

### VOLUME XXI-NO. 141.

## A NIGHT OF HORROR.

THE INSANE DEPARTMENT OF AL ALMSHOUSE IN FLAMES.

Eighteen Persons Dead in a Fire at the Blockley Assium, Philadelphia-Heartrending Scenes That Were Witnessed in the Efforts to Rescue the Inmates.

Eighteen raving manises were burned to death in the insane department at Blockley almshouse, Philadelphia, Thursday night in a conflagration which needed nothing to make it the most horrible disaster of the kind ever known in the history of the city.

The fire originated about 8 o'clock in the wing of the old building of the insane department, which fronts toward the Schuylkill river, and is directly south of the main building of the almoshouse. This wing is 115 feet nt and 60 feet deep, connected with the main building of the old structures of the insane department, which runs west 400 feet to a similar wing to the one in which the disaster occurred. In this wing, where the fire broke out, there were sixty separate cells for the violent patients-twenty on each floor. In addition to this there was a large room on each of the three floors, in which cots for twelve men wore placed, all of which were occupied when the fire broke out. On the second floor was a dry-room, heated by steam. This room, which was about ten feet square, was directly alongside the middle stairway to the floors above and below. Here 6 flames originated, but from what cause

is not now known. At the time there were insane patients in each of the twenty cells on the three floors, ten in the large room on the first floor, and twelve in each of the large rooms on the secand and third floors.

### THE LIST OF DEAD.

The following are the names and ages of the occupants locked in the nineteen cells in Ward M., near where the fire first started, all of whom are supposed to have been sufficiented or burned to death, with the exception of three, who were rescued by the firemen : Cell No. 2—Frank D. Dechaeon, aged 35

years. Cell No. 3-James McCoy, aged 40 years. Cell No. 4-John Lyden, aged 50 years. Cell No. 5-Isaac O'Neill, aged 55 years. Cell No. 6-Charles Scott, colored, aged 32

Cell No. 7-John Dwyer, aged 49 years Cell No 8-James Burk, aged 57 years. This man killed three inmates of the institution during the twenty-two years he had been confined there. For twenty years his hands were chained to his body. Cell No. 9-Thomas Rusk, aged 50 years. Cell No. 10-Michael Wroth, aged 56 years.

Cell No. 11.-Robert Cammings, aged 45 Cell No. 12-Charles Noienberger, aged 60

Cell No. 13.—Thomas Jones, aged 34 years,

Cell No. 14. - John Herriges, aged 48 years. The name of this victim will be easily re-called to Philadelphians, as he was the person who was confined in chains by his brothe in the old shanty at the northeast corner of Fourth and Lombard streets. He was dis-covered about 1870, after having been there for twenty years. Cell No 15.—John Koehler, aged 60 years.

Cell No. 17-Thomas Smith, aged 38 years, Cell No. 18-Edward Murphy, aged 48 Coll No. 12-Charles O'Brien, aged 56

Coll No. 20 - Philip Newburger, aged 60

VERTS.

years. Cell No. 1 was unoccupied, and No. 16 Jacob Glassman was confined. He was res-cued by Watchman William Hanna. The bodies of Frank Dechacon, Michael Wroth, Thomas Jones, James Burk, John Koehler, John Herriges, Charles Scott, John Lyden, Philip Newberger and Charles Nolenberger were discovered in the ruins and removed to the dead-house by midnight. There were four of the immates of the cells

There were four of the inmates of the cells who were rescued by the police, but one of the men was so badly burned about the feet that he died soon after being brought out. The nam of the three taken firemen could not be learned, owing to the confusion prevailing among the attendants. Ward M, in which the unfortunate fellows met their death, was in charge of Mr. Strain, a young man, who had his face singed before he could make his escape,

under my care to bed and had sat down to under my care to bed and had sat down to make out my usual report when somebody rushed into my apartment and shoulded 'Fire!' In an instant the utmost confusion prevailed. The smoke came rolling up the stairway in volumes, and before we could hardly realize our position the flames barst in on us. The sixty-one occupants of the bed-rooms all managed to make their escape down the stairway, I believe. Their rooms were not locked, and there was nothing to prevent them from escaping down the stairways. The flames spread with terrible rapidity. I tried to reach the cells, where there were nincteen of the most violent patients confined. I knew

succeeded in getting the eighty-seven men

of the most violent patients confined. I knew they would be rousted to death if the doors were not unlocked to let them out. My only thought was the liberation of those poor felthought was the liberation of those poor fel-lows. The smoke and flames poured into the ward, and before 1 had advanced far I was driven back by the flames. It was impossible for me to go another step forward, and so I had to ft for my own life. I harely got out alive, for the right side of my face and mustache were singed by the flames. I could hear the poor fellows in the cells howling like demons, for the fire was upon them. The thought of them being slowly reasted alive, coupled with their curses and their piercing cries for help, was terrible. Oh, God ! I never lived through such frightful torture of mind as that I ex-

such frightful torture of mind as that I ex-perienced during the few moments I was trying to grope my way out of the burning building. I could also hear them pulling and kicking at their doors in their vain efforts to save themselves. But they might as well have tried to go through a stone wall, for the cells had been constructed with a special view of confining desperate men therein."

THE FIREMEN ON THE SCENE.

At 5% o'clock an alarm had been struck. At 85, octoors an atarm had been struck, and in half an hour a general alarm sounded. When the firemen arrived the fire was envol-oping about one-third of the main building and burning fiercely. The two plugs in the yard gave but an indifferent supply of water. Truck F arrived on the scene soon after the first alarm, and its ladder was quickly run first alarm, and its ladder was quickly run up to the third floor to the windows of the cells in which the maniacs were fastened, With ax and hook the firemen attacked the

iron gratings of the cells and succeeding in taking out seven men, four of them suffo-cated and three still alive. Many of the inmates upon being released escaped in the confusion and wandered into

the city, A large number were seen on Chestnut and South streets, and several were taken into custody. Rose Connelly and George Neall were arrested by the district policemen and locked up in the police station. George Neall was found wandering in the Nineteenth district

when arrested. Fireman Ephaline, of Engine No. 5, was badly cut about the head at the almshe

fre, Benjamin Brown was found by a Ninth district policeman wandering near the park.

### TWENTY EIGHT FICTIMS.

### That is the Number Now Beheved to Have Reen Lost in the Almshouse Holocaust. PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13.—The fire of last

ight at the almshouse entirely destroyed that portion of the institution set apart for the insane. Of the 684 lunatics confined there, many are missing, but it is thought most of them have wandered away. At nine o'clock this morning two more charred bodies were found in ward 202. They had been roasted beyond all recognition. Several human forms can be seen in the burning wreck in the collar.

It is now thought that twenty-eight of the inmates perished. That number of violent patients were locked in the cells on the third floor and could not be reached ; eight of them have been taken out dead and the others have not been accounted for. There seems to be no doubt that they are lost and that their remains are among the ruins. During the night many insane persons were found wandering in different parts of the city, some of them nearly naked. The poor creatures generally seemed unable to understand the situation and in some cases begged their

captors pitcously not to throw them into the

river. Others seemed to take it as a grand

### THE WATCH FACTORY. NOT TO BE REMOVED FROM THIS CITY TO ILLINOIS.

me theerful News About a Great Local Industry-Orders from New York and Philadelphia-50,000 to Go Abroad-A Statement of the Prospects.

Our people will be glad to hear that the watch factory is not likely to be removed to Il-linois. The agreement has been forwarded to Mr. Bitner, signed by the parties out there, but he has concluded not to take the factory away, since the prospect for its operation suc cessfully here has become very bright. He has just returned from New York and Philadelphia, and obtained orders for watches wherever he applied for them. He took an order for 50,000 movements to go abroad. He has a cheap watch to offer the trade at about four dollars, which he can make at a good profit. He says that this factory has better ma

chinery than any other factory in the coun-try, and better and cheaper labor; and he is confident that he can make watches cheaper

confident that he can make watches cheaper by ten per cent, than they can be made else-where. With 300 hands he can turn out 200 movements per day, while Waltham can make batone for every two hands. The factory is now running with a small force and by April first Mr. Bitner expects to have the \$30,000 of indebtedness paid off which necessitated his assignment. It is al-ready more than half liquidated, and he has still over a hundred thousand dollars of unfinished stock on hand. He considers the factory to be worth all of four hundred thousand dollars and to be in prime condi-tion now for successful operation, the line thousand dollars and to be in prime condi-tion now for successful operation, the fine machinery with which it has been fitted enabling it to compete with advantage in their cheap prices with other factories. The officiency of the second second second second second the second secon

The efficiency and delicacy of the ma-chinery is really wonderful, and there can be no doubt that with the factory in this condition for commercial manufacture it can be

# profitably run in the dullest times, with courageous capital behind it. A GOOD MINSTREL SHOW.

Dockstader & Armstrong's Company Appear to a Very Large Hous

Last evening Armstrong & Dockstader's minstrels appeared in the opera house and iny one who was present would certainly be led to believe that cheap shows were able to "down" any other kind of entertainments. Long before 8 o'clock the building was Long before s o'clock the building was packed and standing room was being sold. By the time the curtain arcsee it was difficult for any one to obtain a place from which the stage could be seen. The show was far better than many for which high prices are charged and it is certain that the troupe pleased the audience if the lond shouts of laughter were any indica-tion. The first part showed seventeen peo-ple, including seven musicans with Harry tion. The first part showed seventeen peo-ple, including seven musicians with Harry Armstrong and Phil Gibbons on the ends, Armstrong and Phil Gibbons on the ends, The jokes were new and the songs well rendered. Part second was opened by Renwic and Ross, a good musical team, who made room for Armstrong and Dockstader, who scored a great hit with their songs, containing local hits, &c. Carroll and Harly are fair song and dance men, and the Hayden quarter same darkey songs better Hayden quarter sang darkey songs better than they did in the first part. The show ended with a very finnny sketch, entitled, "All Crazy," which was written by Mr. Armstrong. This evening the show goes to

Columbia and they perform here to-morrow afternoon and evening. Among the features of to-morrow evening's performance will be a xylaphone solo by Joseph Royer, of this city, who is a member of the orchestra and band. Entertaining the Performers.

After the performance of the minstrels last evening a party was given them by their friends. It was held in the opera house and was attended by a fine class of young people, including at least twenty-five young ladies Dancing was kept up until a late hour, and all had a delightful time.

### CONGRESS APPORTIONMENT. Bills Agreed Upon by the Senate and Hous Committees.

LANCASTER, PA., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1885.

The Senate committee on congressional ap-portionment finished its labors Thursday afternoon, and the result is a most grotesque grouping of counties that make nincteen Republican and nine Democratic districts. The bill is the McCracken bill of the last regula session, with a few slight amendments, and will be reported this morning. The follow ing are the districts as arranged by the bill : First-Philadelphia, 2d, 7th, 25th and 30th

wards. ond-Philadelphia, 8th, 9th, 10th, 13th, Third-Philadelphia, 3th, 4th, 5th, 6th, 11th,

12th and 16 wards. Fourth-Philadelphia, 15th, 24th, 27th and

Fifth—Philadelphia, 15th, 25th, 25th and 29th wards. Fifth—Philadelphia, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 31st wards, and that portion of 28th ward south of Lehigh avenue. Sixth—Philadelphia, 21st, 22d, 23d, and 25th wards and that portion of the 28th, ward

north of Lehigh avenue. Seventh-Bucks and Montgomery. Eighth—Chester and Delaware, Ninth—Lancaster, Tenth—Northampton, Carbon, Monroe,

Pike and Wayne. Eleventh – Berks and Lehigh. Twelfth-Schuylkill and Columbia. Thirteenth – Luzerne. Fourteenth – Dauphin, Lebanon and North-

mberland. Fifthteenth-Lackawanna, Wyoming and

Susquebanna. Sixteenth—Tioga, Bradford, Lycoming, Montour and Sullivan. Seventeenth-York, Adams and Cumber-

iand, Eighteenth—Huntington, Mifflin, Juniata, Union, Snyder, Perry, Fulton and Franklin, Nineteenth—Cambria, Blair, Somerset and Bedford. Twentleth-Clarion, Forest, Ella, Clearfield

Clinton and Centre. Twenty-first-Washington, Greene and

Twenty-second and Twenty-third - Alle-

ghony. Twenty-fourth-Butler, Armstrong and a portion of Allegheny. Twenty-fifth-Jefferson, Indiana and Westmoreland.

moreland. Twenty-sixth-Venango, Warren, McKean Polter and Cameron. Twenty-seventh-Erie and Crawford. Twenty-eighth - Mercer, Lawrence and Beaver

caver. The Twentleth district, running from

Charlon on the west to Clinton and Centre on the east, is made up entirely of Democratic counties, with the exception of Forest, which gives a very small Republican majority. Lehigh is taken away from Northampton and tacked on to Berks, while Northampton is placed in a district running two-thirds the entire eastern boundary of the state. Washing-ton, a Republican county in which there are a good many Mugwumps is attached to Greene and Fayette, and will be snowed under a big Democratic majority from these counties. The old-shaped district or Verango Warren, McKean, Potter and Cameron is so formed in order, as it is said, to place the oil counties together. Allegheny is made into two districts divided by the river, and the porthern portion of the county above the junction of the rivers is fastened to Butler and Armstrong, and a sure Republican dis-trict is secured. Westmoreland is out in the cold for securing a Democratic congressmen, being connected with Indiana and Jefferson. So the bill all the way through is filled with incongruities and is liable to be amended to death The House congressional apportionment

committee, after a long session, have agreed to report a bill that is practically the one up-held by the Republicans at the extra session of 1883 as their ultimatum. It gives the Re publicans eighteen and the Democrats ten districts.

# COMMON PLEAS COURT.

Verdict in the Wetzel Case-Isaac Binehart BEFORE JUDGE LIVINGSTON.

The jury in the suit of Samsel M. Wetzel vs the county of Lancaster, action to recover damage by reason of the proposed opening

### "REV." MR. MEREDITH DECAMPS FROM READING LEAVING AN UNPAID BOARD BILL.

A Clerical Fraud, Who was Exposed by the "Intelligencer" When in This City, Manages to Swindle Residents of Berks'

### County Seat-The Details.

It will be remembered by the readers of the INTELLIGENCER that on December 29. 1884, there appeared in the advertising col umns the following eard : Temperance.

Temperance. There will be a temperance meeting in the Bethel church talk (Monday) evening at 7 o'clock. Address by key. Mr. Meredith, of New Jorsey. All are cordinally invited to attend. At the same time there was a call upon • Roy." Mr. Meredith to give his front name, owing to the fact that a Rev. Meredith had got himself into had odor last winter while delivering temperance discourses in Philadelphia, and had been convicted of preaching ost verbatim a sermon of Dr. J. O. Peck, published in the Homiletic Monthly, of Doember 1881. The same party had been exselled from the Methodist conference in Baltimore where he had been a local preacher. The anxiety of the INTELLIGENCER for " Rev." Meredith's front name was gratified on January 2, by a card from Rev. G. W. Seilhamer, pastor of the church of God, of this city, who stated that " his parents were pleased to christen him James Howard Merepleased to contained in the card was a brief dith." Contained in the card was a brief sketch of Meredith's ordination and a reference to his alleged ministerial labors. Shortly afterwards Meredith disappeared leaving no trace of his whereabouts,

### EXPOSED AS A FRAUD.

Rev. J. Max Hark, of this city, through whom the original investigation was begun. received a letter on Jan. 6, from D. C. Babcock, district secretary of the national temseven, user severally of the hardonic temperance society. No. 46 North Eleventh street, Philadelphia, informing him that six or seven years ago Rev. J. H. Meredith was expelled from the Baltimore conference for impure conduct. Dr. Gran, of the New Jersey Gazette and the Christian Advocate as well as others exposed him as a sham Jersey Gazette and the Christian Advocate as well as others exposed him as a sham since that time. He was described as " a stout, clean-shaven fellow of about 50 years of age; got up to look like a minister; his face is heavy; inclined to be flabby; and his eyes have a restless look." This description exactly fitted the man who had inserted the card announcing the temperance lecture at Union Bethel. Union Bethel.

### TURNS UP IN BEADING.

The prompt exposure of this impostor by the INTELLIGENCER forced Meredith to leave Lancaster in very short order. It now trans pires that he went to Reading, where he acceeded in throwing dust into the eyes of some of the pious people of that city. The Reading Tones of this morning says : "Rev." James Milton Meredith lett Reading very suddenly yesterialy morning for leasons not only best known to himself, but to a number of persons with whom he had come in contact during his brief residence in this city. He got himself disliked. Moreover, a warrant of arrest issued by Alderman Hipple warits his return. It is not probable, how-ever, in view of the various schemes in which the pseudo reverend gentleman engaged, that Mr. Meredith will be likely to accommo-date the constable by coming back and drop-

date the constable by coming back and drop-ping into his hands, "Rev." Meredith came to Reading about a month ago and engaged quarters at the first-class boarding house of Mrs. J. H. Seiverd, 546 Penn street. Wednesday whilst Mrs. Seiverd was away on business he had his luggage removed from the house and then followed his Inverses contextury having an followed his luggage yesterday, leaving an unpaid board bill behind as a legacy of his visit. Mr. Seiverd said that the "Reverend" was a man of unlimited jaw and scrap, who continually exhorted those in the house to repent and after they had done that to subminstrels, have been very unfortunate in gotting into trouble. Yesterday they came scribe for a temperance paper of which he was the agent. Everybody got tired of the fraud and watched the meal hours to avoid

## PRICE TWO CENTS.

# PENNSY'S LEGISLATORS

TRYING TO EARN THEIR MALARY AT THE STATE CAPITOL.

## Big Batch of IIIIs Presented-Both Ho Adjourn Until After the Elections-The Death of Representative Northop As-nounced and the Action Takes.

pectal Dispatch to the INTELIGENCES. HABRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 13.-In the House to-day bills appropriating \$453,000 for the completion of the Huntingdon reformatory and \$149,000 to the Warren hospital, the mounts asked for, were favorably reported ; similar action was taken on the bill making the separate estate of matried women liable for debts contracted by her or her agent.

The bill requiring railroad companies to fence their lines to protect the live stock of farmers and others was negatively reported. The state pharmacy and legislative apporonment bills were recommitted.

Eckles introduced a bill compelling habitnal drunkards to make known the names of ersons selling them intoxicating drinks.

Following is a description of it: Front-19 feet wide : Il feet deep and is feet high. Two Manuals-compass from C C to A, 58 notes. Compass of pedals from C C to D, 27 notes. Great organ contains: No. 1, bourdon, 16 feet, wood, 58 pipes : No. 2, open diapason, 8 feet, metal, 58 pipes : No. 3, dulciana, 8 feet, metal, 58 pipes : No. 4, metodia, 8 feet wood, 58 pipes : No. 5, octave, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes; No. 6, flute d'Amour, 4 feet wood and metal, 58 pipes : No. 7, twelfth, 3 feet metal, 58 pipes; No. 6, flute d'Amour, 4 feet wood and metal, 58 pipes : No. 7, twelfth, 3 feet metal, 58 pipes; No. 8, fifteenth, 2 feet metal, 58 pipes; No. 9, mixture, 3 ranks, metal, 174 pipes ; No. 19, trumpet, 8 feet, reed, 58 pipes; Swell organ contains.-No, 11, open dia-pason, 8 feet metal, 58 pipes; No. 13, viola, 8 feet metal, 46 pipes ; No. 14, acoline, 8 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 16, Violina, 4 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 17, Flantino, 2 feet metal, 58 pipes ; No. 19, double grand diagason ; 76 et The resolution requesting the Pennsyl. ania congressmen to vote for the bill to place General Grant on the retired list was adopted.

Colborn, of Somerset, wanted to know how much the common pleas judges received in extra pay for courts held outside their districts and offered a resolution requesting the auditor general to furnish a statement of the amounts they received from 1877 to 1883. The resolution was laid over under the rules.

The invitation of the Americus club to the House to attend its ball on Monday evening, was accepted. Several bills were read the first time, when Farber, of Lackawanna, announced the sudden death of his colleague, Nicholas Northop. He offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of five to draft appropriate resolutions, and that the lesk of the deceased be draped in mourning for thirty days, and that a committee of nine members be appointed to attend the funeral. The resolution was adopted and the House adjourned in respect to the memory of the leceased. The chair appointed Faber, Williams, Gilroy, True, Ressequie, Sweeney, Dunkin, Hughes and Lee as the committee

to attend the funeral. In the Senate the congressional apportionment bill, differing very little from the Mc-

Cracken bill of the regular session, was favorably reported. Macfarlane's bills prohibiting opium joints

was passed finally by a unanimous vote. Walling introduced a hill making the insurance commissioner subject to write of mandamus to which other state officers are low liable

its sewer connections, \$300 extra. The organ will be publicly dedicated on Sunday next, at 10:50 a. m. Rev. J. A. Peters, former pastor of the church, but now of Danville, Montour county, will conduct the consecration services, which will consist of prayer, the recitation of the creed, the for-mal consecration of the organ to the worship of God, vecal and instrumental music, by the organ, choir and concreation reading of the Mylin's bill requiring monthly statements organ, choir and congregation, reading of the Scripture lesson, dedicatory sormon by Rev. Peters, offertory *Te deum*, congregational singing, doxology and benediction. Rev. Peters will be assisted in the dedicaof the state institutions to be filed with the uditor general, passed second reading. Nincteen senators were absent.

Both Houses have adjourned until Wednes day evening next on account of the elections.

### MR. M'GRANN ON THE STAND.

Testifying to Misrepresentations Made by the Directors. Special Dispatch to the INTELLIGENCER,

PITTSBURG, Feb. 13.-Mr. McGrann testi-fied to-day to the circumstances of the contract in the construction of the road, changes, extras and other features of the claim. He narrated the misrepresentations made by the directors to the effect that the engineers had not allowed his extras, when the contrary was the case. Counsel proposed to ask him an essential question, "What induced him to sign the receipt ?" The defendant objected and the court disallowed the question. This is the point on which the case will go to the

supreme court.

His Wife Held for His Murder PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13.-At the inquest day on the body of John Sweeny, who died vesterday from injuries alleged to have been inflicted by his wife, it was shown that death resulted from a fracture of the skull, and Mrs. Sweeny was committed to prison to await the action of the district attorney.

# Description of the Instrument Placed in the First Beformed Church. Mr. Charles F. Durner, of Quakertown, Pa., has finished and set up the grand pipe organ made by him to the order of the Firs Reformed church of this city ; and on Thursday evening the instrument was tested by several of the best performers of Lancaster, in presence of about four hundred persons, many of whom were musical conneisseurs. The performers were Prof. Carl Matz, or-ganist of St. James Episcopal church; Prof. Krebs, organist of the Presbyterian church; Prof. George. Benkert, organist of Zion

A NEW CHURCH ORGAN.

Prof. George Benkert, organist of Zion Lutheran church ; Prof. A. Frank Schoedler, organist of St. Mary's Catholic church. There was but one opinion expressed by the performers and the auditors, and that was

reed, 58 pipes, Pedale, --No. 19, double open diapason, 16 feet wood, 27 pipes ; No. 20, Bourdon, 16 feet

wood, 27 pipes. Mechanical Registers.—No. 21, swell to great coupler; No. 22, swell to pedal coupler; No. 23, great to pedal coupler; No. 24,

No. 25, great to pedal coupler; No. 24, tremous; No. 25, blower signal. Combination Pedals.—No. 1, forte great organ; No. 2, plano great organ; No. 5, forte swell organ; No. 4, plano swell organ; No. 5, reversible pedal to operate No. 23, Bal-anced swell pedal. Total number of stops, 25, and 1,247 pipes. The organ is blown by Coates' Little Giant water, motor, which works automatically.

water motor, which works automatically, keeping the bellows constantly supplied with a sufficiency of air, without labor on the part of the organist or an assistant. The case of the organ which has a front of

nincteen feet and extends from the floor of the choir gallery to the ceiling, a height of eighteen feet, has been painted a light drab color, to harmonize with the freese of the

church. The pipes are painted a maroon color, tipped with gold. The cost of the organ was \$5,500 and of the water motor and its sewer connections, \$300 extra.

tory services by Dr. Shumaker, of St. Paul's church, Prof. Stahr and other clorgymen. The new organ was formally accepted to-day by the committee having it in charge— Messrs, Hiram Stamm, John B. Roth and A. I. Eritcher.

H. Fritchey, Rev. Dr. John M. Titzel, of Altoona, who has been elected to and accepted the pastorate of the First Reformed church, will not enter

upon his duties until about the second week

in April next. Meantime the pulpit will be supplied by classis.

AN UNPAID BOARD BILL.

A Difficulty With Minstrels That Was Finally

Adjusted.

Messes, Armstrong and Dockstader, the

to this city from Reading with the company,

H. Fritch

that the instrument is a very superior on Following is a description of it : From feet wide : 11 feet deep and 15 feet high.

### THE FIRST ALARM.

From all the conflicting accounts to be obtained it appears pretty certain that the first alarm was given by an insane patient on the first floor of the main building, adjoining the wing already described. This man, Joseph Nadine, occupied a room with about twenty other quiet patients. About ten minutes to so clock he saw smoke issuing from above the door which opened into the wing in which the cells were situated. He ran to the big iron-grated door fronting on the main corrider of the building and cried out three." This fearful sound reached the ears of Joseph Shreeder, the attendant of the ground-floor, who was in his room, directly opposite the one from which Nadine had given the

Mrs. Umstead, who has general charge at night, says that when the alarm reached her she was in her office, about 200 feet from the dry room, and at once hurried to the scene. She says that an attempt was made to put out the flames with buckets of water, and at first it was supposed that the flames were only burning from the ground floor near the stair way; but in almost an instant it was found that the real point from which the danger came was the second floor, at the top of and above the dry room. She then hastened to get all the patients from the main building extending back from the wing.

### SOME OF THE HORBORS OF THE STORT.

Attendant Shroeder takes up the thread of the story at this point, and thus relates some of the horrors of the dreadful night : "I do not know who sounded the alarm. As soon as I heard Nodine's cry I rushed to the foot of the stairway, and after a short attempt to check the fire at once set to work to get out the patients. First I unlocked the door of the room in which Nadine and his companions were. They ran out at once. By this time the flames were gathering in fury and dense volumes of smoke were ascending into the upper stories. I succeeded in unlocking the doors of all the cells on the first floor, and had difficulty in some cases in getting all the inmates out. I had no time to look after them further than to run them into the yard, for the flames were getting so herce that it was almost impossible to breathe that it was almost impossible to breathe in the now rapidly burning building. The smoke in the upper stories was so thick that breathing was impossible. While I was getting the men out below, Attendant Wil-liam Strain was doing the same for the in-mates on the second floor. I met Mr. Hanna, the night watchman, who was also helping, and we went up to the third story, but were driven back by the flames, which had forced their way through the stairway and were creeping along to the cells of the doomed in-creeping along to the cells of the doomed increeping along to the cells of the doomed in-mates. • We ran around to the other stairway, near the new buildings on the west; and by this time some freemen had arrived. All the inmates had been gotten out of the second story, so that there remained about twenty-eight on the third floor, twenty in the cells and eight in the large common room. The poor fellows in the cells were being smothered to death by the smoke, and per-haps blistered and burned by the flames. Their crics were heartrending. Some o them cursed and swore, others laughed hid cously, and still others yelled with pain and cousty, and shill others yelled with pain and gave out such awful cries as would have ap-palled the hardest heart. A fireman of en-gine No. 1, attendants Strain, Hayes and Hanna, a patient named Rafferty and myself crawied on our hands and knees to such of the men on the third floor as we could reach, and we dragged out fourteen, eight of them alives four sufficient of them and two as horribly alive, four sufficiented and two so horribly burned that they died before we could get them out of the building. We could not see em out of the building. We could not see y of the men in the cells, of course, but could hear horrible cries above the roaring of

could hear horrible crics above the rearing of the flames as they became sensible that a terrible fate was in store for them." While Shroeder was going through this terrible experience the flames were extending to the main building of the department. The wing in which the victims wore being burned alive was wrapped in flames, which were shooting many feet into the air and illuminat-ing the city for many sources. ing the city for many squares.

WILLIAM STRAIN'S TERRIBLE STORY. "The rules of the place require the inmates o retire at 8 o'clock every night. 1 had just

oke, and laughed gleefully when the subject of the fire was mentioned. Another came thying down South street early this morning with a manacle attached to his wrist and i few links of a chain dangling from it. He shricked and laughed as he struck right and left among the frightened people. It was found necessary to use violence and he was

knocked down before he could be secured. Another madman caused a panie in a street car by rushing in half-clad and with his face seorched and blackened. He sank cowering in a corner, and it was soon found that he was more frightened than those who had ran away. The report that the streets were full of escaped maniacs caused much alarm in West Philadelphia, and strangers booked upon each other with distrust.

FIREMEN STILL AT WORK.

The tiremen are still at work on the ruins They are weary and half frozen, each man's helimet and coat appearing as hard as armor, but their search for the bodies is continued steality. There appeared to have been a great deal of unnecessary trouble caused by rotten hose and a scarcity in the water supply. To remedy the latter failing a dozen brawny firemen chopped a hole in the thick ice on the Schuylkill river, but when the hose was introduced the mud and grinding bits of ice split the latter and the attempt was a failure. The confusion about the ruins. the craftiness of the insano people in secreting thomselves, the promisenous manner in which they are being cared for and the otter weariness of all those

who have had them in charge, prevent an accurate estimate being made of the loss of life and property. The loss on the buildings will amount to

about \$150,000.

### Swell Ball by Colored Folks. From the Reading Eagle.

Colored society of this city is in a flutter of expectation over the select reception to be given by the Reading Social club. This is

an organization of some 35 well-known colored citizens, and its object is to furnish pleasure for the members and their friends. Their first grand ball comes off next Tues-day evening in the banquetting room of Mennerchor hall. It is to be a full dress affair. The ladies who have received invitations to the same are vieing with others to come out in the most beautiful costume, and come out in the most beautiful costume, and are showing considerable rivalry. Guests have been invited from Easton, Harrisburg, Bethlehem, Lancaster and Allentown and other places, and some 50 are expected to be present from these places alone. Cabs have been hired to take the guests to and from the ball and exerciting promises to ba conducted hall and everything promises to be conducted in the most recherche style. There are no tickets for sale, and consequently white folks will not be admitted.

#### M?. Malone's Contract in Philadelphia.

The finance committee of the Philadelphia ouncils on Thursday decided to report favorably an ordinance transferring the sur-plus of \$229,500 of June 21, 1882, for the conplus of \$223,500 of June 21, 1882, for the con-struction of the Market street bridge, to the highway and water departments. An ordi-nance to approve the surface of Bernard Malone on the contracts for building sec-tions seven and eight of the intercepting sewer was read. Mr. Malone had intinated that he would not accept the contract for No. 6, as a mistake had been made in his calculation which would cause him considerable loss. mistake had been made in his calculation which would cause him considerable loss. Chief Engineer Smedley said that if the con-tract for No. 7 and No. 8 be given to Mr. Ma-lone a saving of nearly \$15,000 to the city would be effected. On motion of Mr. Clay the matter was referred to the chairman of the finance committee and the city solicitor, with instructions not to anyway the contrary with instructions not to approve the contract unless M alone will take all three sections.

### The Dynamite Resolutions Buried.

The House committee on foreign affairs o which was referred the various resolutions relative to the recent dynamite explosions in renarve to the recent dynamic explosions in London, has decided to report that it was unbecoming the dignity of the House of Re-presentatives to presume that American citi-zens had in any way been connected with a crime were no charges had been made and that the committee was unwilling to request any officer of the government to search tor proof of guilt where there was no charge. A PUGILIST IN TROUBLE.

Prof. Alf Mills and U is Wife Try to Blackmai People, But Get Left.

A man who gives his name as Alfred Mills, and a woman whom he calls his wife, have

been in trouble in Allentown. It appears that Mrs. Mills was in the habit of trotting around the street a great deal and smiled sweetly upon nearly all the young men-that she met. She made a number of " pickups' on the street and would take them to her home, when her husband would rush in upon her apparently very angry. It then required money" to hush the matter up" and in this way a number of " Jays " allowed themselves to be floceed. At last a member of the police force of the town took the matter in charge. He disguised himself with a false beard and met the woman several times on the street. She invited him to her house and he accom panied her; when they were in, Mills put in an appearance and raised a big row. He de-manded is cents of the officer, but refused to take it when it was offered to him. The officer

settled the matter by taking both people to the lockup. They were afterwards dis-charged, as the charge of blackmail made against them by the officer could not be sustained. Mills and wife then promised to

The *Item* gives this account of Mills : "He is a pugilistic inclined individual, who has great confidence in his ability to handle himself, and has terrified more men by his apparent fearlessness into handing over hush money than may come to light." From the description of the man it is evi-dent that he is " Prof." Alf Mills, the pugilist, who is well known in this city, where he has resided at times. He is a pugilist of some

reputation, but has done more tighting in newspapers than in the ring. It is taught box-ing in this city and peddled stationery through the county, but had no wife with him then. Philadelphians Banqueting in Atlanta

A party of one hundred distinguished Phil-adelphians arrived in Atlanta, Ga., Thursday morning and left at midnight for New Orleans. The party is composed of some of Philadelphia's most prominent business and professional men, and numbered among its members ten millionaires. They sent an agent before them to prepare an elaborate banquiet for Atlanta, engaging carriages and positively refusing to let Atlanta spend a dol-lar toward their reception. They did this in return for Atlanta's complimentary reception to Mayor Smith and party of Philadelphians, while in the city a few weeks ago. A magniti-cent banquet was spread for the party, with their guests, at the Kimball house that evening. A reception was tendered them by Gover-nor and Mrs. McDaniel at the executive mansion, which was attended by the elite of the city. This is the first time the tables have

been turned on Atlanta. A Crematorium in Iowa. A cremation society has been organized at Davenport, Iowa, with a capital stock \$25,000. The company, which is composed of ome of the prominent German citizens of Davenport, proposes to erect a building, with Davenport, proposes to creek a building, with arrangements suitable to the purposes of cro-mation, and be ready for operation next spring. It will be the only crematorium west of Washington, Pa.

### A Dime Novel Tragedy.

Two twelve-year-old boys named Davidson and Parker, of Grosvenor, Lenawee county, Michigan, on Wednesday, after reading ; dime novel, prepared a sham Indian tight. Davidson had a hatchet and Parker a revol-ver, which was accidentally discharged, striking Davidson in the forchead, killing

him instantly. den a A La htic's Threats Against Cleveland.

William Ray, an escaped lumatic from senses Falls, N. Y., has been arrested in St. Louis for threatening to remove President-Louis for inreatening to tenote retaining elect Cleveland. A long sheath knite was found upon him. He entered the health department, and in a conversation with Dr. Rassett stated that he had been selected by Divine power for the task.

of Chester street, through plaintill's Jand. returned a verdict in favor of Wetzel this morning for \$2,028,81. In the suit of Anselm Bently vs. Hugh Me

Cort defendant and George K. Reed and Rev. Anthony F. Kaul, garnishees, judgby consent was entered against defendant for \$200, with plaintiff to pay the costs of suit. BEFORE JUDGE PATTERSON.

After all the testimony had been offered by plaintiff in the suit of Isaac Rinchart vs. the ity of Lancaster, to recover a reward of \$500 for the arrest of an incendiary, City Solicitor Fulton moved for a non-suit on the ground that plaintiffs had failed to show that there was a fire at the Fountain 1nn hotel stable The motion was resisted by B. F. Davis, counsel for Rinehart, who argued that Dun-gan had been convicted of attempting to the this stable, and was now serving his term of imprisonment in the Eastern penitentiary. Judge Patterson granted the non-suit, stat-ing that there were two claimants for the re-ward and the matter should have been re-

ferred to a master to ascertain whether Rine-hart or David Graeff were entitled to the

A rule was granted to show cause why the ion-suit should not be stricken off DIVORCED.

Catharine Brubaker, of Drumore township, vas divorced from her husband, Benjamin Brubaker, on the ground of eracl treatment.

### ADJOURNED QUARTER SESSIONS.

The List of the Cases That Are Down for Trial. The following cases have been placed on the trial list for the adjourned quarter ses-sions commencing Monday, March 2, with Judge Patterson presiding :

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1885. David A. Brackbill, Jonas H. Herr, A. L. Long, Frank L. Minnich, assault and battery ; John L. Crawford, et. al., negligence of duty : Andrew J. Jones, assault : Jonas L. Minnich, John H. Stauffer, false pretense ; Jacob M. Bachman, forgery : C. C. Aniwake, Jacob M. Bachman, forgery : C. C. Antwake, malicious mischief ; G. J. Hildebraut, soll-

ing liquor to minors, TUESDAY, MARCH 3. Emanuel Berkheiser, murder ; John Gill, fornication and bsstardy; Joshua Potts, abortion ; John F. Smith, emberzlement ; Anna M. Goss, receiving stolen goods ; John Eis-ley, rape ; Tillie J. Carberry, bawdy house.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4. Amos B. Hostetter, forgery; Benj. Root et.al., conspiracy; Joseph Herzog, forgery, seven indictments; Jacob M. Rutt, forgery, four indictments.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5. John G. Good, embezzlement; John E. Dennison, et. al., conspiracy; John E. Den-nison, false pretense; John M. Peoples, em-bezzlement Ac. ezzlement, &c.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7. Hester Presbury, surety of peace ; John Presbury, desertion ; C. C. Amwako, surety of peace.

### Brought Home Dead. rom the Lititz Record.

A year and a half ago Jacob Reist, son of ugustus Roist living west of Lititz, went to Ohio to seek his fortune. He found employ ment in Osborne and felt perfectly happy and ment in Osborne and feit periody happy and content. On Thursday evening of last week in company with some of his young friends he attended church, and was jolly and well. He retired at the usual hour and was found dead in bed next morning. A corner's in-quest was held, the verdict being death from heart disease. The remains were brought home on Sunday morning and the funeral was held on Tuesday at Erb's meeting house. His age was about 21 years. The young man was frequently troubled with pain at the heart and predicted a sudden death.

### In and Around Ephrata. From the Review.

L H. Wanzer, of Wisconsin, the creamery man, has succeeded in making the necessary arrangements for establishing a gathered cream creamery at flue Ball.

It takes a Sweigart to raise a mammoth hog. We thought that Rhesa, of West Earl, took the cake but yesterday morning. Adam Sweigart shipped to Reading from this sta-tion a Chester White porker weighing be-tween 1.000 and 1.100. He was two years old and well proportioned.

the usual lecture, if possible. The room of the "Reverend" was generally littered with tracts, and it is stated that certain mysterious bottles were part of the "luggage" the ex-press wagon took away so suddenly.

press wagon took away so suddenly. The temperance paper subscribing business was the best paying racket that the "Rev-erend" was possessed of. Nolody knows how many people were duped, but enough inquiries after a temperance journal pub-lished at Newark, N. J., and called the *Scu-timel of Freedom*, have been made to lead to the estimate that Meredith gathered in head to the distribution. He was a seed about \$200 by that scheme. He was a good canvasser, knew how to talk ; in fact some of his victims say that the dollars felt uneasy in their pockets, because he told them temperance must not be permitted to suffer for the need of a dollar wightly applied." The Sentinet of Freedom never reached Reading and is as much of a myth as the title Meredith gives himself.

gives himself. While in Reading he was refused the pulpit of the Zion's United Brethren church, the pastor, Rev. S. Etter, declining the privilege unless shown a certificate which Moredith could not produce. Last week he passed in Lebanon, but something was wrong with the climate and he returned. The arguments of the nices of manumental

climate and he returned. The exposure of this piece of monumental elerical impodence will have a wholesome effect in clearing the temperance atmosphere. The warrant issued for his arrest will probably make him a very scarce citizen in this part of the country.

### DEAD IN A SEWER.

#### Five Men Asphyxiated While Attempting Some Sewer Repairs in Chicago.

Five men were asphyxiated in a sewer late Thursday afternoon. Several days ago the main sewer in Kinzie street, five feet in diameter, became clogged, and a gang of eleven men were sent to clean it. Nine went into the sewer with a scraper fitting the conformation of the sewer, dragging it from manhole to manhole, while the other two remained above ground to draw up the mud and dirt through the manholes. Between Halsted and Union streets an unusually long time was consumed. Finally the foreman, bending down at the

nouth of the manhole, heard a cry for aid and geing down, found the men near the open-ing, some of them gasping for breath and others lying dead. There was a very strong smell of gas. A rope was passed down to him, as the survivors were unable to climb up the ladder. After two had been assisted up the foreman found himself failing from the effects of the gas, and was obliged to ge

to the surface. Another man went down and rescued three, and a third assisted the remaining five. Four were dead when brought up and another died soon after. The names of the dead are : Michael Laski, Joseph Gill, James Grady, Daniel Curvis and Matthew Mason. All are married except Gill. Th Mason. All are married except only the survivors say their first intimation that any-thing was wrong was when Gill dropped dead. It is not known whether the gas in the sewer was an accumulation of ordinary sewer gas or illuminating gas from a leaking pipe, or what is known as fire damp.

### A Minister's Suit for Divorce.

Proceedings in divorce were instituted in Pottsville, on Thursday, by Rev. John Jones against his wife, who left him a few days ago, charging him with beating her. Rev. Jones charges her with making his life in-tolerable by her cruel and barbarous treatment and destroying his usefulness as a minister of the gospel by slanderous reports. She is now at her parents' home, in Pittston, and the papers were sent there to be served.

#### The Mahdi Announces Gordon's Death

In the Arab camp near Dulka Island, which was deserted after Thursday's fight, there was found a copy of an official document ad dressed to "The Faithful," by El Mahdi, The document is in the form of an encyclical letter, and states that the prophet took Khartoum by storm on January 26; that he had killed the traitor, Gordon, and had captured his steamers.

Mænnerchor Ball in Reading. The Harmonie-Mænnerchor of Reading held a large masquerade ball last evening, at Mænnerchor hall, that eity. Among the vis-itors were people from Wilmington, Phila-delphia, New York, Lancaster and Lebanon. the local widows of the right kind will not be numerous enough, invitations are to be sent to widows in New York, Boston, Baltimore

in the morning, leaving behind them a mar named Flynn, who had been managing the troupe and had got them into several difficulties. The troupe stopped with J. P. Knight & Son, formerly of this city, now proprietors of the Grand Central hotel, while in Readof the Grand Central hotel, while in Read-ing. Upon leaving, the board bill of the party was not paid, as it was understood that Flynn, who had the money of the company, was to pay it. Instead of doing so, he left the town as soon as the troupe had gone. Mr. Joe Knight came to this city last night and had Messrs. Armstrong and bockstader arrested. These gentlemen promptly paid the bill, which amounted to about 50. They were relucted about doing about \$80. They were reluctant about doing it, however, thinking it very hard, as accord-ing to their story, Flynn should have paid the bill. Messes. Armstrong and Dockstader

are pushing men, who deserve to succeed, They work hard and leave nothing undone to make their show a suc-cess, which it certainly is. They have been unfortunate in securing mana-gers who desired to take the show with them upon leaving it, but it is now hoped that their troubles are over and that they will go through unmolested. Edgar M. Levan, esq., of Reading, was counsel for the ministrels

# here and aided them in settling their difficul-ties.

### SHE WAS BURIED ALIVE.

# Horrible Fate of a Young West Virginia Lady Who Woke Up in Her Coffin.

A terrible affair has just come to light on the levels near Okonoko, W. Va. Mary Cox, well known and popular young lady, residing near the moth of Little Capon river. was taken violently ill. The physician diagnosed the case as one of neuralgia of the stomach, and prescribed morphia. A dose was administered at once and another left with instructions to give it in twenty-four hours

hours. For some unexplained reason the second dose was given in a very short time. In an hour or two after the death of Miss Cox was announced and neighbors prepared the body for burial, and two days later the deceased was interred.

At the funeral one lady insisted that Miss Cox was not dead and begged that a physi-cian be sent for. That night the dogs of a man living near the graveyard stationed themselves near the tomb and kept up a persistent howling. The neighbors talked, and that day the grave was opened, when, to the horror of all, it was found that the girl

had been buried alive. The coffin presented a terrible sight. The lining was torn from the sides of the casket. The pillow was in shreds. The poor girl had iterally stripped the clothing from her body. Her hands and arms were forn and bleed-ng. The lips were bitten through and handils of hair lay about. The girl had come to ife, and evidently a fearful stuggle to escape ad followed.

### AN AMERICAN EXHIBITION.

# The First of Its Kind Ever Held Beyond the National Limits.

Mayor Rosenmiller, of this city, has re-ceived from Gen. C. B. Norton, secretary of the American exhibition to be opened in London, England, on the 1st of May, 1886, several paniphlets and other documents giving full particulars of the scope and character of the exhibition, which will be of interest of the exhibition, which will be of interest to any of our people who may intend to be-come exhibitors. The exhibition will be entirely devoted to a specific and com-prehensive display of the wealth of the United States, and will be the first of the kind that has ever been held beyond the limits of the national territory. The United States government, the governors of the most important states, the United States consuls in Europe, the civil and commercial corborain Europe, the civil and commercial corporations, and many hundreds of manufacturers, merchants, mechanics, artists and producers, have given it their countenance, and will soud their works and wares to the great show. Those desiring further particulars can find them at the mayor's office.

Widows of Thirty Years.

A dashing young Philadelphia widow, it

is said, will soon give a ball, at which none but widows 30 years of age will be present. Grass widows will be sternly barred out. As

and other citios.

### Congressional Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.-[House,]-The House met at ten o'clock in continuation of Thursday's session. A long debate took place in regard to limiting the debate on the river and harbor bill, but without a definite result. At noon the House adjourned and was immediately called to order in Friday's session.

### Sentenced to Life Imprison

NEW YORK, Feb. 13 .- Louis Deluca was to-day sentenced to imprisonment for life, having been convicted of murder in the second degree. In October last the prisoner shot and killed a fellow countryman, named Lorento, in a quarrel over a game of pool.

### The Master's Report Overruled.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13 .- The report of the master upon the matter of the distribution of Reading railroad earnings was overruled by the United States circuit court.

### Hat and Fur Store Burned.

SCHENECTEDY, N. Y., Feb. 13.-Levi T. Clute's fur and hat store was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$10,000, on which there is \$5,000 insurance.

### WEATHER INDICATIONS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 .- For the Middle Atlantic states, partly cloudy weather and light snows, northerly winds, becoming variable, slightly colder.

#### The Legislator From Maytown

rom Notes by the Wayside in Columbia Herald Representative Book, of this district, is rather dull of comprehension at times. In fact, he is out of his latitude as a legislator As a business man he sustains a first-class reputation, and like the shoemaker, he should tick to his last. On Thursday last, stick to his last. On Thursday last, when the vote was taken on the governor's veto of the magistrates' bill, Mr. Book voted "no" when he intended to vote "aye," He was immediately informed of the mess he had made, and, rising, said : "Mr. Speaker, i de-sire to change my vote," and the speaker or-dered the order with the information "that all who desired to pass the bill, notwith-standing the veto, should vote 'aye' and all opposed 'no." This gave Book his bearings, and the next time he voted "aye." It is rough to have to be told how to vote, but he will soon learn to obey his orders. will soon learn to obey his orders.

### Different Effects of Religion

From the Philadelphia North An Wife-What a number of ladies there at church this morning wearing sealskin

at church this monthing wants and a sacques ! I counted no less than 27. Husband ( who won't see the point )—Do you think that is the proper way to occupy one's mind while at church ? I didn't notice as include one

a single one. Wife—No ; one can scarcely be expected to notice such things when one's asleep.

"Would you rather be a man or a woman ?" asked Justice Duffy of a young man who had been parading in his sister's

"A man," was the answer, bashfully

given. "Ten dollars fine then," replied the jus

"I'm not man enough to pay it," was Droogan's answer, as he went to jail.

At the Station House. Three drunks and nine vags were the oc-cupants of the station house last night. The vags were discharged and the drunks com-mitted by the tnayor for ten days cach. Four hundred and eighty-stime rations of soup were distributed at the soup house to-day.

#### A Man Every Time. the New York Herald.

clothes.