

NEWS SUMMARY.

City Affairs.—A regular meeting of the Board of Trade was held last evening at the Board of Trade rooms, Chesnut street, above Fifth. The President, Mr. John Welsh, was in the chair. After the transaction of business, the following resolutions were adopted: Resolved, That the Board of Trade do hereby express its hearty approval of the proceedings of the National Board of Trade Convention, which assembled at Cincinnati recently.

Washington Affairs.—The following letter, which bears upon a question of much importance, has been obtained from the Department of State: Department of State, Washington, Dec. 21, 1868.—Gentlemen: Your telegram, dated at Athens, Greece, of the 19th inst., has been received. You submit the following inquiry: "Will the United States government protect American vessels bound to ports in Hayti held by the rebels from seizure and detention by the local government?" It is my duty to inform you that the United States are at peace with the republic of Hayti. The government of Hayti shall attempt to carry on trade in Hayti ports in violation of any existing blockade, or of any lawful decree of the government of the United States, all persons trading in such ports shall be held liable to the United States. All persons trading in such ports shall be held liable to the United States.

THE HILL MURDER.

Trials of George S. Twitchell, Jr.—The evidence.—COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER.—Judge Brewster and Ludlow; District Attorneys Sheppard, Hager and Richard Ludlow, Esq., for the Commonwealth; T. P. Ramsford, J. T. Platt, C. H. T. Collins, John O'Byrne, and William B. Mann, Esqs., counsel for the prisoner.

CITY COUNCILS.

Their Proceedings Yesterday.—Both branches of City Councils held a special meeting yesterday afternoon. Select Branch.—President Stokley was the chairman of the meeting. The Chief Engineer and Surveyor to revise the grade of Main street, from Hawley to Tulpehocken, in the Twenty-second ward, was passed. Common Council ordinance, appropriating \$1100 to the City Commissioners to pay certain claims, was concurred in.

CITY ITEMS.

It is wonderful how cheap goods are sold at Gay's China Palace, No. 163 Chesnut street. The stock was well selected by Mr. Gay in person. From the largest manufacturers in Europe. The cause of their being so remarkably cheap is the great reduction of prices on the other side of the water. Large stocks on hand, all the manufacturers have large stocks on hand, and are willing to discount largely to effect sales.

AMUSEMENTS.

CHESNUT STREET RINK, TWENTY THIRD AND CHESTNUT STREETS. President—Hon. JOSEPH T. THOMAS. Treasurer—H. HAMMETT. DIRECTORS: William V. Moorehead, John James R. Campbell, Matthew Baird, Luther J. Cook, E. D. Barclay, H. E. Brown, John Fallon.