Altoona Tribune.

LOCAL ITEMS.

PRESENTATION.—On Monday evening last, we attended, by invitation, a meeting held in the Superintendent's Office, in this place, for the purpose of presenting to Robt. Pitcairns, Esq., a handsome gold watch and chain.

The meeting was organized by appointing Geo. B. Cramer, Esq., President, and E. B. McCrum, Secretary. The President stated the object of the meeting, and made a few appropriate remarks, intended for the benefit of the young employees and telegraph operators who were present.

The watch was presented by Mr. H. L. Delo, with the following address:—

MR. PITCAIRNS, allow me, on behalf, and in the name of the Employees of the Penna. Rail Road, on the Middle Division, to present to you the watch and chain I hold in my hand, as a token of their respect and affection towards you.

It is extremely gratifying to me, I assure you, to be the means of conveying this gift to you, because I heartily join with them in their esteem for you as a man, and in admiration of the fair, just, and able manner you have discharged your duties connected with the road.

During your long connection with the Rail Road, I have never heard one complaint; and this day shows that the feelings of those around you, are as sincere as they are warm. Your strict integrity and gentlemanly deportment to all alike, have made you a favorite with the men you were associated with, that is enviable indeed.

Thereupon they desire by this small token to show their appreciation of your worth, and may its time be as true as their sentiments conveyed through me to you this evening.

They hope you will appreciate it, not on account of the value of the gift, but in kindly remembrance of those who gave it; and that as we journey on through life, nothing may ever occur to mar the kind feelings and relations which always have existed between us.

You have their best wishes for prosperity and happiness to attend you, no matter what your duties in life may be, or, where they may call you.

Most truly do I join my wish with theirs that such may be the case, and though we regret, yes deeply regret, to part with you, we wish you all the success imaginable in your new field of labor.

Sir, allow me to hand you this beautiful watch and chain.

The watch contained the following inscription:—

PRESENTED TO
ROBERT PITCAIRNS
By the Employees of the Middle Division
As a Mark of their Respect and Esteem.

Mr. Pitcairns received the watch and returned thanks to his friends in the following address:—

GENTLEMEN, I return you my sincere thanks for this beautiful mark of your regard and esteem, the presentation of which swells my heart with gratitude and unfits me to speak in the way heart would dictate.

I am rather deficient in language generally, but when it comes to taking leave of my friends and companions whom I have been associated with for years, in the most pleasant intercourse, and see by the presentation of this valued gift, that their hearts are still warm for me, my tongue utterly fails me.

Whilst engaged with you in the service of the great Penna. Central Rail Road Co., it has been my aim to render full satisfaction to my Employers, by a prompt and faithful discharge of the duties committed to my care, and at the same time, I have, as far as lay in my power, endeavored to gain your confidence and good will; yet I have never allowed myself even to hope that the result would be so highly successful as this ceremony to-night would seem to argue. Therefore it is with feelings of regret that I am called upon to part with you at the present time. But such is the Rail-Roader's lot. They know not when they will be called upon to part with their friends. They know not at what moment whilst in the discharge of their duty an accident may happen and rush them into eternity. They have to brave alike the Winters storm and the Summers heat. When duty calls, 'tis theirs to obey. But these hardships and dangers only endear us to each other the more.

Time may bring new friends and new associations—it may bring furrows on my brow, but it will never erase from my heart the recollections of many whom I am proud to call my friends, who are engaged in the Penn. R. R. Co's. service.

I will now close with a heartfelt wish for your future happiness and prosperity. I will not advise you to maintain the high reputation which through your efforts the Middle Division of the Line has acquired. Such counsel I believe to be altogether unnecessary.

I know that in your hands its reputation, high as it is, will be fully sustained.

In partially closing my connection with the Penna. Central Road, I cannot refrain from adding my humble testimony to its admirable management and above all to its impartiality towards its Employees of every grade.

Merit with her is certain of its reward, and to the adoption of the Napoleonic mode of promotion from the ranks, more than perhaps to any other cause, she stands indebted for the high character she now maintains.

A few short years ago, our President was a member of an Engineer Corps, our General Superintendent a Way Station Agent, our Master of Machinery a working mechanic in the shops and one of your Division Superintendents a Freight Agent. Your Train-Masters of to-day were the Breaksmen of the past.

These facts, my friends, cannot but fail to incite you to further efforts to perform your whole duty and acquit you like men.

Silent gratitude is said to be the most heartfelt and expressive. I feel the truth to-night, and I can assure you though my tongue cannot speak my gratitude, my heart feels it.

Mr. Pitcairns left this place on Tuesday morning, to assume the duties of Assistant Superintendent of the Western Division of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Rail Road. His office will be at Ft. Wayne, Ind. In all that pertains to Railroading, in conducting transportation, Mr. Pitcairns possesses a perfect knowledge, and is competent to fill with credit to himself and the Road the position to which he has been called. We hope that his new home and duties may prove agreeable to him.

A QUICK TRIP.—The Harrisburg *Patriot and Union* of Saturday last says that "the mail train from Altoona Eastward the other day, under the care of conductor Weitzel, made excellent time. On leaving Altoona, in consequence of some delay on the Western division, they were one hour and a quarter behind the schedule time, but made it up in the trip, and stopped besides at all the stations. The engine was the "Blazing Star," one of the best, if not the best, on the road." Col. Weitzel is just the man to run a train up to time without endangering the safety of his passengers, as there is no more careful conductor on the road.

OPENING OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.—Agreeable to previous announcement, a number of the members of the Altoona Mechanics Library and Reading Room Association, met at their room on Saturday evening last, to participate in the opening exercises, and listen to an address delivered by Rev. A. B. Clark, on the "Study of History." Owing to the inclemency of the weather and the business engagements of a number of the members, the turn out was not so large as it would otherwise have been, nevertheless it was quite respectable and had the redeeming quality of being select and appreciative. The address we considered excellent and the subject appropriate. We shall say nothing more about it at present, as it is likely that we shall have the pleasure of laying it before our readers in a short time, when they can judge of its merits for themselves.

The room of the Association is neatly fitted up. On either side of the room are long tables for the use of the members in writing and reading. The stand for the use of the President is a very neat piece of workmanship, and is slightly elevated. A table each for the Secretary and Librarian occupy different parts of the room.—There are about four dozen handsome and comfortable arm chairs, a neat stove, which warms the room effectually, and a large chandalier with four burners, which throws out light enough to read in any part of the room, the whole making it one of the most inviting places in the town in which to spend the winter evenings. The walls of the room are beautifully finished with oak-grained papering nicely paneled above and underneath the windows, giving it the appearance of a neat parlor. A large book-case occupies one corner of the room, which is already well-filled with choice books from which the most indifferent reader may select one that will interest him.

Now that everything pertaining to a complete organization of the Association has been perfected, the room fitted up and the books numbered and ready for distribution among the members, we hope to see the young men of Altoona coming forward and enrolling their names on the books of the Association, and making it what it is intended to be—a benefit to themselves and their successors.

The subject of having lectures delivered at intervals before the Association, to which the public will be invited, was brought up at the meeting on Saturday evening, but was postponed for the present. We are in favor of this movement and hope that the question will not be permitted to drop. Nothing would add so much interest to the Association, or result in the same amount of good to those who attend upon them, as a series of lectures delivered by men who are capable of imparting instruction on subjects imperfectly understood. We are also in favor of a literary Association which shall meet one night in each week. To such Associations many of the ablest orators and debaters of our country are indebted for their schooling. There are many already connected with the Association whom we believe would enter into such a society. It would certainly help to bring out and develope powers which might otherwise be permitted to slumber forever without the person knowing that he possessed them. When questions are brought up for argument and persons take positions on either side, as a matter of course they will endeavor to sustain that position by argument, which will require research, or observation, and information acquired in this way will be lasting. But we need not enlarge on this point, the benefits which flow from such an Association must be obvious to every one.—We can only indulge the hope that it will be formed.

CORRESPONDENCE.—We cheerfully give place to the following correspondence, although, we presume it will not prove satisfactory to all:—

ALTOONA, Nov 16, 1858.

REV. A. B. CLARK—*Dear Sir:*—We, as a committee, have been delegated by the A. M. L. & R. R. Association to solicit of you, for publication in the columns of the Altoona *Tribune* the address delivered by you at the opening of the Association, on Saturday evening, Nov. 13th.

By granting this request, you will much oblige.

Yours very respectfully
JOS. H. DYSART,
Chairman of Com.

ALTOONA, Nov. 19th, 1858.

To MR. J. H. DYSART,
Chairman Com. of A. M. L. & R. R. Association.

DEAR SIR:—Yours of this date, requesting for the Committee, and in behalf of the Association you represent, for publication in the Altoona *Tribune*, a copy of the address delivered at the opening of the Rooms & Library on Saturday evening last, is at hand.

Your request has been duly considered, and after mature deliberation, is declined, for the the following reasons, viz.:

1st. Because of the transient impression made by newspaper publications. Weekly and daily papers are intended more for brief articles, and news items, than for Addresses or Lectures.

2d. Because a Lecture, so long as not given to the public through the press, is private property, and may be again used on similar occasions if desirable or requested.

3d. Because the publication of Lectures in daily or weekly papers, is calculated to detract from the interest which ought to be taken in their encouragement and delivery. They are expected to appear in the "Weekly Issue," and therefore no one need be particularly solicitous about being present at their delivery.

Our citizens have been reproached with not having intelligence sufficient to appreciate "Public Lectures" While I hesitate not to pronounce the insinuation unjust, I am bound in candor to say, that there has been manifested heretofore, an indifference in such things, to me utterly unaccountable. And I am unwilling in any way, knowingly, to encourage in our citizens this culpable indifference and want of public spirit. I remain yours most respectfully,

A. B. CLARK.

CRAZY WOMAN.—On Thursday last, an insane woman, hailing, we believe, from some part of Bedford county, arrived in this place by the noon train from Hollidaysburg. She paraded through the principal thoroughfares of our town, for an hour or two, singing snatches of of hymns on a wonderful high key, and creating sport for the juveniles who collected around her. What became of her we know not, but presume she was taken care of by proper authority.

P. S. Since writing the above we notice an article in the Harrisburg *Telegraph* stating that an insane woman appeared in that place on Friday morning, singing and shouting at the top of her voice. She is no doubt the same to whom we allude above, and that she took the Eastern train on Thursday.

LOOK OUT FOR BEGGARS.—During the past week, a beggar has been prowling around town, asking for money and victuals, at almost every house, with an impertinence which caused many to look upon him with suspicion. If he is really sane, he is a villain, and if insane it is dangerous to allow him to be at large. In many instances he insulted those who gave him bread, and on women opening their doors to him when he knocked, would make an effort to strike them with a stick which he carried. He was finally arrested by Constable Ely and placed in the "Lock Up" for a day or two, after which we presume he left town, as we have not heard of him since. We would advise our citizens generally, and especially the women) when there are no men about the house,) not to open their doors to beggars, as in nine cases out of ten they are thieves and will appropriate something unless carefully watched, and often women have been grossly insulted by men, when they found out they were without protection. We have an Alms House in this county to which all such characters should be sent, where they would fare much better than they do by begging around the streets. The Alms House was intended for them, and it is no charity to give to them while prowling around the stocets. In fact it is only harboring persons who perhaps are professional burglars, and who would not scruple to set fire to some of our buildings for the purpose of obtaining plunder. All such characters should be handed over to Constable Ely to be conveyed to the "institution" "over the hill."

DARING BURGLARY.—One of the most daring Burglaries that ever took place in this borough, occurred at the house of Edward Eberman, confectioner, on the evening of Monday of last week, a little after eight o'clock. The store of Mr. Eberman is on the first floor of the establishment, adjoining which there is a kitchen where the family generally spend the evening. At the time above mentioned, Mrs. Eberman went up stairs with a light in her hand, and just as she entered the door of the back room the candle was knocked out of her hand by some unseen person, who immediately escaped out of a window, and over the shed of a coal house. Mrs. Eberman shrieked, but before any person came the burglar made good his escape. On examining the room, it was discovered that the burglar had opened numerous drawers, and also a trunk in which there was $588 in a box, with which he decamped. Five twenty dollar gold pieces were dropped by the burglar in his flight, and which were recovered next day. The entrance was effected by removing the lower sash of the window, which was easily reached from the shed. Mr. Eberman generally keeps his money in bank, and had only drawn out this amount a few days ago, in order to lay in a stock for the approaching Holidays, which makes it very evident that the buglar knew all about Mr. Eberman's business transactions; let him be who he may. The loss on Mr. Eberman, who is an industrious, hard-working man, is very severe.—*Whig.*

OBSTRUCTING CROSSINGS.—The Johnstown *Echo* expresses our ideas about those who obstruct the street crossings with teams or wagons, and pictures what is often the case in Altoona when he says, "we have frequently been made the victims of an imposition culpable in the extreme—that of being compelled to wade through mud and water simply because a teamster has the impudence to obstruct a street crossing by stopping his team directly in the way of pedestrians. We have charity enough to believe that some who commit this nuisance, do it thoughtlessly; but there are many to whom it offords a fiendish satisfaction to se persons, and especially ladies, forced to wade through the mud, and this is the reason that they indulge in this reprehensible practice. The low and level location of our town renders it impossible to keep our streets clean during the prevalence of rain—they not being properly paved and graded—and it is therefore an outrage to deprive pedestrians of the use of the public crossings. We can only hope that persons driving along our streets will hereafter desist from the commission of this nuisance, as it is an outrage upon the public, and an offence for which a fine should be instituted by a Borough Ordinance, and that Ordinance carried out.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—We are pleased to learn that a Division of Sons of Temperance is about to be organized in this place. The requisite number of charter members have been obtained and the charter received. We believe they have not yet succeeded in securing a Hall, but presume they will obtain one ere long.—We have ever looked upon this Association with favor, believing that through its instrumentality many young men have been saved from filling a drunkard's grave. True, we are not called upon to witness the same amount of drunkenness, in this place, that is exhibited in many others of smaller size, yet we think there are many who would be the better of a little restraint in that way. We have no doubt that the Division in this place will prosper, if we may judge from the character of the men who are at the head of it. We shall have more to say about it at another time.

AN ITEM FOR MERCHANTS.—The Harrisburg *Telegraph* in speaking about merchants advertising says:—"For a merchant to neglect advertising, and yet complain of a lack of custom, is no more wise than for a farmer to complain of the meagerness of his crops while his manure heap is allowed to sweat and steam and exhale all its enriching properties in the barn yard.—What should we think of the farmer who "can't afford" to haul his manure on his fields?"—That's what we would like to know. He would certainly be considered a very inconsiderate farmer, to say nothing more; and we think that advertising to the merchant is the same that manure is to the farmer or grease to a wagon.

CABINET WARE-ROOM.—We would direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Isaac Cromer, in another column. Mr. C. is a good workman and employs good mechanics.—Any work entrusted to his care will, we doubt not, be fitted up in proper style. As an undertaker he will be found prompt. Mr. Cromer is also agent for the sale of Fisk's Patent Metalic Burial Cases, a number of which he has always on hand, embracing all sizes and prices. Give him a call.

COUNTERFEITS.—The Harrisburg *Telegraph* furnishes the following items:—

LOOK OUT.—Look out for a well gotten up gold dollar, of the "bogus kind," the result of an ingenious crew of counterfeiters. Nothing but strong acid will show the deceit. There are also "heaps" of counterfeit halves and quarters in circulation. These are so well made as to deceive the best judges. These coins are new and bright, and there is some ground of suspicion that the mint is not far off.

ANOTHER COUNTERFEIT.—Counterfeit twenty dollar bills on the Marine Bank of New York city, have made their appearance. They are thus described:—"Vignette, a female seated on a rock over the city, with shipping, cars, etc.; the figure 20 on the right end; 20 and the State arms on the left.

We ain't afraid of them. We seldom see any of the former, and never have any of the latter poked at us. Everybody knows that a county printer can't change a V let alone a double XX, consequently we don't feel alarmed.

A SPECK OF WINTER.—On Saturday night last, "Old Boreas" brought down the snow flakes thick and fast, and as a natural consequence the temperature of the atmosphere was slightly changed. On Monday morning the ground was covered with a white mantle and the air as sharp as some of our juveniles. From present indications we are forced to the conclusion that the fine weather of the season is over and we may expect squalls of snow, and squalls from nervous feminines who loose their equanimity in tripping o'er the slippery sidewalks.—After such a long season of warm weather and hot suns, we could hail with pleasure the stiff northerners which accompany "Old Boreas" and the merry jingle of the sleighbells.

HORSE THIEF CAPTURED.—On last night Mr. Cunningham, near Perryville, in this county, had a valuable horse stolen. He came to this city this morning, left word at the Mayor's office, and in less than one hour afterwards the thief was captured, with the horse, at the Horse Market. On examination before the Mayor, the thief gave his name as Thomas Cabbit, and says he lives at a place called Tipton, near Hollidaysburg. He was committed to stand his trial at the December term.—*Pitts. Chronicle, Nov.* 13.

EDITORIAL VISITOR.—Our sanctum was illuminated on Monday last by the pleasant countenance of our worthy contemporary, H. B. McPike, Esq., junior editor of the Johnstown *Echo*. From his appearance, we take it that he lives better than most country editors, else he must be a remarkably good-natured individual, to accumulate so much flesh. The *Echo* has been considerably improved since the connection of Mr. McPike, with there and we hope he is well rewarded, pecuriarily, for his labors.

JUNIOR'S HALL.—We understand that the two Camps of Junior Sons of America of this place, have leased the large Hall above Lowther and Plack's stores, which they intend fitting up for their use and also for leasing for public meetings, lectures, concerts, &c. We are pleased that they have consented to lease it for such purposes, as without it, there is no appropriate Hall in the town in which entertainments can be given. It will make an excellent Hall for the Junior's, should it not prove too large for them to fit up in style.

REMOVAL.—A. Roush would inform the public that he has removed his drug store from the old stand to the room fitted up for him in Lowther & Plack's new building, where he hopes to receive the call of all his old patrons and many new ones. His new room is large and convenient and he has it well filled with everything in the line of drugs, confectionaries, notions, Segars, Tobacco, &c. Roush is a clever fellow and deserves the encouragement of the public.

THANKSGIVING.—We presume that most, if not all, the places of business in town will be closed to-day, as has usually been the case heretofore, on Thanksgiving Day. By arrangement between the ministers of this place, Rev. J. Stock, pastor of the Lutheran congregation, will deliver a sermon appropriate to the occasion, in the Methodist church, at 11 o'clock, A. M. The public is respectfully invited to attend.

☞ The Protracted Meeting, held in the Methodist Church for some weeks past, closed on Sunday evening last. During the progress of the meeting, quite a number presented themselves at the altar for the prayers of the congregation, and we believe that some thirty or forty persons professed to find peace in believing, and connected themselves with the church.

THE PANIC—MORE FAILURES.—The panic in New York seems to be on the increase. In this city everything goes on smoothly, and the only failures we have heard of were the failures to furnish good fits made by some inferior clothing establishments. There is no such difficulty to be encountered by those who patronize the Brown Stone Clothing Hall of Rockhill & Wilson, Nos. 608 and 605 Chesnut street, above sixth. Gentlemen and Youths never fail to procure capital fits at this popular establishment.

THE BEST COUGH MEDICINE.—One of the very best Cough Medicines to be found anywhere, is Dr. Keyser's Pectoral Syrup, sold by G. W. Kessler, at 50 cents per bottle.

☞ See advertisement of Dr. Sandford's LIVER INVIGORATOR in another column.