Pittsburgh Gazette.

FRIDAY MORNING.....JAN. 15, 1864.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

OFFICIAL PAPER.

Special Meeting of Allegheny Councils.

A special meeting of Allegheny Councils was held on Thursday evening, January 14th for the purpose of hearing the annual reports, and closing up the business of the year.

In Select, present, Messrs. Atwell, Hopkins, Irwin, Kaar, Kirkpatrick, Patterson, Riddle, Wright and President Marshall.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Riddle presented the annual report of the "Commissioners for the erection of a City Hall, Market House," etc., from which we extract as follows:

"Early in the year just closed, the Commissioners advertised the sale of the choice of stalls in the new Market House, then so far completed as to be ready for occupancy. On the 31st of March, according to public notice, the sale took place. The net amount of the premiums received at the sale by the choice of stalls and store-rooms was as follows:

For the choice of Butchers' stalls	$18,018
" " Gardeners' stands	4,833
" " Store rooms	1,300
Total	$24,151

The annual rents received from stalls, stands, and corner rooms, in the new Market House, are:

From Butchers' stalls	$ 5,200 00
" Gardeners' stands	2,017 67
" Three corner rooms	1,500 00
" Transient occupants	1,029 24
Total	$9,746 91

The revenue of the old Market House, in 1863, was | $ 4,500 00

Annual gain on income | $ 7,246 91
Add premiums received | 24,151 00
Total gain in 1863 | $29,884 91
Total cost of new Market House | 25,409 83

The Commissioners acknowledge the active efforts of Messrs. Barr & Moser, the architects; Messrs. White & Alexander, the contractors; and Mr. Dallas, the Clerk of the Markets, in prosecuting the work to successful completion. Great credit is also awarded to Mr. James Marshall, the Treasurer, for valuable services rendered to the Commissioners, and through them to the public at large.

Mr. Wright, from the committee to whom was referred the subject of an increase of the salaries of the several city officers, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the salaries of the various city officers be and the same are hereby increased as follows, for the current year:

Mayor	from $ 600	to $ 800	
Treasurer and Assistant	" 1,000	" 1,000	
For Treasurer and for Assistant	" 600	" 800	
Street Commissioner	from 600	" 800	
Superintendent of Water Works	" 1,000	" 1,000	
City Solicitor	" 380	" 500	
Assessor of Water Rents	" 500	" 700	
Engineer at Water Works	" 720	" 900	
Clerk of Councils	" 150	" 200	
Clerk of Markets	" 200	" 300	
Clerk of Committees	" 200	" 250	
Constables	" 320	" 400	
High Constable	" 150	" 200	
Messenger of Councils	" 250	" 300	
Sweeping markets and carting	" 175	" 250	
Market Constable	" 75	" 250	

The resolution was read three times and passed.

Mr. Wright also submitted an ordinance repealing the ordinance fixing the commission of the Weigh and Wharf Masters, which was read three times and passed.

The President read a very lengthy and interesting report of the City Solicitor, giving a detailed statement of the legal affairs of the city. The document is a valuable one, and was ordered to be published.

Mr. Wright presented the annual report of the Committee on Streets, from which we learn that the amount expended during 1863, for cleaning and repairing streets, bridges, etc., was $7,425 29. The law for grading and paving streets at the expense of the property holders was passed in 1861, and since that time there have been graded and paved, within the limits of the city, streets and alleys fronting 2½ miles, at a cost to the property holders and city of $206,481 52, of which amount there have been collected and paid $200,99954, leaving a balance of only $5,481 98 due, the whole of which will probably be collected during the present year. During the past year, streets and alleys have been paved embracing a front of one-eighth of a mile, at a cost of $5,595.31. Of this amount, $774.20 was assessed to the city, and the balance upon the property. The amount due and unpaid for the paving of the past year, is $5,029.73. The balance due, Jan. 1st, 1863, for grading and paving streets, was $5,005.35, of which amount $3,374.33 was collected, leaving a balance due of $3,452.23. The Committee say: "The above gratifying exhibit is mainly due to the watchfulness and care of our Street Commissioner, Mr. A. Mohrer, who has made the above collections and disbursements, and has also collected and paid into the City Treasury the sum of $970.42, of old claims which were considered to be a great measure lost; and he has at all times kept the streets in as good condition as possible with the appropriations and means under his control, and in saying he has performed his duties to our entire satisfaction is nothing but an act of justice."

The report was accepted and ordered to be published.

Mr. Irwin presented the report of the Committee on City Property, recommending their successors to lease the southern side of Seminary hill, for a vineyard, and thereby increase the city revenue.

Mr. Kirkpatrick presented the Annual Report of Mr. John Alston, Superintendent of the Water Works, from which we learn that the current expenses for the year 1863, were $117,788 29.

The following extensions were made:

Craig street	190 feet.
New Market House	120 "
East Street	860 "
Third street	110 "
Total	1288 "

The following exhibits the amount of water pumped in the last six years:

In 1858	641,844,000 gallons.
In 1859	709,122,000 "
In 1860	718,416,000 "
In 1861	724,630,000 "
In 1862	837,312,000 "
In 1863	873,504,000 "

The average daily distribution of water was as follows:

In 1858	1,758,476 gallons.
In 1859	1,942,818 "
In 1860	1,951,986 "
In 1861	1,983,424 "
In 1862	2,248,800 "
In 1863	2,368,216 "

The Superintendent says: "You will see by the increased demand for water, the important necessity of increasing your pumping capacity, as your present pumps are taxed to their full capacity."

The total revenue from Water Works for 1863, was	$90,555 93
Expense of running Works	33,767 90
Salaries	1,420 00
Repairs to pipe, &c	1,116 24
Repairs to boilers	5,475 15
New extensions of pipe	1,885 98
	$42,665 27
Net revenue	$50,940 64

The report was accepted and ordered to be published.

Mr. Kirkpatrick offered the following:

Resolved, That James Marshall, William Smith and Joseph Kirkpatrick be, and they are hereby authorized to purchase, for the use of the city, the property adjoining the Water Works in Duquesne borough, from the heirs of John McQueen, on the best possible terms. Read three times and passed.

Mr. Atwell offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Council are hereby tendered to James Marshall, Esq., our worthy chairman, for the very satisfactory manner in which he has discharged his duties for the past year; also to D. Masterson, Esq., our estimable and satisfactory Clerk for the correct manner in which he has discharged his duties for the past year. We also desire to compliment the gentlemanly and courteous Reporters of the *Gazette* and *Dispatch* for the satisfactory and correct reports of our official proceedings for the past year. We do not wish to overlook the valuable services of Augustus Kunzelbugh, our attentive messenger, for the faithful performance of his duties.

In Common Council—Present: Messrs. Barkes, Berland, Dill, Dunlap, Francis, Hutchinson, Miller, Patterson, A. D. Smith, Stockton, Tate and J. Brown, Jr., President.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. A. D. Smith presented the report of the Auditing Committee, which was read and accepted and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dill presented the annual report of the Committee on Printing, as follows: Whole amount expended by the city for stationery, blank books, etc., $199 65; newspapers and job printing, $261 50; total, $449 05.

The report was accepted and ordered to be printed.

The annual report of the Committee on Fire Engines and Hose, was presented by Mr. A. D. Smith. The whole amount expended by the city for the fire department, in 1863, including the purchase of the steam engine "Hope," was $4,321 07, as follows: Salaries, &c., paid three Hose Companies, $356 75; repairs, &c., $54.10; Hope and Columbia Hose Companies, $234 50; Steamer Hope, $3,560; stable, harness, &c., $200. The Committee also state that they have contracted with the Amoskeag Co. for another steamer similar to the Hope for $3,500, and also with R. H. Hartley & Co. for 1,000 feet of ten inch hose, both contracts to be completed early in March.

Report accepted and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Francis presented the annual report of Committee on Wharves and Landings. The revenue derived from the wharves and landings for the past year amounts to $3,300 09; of this sum $302 37 was retained by the Wharfmaster for his compensation, leaving a net revenue of $986 82. The report states that the Wharfmaster had expended $11 80, but his bill was not presented in time to have it properly authenticated, and they recommend that the incoming Council authorize a warrant for its payment. The Committee also recommend their successors to make liberal improvements upon our wharves and landings, so as to accommodate the increasing commerce of our city.

Report accepted and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dill presented the report of the Committee on Gas, by which it is shown that during the past year $3,487 62 was paid for gas consumed by the city lamps, town house and Mayor's office; for repairs, new posts, lamps, glass, etc., $409 75, making a total of $3,897 37.

Report accepted and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hutchinson, from the Committee on numbering houses, reported that they had contracted with McKenna & Bro., to make the plates wanted for the streets and alleys of Allegheny at six and a quarter cents per letter—Roman Capitals, two inches in length and width—the same to be finished by the first of March, 1864. The Committee had also contracted with William McHenry to put them all up by the first of April, 1864. Both these contracts were made under penalty of $100 each.

Report accepted and ordered to be printed.

Mr. A. D. Smith offered the following, which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Council are due and are hereby tendered to John Brown, Jr., our worthy President, for the able and impartial manner in which he has discharged the arduous duties of presiding officer of this Council.

In all of which action not otherwise noted, S. C. concurred.

On motion adjourned *sine die*.

The Library Association—Proposed Erection of a New Hall.

[CONCLUSION OF PRESIDENT BRUNOT'S REPORT.]

We publish to-day the conclusion of the administrator of Mr. Brunot, and hope our readers will not be deterred by its length from giving it a careful perusal. The part we published yesterday related exclusively to the operations of the Institution during the past year—that portion we insert to day, principally to the subject of a new Hall, worthy of our city and of the Institution.

A PROGRAMME AND AN APPEAL.

It is shown by the preceding statements, that the year just closed has been the most successful in the history of the Institute; but it must not be inferred from this that the success has been in any degree commensurate to the importance of the work we must accomplish. For sixteen years our Association has passed through many discouragements, to establish a public library—an institution acknowledged throughout the civilized world to be among the most elevating in its influence of all human beneficial inventions. But as yet only a solid foundation has been laid on which we must erect a superstructure worthy of a city of the population and wealth of Pittsburgh. The success of the past is only enough to encourage to increased efforts in the future.

We want a library of one hundred thousand volumes, rich and complete in every department of useful knowledge. We want, in connection with it, a collection of art, curiosities in natural science, antiquities, autographs, coins, &c., worthy of the library. We want a building adapted for their accumulation and preservation, and containing halls suitable for the literary entertainment of a community which is capable of creating such a library and gallery for the elevation of themselves and their posterity.

In the year 1852 it was decided to establish a public library in the city of Boston—already a city of libraries. I have before me the report of the Examining Committee for 1852—ten years after the inception of the plan. In this short period one hundred and five thousand volumes, and thirty thousand pamphlets had been accumulated. Including the purchases made with the income of the permanent fund, nearly three fourths of the books were donations.

The authorities of the city, adopting the project as a part of its municipal educational system, erected, at the public expense, a handsome and commodious building, which the Library now occupies. The amount expended during the year 1862 was 199,565 volumes. There was already accumulated a permanent fund of $95,000, specified in the Report as follows:

"The Bates Fund, presented by Josh. Bates	$30,000
" Phillips Fund, $10,000 presented and $20,000 bequeathed by Josh. Phillips	30,000
" Tontonel Fund, presented by William Minot and Wm. Minot, Jr., in compliance with the will of Miss Mary Tonnesen	4,000
" Lawrence Fund, bequeathed by Abbott Lawrence	10,000
" Bigelow Fund, presented by J. P. Bigelow	1,000"

The income from the fund is annually expended for the increase of the Library; and each year, as it rolls away, adds new elements of imperishability to the monument which shall for ages continue to honor the memory of these men and others who shall follow with similar deeds.

What Boston has done in ten years we must do in ten, fifteen or twenty. Boston differs somewhat from Pittsburgh, it is true. It has a population of 20,000 more than Pittsburgh. It has a larger proportion of men of wealth, perhaps. And it certainly has very many of letters, who appreciate the value and and uses of a noble public library, and its beneficent effects in the general elevation of the people. As to the first two points, we have ample population and wealth to supply the desideratum named for our attainment. If but the will existed among us generally, the means for it could be procured in a day, and no man foel poorer from the gift. A superior appreciation of the value and effect of a great public library, Boston has the advantage, but its knowledge has been gained through a century of education. We may profit by her experience, without undergoing the slow process by which she attained it. If we want a steam engine as good as the Corliss engine, or better, we take that—or improve on it. But we do not begin at the original Watt, and work up through years of experiment, to attain our object. Any new machine which can be demonstrated by the experience of others to be worthy of a large outlay and the abandonment of the old, is adopted, and the old goes by the board. Convince the liberal citizens of Pittsburgh, by the experience of older cities, of the inestimable value of the great educational machine we propose, and it will become their pride, as well as their interest, to place it in the very front rank of its kind.

On you who know the value and utility of the Young Men's Mercantile Library, devolves the labor of convincing this community. You must work earnestly and perseveringly. You may not succeed in accumulating a library of one hundred thousand volumes in ten years, but you will have in that period fifteen, twenty or thirty thousand volumes; and your institution will in due time reach the goal now set up, and pass beyond it.

You must illustrate to the people of Pittsburgh the benefits you are yourselves deriving from your Institution—that you will continue earnestly and faithfully to administer as heretofore whatever trusts they may confide to your hands. Show them that you are striving to secure for their sons and successors educational advantages which many of themselves have never enjoyed. That the Library is the chief means of supplying to the young a place of resort and entertainment which will save many of the most promising from the alternative haunts and habits of the vicious—and that it supplies the precise want of this community in filling the gap between the school and the church. That it will educate our rising mechanics, merchants, manufacturers and professional men to an intellectual superiority correspondent with the energy, intelligence and ability they display in their ordinary avocations. That it will afford to all facilities for information and improvement in the use full arts otherwise accessible to but few. That it will create in our community scholars, authors and statesmen. And that these advantages cannot be ephemeral, but enduring. And not only prove these things to others, but bear them in mind yourselves; and at time down on, and God prospers you with wealth, set apart a portion of it to an object which your own experience has taught you is so eminently worthy.

The man who provides for the erection of a monument of granite or marble may, while time spares the inscription, cause his name to be read by the casual passer near his grave. So long, and by those only, will it be known that he lived. He who bequeathes the earnings of a life of toil to be spent by strangers, will be remembered while the money lasts. Even he whose heirs have loving and grateful hearts, can, at the best, be thought of only for a generation or two. But he who contributes liberally of his means to the creation of a public library, creates for himself a "monument more durable than brass." In the meanest possible aspect in which such a contribution can be viewed—that of getting so much remembrance for so much money—there can be no question that the Library is a better investment than a bank stock.

To him who desires to be remembered on account of benefits conferred on his fellow man, there is no equally good mode of effecting the object than this, wherein the very act of his life which certifies his beneficiance, perpetuates the benefit. Generations yet unborn will be made wiser and better, and will not fail to regard with honor the name of the benefactor.

But we can appeal also to the higher motives of better men. For on these we must chiefly rely. On every hand we find among us Churches, Hospitals and Asylums, Public Schools, established and sustained by our wealthy and liberal citizens, who originate and sustain them, simply in acknowledgment of their moral obligation to do so, and because they love to do good to their fellow men and be just in the administration of the wealth which God has given to them. To these it will be found that we do not appeal in vain.

It is not necessary that the fund contributed shall be under the control of the Association. The donor or devisor of a permanent fund can appoint his own trustees, or even direct the kind of books which shall be purchased with the income of his fund; and either the fund itself, or an alcove in the Library, founded by it, will be designated in perpetuity by his name.

The student of any particular branch of human knowledge, desiring to lead others to drink from the fountain which he has himself enjoyed, or to afford facilities which will lead to greater developments in his favorite pursuit, may in this way, create a library for his speciality. One may require the interest of his fund to be devoted only to Religious books, another to Theological, one to Scientific, another to purely Literary publications. Each may create a library special and distinct, bearing his name, yet part of the whole.

LIBRARY HALL.

The room now occupied by the Library is a pleasant one; well located and suited to the purpose, and might be made to answer a few years longer. It will then be inadequate, and the importance of providing proper accommodation in time, presses itself upon the Association. The Boston Library spoken of in this report was furnished with a magnificent building, at the expense of the city. We cannot, however, at present expect so enlarged a liberality from the authorities of Pittsburgh. The want of a suitable hall for the lectures of the Association, has been for several years a serious drawback on the efforts of the Lecture Committee, but has never been so much felt as during the present winter. Before the close of the present month of the existing hall on the precise evening it may be wanted, it is found that many of our citizens are unwilling to frequent them on account of real or supposed defects, and on the latter of a large audience the crowd disperses, lamenting the absence of more fit accommodations. We may reasonably expect that the attendants on both lectures and concerts will increase, and our city need to erect a hall suitable for these purposes.

In 1858 the writer procured an act of Assembly incorporating "The Mercantile Library Hall Company" of the city of Pittsburgh. The plan proposed was set forth in the report of 1859, as follows:

LIBRARY HALL COMPANY.

"For the purpose of placing the Young Men's Mercantile Library and Mechanics' Institute on a footing more creditable to the city of Pittsburgh; enlarging its sphere and capacity for usefulness by rendering it so attractive as to command the interest of the young, whose characters are to be moulded by its influences; and fostering it into an institution which will be an object for the just pride of every citizen, it is proposed to erect an appropriate and elegant building, which may eventually become the property of the Association, and a permanent source of revenue for its support and the increase of the Library.

"The plan is, comprehensively, to purchase a lot, 80 or 100 feet front by 120 to 140 feet in depth, in some sufficiently central position, and erect a building with stores and a main entrance on the ground floor, and in other parts of the building. First, a library room and ante-room and conversation room; second, a grand hall for lectures and musical entertainments, constructed according to the best models, and capable of seating not less than two thousand persons; third, rooms for the Young Men's Christian Association and the Board of Trade; fourth, minor halls for the Historical Society and for literary societies; and fifth, if practicable, and desired by them, suitable accommodations for the Gymnasia and Turners, with stores and a second story understood to be the principal, and the others contingent on the decision of the stockholders of the Library Hall Company when they come to arrange the details of the plan.

* * * *

"The price of a single share is fixed at one dollar, in the hope that hundreds of our citizens will become stockholders, who are interested in an undertaking so important and conducive to the welfare of the community.

"It will be seen from an examination of the charter, that the sums subscribed are not donations, but if viewed even in the worst possible financial aspect, would only be an investment at a moderate rate of interest. The ground and buildings will belong to the stockholders, and they will receive, if they so elect, all the revenues to the amount of six per cent. on the cost, until such time as the Library Association shall have repaid to them the original subscriptions. The Library Association, it is thought—if a judicious location of the building is made—will have a surplus of the rents applicable annually to the redemption of the stock, which, with profits of lectures, surplus receipts from memberships, occasional donations or legacies in stock or money, and subscriptions in stock for life memberships, will eventually lead to their entire ownership of the Hall, and the existence in the city of Pittsburgh of one of the best libraries and noblest and most elevating institutions in the United States."

To carry out this plan a subscription list was prepared, and about $25,000 subscribed by twenty-six gentlemen. As from one hundred to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars was wanted, it became evident that in the face of an increased business depression, it could not then be procured, and the project was temporarily abandoned. Had the effort then been generously made, it is a simple evidence that the stockholders would be in receipt of interest on their investment, and the library in the receipt of a considerable surplus, to be employed in the purchase of the stock.

It is proposed during the present year to renew the effort, and it is hoped that not only the wealthy and liberal gentlemen who before subscribed, but also many others like them, and the citizens generally, will welcome it in such a spirit as will insure its success.

In retiring once more from the honorable position in which you have repeatedly placed him, the President desires to express his warmest thanks for your kindness, and for your hearty co-operation in advancing the interests of the Institute.

Respectfully, in behalf of the Board,

F. R. BRUNOT.

Gottschalk's Concert.

The concert on Wednesday evening by the Gottschalk—Brignoli Combination was a great success, both musically and pecuniarily. All the artists, save Carlo Patti, are so well known to our public that praise from us is unnecessary. Suffice it to say that they each and all acquitted themselves most credibly.

Carlo Patti, who made his first bow last night before a Pittsburgh audience, at once established himself as a first class artist. He is quite a young man, and is, no doubt, destined to become one of the greatest violinists of the day. Both of his pieces were most enthusiastically received by the public.

We must not forget to mention our talented townsman, Mr. V. De Ham, who so ably assisted Mr. Gottschalk. Great credit is also due to Mr. Behrens, the conductor, for the manner in which the accompaniments were played.

The second and last concert of this great combination takes place this evening, when an excellent programme will be offered. The *Miserere* from *Il Trovatore*, will be sung by Cordier and Brignoli in costume, accompanied on the piano and organ by Gottschalk and Behrens. Besides this Mlle Cordier will appear in her great scene, known as the *Shadow Song* from *Dinorah*, in full costume, thus combining Concert and Opera on the same evening. Messrs. Gottschalk and Patti assisted by Mr. De Ham will play several choice morceaux. We advise those who have not yet secured their seats, to do so at once, as nearly all are sold, and this will be the last chance to hear so great a combination of musical celebrities. Seats may be secured at Mellor's.

We would call the attention of our readers to the report of the Dime Savings Institution in this day's issue. We have learned that Mr. Jas. Park, Jr., has given up its Presidency, and that he was compelled to do so from the imperative necessity which his extensive business engagements have created since he was elected to that position. Although it is to be regretted that the Institution has lost so valuable an officer, yet it is on the other hand very gratifying to know that his successor, Mr. Geo. B. Jones, will faithfully and ably supply his place. Our acquaintance with him is sufficient guaranty to us, and will doubtless be to the public, that the institution will receive every care and attention at his hands, and that the selection of him as the President will prove beneficial to all who are its patrons and friends.

SELECT LECTURES.—Dr. A. Paige, the electrician, will lecture at Lafayette Hall this afternoon, at three o'clock, exclusively to ladies, and at half-past seven this evening, to gentlemen, on the Duties and Diseases of the sexes. Seats Free.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 14, 1864.

THE $300 CLAUSE.

The Senate spent the day on the conscription bill. No definite action was had, but four several test votes showed a majority of about sixteen in favor of commutation. The vote in favor of a general principle of commutation was twenty-eight to twelve. Propositions to fix the commutation at $500 and at $400 were voted down, and one to keep it at $300 was adopted by about an equally decisive vote. This settles the retention of the $300 clause, since the House Military Committee is unanimously for it, and a large majority in the House the same way.

RENOMINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN RECOMMENDED.

The *Chronicle*, the Administration organ, comes out this morning in a double leaded leader—it is understood to be by Col. Forney, advocating the renomination of President Lincoln. The following are its most significant sentences: The Republicans believe in him, for he was their party choice. The loyal Democrats believe in him for he has been kind and considerate to them, and has always, in the most magnificent manner, recognized their devotion to the country." His action in Missouri, where he refused to become a partisan of the extreme radicals, and his action in Maryland, where he refused to become a partizan of the slave aristocracy, have united around him men of extreme difference of opinion, and they will support him as the leader of the Union party in the Presidential campaign.

THE CONFISCATION BILL.

The question of confiscation brought up in the House to-day, a debate, which ended in Winter Davis making the finest speech of the session thus far. He took the ground that confiscation should be not merely life estate, but in fee simple, and made ideological and constitutional argument, which the lawyers in the House unite in pronouncing the conclusion of the whole subject. The present temper of the House clearly is to repeal the explanatory clause of the last session, and thus make the confiscation absolute in spite of the President's objection. The Senate, as is well known, favors the same course, and it is even intimated that the President has about determined to abandon his former position. If he does not, there is a chance for an issue between him and Congress.

SPEECH OF MR. CONNESS.

Mr. Conness made a pungent speech in the the Senate to-day on the Conscription Bill, and drew down the heartiest applause from the galleries that have been given this session to any one. Mr. Saulsbury interrupted him and came off decidedly second best in the encounter. Mr. Conness' concluding sentence was, "That he knew no safer and surer way of getting to Heaven than to hit a rebel wherever and whenever you could get a chance."

INDIANA JUDGESHIP.

The announcement made in the dispatches some days ago that the contest, for the Indiana District Judgeship, to succeed Caleb B. Smith, was practically settled in favor of Albert S. White, received its confirmation to-day, in the President sending in White's nomination to the Senate. He has just finished his labors as one of the Board of Commissioners to adjust the Minnesota losses from the Indian war.

SECOND ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR.

The Senate to-day passed a bill authorizing the appointment of a Second Assistant Secretary of War for one year. It is understood that Chas. A. Dana will probably have the place thus created. He has been nominally Assistant Secretary of War for some time already.

THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

The Senate resolution to revive the Committee on the Conduct of the War, and to add expenditures of the war also to its subjects of investigation, came up in the House to-day. An effort was made to push it directly through, but a majority insisted on sending it to the Military Committee.

GEN. LONGSTREET'S ARMY NOT REINFORCED.

Corps commanders in the Army of the Potomac deny the statements telegraphed from Chattanooga that Longstreet was being reinforced from Lee's army. On the contrary, they say that Lee's army is being augmented in numbers by conscripts.

REBEL NEWS.

Private news from rebel sources say that on the 20th of December, two blocks of buildings in the heart of Charleston were consumed by a fire kindled by Gen. Gillmore's shells, as well as three warehouses filled with rebel army supplies.

COMMITTEE ON EMANCIPATION.

The following is the composition of the Senate Special Committee of Emancipation, just appointed: Sumner, Howard, Carlisle, Pomeroy, Buckalew, Brown and Conness.

GEN. ROSECRANS' REPORT.

Mr. Garfield got in a resolution ordering ten thousand copies of Gen. Rosecrans' report to be printed; the same number as heretofore ordered of Gen. McClellan's and Grant's.

MR. MORRILL.

It is understood that Mr. Morrill, of Vt., will make a speech in a day or two on the resolution to expel Garrett Davis, and one or two other Senators are likely to follow Mr. Wilson's attack.

NEW WATER WORKS.

A bill passed the Senate to-day authorizing the Chicago Board of Public Works to construct their proposed new water works according to the charter of the legislature.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

The War Department to-day reported its contingent expenses for the last year at one hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars.

FRANK BLAIR

Has at last begun his regular attendance in his seat in the House.

GEN. SCHENKELMAN

Will promptly enter upon the duties of his new command at Columbus.

From Memphis and Below.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 14.—The steamer Belle Memphis has arrived, with two hundred and sixty bales of cotton.

Memphis papers of the 12th inst., state that the gunboat Juliet had caught fire, on the morning of the 10th. She had a large portion of her superstructure consigned.

Gen. Hurlbut has issued a general order, wherein detailed men, belonging to other corps, were not made by Gens. Grant and Sherman, are forthwith to be ordered to their regiments. Commanding officers are charged to replace all able-bodied men on detached service, with men unfit for field service and relieve all men now on detachment service, where there does exist an absolute necessity for such detached duty.

There are ten paymasters here, en route to the South, with funds sufficient to pay the troops of the Department of Tennessee.

James A. Learnsay received the appointment of Special Agent of the Treasury Department for the district of Memphis, vice Thos. W. Yeatman, relieved, by his own request.

The 14th Wisconsin have re-enlisted, and were in Memphis on the 11th, homeward bound.

Gen. McPherson recently ordered five rebel ladies outside our lines, which caused considerable fluttering among the rebels at Vicksburg.

Over two hundred recruits, from Iowa, arrived here, en route to the South.

It is raining to-day.

Abandoned at Sea.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—The Schooner Lucy Ann, from Prince Edward's Island for Baltimore, arrived here to land the crew of the brig Minnehaha, of Yarmouth, N. S., from Providence for Philadelphia, abandoned at sea, with eight feet of water in her hold.

Arrest of Counterfeiters.

On Monday night last Wm. Dawson, of West Brownsville, and Elijah Crawford and Joseph Johnson were arrested in this place, charged with passing counterfeit bills on the Albion Bank, New York. Dawson, when arrested, was observed to throw something from him, and again on drawing near the Sheriff's office let a small package drop, which striking one of the men who had him in charge on the foot was picked up and proved to be a roll of the same kind of money. On repairing to the spot where he had thrown away the first bundle, on making search, a bundle of two dollar bills amounting to upward of $200 was found. The parties were bound over in the sum of $500 each, to answer the charge at the next term of court. The bills were all twos on the Albion Bank, as already stated. They were apparently new, and well enough executed to deceive those not accustomed to handle money, but easily detected by men of experience.

A Happy Speech.

Upon the passage of the vote of thanks to James Marshall, Esq., President of the Select Council of Allegheny, at their meeting last evening, that gentleman responded in a very humorous speech, which was received with hearty applause. In a word, "he brought down the house," and we regret that our engagements were such, at the time, that we were unable to "take notes." Mr. Marshall has served in the capacity of Chairman for a long term of years, and he is at all times so full of wit and humor that he has justly been characterized as the "life" of that staid body. He is so genial and good natured that the Council would feel entirely lost without him; and he has discharged his duties with such acceptance to the members of Councils, and fidelity to his constituents, that the chair will continue to be his so long as he may consent to serve in that capacity.

DEATH FROM INHALATION OF ETHER.—Dr. Young, of Shultzville, Berks county, who was assistant Surgeon to the Board of Enrollment of that county, during the last examination of drafted men, died on Tuesday night, at his home, from the effects of inhaling too much ether. He had saturated a cloth with ether, and laid it upon his forehead, to relieve him from a headache, and in that way went to sleep. It is supposed that during the night it slipped over his nose and mouth, and thus caused the fatal effects of the ether. Dr. Young was an amiable and accomplished young man, and the news of his death under such distressing circumstances, has occasioned much sorrow among his friends.

THE TRIBUNE ALMANAC.—The value of this comprehensive and compact *Year-book*, as a manual of reference for all readers, in all manner of difficulties and shortcomings of memory, as regards the events of the past year, and the men and affairs of the present one, is too well known to be more than alluded to. We therefore merely make the announcement that THE TRIBUNE ALMANAC, for 1864, is now ready, and may be had at J. P. Hunt's, Masonic Hall, Fifth street, and J. T. Sample's 85 Federal street, Allegheny.

BURNT TO DEATH.—A few days since, Elizabeth Linton, a maiden lady some sixty years of age, residing at Greensboro', Greene county, was literally burnt to death. She was quite ill and feeble, and while sitting near the fire, her clothing ignited and she was shorly in a blaze. A friend entered at the moment, but was unable to extinguish the flames until she was fatally injured. She linger ed four or five hours in great agony, when death came to her relief.

NARROW ESCAPE.—On Saturday morning last, as the Washington stage was entering upon the ferry at the Monongahela river, the boat moved off just as the load horses got upon the apron. The tongue broke, and the stage was left on the shore, the front wheels ready to plunge into the water. One horse was drowned, but the stage remained secure—a very fortunate circumstance, as the coach was stuck up lightly in consequence of the cold, and the passengers would not have been able to escape if plunged into the water.

DISMISSED THE SERVICE.—By direction of the President, Lieut. Colonel Slater, Major A. G. A. Constable, 1st West Virginia Artillery, has been dishonorably dismissed the service of the United States, with loss of all pay and allowances, for attacking a private citizen, under his charge while Provost Marshal on the staff of Gen. Wool, and for general bad character, unfitting him to hold any office under the Government.

DENAS WOODRUFF, the drover who was burnt to death on New Year's day, in a car, on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway, in consequence of a collision between two trains, had but recently removed from Greene county, Pa., to Fort Wayne Ind. He had been on a visit to Waynesburg, and was on his way back with a flock of sheep, when the fatal calamity overtook him.

DIED FROM HER INJURIES.—George Morgan, a brakesman on the Pennsylvania Railroad, who was injured on Thursday night of last week, by being caught between two cars, died at the Mercy Hospital, in this city, on Tuesday night last. He leaves a wife and family residing at Hollsville.

LIEUT. WM. PITTENGER, one of the survivors of the great Georgia State Railroad raid, and author of "Daring and Suffering," lectured at Coshocton, Ohio, on Friday and Saturday of last week.

DIPTHERIA prevails to an alarming extent in some portions of Chester county. Mr. Crosson recently lost four children, and Mr. Cloud two, from this terrible malady.

SPECIAL LOCAL NOTICES.

GROVER AND BAKER'S SEWING MACHINES, for family and manufacturing purposes, are the best in use.

A. F. CHATONY, General Agent,
No. 19 Fifth street.

THOMAS PARRY, Plain and Ornamental Slate Roofer, and dealer in Pennsylvania and Vermont slate of the best quality at low rates. Office at Alex. Laughlin's, near the Water Works, Pittsburgh, Pa.

KIN-BE-NO-SE-AW—INDIAN SMOKING TOBACCO.—This Tobacco, used by the North American Indians, is manufactured from the finest quality of tobacco, and commingled with the most healthful and odorous Roots, Barks and Herbs, indigenous to the Rocky Mountains. In such proportion, as to impart to its distinctive character, and secure for it wherever it becomes known a hearty welcome. A long residence among the Indians of the Rocky Mountains, introduced an acquaintance with their habits, customs, and modes of life, and among other things, as insight into the composition of their smoking tobacco, and a knowledge of the means by which the exquisite aroma is produced, which renders it so pleasing to the smoker, and so acceptable to those who are not. Smokers who once become acquainted with this tobacco will never be without it. Sold by all tobacconists and by the manufacturer, H. H. Hunt, 511 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. de18:1m

KENTUCKY BELLES APPRECIATE.—Mrs. Anne Nantes, of Louisville, Ky., says in a letter:

"When in New York, this summer, I purchased by way of experiment some of Mrs. S. A. Allen's celebrated Hair Restorer and Zylobalsamum, which I have found valuable. I now write to have you send me a dozen of each by express, for the use of my friends."

Sold by druggist everywhere. Depot 188 Greenwich street, New York.

The above is for sale at Fulton's Drug Store, Fifth street.

GENTLEMEN, have you examined the fall and winter stock of goods at the Merchant Tailoring establishment of Sam. Graham & Co., No. 54 Market street?

A fresh supply of goods every week.

Have you examined the prices of goods at the Merchant Tailoring establishment of Sam. Graham & Co., No. 54 Market street; if not, it is now time you would, and save 20 per cent. in your clothing bill.

Every garment warranted a perfect fit.

SAMUEL GRAHAM, GEO. MCCANDLESS.

SOLDIERS, TO THE RESCUE!—Young men, rushing into the exposures and dangers of a Soldier's life, should prepare themselves for the fatal Fevers, the Dysentery, the Scurvy and Scurvy, which are almost certain to follow. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS, used occasionally during the campaign, will insure good health to every man. Only 25 cents per box.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment are for sale at Fulton's Drug Store, Fifth street.

The subscribers wishing to devote their whole attention to the manufacture and sale of tobacco, offer for sale their well assorted stock of groceries now in store, together with their interest in the wholesale grocery business.

No better opportunity could be offered to those wishing to engage in this branch of trade.

MEYLERT & CONNEY,
197, Liberty street.
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WATCHES, JEWELRY, &c.—J. M. Roberts, No. 17 Fifth street, is now opening the most choice stock of fine Gold and Silver Watches, Jewelry, Silver ware and Fancy Goods ever displayed in this city, and is selling them at remarkably low prices.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14, 1864.

HOUSE.—The House resumed the consideration of the joint resolution reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, to make the Confiscation Act conform to the Constitution, so that the forfeiture of estate shall continue only during the life-time of the offender.

Mr. Cox, of Ohio, argued that the confiscation system has proved an utter failure, and because it has failed, the House is called upon to adopt another measure to stimulate the rebellion and destroy what little Union feeling there is in the South.

Mr. Davis, of Maryland, replied by saying that from the course of Mr. Cox, and the majority on this side of the House, no support of the Administration was to be expected from them, and even if they tendered their support he would look upon it with suspicion. He opposed Mr. Cox's view of the question.

Special further proceedings on the subject were interrupted by the expiration of the morning hour. The Senate resolution for the revisal of the Committee on the Conduct of the War was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House went into Committee on the Whole on the State of the Union on the bill to increase the Internal Revenue, recently published.

Mr. Stevens offered an amendment so that the proviso shall read, that all spirits distilled since the 31st of August, 1862, on hand and for sale, or removed for consuption or sale, upon which the duties have been paid or collected, and upon which no returns have been made, whether distilled prior to the date of this act or not, shall be subject to the rates of duty provided by this act from and after the twelfth day of January, 1864.

Mr. Brooks desired to know whether the gentleman intended to report a general tax bill, and why he had on the bill pending proposed to increase the tax on only spirits and cotton.

Mr. Stevens replied that these two articles are being largely manufactured, and the legislation now proposed would enable the manufacturers to govern themselves accordingly. The Committee on Ways and Means found greater difficulties to tax tobacco, it being undetermined whether to lay the tax on the leaf or to modify the tax on the manufactured article. They desired to deliberate