Lancaster Intelligencer.

THURSDAY EVENING, FEB. 24, 1881.

Stock Ballooning.

Light is let in upon one of the numerous stock jobbing operations of Mr. Jay Gould by the story of the contemplated new line from Philadelphia to Baltimore. It seems that Mr. Gould, of the Jersey Central; Mr. Vanderbilt, of the New York Central; Mr. Garrett, of the Baltimore & Ohio; Mr. Drexel, of Philadelphia; and Mr. McComb, of Delaware, formed a syndicate to secure a charter for and to build the Delaware & Western railroad as an opposition line to the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore road. That corporation, of course, contested the matter in the Legislature; but suddenly a proposition is made to transfer the control of the old line to the promoters of the new. The immediate advantage offered is the opportunity to put up the stock in the New York market from seventy to one hundred and divide the profits. The speculation is entirely in Mr. Gould's line and no doubt the suggestion comes from him. Mr. Garrett falls in with it, being eager to at once get a New York connection under his control. Mr. McComb declines because he is committed to the people of Delaware to procure a competing line to the existing monopoly. Mr. Drexel and Mr. Vanderbilt also stay out, probably because they fear they would be paying too dear for their whistle to buy the old railroad at the price, when a new one is liable to be built any day for so much less. Undoubtedly their conclusion is correct. Mr. Gould knows it as well as they do. But Mr. Gould proposes to make his hay speedily while the sun shines on the present animated stock market, and to scoop in this thirty per cent. advance on the price paid, and then let the thing drop heavily on the simple people whom he has gathered to his costly buzzard feast.

These developments have now come out through the recession of the alliance formed to build the Delaware Western railroad; and they are very noteworthy as completely illustrative of Mr. Gould's methods; and his operations are interesting to a great many people, indeed, since he seems to be the Atlas of the stock market, into which such an army of folk have penetrated in the hope of a quick and easy fortune. It is really astonishing to consider the extent of this stock-stealing craze. It has entered this little town of ours and embraced so many of its population that one broker has been required to build a special telegraph line for his private use to connect him with the New York stock board; one customer says he paid him last month fifteen hundred dollars in commissions; and he was not the most extensive operator either. Another merchant, who operates daily under spiritual direction, thinks he has reduced the thing to a systematic business operation and reports that he has cleared an average of thirty-five dollars a day during the months he has been watching the "ticker."

When people are thus possessed, manifestly it is of consequence to know the methods of the loss witch who is making the caldron bubble. Nobody denies the position to Jay Gould. He has fairly won it by his multifarious operations, their boldness and extent and the boundless resources, of every degree of color, drawn upon to promote them. His devices are exceedingly simple. They simply consist just now in taking advantage of the credulity of the people and their disposition to trust to the continuance of the upward wave in stock prices. Having secured control of a corporation it is at once brought into notice and the impression created that its stock will rise. It is in the language of the street "worked" until its stock reaches the figure fixed for unloading. These times are very propitious for these enterprises. The stock-buying mania often keeps the stocks ascending even after the clique that worked them has thought it prudent to get from under. Things go up "a kiting" on the favoring breeze created by the united efforts of the great army of people who are now speculating in stocks. So that Mr. Gould and his fellow conspirators, leading the van, have not yet lost their influence through the subsidence of the inflated values they have caused. It is only necessary now for it to be known that Gould is connected with a project to cause it to bound upwards, through the crowding in of the multitude to get a piece of the plum. Of course there must soon be an end of this. Stocks cannot always sail up on nothing. People will not always be so blind as to believe that a railroad or a telegraph company, stocked at many times its cost of construction and always liable to the competition of a new line, is safe to buy into. They don't believe it now indeed; but they think that there are other fools who do and that they can foresee the crash and get out in time. To all such we recommend the story of the two colored hunters, who found one day a bear cave with the cubs in it and the dam away from home. Pete went in and Jim staid at the mouth to watch. Presently Peter found occasion to say, "Jim, wha' darken de hole dar;" and Jim, who was holding on for dear life to the old bear who had slipped by, shouted down, "Wait till de tail brake and you'll see wha' darken de hole dar." The tail will break, we fear, before our friends who are now agreeably employed in pocketing their profits are able to get safely out of the hole.

THE new senator from Pennsylvania seems to have been born to wear political honors. All his life he has been vainly trying to escape them. When he declined longer service in the Legislature, he was asked to go to the State Senate; declining that, he was nominated for Congress in his absence at the Centennial exposition and without his knowledge; and now when he declines Congress he is sent without his solicitation to the Senate. It is the most remarkable illustration of the thrusting of honors upon a declining candidate that we know of. There is enough in it to suggest to politicians the cultivation of modesty as a profitable virtue. The gentlemen who have been hanging around the Legislature, begging to be senators, have reason to consider whether their ways of seeking office have been any more wise than decent. If that wild Irishman Oliver had but curbed his native impudence and impetuosity, and staid in his iron mill until the Legislature called him out of it, he might have awaited a call in vain, but he would have been richer a good deal in cash and self-respect than he is now, though still not a senator.

A Good Man Gone Wrong.

Judge Galbraith, of Erie, whose integrity and ability we have often found occasion to commend, has recently made a remarkable ruling in a case of criminal libel. It is one which, if sustained, would do as much to overturn the present established law in such cases and to unsettle the existing responsibility of newspaper publishers, as Judge Patterson's law in our disbarment case would have seriously affected the legal profession had it been sustained by the higher courts. It has never before been held, we believe, that in libel, any more than in any other criminal case, there can be conviction where an utter absence of malicious intent or even criminal knowledge by the defendant of the offense laid, is shown; nor has any such evidence before been excluded from the jury, made the judges of the law and the facts, in any criminal prosecution within our knowledge. Judge Galbraith introduces this innovation by which an employer becomes criminally responsible for the acts of his employee, committed without his knowledge or authority and even in disobedience to his instructions.

In the case in point a local reporter of the Erie *Morning Dispatch*, after parting with a convivial friend one night, republished in the next day's paper a humorous article from the New York *Times*, which he altered by the insertion of his friend's name and the location of the ludicrous incident in Erie. It was a broadly farcical narrative, not hurtful to anybody. But the party to whom it was made to refer took it amiss and prosecuted the publisher of the paper for libel. On the trial it was offered to show the absence of malice; that the alleged article was conceived in a spirit of innocent mirth and published as a joke; that the relations between plaintiff and the defendant were of the friendliest character; that there had never been any differences between them of any kind and hence no motive for publishing a libel; that the alleged libel was published without the knowledge of the defendant and against his general instructions to his subordinates; that it was written and published after he had left the office for the night; that he had received no intimation from any source of its intended publication, and that there was an absence of malicious intent to defame or ridicule the plaintiff. All of these offers were excluded by the court on the general ground that the publication of the matter in defendant's paper being admitted and the matter being a libel in itself, he is answerable in a criminal prosecution. And though Judge Galbraith told the jury that they were judges of the law and the facts, he told them also "the conclusion *must* follow that he is liable *and there can be but the one result*"; and, even if they acquitted, that it was not a case in which they ought to put the costs on the county or the prosecutor. It wasn't much wonder they found the editor guilty; nor of much avail that they recommended him to mercy. For of course he will appeal to the judgment of a higher court; and we have little doubt of the result of the review.

While Judge Galbraith's law is measurably the law in a civil action of libel for damages, there are the best of good reasons why it should not be applied to the trials of criminal prosecutions for that offense. In general, principals are held civilly, but not criminally, responsible for the acts of their agents, within the limits of their agencies; and to hold them accountable criminally for acts not authorized and of which the principals had no knowledge, and which they had even forbidden, would be a stretch of severity not tolerated in any wise jurisprudence. Judge Galbraith himself, only a short time ago, according to the *Dispatch*, asserted the correct principle, when in the prosecution of two persons for the unlawful sale of liquor, it was proven that in one case the dealer's wife sold it, and in the other it was the bar-tender. In both of these cases the learned judge charged the jury that "crime could not be committed by proxy," and that the liquor sellers could not be made criminally—though they might be made civilly—responsible for acts of their agents, unless they had a knowledge of the transactions and consented to them. The judge charged the jury that they could not convict under such circumstances and both defendants were discharged. The criminal statutes will not be interpreted one way for liquor sellers and another way for newspaper publishers.

The law of this state as it now stands is amply liberal for publishers and editors, when interpreted rationally and liberally, and were all judges rational and liberal there would not be the occasion for the committee recently appointed by the state editorial association to memorialize the Legislature for a better definition of it. That committee happens to include Mr. Willard, of the Erie *Dispatch*, himself, and besides him, Messrs. McMichael, McClure, O'Neill, Jenkins, Neiman, Chalfant and Hensel. Their action seems to have become necessary less by reason of the failure of legislation that was intended to be liberal, than because of the many infirm men who get upon the bench, of whom we never before had reason to suspect that Judge Galbraith was one.

THE little clique of ring-branded Republican senators at Harrisburg, who are seeking to obstruct the admission of Senator Cox because he is more honest than they, will not get far. If they want to make him the most popular man in the state, they have only to keep him out. Such cattle as Cooper will likely not be happy in his company, but the commonwealth can hardly spare him from its service when good men are so scarce.

PERSONAL.

Mr. T. S. Arthur appears to be guilty not only of a gross indelicacy but of a very bad mistake as to facts in making Mrs JOHN A. LOGAN figure as a wine bibber in one of his temperance tales.

ALEXANDER STEPHENS has not been in such good health as he now enjoys for many years. He has appeared in the House on some of the worst days of this terrible winter.

Mlle. Dosne, sister of Mme. THIERS, is estimated to be worth, as heiress of her brother-in-law and sister, over $5,000,000 at least. How Thiers managed to accumulate such colossal wealth as he left is somewhat of a mystery.

OLIVE LOGAN declares that the Prince of Wales is one of the most outrageously slandered gentlemen living. "Shameless women, on whom he never even cast his eyes, are often responsible for these stories, in which these brass-faced seekers of notoriety represent themselve in the figures of heroines."

Hon. GEORGE BERKELEY, brother of the Earl of Berkeley and a well-known writer upon sporting subjects, is dead, in his 82d year. He gained some notoriety many years ago by a duel with Dr. Maginn, the editor of *Fraser's*, whom he challenged on account of a criticism upon his first novel, "Berkeley Castle."

The good COLFAX manifestly took a deep interest in the Pennsylvania election of United States States senator. In his earnest solicitude he wrote a letter to Mr. Landis, of Lancaster, giving warning of the danger of electing Mr. Rayne or any other Republican member of the House to the Senate. The Republican majority in the next Congress is so meagre that the loss of one member might endanger it.

A private dispatch direct and official from Senator CARPENTER'S bedside to relatives is as follows: "Situation very critical—must die soon." The announcement creates great excitement in political circles. The question is who shall succeed Carpenter is already talked of. The leading Republicans favor Angus Cameron, C. C. Washburne, Horace Rublee, E W. Keys, Judge C. Edyer, according to their respective positions.

During the war a convention of scientific men in Washington went to pay their respects to Mr. LINCOLN. After they had formed themselves in a half-circle in the east room of the White House, Mr. Lincoln listened to some fulsome flattery with a look of suspicion and doubt, but when the head of the delegation said: "We trust that during this time of trial, God will be on our side and give victory,"—Mr. Lincoln stopped him. "Sir," he said, "my concern is not whether God is on our side. My great care is to be on God's side, for God is always right."

When PIUS IX. died he expressed a dying wish that no more than 2,000 frames should be spent on any monument that might be erected over his tomb. Thinking this sum to low for a Pope's dignity, the present Pope and his cardinals have got over the difficulty by deciding to erect a simple monument over his tomb that is not to cost more than 2,000, whilst they will erect another that may cost any sum not less than 60,000 frames! The monument is to be erected in Santa Marie Maggoire, where there is already a kneeling statue of Pius IX., which was once intended for his tomb, until he altered his will, after the Italians entered Rome.

MINOR TOPICS.

EDINBURGH has objected to the adoption of a free library system. Of 41,853 voters, 7,619 voted "yea," and 15,708 "no."

THERE has been introduced into the Colorado House of Representatives "House bill No. 78," entitled "an act for the destruction of Indians and skunks," and its principal feature is the offering of a bounty of $25 each for the scalps of either Indians or skunks. The bill has been reported favorably by the special committee.

COAL is scarce in Chicago, and the *Inter-Ocean* declares that the man who tackles and solves the problem of cheap fuel will be entitled to a monument, and he cannot come forward with his discovery any too soon. The successful application of petroleum to fuel purposes is the coming discovery. Mr. Edison will please take notice.

THE mere casual suggestion that the United States government might retaliate upon France, for the embargo recently laid upon American pork, by putting an embargo on French wines—on account of alleged deleterious ingredients—seems to have had the interesting effect of throwing the French wine makers and dealers into something approaching a panic.

THE resolution passed in the Arkansas Senate, by a vote of 18 to 5, declaring that the name of the state shall be pronounced "Arkansaw," reminds the Philadelphia *Telegraph* of the politeness of the late George M. Dallas, when he was vice president. Each of the two Arkansas senators had his own way of pronouncing the name of the state. One called it "Arkan-sass," while the other called it "Arkan-saw." The vice president made it his habit to name the two gentlemen, when they were to address the chair, the one as "the senator from Arkan-sass" and the other as "the senator from Arkan-saw."

THE Japanese are advancing so rapidly in the principles of Western civilization that it is hard to keep up with the changes introduced in the Mikado's empire. Hitherto prejudice has forbidden to women almost every kind of work, but several of the principal manufacturers are now experimenting with female employees. Thus far the result is considered favorable. The work done by women compares so well in quality with that done by men, that several new cloth factories are about to be built exclusively for the employment of women. The worst feature of the case is that the women are kept at work twelve hours in the day without intermission; but intelligent capitalists may be expected to detect soon the disadvantages of overwork.

In the Pennsylvania Senate yesterday the bill requiring school directors to attend county institutes was passed finally.

A handsome oil portrait of ex-Speaker Muhlenberg, of Pennsylvania, was received by Representative Clymer yesterday, to be presented to Congress. It will be officially received on Saturday.

HORRIBLE FIRE.

EIGHT PERSONS CREMATED.

Mrs. Sloan, Six Children and Her Brother Roasted at East Liverpool, Ohio.

The fire of Monday night in the bank building, East Liverpool, Ohio, destroying the sleeping apartments over Staley's restaurant, seems to have been a foretaste of the heart-sickening roasting which was to follow. Yesterday morning about half-past 1 o'clock flames were discovered issuing from the drug store of Sloan Bros., in Frank Stewart's four-story frame building, corner Broadway and Sixth streets, used by him as a feed store and baled hay warehouse and occupied also by Mr. Kaufman as a grocery. It is supposed that Sloan, being a new comer to the town, did not know of the heavy pressure which comes on at times from the natural gas, and left it burning in the drug store, over which he was sleeping, with his family of wife and seven children, and brother-in-law, a Mr. Skeels, of Harrison county, Ohio, and who only arrived in town on Tuesday to pay them a visit. On discovering the flames Mr. Sloan woke all, and picking up a little daughter three years old, told them to follow. The stairways were by this time burned away, and escape by that means cut off. Turning to the front of the building he told his wife, with babe in her arms, and children to follow him, and leaped to the ground. The wife and children were either overcome by the flames and stifling fumes from the drug store, or failing to get the children to jump, preferred death with them. Mr. Sloan hoped by jumping first to be able to catch the others and break the force of their fall, and, although breaking his leg in the leap, hobbled around crying out piteously for the others.

The building was erected last summer and was a perfect fire trap, having numerous elevators running up through the fourth floor which opened up an inviting pathway for the fiery fiend, and nearly every floor being filled with hay, the flames spread with frightful rapidity and in twenty or thirty minutes the entire structure was consumed. The firemen, by heroic work, confined the fire to Stewart's building and a small adjoining frame residence. At seven o'clock next morning the ruins were sufficiently reduced to commence the search for the bodies, three streams of water having poured on them from two o'clock. Mrs. Sloan was found with her babe in her arms, and both burned nearly to a crisp. Around them were huddled the bodies of the other five children, all having hustled in one corner, and died as close to the mother as they could cling. Mr. Skeels was sleeping in a back room, and probably never knew of the danger until escape was impossible. The scenes at the ruins were heartrending, and beggar description. The bodies have have all been recovered.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

Colonel James Young recently sold his farm near Kelley's Corner, on the Colebrook road, Lebanon county.

A negro desperado, named Henry Travis was killed on Sunday by another negro at Freetown, St Charles parish, La.

General Skobeleff has sent a deputation of Turcoman chiefs to St. Petersburg to announce their submission to the Czar.

A crevasse twenty feet wide is reported at White and Gonzales' plantation, on the right bank of Bayou La Fourche, thirty-five miles below Thibodeaux.

Nineteen of the prisoners charged with conspiracy to murder the European residents of Kalapore have been found guilty, but sentence has been deferred.

The Meily furnace at Middletown, now owned by the Conewago iron company, was blown in a few days ago and is now working splendidly.

A gravestone in a Woonsocket cemetery bears, besides the ordinary inscription, the words "This stone is not paid for," cut in by the irate maker.

California vine growers say that the wine produced in that state will ere long drive French wine out of the market in the Eastern states.

A school for teaching chambermaids and other house servants has been established at Milan; so far it has worked very smoothly, and Milanese house keepers have high hopes for the future.

Thirty-six successive shocks of earthquake have occured at St Michael's in the Azores The church and 200 houses have fallen in and several persons have been killed.

The dead-lock in the New York board of aldermen over the election of a permanent presiding officer was broken yesterday, when Alderman Patrick Keenan was elected president.

The Commercial national bank of Albany has taken steps to retire all its circulation. The bank will keep $50,000 in bonds on deposit in Washington and thus remain a national bank, but without circulation.

There are between seven and eight hundred professional models in Paris, thirty-three of whom are Americans. They are of every age, from children of six to men and women of sixty.

An Italian offered to bet a German in St. Louis $10 that he could not drink ten schooners of beer without stopping; the bet was accepted and the beer duly drank but half an hour after the Fatherland had lost one of his children.

Rink Pitts, a negro, 24 years old, is to be hanged in Marietta, twenty miles from Atlanta, on March 4, for an assault on a negro girl 18 years of age. The streets of Atlanta are flooded with dodgers announcing the fact that an excursion train will be run to that point for the accommodation of all who desire to see the hanging. The enterprise is got up by two Atlanta negroes.

Two children of Henry Cohn, near Chicago went to the barn on Monday evening to play, when they discovered their sire dangling from a cross beam. In his right hand was clenched a discharged revolver. Standing on a box with a rope around his neck he had fired a shot into his head. It did not produce death, but as he fired he kicked the box away and died from strangulation.

Additional atrocities have been perpetrated by the natives in Oceanica. A Chinese junk, owned in Cooktown, has been seized near New Guinea and the crew slaughtered. The scooner Zephyr, of Sydney, met the same fate at the Solomon Islands. A French man-of-war recently visited Basilisk Island, where the French naturalists were murdered, and destroyed many buildings. The ship was unable to get any capture any of the islanders.

ONE WHO IS NOT SATISFIED.

Representative Law's Reasons for His Kick.

Mr. Edward Law, a representative from Philadelphia, who voted for MacVeagh yesterday and refused to vote for Mitchell for United States senator, files the following reasons for his course:

I offer as my reasons for voting for Wayne MacVeagh that I consider that our future United States senator should possess the following qualifications, or at the very least one of them:

"First—That he should not only be chosen from amongst the purest, ablest and most distinguished citizens of Pennsylvania, but that his firmness and decision of character should be unquestioned.

"Second—That he should in the past have occupied not merely a negative but a hostile attitude, not toward any man or set of men, but towards the system which has for years degraded the politics of the state and which has justly been considered pernicious by a large portion of the Republican party.

"My action originally in refusing to be bound by the nomination of the regular caucus was actuated by a sense of duty and a sincere desire to accomplish the above result, and I am therefore unwilling in casting my final vote for the important office of United States senator to leave anything to chance or circumstances which the future may bring forth. I therefore vote for one who represents the school of politics in which I believe and which I shall always endeavor to uphold, and whose public record is an infallible guarantee that he will worthily represent us in the Senate and use his utmost efforts to elevate the ethics of his party."

A DRESS OF GLASS.

SUCH A GARMENT NEARLY COMPLETED IN PITTSBURGH.

The Process of Manufacture—Fanny Davenport's New Garment.

Pittsburgh Post.

Glass clothing is not a new thing, but the manufacturing of it in the United States is. An Austrian named Prengil at his establishment at Gaudensfel has for years past manufactured glass clothing. The first firm in the United States to attempt the novel experiment in that of Messrs. Atterbury & Co., of the South Side, Pittsburgh. Some months ago—about the time Sara Bernhardt reached our shores—the local newspapers were full of reports concerning a dress to be manufactured by Messrs. Atterbary & Co. for the divine Sara. Since then the fame of the firm has become world-wide. The reports were republished in other American newspapers and finally found their way into the newspapers of France, England, Germany and indeed of many other distant countries. In consequence the firm are almost daily in receipt of letters from these distant countries inquiring about the novel clothing, asking how it is made and requesting full information concerning the process of manufacturing it. They have also received many letters from Canada and scores upon scores of communications from cities of our own country.

But much that has been said was premature. It was not until within a few days past that the firm actually did make a dress of glass. It is a child's dress and the garment is now at a trimming store receiving the finishing touches. In a few days it will be exhibited in one of the prominent windows on Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh. A reporter was permitted to see the dress on condition that he withhold the name of the trimming store. The garment is probably three feet long, has short sleeves and is nearly as soft and flexible to the touch as silk or satin. The dress is open at the back, and will be fastened by hooks and eyes sewed on to pieces of linen which are tacked to the glass. The garment is not composed entirely of glass, as silk cords are woven in to make it more durable. The curled trimmings are made of feathery glass, which resemble raw cotton in appearance. Glass will not absorb dirt like linen or cotton, but from frequent handling the garment has been soiled in several places. These stains will be removed by sponge and water, after which the dress will be pressed with a hot iron. The dress is white in color, and has a rich, brilliant lustre not unlike white satin. A richer or more beautiful dress is seldom seen.

The average reader will find it difficult to conceive how glass can be relieved of its brittleness. A description of the process of spinning glass may partially relieve this difficulty. Rods of any desired length and color, averaging half an inch in diameter, are drawn out from glass of the quality from which table ware is made. The glass rods are then placed with one set of ends five or six feet distant from an opposite spinning wheel, eight and one-half feet in diameter. The glass ends nearest the spinning wheel are exposed to the flames of gas jets, and when the glass has been melted by the heat a thread of it is drawn from the rod and attached to the periphery of the wheel, which has a face about twelve inches wide. The wheel is then set in motion. It makes three hundred revolutions a minute, and winds the thread coming from between the gas jets at the rate of about 7,500 feet per minute. A finer thread is obtained by increasing this rate of speed and a coarser by decreasing it. Although the thread becomes cool in passing from the flames to the wheel, it yet preserves very much of its elasticity. After the threads have been wound upon the wheel, the layers are easily removed, and after having been cut into lengths required, and woven in a loom resembling that used in weaving silk fabrics. Both the warp and the woof of the material are of glass. The handling of the glass threads is the chief difficulty, for they are so fine that two hundred and fifty of them make a bunch smaller around than an average sized darning needle. The threads are soft and quite elastic, but they do not have the flexibility of linen or cotton. A thread of linen may be tied into a knot, a thread of glass may be twisted into a loop, but snaps off before the knot becomes hard and solid like the knot in a thread of linen. In appearance the very fine threads have a rich color like that of raw cotton. They form a beautiful fringe, which adds vastly to the appearance of the dress.

The reporter subsequently called upon Mr. J. S. Atterbury for further information. He freely admitted that glass clothing is not practicable for everyday wear, and can never take the place of cotton or woolen or other textile fabrics. A fancy glass dress for a lady would cost from $300 to $600, according to the trimmings and colors used. It is all folly to suppose that garments can be manufactured from glass, as cheaply as from cotton or linen or even satin. The clothing would be durable and would doubtles attract great attention if it incased the shapely form of Fanny Davenport upon the stage or the tall and graceful figure of Sara Bernhardt. The glass can also be manufactured into wigs which would far surpass in attractiveness the powdered hair sometimes worn by ladies on fashionable occasions. It is also woven into neck scarfs, one of which will be on exhibition with the dress above described.

The firm will manufacture a dress cut after the latest fashion and with the usual long train, for Fanny Davenport. They may also make a dress to be worn by Sara Bernhardt, but the customer in each case must pay roundly for the garment.

TERRIBLE DESTITUTION.

A Heartrending Sight Near Milwaukee.

Coroner Heckman was notified that a dead body lay in a house on the plank road a short distance from the city limits of Milwaukee. On proceeding to the place he found a family in a horrible state of destitution. The inmates consisted of the mother, ill from giving birth to a child eight days before, and which had been dead in the house for two days, and four children ranging in age from ten years down. The family had had no food for forty-eight hours other than scrapings from an old swill barrel which had formerly been used in carrying slops from a distillery. The squalor and filth of the place is described as sickening to the last degree. The father, Ernst Latz, is in jail, awaiting trial for the theft of an old harness. He completed a term of sixty days at the house of correction on Monday for some petty offence and was at once re-arrested.

SHARP WORK

THE NEW RAILROAD MOVE.

The Sudden Conclusion of the Fight in the Delaware Legislature.

Dover, Del., Dispatch to Philadelphia Record.

The railroad fight in the Delaware Legislature has come to a sudden and unexpected end and has brought about a most surprising result, which is nothing more nor less than the reported purchase of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore railroad, in part, by the very persons who have thus far been seeking authority to build a line through this state to compete with that road. Succe-sive conferences were held at New York on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and at the last one the sale was communicated. At this meeting the following well known railroad men were present: William H. Vanderbilt, of New York; Enoch Pratt, vice president of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore; George C. Haven; Colonel H. S. McComb, of Wilmington; Robert Garrett and John W. Davis, of the Baltimore & Ohio; Nathaniel Thayer, of Boston, and others. Jay Gould was represented by Messrs Haven and Garrett. The proposition laid before these gentlemen at the meeting was to form a pool, headed by Gould and in the interest of the New York Central and the Baltimore & Ohio, for the purchase of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore stock owned in Boston by Thayer and others. In this bargain Col. McComb and the rest of the Delaware Western railroad men were to have as big a share as they were to have by previous arrangement in the new road between Philadelphia and Baltimore had the asked-for charter been granted.

The proposition was verbal, and was to the effect that the stock was to be purchased by Robert Garrett and George G. Haven. This proposition was opposed by McComb and Vanderbilt, but the Baltimore & Ohio men argued that if they could get control of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore railroad a through line at once was assured them, whereas, if they refused to accept the Boston stock and fell back upon the charter pending in the Deleware Legislature, there would be great delay, and the road could not be completed inside of three years. The sale was finally consummated on Saturday evening and has been kept quiet until to-day, when made public here, very fully, by Colonel McComb and his friends. It was the supposition that this sale was in contemplation which led to the rumor on Saturday that the Baltimore & Ohio were about to withdraw from the support of the Delaware Western bill.

The question which now interests the people of Delaware is what disposition is to be made of the pending Delaware Western bill. There can be no doubt but that the Baltimore & Ohio company was in a measure backing the bill until about a week ago. However, no formal agreement has been entered into between that company and Colonel McComb. These really interested in the bill, in addition to McComb, were A. J. Drexel, of Philadelphia, and William H. Vanderbilt, of New York. For the past year they have been very active in working the project to secure a new line between Philadelphia and Baltimore and succeeded in interesting the Baltimore & Ohio to the extent already stated. Had the bill been passed a week ago the purchase of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore would not have been made with the Baltimore & Ohio as a party in the transaction.

It is the intention of the Delaware Western men to continue to urge the passage of the bill, and Colonel McComb said to-night that he was in hopes of securing the aid of the Pennsylvania road in its passage.

A Dispatch from Colonel McComb.

Wilmington Evening Journal, Feb. 22.

On Saturday, while in New York, Colonel McComb sent the following dispatch to a Philadelphia capitalist associated with him in the matter:

NEW YORK, February 9.—10 a. m.—I met Haven and Garrett at 5 last evening. Their proposition was verbal, not written, as I insisted it should have been, and is to this effect: Haven and Garrett are to buy control of stock of P. W. & B. at 70, putting us all in, and by working this market are to put it to 100, we reaping the profit and taking chances in the future for management of the property which they are to get with the control of the stock now. Gould I understand to be behind them. It is pure, bold speculation, nothing else. Later in the evening I called on Mr. Vanderbilt and spent two hours with him, giving him what I understand to be your views as well as my own, which he entirely agrees with. He declines to go into the speculation, and says he went into the project with you and me in the most perfect good faith to build the road as an investment, believing it to be one of the very best railroad openings now unoccupied; that Garrett is committed to us and cannot honorably stop.

He says, which I confirm, that he went in with these parties himself, you and I, with the understanding that Garrett or the Pennsylvania should have a chance to come into and participate with us. He is willing now to stand to that agreement, to build with business contract with either B. & O. or Pennsylvania, or is willing to go on and build without either, and is further willing to build through to New York if that should become necessary.

In my first interview yesterday with Garrett I made the point you put to me in your last dispatch yesterday, viz.: My position before the Delaware Legislature and our people; and I told Garrett and Haven distinctly that they could not offer me inducement large enough to make me do an act that would savor of dishonor or stultify my pledge to our people; that if the project fell through my record should stand clear and unsullied before my associates and the people of my state. After seeing Mr. Vanderbilt, we met last night at 10, and I began my statement to Garrett and Haven by repeating this position and said to them I did not want any offer like what they had first made, repeated to me, to wit: that I should be taken care of if I would join them. I said no care can be taken of me other than what Mr.—or Mr. Vanderbilt accept as a full and honorable identification and participation. I repeated what I have here given you as Mr. Vanderbilt's views and interests, and ended by absolutely refusing to be parties to their speculating scheme. Garrett telegraphed late last night for Cassatt and Roberts to come over this morning. My impression is they will not come and will not join them. You can find out whether either of them has left for New York.

I am to meet Mr. Vanderbilt at 12 o'clock to-day and would like your advice and counsel as to what more I shall say to him and these people, though I would prefer you should communicate your views direct to Garrett and Haven or either of them. Does my course here meet your approval and support?

H. S. MCCOMB.

REPLY.

February 19, 1881.—H. S. McComb: Your telegram received, and we entirely approve of Mr. Vanderbilt's and your position. Mr. Cassatt has gone to New York. Roberts at home, not well.

After Mr. Garrett had agreed on Saturday to stand by the old project the immediate advantages presented by the scheme urged by the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore people of other considerations prevailed with him and the others concerned, and the combination concluded the purchase of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore road and thus secured the new through line to New York over the old tracks. At first glance it appears to have established a more powerful monopoly in this state than before and the whole fault of this—every particle of it—lies in the legislators who have put themselves, like so much wax, into the hands of the agents of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore company to prevent the establishment of the new line long enough to enable them to sell out to those seeking to establish it

STATE ITEMS.

For some time previous to the late flood which swept them away the counties had been making efforts to obtain control of the bridges at Newport and Millerstown, on the Susquehanna, in order to give free passage over them, and had instituted proceedings in court to accomplish the object. The corporations owning the bridges resisted the effort as bridge stock was very lucrative. An abrupt termination to the whole matter was made by the flood removing the bridges. It is probable now that the county will rebuild the bridges and come to terms with the corporations by buying from them such portions of the bridges as remain and are available for use in the new structures.

A telegram from Harrisburg to the New York *Sun* says: "Cameron will have trouble when his own term expires. The friends of Shiras leave here much exasperated at his defeat. In the balloting of the conference he came within one vote of Mitchell at first for the favor of the representatives of the Independent faction on the commission, and his disappointed friends have sent notice to Cameron that in 1884 Shiras will come here with a solid delegation from Allegheny county. Cameron's clansmen in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia were badly worsted at the late municipal elections, and should he fail to preserve his strength in those citadels he will be utterly routed at the end of his term."

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE MINSTRELS.

B., W., P. & W. at the Opera House.

Barlow, Wilson, Primrose & West's minstrels performed before a large audience in Fulton opera house last night, and as was to be expected from an organization so favorably known, they gave a very enjyable entertainment Among the features of the first part were the ballad singing of Messrs. Kelley and Gale, the former's song "He's coming back again, little girl," being especially well rendered while Mr. Gale's peculiarly sweet and clear soprano voice pleased everybody. There were ten end men, Barlow and Wilson occupying the extreme chairs, and their comic songs and funny stories repeatedly brought down the house. George Primrose, who was on one of the bone chairs, made a hit in his song. George Wilson is as nonsensical as ever, and the sound of his voice is enough to excite the mirth of a statue. Cal Wagner, who was billed with the company, was conspicuous by his absence, having indulged in a constitutional row with the management at Harrisburg the other day, the result of which was the severance of his connection with the troupe. The scenic effect in the first part was very pretty, comprising a beautiful tropical scene, the minstrels being seated in the midst of abundant foliage, while in the back ground were to be seen fountains playing playing and stars twinkling. In the second part Eddie Fox won a recall by his violin playing and imitations. George Wilson's act "took" immensely, as it always does. The "Golden Wedding" sketch by Primrose & West, Fox & Ward, Doyle & Daly, and Turner & McAuley, was one of the big features, while the broad sword combat clog by the same artists was unique and novel in its way, as it also afforded the spectacle of very supeeior dancing. Mr. McAuley's pedestal performance and somersault called forth a round of applause. Bingham's ventriloquism and Fields and Hanson's musical act were clever, and the performance terminated with a highly amusing sketch, "Fun on the Brussels," in which Barlow, Wilson, Price and the company kept the audience convulsed with merriment.

UNSUSPECTING COUNTRYMEN.

How They Were Defrauded by 13th and Callowhill-Street Sharpers.

Philadelphia Evening News of yesterday.

George Ryan and Thomas Riley were arraigned before Magistrate Smith, at the Central station, this afternoon, charged with obtaining money under false pretences, and defrauding persons. Abraham Longacre, a resident of [Manheim] Lancaster county, testified that some time in January last Riley and Ryan obtained $45 from him at the Broad and Callowhill street depot, and shortly afterward had increased it to $145, giving him as security a note for $802, which was found to be worthless. That the prisoners had a cabal which they said contained about $100 in notes and a quantity in specie. After they had received the money they left suddenly and the last he saw of them was their disappearance up an alley. That he had not seen them since until they were arrested and brought into court.

A young man named George Schaertel, residing in Tioga county, next testified that he met the defendants at the Reading railroad depot, and that Riley asked him (Schaertel) where he was going. Being told that he was going to Reading, Riley stated that he was going to travel the same route; that Riley stated that he would like him to escort his wife and daughter to the depot, and when walking to the place where they were said to be in waiting, he was suddenly accosted by Ryan. The latter spoke to Ryan as though he had not seen him for some time, and a check for $8.30 was produced by Ryan, who wanted to have it cashed, and being told that he was in possession of but five dollars he was induced to part with that amount, receiving in return the worthless check. Both of the prisoners denied having met Longacre, Schaertal or any of the witnesses against them, and stated that they were not guilty. They were committed in default of bail.

Mayor's Court.

His honor the mayor had twelve cases before him this morning, all of them young men who had applied at the station house for a night's lodging. They were a very decent looking set of men, there not being a bum or old soak among them. They were simply on a tramp in search of work. Eleven of them were discharged, and one of them, who was sick, was at his own request committed for a few days to recuperate.

Stock Sold.

The executors of Henry Keen, of Quarryville, deceased, yesterday sold five shares of First national bank stock, of Strasburg, to David Hostetter at $135, and five shares at $134.60 to same; and forty shares Quarryville railroad stock at $2.70 to C. M. Hess.

Shoulder Dislocated.

During a row on Middle street on Monday evening Louis Parks had one of his shoulders dislocated, and didn't know what was the matter with him until yesterday, when Dr. J. A. Fitzpatrick took him in hand and reduced the dislocation.

Went West.

R. J. Malone, esq., son of R. A. Malone, of this city, left at 2.55 this morning for Montezuma, Colorado, where he will practice law. He has the best wishes of his many friends here.