The Pittsburgh Gazette.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1865.

TRAVELERS' GUIDE.

Arrival and Departure of Trains.

Pennsylvania Central Railroad.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Day Express	2:20 a m	Mail	1:50 a m
Allegheny Accom'n	7:10 a m	Fast Line	2:40 a m
Pitts & Erie Mail	8:30 a m	1st Well Accom.	6:25 a m
Mail	11:50 a m	1st Penn Accom.	7:55 a m
Phila. Express	2:55 p m	2d Well Accom.	8:00 a m
Johnstown Ac'n	4:15 p m	Johnst'n Accom.	10:05 a m
Fast Line	10:00 p m	Pitts & Erie Mail	12:35 p m
1st Well Accom.	6:30 a m	Baltimore Exp's	1:20 p m
2d " "	10:45 a m	3d Well Accom.	1:50 p m
3d " "	6:05 p m	Phila. Express	2:05 p m
1st Penn Accom.	8:00 p m	1st Penn Accom.	6:25 p m
2d " "	12:30 p m	Altoona Accom.	
		p Emigrant Train	10:50 p m

The church train leaves Wells' Station every Sunday at 9:25 a. m.; returning, leaves Pittsburgh at 12:50 p. m.

Pittsburgh, Columbus and Cincinnati.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Fast Line	3:50 a m	Fast Line	8:20 a m
Mail	8:20 a m	Mail	3:15 p m
Express	3:20 p m	Express	12:35 p m
Steubenville Accommodation	4:00 p m	Steubenville Accommodation	10:10 a m

Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Express	3:50 a m	Express	1:50 a m
Express	12:45 p m	Express	3:10 p m
Express	2:45 p m	Express	4:20 p m
Mail	7:00 a m	Mail	9:30 p m
N. Castle & Erie	4:40 a m	N. Castle & Erie	8:30 p m

New Brighton Accommodation leaves Allegheny depot at 8 a. m., 11:50 a. m., 4:30 p. m., and 6:40 p. m.; Economy, 10:30 p. m.; Wellsville, 3:50 p. m.

Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Wheeling.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Express	2:10 a m	Express	2:10 a m
Express	2:45 p m	Express	3:45 p m
Mail	6:10 a m	Mail	9:20 p m
Steubenville Accommodation leaves Allegheny at 3:50 p. m.			

Pittsburgh and Connellsville.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Mail	7:55 a m	Mail	6:00 p m
Express	3:00 p m	Express	10:00 a m
1st McKeesport	11:00 a m	1st McKeesport	6:50 a m
2d "	6:15 p m	2d "	3:05 p m
1st Braddock's	7:50 a m	1st Braddock's	8:30 a m
4d "	4:10 p m	4d "	6:45 p m

Allegheny Valley Railroad.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Mail	6:45 a m	Express	11:00 a m
Express	4:15 p m	Mail	6:10 p m
Accommodation	1:00 p m	Accommodation	9:00 a m

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CITY AND SUBURBAN.

THE CHOLERA QUESTION

Address of Dr. James King.

The following are the remarks of *Dr.* JAMES KING, before the Sanitary meeting at the Board of Trade Rooms, held on Monday evening, and prepared for publication by request of the meeting:

MR. CHAIRMAN:—I thank the gentleman by whose motion I have been requested to address this meeting, for his unexpected compliment.

I came to the meeting as a representative of the Allegheny County Medical Society, with the intention, if the opportunity should offer, of suggesting some views as to the proper measures for protecting our city against the cholera, but with no design of making a formal speech. To that purpose I will adhere, and, in speaking, will have no reference to the favor or disfavor with which my remarks may be received, and more especially to the unfriendliness with which some in the newspapers on the speeches I delivered at the last meeting, or that may be made on the speeches delivered at this. I hope there may be a free and full expression of the sentiments of the Medical profession on this important subject, whether they receive the public approval or not, as it is the only way, so far as I can see, of settling upon such sanitary regulations as will accomplish anything worthy of the aim for which these meetings for consultation have been called.

I think it fortunate that it has not been regarded as premature, to consider now the proper measures for protecting our city from the cholera. It is true you have discovered the approach of the pestilence from afar, as the storm is often discovered in the dark clouds rising in the distance. But it is coming on. In all probability we will not have it near us this season—it will probably not be till the next harvest; but it will hardly be delayed later than the summer after the next. This seems to be in accordance with the law which governs its progress. We have no reason to expect that it will stop in its course short of our shores. We ought rather to look for its appearance, and if I felt my opinion would be of any weight, I would urge you to prepare for it.

But what sort of preparation should be made? What can we make? Can we ascertain the essential nature of the poison of cholera and prevent its diffusion by some neutralizing agent? This, I fear, we can not. All we have on this point as yet is mere theory. Even the question as to whether cholera is a contagion or infection, or a compound of both, is not agreed upon. Is it some peculiar chemical or other poisonous condition of the atmosphere? Is the cause an animalcule which, though undetected by the microscope, has the power, by rapid generation, of extending itself by swarms from continent to continent; or is it a vegetable sporule, a microscopic fungus, cryptogamic plant, which multiplies its germs and spreads itself like a mold over whole districts and often in a single night? Many such questions have been started in regard to the causes of Cholera, but who has been able to settle them? We hear theories, but nothing more. This branch of the subject is deeply shrouded in mystery, and the investigation of it thus far has been much more curious than profitable.

But if the cause of the cholera in its essence, like the malaria which produces intermittent fever, yet remains a mystery, still, the conditions which favor its developments or influences its operation may be distinctly traced, and so far may we find it in our power to remove or control these unfavorable conditions, just so far may we be able to prevent the spread of the disease. We need not know its essential nature in order to prevent or stop the progress of a fire, we need not know anything about oxygen or caloric.

But what are some of the unfavorable circumstances and conditions which favor the development and action of the cholera poison? We know how intemperance favors it, for we have seen how the intemperate fall in its track, and how the drunkard, when seized, scarcely ever recovers. We know how destitution affects it; for wherever the cholera has raged, the vast proportion of the victims are found among the poor. We know how filth and imperfect drainage affect it, for we have seen how it clings to towns situated on the water courses and hovers around the unclean places. The effect of impure and unwholesome water is also known, for we have the history to show how the disease among a people supplied from a stagnant or sewer-receiving stream has disappeared on the mere change in the supply of water, and the effect of bad ventilation and overcrowding, is, perhaps, more uniformly demonstrated in the progress of cholera than that of any other circumstance. This disease, unlike diphtheria and typhoid fever, uniformly passes by the airy dwellings of the country. A countryman, as a rule, must come to town to get the cholera, and when he takes it home with him the neighborhood is not affected, and rarely the members of his own household. But see how the disease, like a withering pest, descends on the crowded dwellings of our narrow courts and alleys, where the victims fall like autumnal leaves. In short, we know that wherever cholera has spread, it has been under circumstances of greater or less neglect of proper sanitary regulations, and none, so far as I know, where the hygienic conditions in all respects were good. Take any city in which it has prevailed as an epidemic, where all the circumstances connected with it were carefully noted, and the statistics fully recorded and you will see what force there is in this position.

In the city of Oxford, in England, which was scourged in each of the epidemics of 1833, 1849 and 1854, so closely was the disease observed and the statistics gathered, that we have on record the name of every person attacked in 1854, with the age, sex, occupation, locality, result of the disease and condition in life. Dr. Ackland, in his report, gives a map of the place, with the infected districts all indicated, and furnishes a complete history of the whole matter.

Situated like Pittsburgh, on a peninsula formed by the confluence of two rivers—the Isis and Cherwell—Oxford is a good example for us. The ground on which it stands is about a mile in width—low along the water courses and elevated, though not so much as Pittsburgh, in the centre. The low grounds, and portions of the high grounds, are represented as insufficiently drained. The lower portions of the city have the poorest population and the most crowded. In the beds of the streams are the outlets of the sewers, and the streams being smaller than ours, are, I presume, rendered more impure. Besides, a canal running parallel with the Isis would add by its stagnant water to the unhealthiness of the locality. As the long vacation in the University was just terminating at the breaking out of the cholera, the poorer people, from having little to do, were restricted in means, and so their destitution was added to their other unfavorable circumstances.

In each of the three epidemics the same portions of the city chiefly suffered, and the same class of citizens—the laboring class—furnished much the largest proportion of victims: and the infected localities were principally those low grounds which were the worst drained, the most densely populated and supplied with the worst water. Such were the parishes of St. Giles and St. Paul, in the North; St. Thomas, in the West; St. Abbo and St. Aldate, in the South; and St. Clement, in the East, while the central parishes (nine of them) were not only less affected, but their cases were less malignant and fatal.

To illustrate this I will make one extract from Dr. Ackland's numerous tables:

Taking 184 cases in the first epidemic and 144 in the second, and 132 in the third, and the following figures show the relative proportions in the various sections of the city:

In the first epedemic in 184 cases, the two Northern Parishes furnished 31 cases; one Western Parish, 14; two Southern, 44; one Eastern, 74, while the *nine* Central Parishes furnished but 16.

In the second epedemic, in 144 cases the two Northern Parishes furnished 10; one Western, 24; two Southern, 68; one Eastern, 5, and the *nine* Central, 16.

In the third epidemic, in 194 cases, the *two* Northern Parishes furnished 7; one *Western*, 55; two Southern, 77; one Eastern 9, and the nine Central, 19.

The cases to fill the number in each of the epidemics were furnished by the County jail and workhouse, while the city jail had no case in either epidemic.

The Colleges and Halls, which embraced but area of 381 acres and a population of 1,634 in '32, 1,257 in '49; and 650 in '54, did not furnish a single case of cholera in either epidemic, and the city gaol furnished no case in either, though the County gaol is one of the unhealthy parishes, was affected *every* time.

That the *nine* central parishes which are elevated, better drained except in spots, less crowded, and other hygienic conditions more favorable, should in every epidemic suffer so much less than the others, while the Colleges and Halls, and city goal, still more favorable in a sanitary point of view, should suffer more, can only be explained on the principle so often recognized in regard to cholera, that its prevalence greatly depends on the unhealthful influences I have referred to. These influences moreover need not be combined to produce the result. The report shows how any one may prove sufficient when the essential cause is present, which accounts for what has puzzled many, that in the apparently varied circumstances in which cholera prevails. Thus the county goal when affected was cleared of the disease when fresh water was introduced instead of the supply derived from a stagnant mill-tail. So the Parish of St. Clement, which was supplied from a sewer-receiving stream in 1832, had seventy-four cases, but in the next epidemic in 1849 it was supplied with pure water and had five cases. So also a cottage is spoken of as very favorably located in all respects except that it was over-crowded, and of ten persons sleeping in two small rooms, five sickened with the disease and died.

Time will not admit of entering further into these details, which are corroborated by many of the statements quoted to night by my friend Dr. McCook from the excellent report made by Dr. Gallagher on the cholera as it prevailed in this city in 1854. With these details and more which Dr. Ackland in his able memoir has laid before the people of Oxford, it will be strange if they do not put their city in a better sanitary condition at the present time. Think of that ancient seat of learning, established more than one thousand years ago, with its twenty colleges and more, sending out yearly its streams of light and science, and yet in a condition indicative of utter ignorance or disregard of the knowledge of sanitary laws. I only proves what Burns makes one of his twa dogs say:

"Human bodies are sic fools,
For a' their colleges and schools."

But what application may we make of the experience of Oxford, which, as I believe, has been substantially the experience of every city scourged by the cholera?

Have we any filth or bad drainage in Pittsburgh? Let the examination be made. If, as some *seem* to think, we have not, we will be so much the better off. If we have, let the remedy be applied, cost what it may. Is our water supply good, notwithstanding all the offensive material thrown into it along the shore of the Allegheny for several miles in length? If so, the will need no attention. Is it being overcrowding or destitution in the city? If so, it is so thronged, it may be difficult to remedy; still it may be possible for something to be done. And so in regard to every circumstance bearing upon the general health. If there is intemperance, I see but one way for getting rid of that. Let the eight hundred tippling shops, if, as I am told, we have so many, be closed. Have a vigorous law passed that will close all, from the most fashionable drinking saloon to the meanest; or if the courts have already the power, let them be called upon to join in the exercise of their high functions to close them—shut them up as any other insufferable, pestilence-breeding life-destroying nuisance, which it is an inefficacious disgrace to any Christian community to tolerate. What we want in addition is a well-organized sanitary system and an efficient health police. We must not depend on the thunder above to clean our streets; we must go to work and have every cellar, alley, nook and corner in the city subjected to a thorough purification and ventilation; with energetic young medical or health inspectors, as the army had, to see that the work is done according to the most approved sanitary system. And so having the work done, and seeing from time to time that it is done, we may, without fear, watch the great reaper of death as he will go forth, after the wheat harvest, to gather his harvest; for we may have no field for him, retained by the seeds of pestilence, which, if the antimacular or cryptogamic theory of cholera be true, may even now be scattered, though the bitter harvest may so ripen for a year to come.

Trial of Louis Rosaman for the Murder of William Hellman.

In the Court of Oyer and Terminer, yesterday afternoon, the case of the Commonwealth vs. Louis Rossman, indicted for the murder of William Hellman, in the borough of Birmingham in June last was called up, a jury impanelled without any of the usual formalities being gone through with, and the trial proceeded.

The testimony adduced in the case established the following facts and circumstances attending the commission of the alleged homicide: On the 19th day of June, 1865, the deceased, in company with a man named John Rame, visited a number of beer halls in Birmingham, and at each place partook freely of beer. About six o'clock in the evening the parties repaired to the public house of the defendant, on Carson street, where a dispute ensued between Hellman and a man named Frank Hartman, relative to his (Hartman's) father-in-law; Hellman acted in a very boisterous manner and although expostulated with by several who were present, persisted in using profane and threatening language. He finally seized hold of Hartman, who, however, succeeded in getting loose without sustaining any injury beyond the tearing of his shirt. Rossman, who had been absent on business, returned at this juncture and requested deceased to be orderly; in return he was assailed by deceased, and Rossman undertook to eject him. Deceased resisted when near the "swinging" door—opening to the street—and was shoved out by the defendant. Being intoxicated he fell backward to the ground, and a few minutes afterward was found lying there in an insensible condition, blood flowing from his ears and nose. He was removed into the house, when medical aid was called in, but without avail. Hellman expired at ten o'clock the same night. The evidence for the Commonwealth was very meagre, and after calling a number of witnesses by the defense, who gave the prisoner an excellent character for peace, the case closed on both sides.

Brief speeches were made to the jury by Hon. J. M. Kirkpatrick, for the Commonwealth and by Jacob H. Miller and Jos. W. Parker, Esqrs. for the defense, after which Judge Stowe charged the Jury, who returned a verdict of not Guilty without leaving the box, the county to pay the costs.

Book Notice.

LIFE AND LETTERS OF FREDERICK W. ROBERTSON, of Trinity Chapel, Brighton, England; edited by S. A. Brook. In two volumes. Published by Ticknor & Fields, Boston. Pittsburgh: H. Miner, Fifth street.

The subject of this biography was a leading clergyman of the Church of England, but was not trammeled by its peculiar principles. His own are expressed in a free, vigorous and original style. The various subjects of controversy in that church are the topics of many of his letters and other writings even in this work. At the same time the interests of society and every day life are discussed in an interesting and spirited manner. Though we cannot altogether agree with his views, we must allow that they are presented with great force and pointedness. In the biographical parts of the work there are no striking incidents, its interest is derived rather from the development of the character and opinions of its subject. Both style and matter are free from anything like dullness, which is so usual a fault in works of this class.

Travel.

Stay-at-home bodies have no idea of the immense amount of travel there is on our railroads, and the question very naturally arises "where are the people all going to?" By day and by night the station is filled with travellers awaiting the time for the train to start. So when you will, whether at noonday or at midnight it is all the same, and if you enter into conversation with any great number of them you will find they are going in every conceivable direction, ever restless. Ever on the wing, the American appears as though there was no rest for the sole of his foot, but like the Wandering Jew he was doomed to be an eternal wanderer. It is this restless spirit however that develops our territory, and wherever a railroad car runs it is certain to carry its modicum of living freight.

Postponement.—In another article we stated that the case of Thomas Hughes, for the murder of James Thomas Gallen, was postponed until the next term. We have since been informed that the postponement is only until next week, at which time the case will be taken up and disposed of.

THE HUGHES-GALLEN HOMICIDE.

The Case Continued till the Next Term.

COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER.—Before Judges Sterrett, Stowe and Brown.

THURSDAY, Nov. 23.—Thomas Hughes, indicted for the murder of James Thomas Gallen, was arraigned for trial, in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, this morning. The homicide took place on the morning of the 5th of June, 1864, at the depot of the Pennsylvania railroad. The facts, as we remember them, are about as follows:

Between one and two o'clock, on the morning stated, Gallen, Frank Stoner and Jas. McLevy, called at Savage's saloon, on Liberty street, there took a drink, and then went to the platform of the depot. While there Hughes, Jackson Young and G. W. Freeze passed by and one of them spoke to Gallen. Shortly after Gallen and his companions got up and passed over the platform to where soldiers were drawn up in line. Freeze. This latter, (Freeze,) addressed Stoner, that he bought a "muss" he would be gratified, Stoner said he did not wish to fight, but expressed himself as being able to take care of himself in any emergency. Further words passed and upon Gallen inquiring in the conversation he and Young came to blows, and the former was knocked off the platform by a blow from a "billy." Stoner interfered and was assailed by Young, who flourished a pistol and threatened to shoot any one who laid hands upon Hughes. Not frightened at this demonstration, Stoner rushed at Young, who fled. Stoner then separated Gallen and Hughes who were still fighting. Young reappeared, renewed his threatening manner, and was again forced to retreat by Stoner. He finally made a stand and drawing his pistol threatened to fire at any one who approached. Whilst he and Stoner were in conversation, Hughes and Gallen again began fighting, and, as is charged, Hughes drew a pistol and discharged it, the ball taking effect in Gallen's face, near the left eye, penetrating to the brain and causing almost instant death. Hughes fled, was captured by a soldier, but released upon the representation, by his companions, that he was not the person who did the shooting. He succeeded in avoiding arrest and left the city. In June last he was arrested in Philadelphia, and was lodged in the county jail to answer a charge of murder, in exactly one year after its commission.

Gallen, the murdered man, was a citizen of Philadelphia, about twenty-four years of age, by occupation a puddler, and was employed at Moorhead & Co.'s mill, in Pitt Township.

The case was called up at about 10 o'clock, Thos. M. Marshall, M. Swartzwelder and W. C. Moreland, Esq.'s, appearing as counsel for defense, and J. M. Kirkpatrick and J. H. Miller, Esqs., for prosecution.

The prisoner was duly arraigned and pleaded not guilty, but in consequence of the absence of witnesses for the defense, by common consent the trial was put over until next term.

AFTERNOON PROCEEDINGS.

Conrad Speidle of Braddock's Fields was convicted of keeping a disorderly house, with a recommendation to the mercy of the court.

A case against the same defendant for Sunday liquor selling will be taken up this morning. This makes four cases in all against this defendant, in three of which he is already convicted.

The next case taken up, and which occupied the attention of the court until adjournment, was the case of the Commonwealth vs. William Rossman, charged with involuntary manslaughter, in killing Louis Heilman, on Carson street, in Birmingham. Heilman, the deceased, it appeared, had been drinking at Rossman's saloon, and becoming very noisy and abusive, and after repeatedly requested by Rossman to leave, declined to do so, and became very abusive to Mr. Rossman. Rossman endeavored to hurl him out when the foot of the deceased caught upon the sill of the door and he fell, striking his head violently upon the pavement, causing injuries resulting in his death in about two hours. A great many witnesses were called, giving the defendant a most excellent character for peace, and the jury, under the charge of the Court, acquitted the defendant without leaving the box. District Attorney Kirkpatrick, who conducted the case on behalf of the Commonwealth telling the jury that in his opinion the Commonwealth had not made out a case, and that in his judgment the defendant ought to be acquitted.

Amusements.

MASONIC HALL—THE BATEMAN CONCERTS.—A large, fashionable and critically-musical audience assembled last evening at the opening of the Bateman troupe. And here we venture the prediction that, large as the assembly was, it will prove the least of the three entertainments, for no artists that ever visited this city have been greeted with a more enthusiastic demonstration of satisfaction and delight.

An overture by Kunkel, arranged for four hands, and executed by Messrs. Bateman and C. Ansbutz was followed by the incomparable Adelina Patti, who was welcomed with an outburst of applause. Her opening piece, *Ermani involami* was well chosen for the development of her magnificent voice, which, much as we have heretofore praised it, seemed to us the full all that rumor has proclaimed. In the cadenza we experienced a prelude to the joyous and glorious ovation that was succeeded, and which floated upon the atmosphere of this city, and that in passionate ayres. Madame Parepa is gifted with one of those rare voices, which are peculiarly adapted to win upon the world of song but very seldom. Rich, full and sonorous, it would appear as if there was no limit to its capacity and yet the notes are exquisitely tender, sweet and delicate as the murmur of a summer's breeze.

The "Nightingale's Trill," the "Serenade," by Gounod, and the "Kiss," which succeeded the gem of Arditi, were rendered as pearls of vocalism, and the climax of delight culminated in a storm of applause, when for an *encore* to *Il Bacio* she substituted a pretty English ballad, "Five o'clock in the morning." The effect of which was enunciated as distinctly as if spoken by a model orator. We are much mistaken if those who heard it at the music stores for some days for "Five o'clock in the morning."

Our limited space warns us that we must close as briefly as possible, although we feel that we can hardly say too much of M. J. Levy, who, we hazard nothing in saying is the best cornet player we have ever heard. Some time ago, it was a combination of a hundred brass instruments, and it is they might have added, that from his cornet the softest flute-like strains float upon the air. He is perfect master of his instrument, and a musician of original construction. His execution is elaborate and in exquisite taste, and his variations are bold, eccentric, but deliciously affective. Paganini would, have been startled could he have heard his "Cardival of Venice" so excitedly upon a wind instrument.

Carl Rosa, the violinist, is whatever he termed, a pleasant performer. He is no great as Vieuxtemps, or some others who have appeared as celebrities, but we do not envy the sympathetic feeling of the individual upon whose ear the sweet strains he evokes from his instrument falls unnoticed. His accompaniment with Carl Anthony to Gounod's beautiful serenade, was equally tasty and artistic.

The second concert, with a change of programme, will be given this evening.

THEATRE.—Yankee Locke's prestige is still in the ascendant, and his numerous friends flock to witness his laughable performances. His local hits strike home, and to-night he gives one of his best, the piece having been written expressly for him. It is entitled "Petroleum or Dad's struck ile." Some of our readers may have heard of "Petroleum," "The Yankee Duelist" concludes the performance.

OPERA HOUSE.—In this city, any necessity in reminding our readers that to-night is set apart for Mrs. Florence's benefit? We think not, and we also think she will have a bumper. The dishes set out upon this occasion are all desert. First comes the Irish Lion, then the protean play of Thrice Married, the whole to conclude with Mrs. Florence's favorite farce of the Yankee Housekeeper.

MINSTRELSY.—Tony Pastor is coming. He will be here Monday night. Look out for him.

Arrival of Troops.—A portion of the 3d Infantry (Regulars) numbering three hundred and thirty-two men, and two officers, arrived in the city from the East about midnight, night before last, and were escorted to City Hall where they partook of a bountiful repast. Yesterday, they were marched on board the J. R. Gilmore, and last evening left for St. Louis. They were commanded by Capt. Andrews and Lieut. Wier.

Assault and Battery.—Michael Kaufman was arrested yesterday on a warrant issued by Alderman Taylor, on oath of Joseph Neely, on a charge of assault and battery. The prosecutor stated that the defendant had taken him by the collar in a manner more forcible than pleasant, and raising an axe in one hand threatened to "rip" him, hence the assault, Kaufman was held to bail for his appearance at Court in the sum of $300.

Error Corrected.—We were in error in stating that the Museum opened on Wednesday. Tomorrow (Saturday) is the opening day, and this time there will be no failure or mistake, and quite a number of curiosities are being placed in their allotted cases. We hope that the Museum may become an established institution with us, and a repository for every thing curious.

The Weather.—We are having at present about as miserable a spell of weather as one could hope to see. It does nothing but drizzle the whole time. If it would only turn and drizzle as our old fashioned rain; one that would raise the river, we might be better able to endure the infliction. We have hopes that it may have rained hard enough somewhere to send a little water down this way.

Found.—On Thursday, the 23d inst., on Sixth street, a BRASS KEY, which the owner can have by calling at this office and paying for this advertisement.

Wanted Badly.—Crossings at the intersection of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago railroad and Liberty street, are badly needed, which side of the street one takes in going up to the station, they are sure to be mired before they get there. We merely throw out this as a hint.

In the Way.—There is an accumulation of guns, gun-carriages and munitions of war on the landing, which are a source of great annoyance to shippers and steamboatmen, as they are directly in the way of several boats. We do not know whose duty it is to remove them, but they ought to be removed.

Skating Parks.—These delightful places of amusement are becoming all the rage. We notice from our exchanges, that nearly every town in the State is making arrangements for a skating park.

From Yesterday's Evening Gazette.

The Board of Health—Their Powers and Duties.

There is a great diversity of opinion among our citizens in regard to the powers and duties of the Board of Health. The act of Assembly of April 5th, 1865, section fifth, provides that the Board shall have full power, when they deem it necessary for the protection of the city against any prevailing pestilential or contagious disease, to establish a quarantine, to erect or purchase a lazaretto, and such public hospitals as may be necessary, and to make such rules, for the government and management of the lazaretto, and the vessels, cargoes and persons there detained or under quarantine, and of the health office and public hospitals, and for the mode of visiting and examining vessels, persons, goods and houses; they shall also have power to appoint such physicians, officers and servants as may be necessary to attend to the lazaretto and city hospital, and provide commutation and supplies to the same, and such other officers and servants as may be necessary for the preservation of the health of the city, together with all temporary officers and servants that may be rendered necessary by the existance of any dangerous contagious disease.

Section ninth makes it the duty of the Board to have all objects which may have a tendency to endanger the health of the citizens removed or corrected, as they shall deem necessary for the health of the citizens. And if the owner or owners, or occupiers, of any premises on which such nuisance shall be found, refuse or neglect, on due notice, to remove or correct the same, he, she or they, on refusing or neglecting, shall forfeit and pay a penalty of not less than twenty nor more than two hundred dollars. The eleventh section authorizes the City Councils to set aside such revenues, or to make such appropriations as may be necessary to carry out fully the designs of the act.

The act of April 8th, 1862, makes it the duty of the Board to have all offensive or putrid substances, and all nuisances which may have a tendency, in their opinion, to endanger the health of the city, removed from the streets, lance, alleys, wharves, etc., and to have cesspools or emptied such privies as may be deemed prejudicial to the public health at the expense of the owners or persons occupying the premises. Persons refusing to remove or correct these nuisances, after due notice, shall pay a fine of twenty-five dollars, and the expense attending the removal of the nuisance—the penalty to be recovered before any alderman or justice of the peace.

Section twelfth, of the same act, gives the Board full power and authority to remove the cause of all nuisances that exist now, or may hereafter be created, in the same manner and by the same authority that they remove all nuisances.

The fine in the ninth section of the first recited act, is limited to twenty dollars by the supplement.

In March, 1856, an additional act was passed, which is as follows:

That no any person, or persons, shall cause or permit to be thrown, or placed, any object, matter, or thing which may be deemed by the Board of Health to be the cause of the health of the citizens of Pittsburgh, on any lot of ground, street, lane or alley, every person so offending shall, on conviction thereof, before the Mayor or any alderman of said city, forfeit and pay for the use of the Board of Health such sum, not the sum of not less than two nor more than five dollars for every such offense; and if any owner or occupier of any lot of ground within said city shall hereafter knowingly or willfully cause or permit any such object, matter or thing as aforesaid to be, to remain on such lot, every person so offending shall, on conviction thereof, before the Mayor or any alderman of said city, forfeit and pay for the use of the Board of Health such sum, not the sum of not less than two nor more than five dollars for every such offense; and if any owner or occupier of any lot of ground within said city shall hereafter knowingly or willfully cause or permit any such object, matter or thing as aforesaid to be, to remain on such lot, every person so offending shall, on conviction thereof, before the Mayor or any alderman of said city, forfeit and pay the like penalty of not less than two, nor more than five dollars, for the use of the Board of Health; *provided*, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to take away any of the penalties prescribed by the original act establishing said Board of Health, or its supplement.

The penalties prescribed by the original act of 1851, and of the supplement of 1856, are regarded as severe and oppressive, and having become almost a dead letter, the last recited act was passed, which is a much milder penalty, but at the same time leaving the boards legal authority in force. It is under the latter act that the Board issue their notices.

It will be seen that the Board had full power to remove the nuisances from the streets, as well as from private property, to appoint such officers and employ such help as may be necessary for the preservation of the health of the city; and that the Councils shall provide the necessary funds for defraying the expenses incurred. But it does not appear, that it is made the duty of the Board to attend to the cleaning of the streets, alleys, gutters, etc., and removing the mud and other sanitary accumulations thereon. Many persons confound the duties of the Board of Health with those of the Street Commissioner, while each has an entirely separate and independent sphere.

Mr. Fortune, the Secretary of the Board, finds considerable difficulty in getting parties to make their complaints in proper form, and to appear and prosecute their complaints. They are anxious to have nuisances removed, but they don't want their names mentioned—don't want to prosecute, etc. This course only embarrasses the Health officer, and gives him unnecessary trouble. In Philadelphia, all complaints have to be made in form, with the signature of the party making the complaint, and the same rule should be established here. Any citizen aware of the existance of a nuisance calculated to endanger the public health, should not only report the fact, but consider it as a duty to have the offender punished in case the evil be not abated.

Alderman Owston is now attending to all suits brought by the Board of Health, the business at the Mayor's office rendering it difficult to get these suits attended to without interfering with the more legitimate affairs of the office.

We have given the above information, that our readers may have a more definite idea of the duties and powers of the Board, and at the same time be informed with reference to the penalties prescribed for violations of the provisions of the several acts bearing on the subject.

Mail Robber Arrested.

For some time past, large numbers of letters—especially registered ones—have been missed from the mail going through the Cleveland office, and although vigorous efforts have for some time been made to detect the guilty party, it was not until recently that they proved successful. On Monday last, Mr. S. B. Row, Special Agent for Pennsylvania, prepared a number of letters for publication, and deposited, mailed them at Pittsburgh, and accompanied them to the city. On Tuesday these letters were found to be missing. Special Agents Sloane and Van Veehten having arrived at Cleveland, a consultation was held and a course of procedure determined upon. Accompanied by the United States Marshal, the Postmaster, his Assistant and Superintendent, these officers entered the post office and succeeded in finding in the possession of H. F. Taylor, one of the distribution clerks, indisputable evidence of his guilt. Taylor at once confessed that he had stolen the letters in question, as well as others, and it was evident that his depredations were very extensive. On Wednesday he was taken before U. S. Commissioner White, who, after a hearing, committed him for trial, in default of $3,000 bail. Taylor is a native of the State of New York, is about twenty-two years of age, and has been in the Cleveland Post Office since last June. It is a very sad fall for a young man who had served his country in the army, and who had a bright future before him.

A Singular Surgical Operation.

On Tuesday last a man named Pryor, residing in Lawrenceville, was attacked with hemorrhage of the lungs; and, at the same time, an old wound in the back, inflicted with a knife in an altercation in 1863, was observed to discharge matter. Drs. McCook and McQuade were yesterday called to examine the old wound, and after a careful examination, concluded to cut down on the body of the scapula for the purpose of removing any portions of carious bone that might be supposed to give rise to the discharge. In the course of the operation, a foreign substance was encountered in the deep seated muscles of the back, which proved to be a knife-blade, four and one half inches in length, and one half inch in its greatest breadth. The top of the blade rested within about two inches of the surface, near the shoulder-blade, with the point downwards and outwards, and had evidently penetrated the lung of the unfortunate man, in its descent. The blade was removed and found to be corroded, but not sufficiently to destroy its shape. The cause of the difficulty having been thus successfully removed, the patient was left in a comfortable condition, and will doubtless soon recover. It is remarkable that he had experienced no serious inconvenience from the knife-blade, previous to this time.

Lawrenceville Riot Case.—The case of the Commonwealth vs. John Link and John Smith, indictment riot, on oath of John Freuholz, was concluded this forenoon, Judge Stowe charging the jury. The jury found Smith guilty of assault and battery.

Desperate Riot on Fifth Street.—This afternoon, four soldiers, belonging to the Third United States Infantry, on their way west, and who had become separated from their command, visited a number of drinking saloons, and getting quite drunk began acting in a very disorderly manner. They entered the saloon of C. Wehrung, at the corner of Fifth and Wylie streets, and demanded liquor. The barkeeper, Henry Schweitzer, seeing that they were drunk, refused to give them any liquor, when they made a vigorous assault upon him. After skirmishing for a time inside, they seized a number of bottles and got into the street, when they began demolishing the windows, etc. One of them threw a large lump of coal through the window, which narrowly escaped the head of Mrs. Wehrung. By this time a large crowd had assembled, and among them were Alderman Strain, Alderman Butler, Jailor White, Louis Cellar, officer Morris White, of the night police, and others. Alderman Strain called upon the citizens to assist in quelling the riot, whereupon officer White seized one of the rioters, Alderman Strain another, and their example was speedily followed by Jailor White, Alderman Butler, and others, so that in a moment or two the entire party was overpowered. The arrest was a hazardous undertaking, as the soldiers held dangerous weapons in the shape of bottles, decanters, etc. Officer White was particularly commended for his pluck in making the first arrest. The whole party was conveyed to Alderman Strain's office, and after a hearing, committed to jail to answer a charge of riot, in default of $1,000 bail. Their name are James Burke, Wm. Delaney, Alex. Boyd and Michael Kelley. An armed squad of the Third Infantry appeared in search of the rioters after they had been arrested, and it was feared that they would make an attempt to take the men from the civil authorities, but finding how the case stood they determined to report the facts to the commanding officer.

The affair created great excitement, and much more serious consequences might have resulted had not the disturbance been so promptly and effectually checked.

Probable Homicide in Versailles Township.—On Wednesday evening, a difficulty occurred at the tavern of Mr. James Skillen, in Coulterville, Versailles township, which is feared will result in the death of the party named. The facts are there: A discharged sailor named John Forsyth who had been in the Government service during the war, was boarding at Skillen's and came in very drunk on Wednesday evening. He offered to fight any man in the house, for a quarter of fifty dollars, and was knocked down by another boarder named Jwen Burns. The landlord interfered, and protected Forsyth from further injury at the hands of Burns, alleging that he was drunk; on recovering, Forsyth drew a knife, and not being able to distinguish between friend and foe, cut Skillen in the fleshy part of the thigh, the wound extending from the wrist to the elbow, severing the artery. Forsyth then assaulted several other men, but before he had inflicted any serious injury he was struck over the head with a chair, by a man named Gallagher, and knocked down. He was subsequently arrested by deputy constable David Allen, and taken before a Justice of the Peace. He was brought down to the city this afternoon, and lodged in jail. Skillen was not expected to recover when the officers left, having been greatly prostrated by the loss of blood.

Burglaries on St. Clair Street.—We have already reported the burglaries entering of Elliott's shirt store, on Tuesday night last. On the same night the dyeing establishment of William Nooper, on the same street, was entered, and robbed of goods to the amount of over one hundred and fifty dollars. The large warehouse of Messrs. Phelps, Parke & Co., on the same street, was entered through the window, on the north side, and attempts made to force open two safes, but without success. The place was thoroughly ransacked, and books and papers overhauled and scattered about promiscuously. The only articles missed were a hatchet, screw driver, and a copper press brush. Lights are kept burning all night in this house, and, considering the time which must have been spent by the thieves, it is strange that the watchman did not discover them.

Hard on the Corduner.—The Allegheny City *Times* of Tuesday, speaking of the accident and death of Mr. Brennan at East Liberty on Tuesday, says "an inquest was held on the body by Coroner Clawson." Poor Clawson, we know him well, Horatio—a fellow of infinite jest. We met him in the street yesterday, and he said he would not feel half so bad about it, if he only knew what the verdict of the jury was. Probably the "local" of the *Times* can come to the rescue, and throw some light upon the subject.

Appointments.—At a meeting of the Directors of the Union Skating Park, held yesterday, the refreshment rooms were let to Messrs Blake and Kirby, who intend fitting up a first class Restaurant at the Park. Mr. Blake is a several years, proprietor of the Star Hotel, Cape Island. Geo. W. Miller, Esq., was appointed Superintendent of the Park, and Mr. John Donaldson, Ticket Agent.

The Park is now ready for the ice, and the building will be finished and furnished in a few days.

The Magazines.—W. A. Gildenfenny, 49 Fifth street, has the Atlantic Monthly and Our Young Folks, for December, for sale.

John P. Hunt & Co., 59 Fifth street, have received The Atlantic Monthly and Our Young Folks for December.

John W. Pittock, opposite the Post Office, has received Godey's Lady's Book for December.

Drowned.—On Saturday morning last, Mr. J. McAllister, of Kittanning, was drowned in the Allegheny river, opposite Freeport, while engaged