Pittsburgh Gazette.

WEDNESDAY.....MARCH 9, 1864.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

OFFICIAL PAPER.

TWO PRINTERS WANTED.

Two good, steady Compositors can obtain permanent work in this office, by applying soon. Wages, 33½ cents per 1000 ems, and pay every week. The men at present employed in the GAZETTE office make from $12 to $22 a week. Address "Foreman Gazette Office."

The Late Affray in Allegheny.—Charge of Riot.

On Tuesday evening at seven o'clock, Mayor Alexander called up the case of Benjamin Trimble, John Carville, William Small, and others, charged with riot, on oath of officer John Will. These parties, as our readers are aware, are alleged to have been in company with James Sims when he stabbed young Hamilton, on Monday evening. Trimble and Carville were arrested on Monday evening, and Small was taken into custody on Tuesday. John D. Day was the first witness called. He testified to the fact that he was struck by a young man, whom he did not know, just as he was about entering the depot. He saw several others in the crowd, but could not identify any of the defendants. Augustus Calvin testified to having seen the difficulty at the depot, and identified Trimble as one of the parties who took part in the disturbance. John Heinrich, who keeps a restaurant on Federal street, stated that he saw a great crowd on the street near his house, and fearing they might come that way, he closed up. He could not identify any of the defendants. R. B. Norris, merchant tailor, saw the difficulty in front of his store. Saw one man kick another, and both got up without their hats. A man with a red shirt on entered his store door, running after a young man named Geo. Raymer, who had taken refuge in the store. The witness saw that the man in his shirt sleeves had a knife in his hand, but he was pulled out by some one on the street; could not identify any of the defendants. Charles Menning testified to the disturbance, but could not recognize either of the defendants. James Riley saw the fighting, but could not identify any of the parties on trial. Stephen Mercer testified that as he entered his store in the evening, two ladies came rushing in at his heels, very much frightened, and followed by two men—one without a hat. The one without the hat pulled off his coat, and wanted to leave it—using very profane language, and threatening some persons whom they alleged had whipped them. The man in his shirt sleeves was said to be Sims, and the other Trimble. Sims left his coat in the store, Trimble insisting that it should be left there. They then went across the street. Witness could not identify any of the accused.

The testimony closed here, when the Mayor required each of the defendants to find bail in the sum of $500, to answer at the next term of Court.

John Coyle, Esq., appeared on behalf of Carville and Small. Trimble had no counsel. The parties were lodged in the lock-up until Wednesday morning, to give their friends an opportunity to find bail.

Central Board of Education.

The Board met on Tuesday evening, March 8th. Present, Messrs. Brush, Duncan, Lowe, Marshall, McAuley, Sergeant, and Negley, President.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. James Littell presented credentials as representative from the Ninth Ward vice Jno. Harrison, resigned.

On motion the credentials were accepted and Mr. Littell declared a member of the Board.

The monthly report of the Principal of the High School was read and ordered to be filed.

The monthly report of the Principal of the Colored School was read and ordered to be filed.

The monthly report of the Secretary, showing an enumerated attendance at the Ward Schools as follows, was read and ordered to be filed:

	Gram. Dept.	Inter. Dept.	Prim'y Dept.	Total.
First ward.....	52	84	196	332
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Warrants were authorized in payment of the following bills, viz:

A. H. English & Co., books for Colored School.....$30 66

Pittsburgh *Dispatch*,.....2 70

The President announced the standing Committees for the ensuing year:

Finance—Messrs. M'Auley, Singerly and Lowe.

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High School—Messrs. Duncan, Brush and Sergeant.

Colored School—Messrs. Lowe, Brush and Duncan.

Text Books and Grades—Messrs. Singerly, Littell and Lowe.

Rules and Regulations—Messrs. Marshall, M'Auley and Lowe.

On motion of Mr. Marshall, a vacation of the city schools was authorized for the week commencing Monday 28th inst.

On motion, adjourned.

Internal Revenue.

By instructions from the Commissioners of Internal Revenue, I am authorized to create three additional sub-divisions in this District.

Sub-Division No. 12, comprises the Seventh and Eighth wards, Bennet Lake, Assistant Assessor. Office at Alderman Davis' office, 159 Wylie Sixth Ward.

Sub-Division No. 13, comprises the 2d precinct of the Fifth Ward, John H. Jones, Assistant Assessor. Office 474 Penn street.

Sub-Division No. 14, comprises Chartiers and Union township, and the boroughs of Temperanceville, West Pittsburgh, and Graf, Bennett & Co.'s rolling mill, Monongahela borough, Henry E. Robinson, Assistant Assessor. Office in Temperanceville.

Frank Patterson, Assistant Assessor in Sub-Division No. 6, to fill the vacancy of Jacob Zeigler, resigned. H. A. WEAVER, Assessor 22d District Penn's.

ASSAULT WITH A KNIFE.—A young man named John Burgess, while under the influence of liquor, entered the saloon of John Heinrich, on Federal street, Allegheny, last evening, in company with two others, and by some means slipped a large bread knife from behind the counter and hid it in his sleeve. Some one told Heinrich of the circumstance, and when he demanded the knife Burgess drew it, and was in the act of striking at Heinrich when some one caught his arm and stayed the blow. Officer Grubbs happened to be in the vicinity at the time, and arrested Burgess. He was conveyed to the Mayor's office and locked up for a hearing.

ASSAULT IN THE WATCH HOUSE.—Ann Price, a young girl of seventeen years, was arrested yesterday at the instance of her mother, who charged her with incorrigibility, stating that she could not control her, and requesting that she be committed to jail for a few days. She was placed in a cell in the watch house which was occupied by a poor vagrant woman, and after the officer left, she fell upon the woman and beat her unmercifully, kicking her violently and tearing handsful of hair from her head. She was removed to another cell, when the injuries of the poor woman were attended to.

FIRE IN MONONGAHELA CITY.—A fire occurred in Monongahela city, on Tuesday evening, resulting in the destruction of Mr. A. Culbertson's paper mill and dwelling and the damaging of the coal works of Messrs. Smith & Co. Mr. Culbertson saved most of his furniture, but the mill was totally destroyed. One hundred dollars will cover the loss of Messrs. Smith & Co.

LARCENY.—John Marshall, a colored man, stole an overcoat last evening from Allen F. Kelley, who resides at the corner of Second street and Cherry alley. He afterwards entered a drinking-house in the vicinity, and was about taking out the money drawer when he was discovered. He was arrested and taken to the Mayor's office, and committed to jail for trial.

HOUSES, &c., AT AUCTION.—This morning at 10 o'clock will be sold the entire stock belonging to the stables of R. H. Patterson, Diamond alley, near the Court House, comprising horses, carriages, barouches, buggies, hearse, sleighs, harness, saddles, bridles, robes, bells, &c. Sale positive. T. A. McClelland, auctioneer.

The Courts.

[Reported Exclusively for the Gazette.]

DISTRICT COURT.—Yesterday the Court disposed of the following cases:

8 B. T. Kennedy & Bro. vs Geo. Keyser. Continuance taken off and judgment for plaintiff.
20 Margaret Carson vs Robert Conway et al. Decision rendered sustaining the exceptions to report of Auditor and awarding the fund in Court to the claimant.

COMMON PLEAS.—Yesterday the following cases were disposed of:

3 F. O. Negley vs J. B. Morgan. On trial.
11 Nesbjeck and wife vs Nesbjeck and wife. Verdict for plaintiff $10.
14 H. Smith & Co. vs Geo W. Caufield. Verdict for plaintiff $1610,77.
15 John Leith vs Breen & McIeer. On trial.
25 Jacob Meyers vs Jacob F. Ford. Continued.
31 Wm. Peters vs Michael Hill. Continued.
32 J. R. Huff vs Mary B. Veech administratrix. Continued.

LIST FOR WEDNESDAY.

12 Simon Johnston vs J. M. Lindsey.
29 J. Gunderman vs J. Cunningham.
23 The N. A. Oil Co., vs Forsyth Bros & Co.
27 German Trust & Savings Bank vs G. Fox.
29 Geo. Hillirgs vs F. Hemps.
29 Washington B. & L. Association vs B. F. Sanders.
30 J. F. Shrapp vs C. Noble.
34 J. A. Hechler vs M. McFarland.
36 Wm. Hannan vs Wm. Biscomb.
38 M. Mitchell vs Thomas Wilson.
39 J. Bigly and wife vs E. Eichenlaub and wife.
42 H. Camp and E. McGeary vs J. G. Davis et al.
43 Same plaintiffs vs same defendants.
44 " " " " " "
45 " " " " " "

Singular Habeas Corpus Case.—A Woman Suing for Her Husband.

Judge Sterrett has had before him for a day or two past, a somewhat singular case—being a writ of habeas corpus, issued at the instance of Mrs. Dake, wife of Dr. D. Dake, and directed to Mrs. Holmes, a widow residing at Oakland, and Dr. Cuthbert, commanding them to produce the body of the said Dr. Dake. Augustus Calvin testified to having seen the difficulty at the depot, and identified Trimble as one of the parties who took part in the disturbance. John Heinrich, who keeps a restaurant on Federal street, stated that he saw a great crowd on the street near his house, and fearing they might come that way, he closed up. He could not identify any of the defendants. R. B. Norris, merchant tailor, saw the difficulty in front of his store. Saw one man kick another, and both got up without their hats. A man with a red shirt on entered his store door, running after a young man named Geo. Raymer, who had taken refuge in the store. The witness saw that the man in his shirt sleeves had a knife in his hand, but he was pulled out by some one on the street; could not identify any of the defendants. Charles Menning testified to the disturbance, but could not recognize either of the defendants. James Riley saw the fighting, but could not identify any of the parties on trial. Stephen Mercer testified that as he entered his store in the evening, two ladies came rushing in at his heels, very much frightened, and followed by two men—one without a hat. The one without the hat pulled off his coat, and wanted to leave it—using very profane language, and threatening some persons whom they alleged had whipped them. The man in his shirt sleeves was said to be Sims, and the other Trimble. Sims left his coat in the store, Trimble insisting that it should be left there. They then went across the street. Witness could not identify any of the accused.

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For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

The Connellsville Railroad.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The writer of March 2d, who signs himself "One of the Commissioners"—of the National Railroad & Transportation Company—a bill to incorporate which is now before the Legislature, apparently with a view to hasten the completion of the Connellsville Railroad, speaks of the delays which have retarded it, in a tone unjust to its present administration and especially to myself.

It is admitted that the work has halted often since it was first projected, but that has not been my fault. Had my advice been taken it would have been built in 1846. When, in 1856, I became its President, I found twenty-five miles of it running between West Newton and Connellsville, with two locomotives, no trade, and a floating debt of nearly $700,000. This debt, together with the completion of the road to Turtle creek—its progress at the great tunnel, and its final location for contract from Connellsville to Cumberland had absorbed all its resources when the financial crash of 1857 came.

For three years after that, no new railroad securities could be negotiated, and least of all, those which had the name of Pittsburgh on them, for reasons well known to every citizen of this city. Then came the war, the first two years of which were equally fatal to new enterprises, and during the last year, in which the road *could* and *would* have been got under way, every effort that I could make was paralyzed by the opposition of the party in the directory which favored this very scheme to lease the road to another corporation to be chartered for the purpose.

This is, in brief, the history of the delays in the advance of this work, for which I am not in any degree responsible. The situation in which I found the road in 1856 is above stated. Its condition now, with 58¾ miles of main and 12¼ miles of branch was in operation, with twelve locomotives and a revenue this year of $200,000, shows that it has not been (as intimated by your correspondent) "asleep" during my connection with it. I defy any man who had not the money in their own pockets to have done more than has been done. Are the Commissioners and corporators in this bill, wealthy and respectable as they may be, prepared to put up the required capital themselves, or do they rely upon other sources of supply? If they do, then let us know what they are, for perhaps they may be equally open to the present Company, in which case I, for one, (and there are many who agree with me,) can see no use in creating one corporation to ride on the back of another which needs no such bestraddling and spurring.

Happening to know something of the particulars of the late projected lease which this bill is to effectuate, I consider its terms most objectionable in every feature and most unjust to the stockholders of the present company.

It was, in the first place a lease for 999 years, that is for ever. It proposed to give the lessees not less than 70 per cent. of the gross annual earnings of the road for the expense of working it, which, when the road is finished, at a cost well fully covered—thus leaving a clear profit of 30 per cent. amounting to *half a million* or the interest upon some *eight millions* when the revenue shall reach two millions, which the very words of the lease it admits it will soon do.

Now, this half million per annum, which should belong by rights to the stockholders, I thought a rather large bonus for negotiating the four or five millions required to complete the road to Cumberland, and, as I could not for the life of me see why the Company, as at present organized and directed, could not make this negotiation just as well as these corporators, who must after all depend upon the business prospects of the road as the foundation of their financial scheme. I opposed the lease, and I am satisfied I was right in doing so, irrespective of mere personal considerations, which have never actuated me in connection with this road, or I would have left it long ago. The bill now before the legislature ought not to pass for several reasons:

First—It is wholly unnecessary to secure the proposed object of completing the Connellsville Railroad.

Second—It confers powers upon the corporators unprecedented in the history of such legislation and far too various and great.

Third—It assumes the consent and co-operation of the present Company, who wholly *repudiate* and want to have nothing to do with it or its gratuitous offer of help to build their road.

Fourth—The antecedent negotiations of its chief corporators with the P. & C. R. R. Company clearly show it to be a *real money speculation* to enrich the lessees at the expense of the stockholders.

Fifth—The purposes and policy of this new corporation are as yet undisclosed, and, however largely the present corporators may be interested in the welfare of Pittsburgh, who can tell whether their successors will be equally so? May it not become another "Western Transportation Company"—and fall under the same control?

These "transportation companies," by the way, seem likely to constitute a new class of corporations, whose powers may overshadow those of the railroad companies whose functions they would appropriate. Introducing between the parties owning the roads and the community, a set of intermediate agents and, like the "middle men," or retailers in trading, those who use the roads with two profits instead of one. They should not, in this view, be looked upon with favor by the public, and I cannot but wish there is in this particular one to recommend it to the favor of Pittsburgh. I trust therefore, more for her sake than for my personal interest I have in the matter, that the Legislature will refuse to set a precedent so novel, not to say dangerous, in the history of corporations.

Your correspondent wants "works not words" and asks to be allowed to build the road if the power (original or new) of the Company in my own part I should be perfectly willing to such an arrangement. But the present Company is in fact, just as lively as he is for the completion of the road to Turtle creek—its progress at the great tunnel, and its final location for contract from Connellsville to Cumberland had absorbed all its resources when the financial crash of 1857 came.

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THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

OUR SPECIAL DISPATCHES.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, March 8.

SPEECH OF MR. GRATZ BROWN.

The speech of Mr. Gratz Brown in the Senate to-day, was able and elicited the congratulations of Senators Sumner, Grimes, and others. His proposition was the abolition of slavery throughout all the states of this nation by a general statute. Such as now proposed must be the initial measure to any freedom policies, proposing in national authority as their guarantee, for until the slave code shall be thus cancelled, in fact no constitutional amendment covering that ground will ever be had. He announced the following as the three great points in the radical policy. First, realization and establishment in truth and not merely in the name of absolute freedom policies throughout the whole land. Second, building up from its sure foundations of nationality that it shall represent the aspirations of the whole people for a democratic unity; and third, the confirming of our government in its administration as in its recognitions to those divine truths that go to constitute and inspire a devout Christian State, holding itself as ever in the great Task-Master; and speaking of a dominant policy, he said, "To-day your Administration is seeking to convict itself with whatever is conservative in the land to secure an election. Its most decided proclamations are either called in question by the President or radical majority by half hatred of executions. Its announced policies are those of amnesty for the rebels—war on and repulsion of radicals. Its accredited spokesmen are revilers of what freedom has accomplished—the traducers of all the advanced men of their age. If that is to be the Administration of the future, so vouched for and dominated, in what will it differ from a reaction, and compromise a surrender? Shall we never learn wisdom in midst of such experience? Bethink you how every progress in our national attitude for three years past has come out of the disasters to our arms. A torn, reluctant court only yielded to our demurrals misfortunes. Is it a sufficient answer to all that to say, and yet there has been progress at least. Go count the two hundred thousand dead such a meth od of progress has cost. Go visit mourning firesides that are fitting other sons for new sacrifices under the call for an additional half million of soldiers, and you will learn very surely that, however prompt to sustain the nation in the hour of its peril, loyalty does not endorse that paralysis which has brooded over its efforts, and will never, never, never consent to renew that control which has made the lethargy of civil policies the sure precursor of military miscarriage. He closed by saying, that coming from a city which was the scene of the first armed commission in this war, and that has never faltered from that hour to this in its devotion to the cause, although its losses have been distressing and unparalled, I have felt impelled to speak in depreciation of baneful policies above party ties, regardless of admirations, cabinets and Presidents. Furthermore, that dwelling where this disease of slavery, which has been so fatal to our unity, was visible in all its developements, and where the diversities of class and condition engendered by its influence were constantly weessed in antagonistic issues, it has seemed not inappropriate to apply those experiences, and discuss with some amplitude a basis social and political on which alone we can hope for future peace and prosperity to our country, and lastly, that in taking the initiative and pro ning an act of direct abolition, I do so in the name of a great State which has honored me with a seat in this Senate, and which, although it is still a State State under local law, will be proud and gratified to receive emancipation at the hands of the Federal Government. Missouri, which was consecrated to slavery more than forty years ago by a national congress, comes this day and asks a national congress to right that wrong and confer upon her freedom as the only sure guarantee of republican institutions after three years of war. No rebel State has yet been truly reclaimed to freedom by this administration. Senators, do you dare to trifle longer with the destinies of this great nation.

THE CHARGES AGAINST COMMODORE WILKES.

The charges preferred against Commodore Wilkes by the Secretary of the Navy are for disobedience of orders in taking possession of and using the Vanderbilt as his flagship in the West India station, when she had been detached by the Navy Department for the special duty of pursuing the Alabama. Also, for attaching the Oneida and R. R. Cuyler, ships belonging to Admiral Farragut's squadron, to his own command, without orders.—He is also charged with insubordination in taking the Vanderbilt to Laguayra, and staying there nine days without any business there. Also, with disrespectful conduct towards the Navy Department in not telling his age when requested to do so. Also, in allowing an official communication to be published in the N. Y. *Times* before it reached the Navy Department. (Good night.)

REPORT OF MR. SAMUEL S. RUGGLES.

The Secretary of State communicated to the House of Representatives a supplementary report of Samuel B. Ruggles, Commissioner of the United States at the International Statistical Congress at Berlin, with inclosures of the result of a special Commission representing fourteen nations, and recommending the adoption of the French Metrica, or decimal system of weights and measures now used by nations representing one hundred and thirty-nine millions of people. The belief was proclaimed that our gold discoveries, in connection with the facilities to be afforded by the Pacific Railroad, would occasion fluctuations in the comparative value of gold and silver, and that the existing units of money should be reduced to as few as possible.

ADMIRAL LEE

Telegraphs to the Navy Department from Yorktown, this evening, that Commander Babcock, who was dispatched last Sunday to afford relief to Col. Dahlgren's party, picked up five of the men near West Point on Monday. One of them was Dahlgren's body servant. They say the Colonel was killed in the skirmish, after being completely surrounded, and his men then surrendered themselves prisoners. The servant says he saw Colonel Dahlgren's naked body lying, as it had been stripped of its clothing by the rebels, with his ring finger cut off.

POSTMASTERS CONFIRMED.

The following Postmasters were confirmed to-day: Sayler J. Bower, Washington, D. C.; Annie M. Smith, Rockford, Illinois; J. Nelson Brockway, Belvidere, Illinois; Thomas A. Marshall, Vicksburg, Mississippi; Wm W. Wales, St. Anthony's Falls, Minnesota; John H. Shimmons, Lawrence, Kansas; Adoniseno J. Joslyn, Elgin, Illinois; James S. Sloo, Cairo, Illinois; Elias P. Lowate, Red Wing, Minnesota; Edward Russell, Davenport, Iowa.

ENDORSEMENT.

Commander Walker and Chief Engineer Henderson before the Naval committee today, endorsed Isherwood's theory and approved the present methods of naval construction.

ADMIRAL DUPONT

Has been summoned to appear before a Congressional Inquisition upon the attack on Sumter, last spring. His friends court investigations.

CONSULTATION.

Gen. Grant was in consultation with Gen. Halleck, four hours to-night.

GEN. GRANT IS TOWN.

Gen. Grant arrived here on the five o'clock train, and went at once to his room at the hotel. His arrival was still almost entirely unknown, when a few minutes later, accompanied by his son only, he quietly walked into the long dining room of Willard's Hotel, and took his seat for dinner. None of his staff accompanied him, and nobody knew who the quiet and rather rusty looking Major General was. He had nearly half finished his dinner before some Western acquaintance happened to be asked who that Major General was. The moment he glanced at him he replied, "Why, that is Lieut. Gen. Grant." In a minute or two the news was buzzed about among the adjacent tables, and the General began to find himself the focus of an uncommonly sharp fire, from ladies' eyes, however, more embarrassing to him than some other and therefore it seemed a good deal kinds. Finally Representative Moorhead, of Pittsburgh, who sat at the next table, rose and announced that the hero of Vicksburg was among them, and proposed his health, when the whole assemblage of guests sprang to their feet and united in half a dozen rousing cheers. Grant bowed in an embarrassed way, and took his seat again, but a rush instantly began from all parts of the hall, and everybody pressed forward to be introduced to him. The General's dinner was very cold before he got an opportunity to give his attention to it again.

It is entirely safe, I think, to assume that in view of the recent action of the Union members of the Ohio Legislature, that Mr. Chases' friends will not make any diversion that will tend to mar the harmony of party in the approaching Presidential election. Mr. Chase himself, will it is believed, consist on accepting the action of the Union members of the Legislature, as final in the case

LOCATION OF A WESTERN NAVAL DEPOT.

A communication from the Secretary of War in answer to the House resolution enclosed a report made last winter by late Rear Admiral A. H. Foote, relative to a proper location for the Western Navy Depot, it says

The advantages of Carondelet, near St. Louis, are, that it has a good location—no overflow in any stage of water—is in convenient proximity to a large city, and sufficient depth of water for seven feet gun boats during nine months in the year. Cairo has the advantage of being easily defended—railway facilities—central position—and sufficient depth of water, but it has an alluvial soil and is very subject to overflow, so that shells can only be stowed away on shipboard. Mound City, on the Ohio river, nine miles above Cairo, also has a branch of the Illinois Central—ways for hauling up steamers for repair sufficient depth of water—more elevation than Cairo, but has a similar soil and is somewhat liable to overflow. If Carondelet is selected for a Naval Depot, Cairo is recommended as an auxiliary.

MR. BLOW'S STATEMENT.

Congressman Blow appeared before the Naval committee to-day, and made a strong statement in favor of the establishment of a Western Navy Yard at St. Louis. His representations had great weight with the Committee. There is talk of a visit West by the committee to see the several points for themselves.

DEBATE BETWEEN BLAIR, ROLLINS AND BLOW.

The debate between Messrs. Blair and Rollins on the one hand, and Blow on the other, yesterday evening, on Missouri affairs, continues to attract attention. It is generally conceded that Blair and Rollins were worsted. Their assertions being in direct conflict with the notorious political history of these times, were so fully given in the debate. Rollins' desire to serve his friend, Frank Blair, led him into reckless assertions, that it is hard to reconcile with such a character for veracity.

MR. WILSON'S BILL.

Reorganizing the Quarter Master's Department establishes divisions respectively charged with the care of the following subjects Horses, clothing, vessels for transportation, western transportation and telegraphs, forage, hospitals and barracks, wagons and ambulances, reports and inspection, correspondence and records. The bill stipulates the mode of purchasing supplies, and provides guards and penalties against fraud.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURG, March 8, 1864.

HOUSE.—The following bills were passed finally

One to incorporate the Juniata Steamboat Company; a further supplement to the Huntingdon and Broad Top Mountain Coal Company; a bill repealing the law relative to the paving and grading of Manchester borough; one authorizing the same borough to borrow money; one regulating the taxes of commissions of Prothonotaries of Fayette county, one relative to expenses for persons sent to the House of Refuge by Justices of the Peace of the same county, one relative to the employment of the poor of Greene county; one authorizing the state authorities to examine the claim of Mr Getty, of Indiana county; a supplement to the charter of the Cooper Fire Arms Association; a supplement to the Monongahela Water Company; a supplement to the Charter of the Home and Foreign Bible Society of Pennsylvania; a supplement to the charter of the Western Insurance and Transportation Company, one authorizing the State authorities to examine the claim of Samuel Green, of Blair county; a supplement to the act empowering the borough of Bellefonte to borrow money, one allowing the appointment of a Notary Public to Mill Creek township, Erie county; a charter for the Butler and Mercer Railroad.

The following bills were objected off

The Tyrone and Clearfield Express Company bill passed to a third reading; the act relative to the appointment of Superintendent of the National Road, Washington county, passed to a third reading.

The House adjourned until to night.

The Democrats held a caucus again this afternoon. They are more than ever confirmed in their determination to disorganize on account of the supposed weakness of resolution on the part of the Philadelphia Senators.

The Senate met twice. The Democrats absented themselves. Mr. Connell has not returned, and therefore there was no quorum during the afternoon.

HOUSE—*Night Session*.—The House proceeded to the consideration of the General Bounty Bill, and many amendments were offered.

Mr. Musselman, of Somerset, made a speech, questioning the constitutional power of the legislature to impose capitation tax.

Mr. Bigham replied most caustically, declaring that such argument, coming from the Republican side of the House, was utterly unexpected. [Loud laughter.] Had it come from Democrats it would have created no surprise. [Renewed laughter.]

Mr. Musselman seemed crushed. He stumbled miserably in an attempted reply.

A long debate ensued upon the amount that the capitation tax should be. Various minimum and maximum rates were attempted to be fixed. Five per cent. was finally fixed as the maximum rate.

There are no definite results to-night.

From Vicksburg and Memphis.

CAIRO, March 8.—Passengers by the steamer Luminary, from Vicksburg, 3d inst., say that Sherman and his army are there.

The steamer Fanny, from Memphis, on 7th inst., brought 240 bales of Cotton.

The election there, passed off quietly, resulting in the choice of a majority of the Conservative candidates.

The Whiskey Bill a Law.—The Gold Bill Passed.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The President having signed the Whiskey bill it is therefore a law.

The Gold bill has been passed by the House.

FROM NASHVILLE

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette

NASHVILLE, March 6, 1864.

Gen. Smith, commanding the late cavalry expedition from Memphis, through Mississippi reached here yesterday. The following particulars are reliable: The main purpose of the expedition, 7,000 strong, was to destroy railroad and army stores. This was effected, but it was not essential to join Sherman, although desirable.

The expedition was delayed ten days on account of heavy freshets. They attacked the Mississippi State forces, under Gen. Gobison, and reported 10,000 strong, who began to surround us