGANT HOUSEHOLD PIANOS. AT THE GREAT REDUCTION OF PRICES.

THE FIFTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE PIBLE SCHOOL. OF THE FIFTH BAPTIST CHURCH, corner of Eighth and Spring Garden streets.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC. This Lecture has been delivered but once in Philadelphia. During the past season it has been entirely revised, and is now its popular lecture.

CHRISTMAS DINNER TO THE POOR. The Trustees of the Pennsylvania Society for the Relief of the Poor, have arranged to give a Christmas Dinner to the Poor on Thursday, Dec. 24th.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST SOUP SOCIETY, held at the Soup House, 217 North Second street, below Chestnut.

PROPOSALS. OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER. SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this office until 10 o'clock, A. M., on Monday, Dec. 21st.

PUBLIC NOTICE.—DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HIGHWAYS, OFFICE OF CHIEF COMMISSIONER, FIFTH STREET (West side), below Chestnut.

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MARSHALL'S ELIXIR.

Any person habitually constive cannot be in the enjoyment of health. If not relieved in combined cases of Rheumatism, Piles, Inflammation of the Bowels, Diseases of the Kidneys, Bladder, and surrounding organs.

Headache quickly yields to its curative powers. Being entirely vegetable, it may be safely taken by all persons at any time, with perfect safety.

Dear Sir—I have had sick headaches since for many years. When afflicted with it, I was unable to attend to my business.

At this critical stage of affairs I was induced by a friend to give "Wishart's Pine Tree Tar Cordial" a trial.

Contributions of money, poultry, provisions, coal, and clothing, for the relief of the poor, are invited for the relief of the poor.

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AMUSEMENTS.

American Academy of Music. OLE BULL. Grand Concert. Saturday Evening and Afternoon, Dec. 19, 1868.

Chestnut Street Theatre. Last Week. Of James Robinson's Circus Troupe. Immense Bill to-night.

Walnut Street Theatre. Begins at 7 o'clock. Last Week. Of James Robinson's Circus Troupe.

Mrs. John Drew's Arch Street Theatre. Begins at 7 o'clock. Last Week. Of James Robinson's Circus Troupe.

First Grand Concert of the Mendelssohn Society. On Thursday, Dec. 18, 1868, at 8 o'clock.

Musical Fund Hall. Saturday Evening, Dec. 19, 1868. Grand Concert.

Carl Wolfson's Second Grand Matinee. At the Academy of Music, on Monday, Dec. 21, 1868.

Hoop Skirts. No. 115 Chestnut Street. Celebrated Champion Hoop Skirts.

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