The Pittsburgh Gazette.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1865.

TRAVELERS' GUIDE.

Arrival and Departure of Trains.

Pennsylvania Central Railroad.

Departs.	Arrives.	Departs.	Arrives.
Day Express.....2:20 a m	Mail.....1:50 a m	Fast Line.....9:20 a m	Mail.....8:10 p m
Allegh. Accom'n 7:10 a m	Fast Line.....2:40 a m	Mail.....3:15 p m	Express.....12:55 p m
Pitts & Erie Mail 8:00 a m	1st Wall Accom. 8:25 a m	Express.....2:20 p m	Steubenville Accommodation.....10:10 a m
Mail.....11:40 a m	1st Penn Accom. 7:35 a m	Express.....4:00 p m	
Phila. Express..3:55 p m	2d Wall Accom.. 3:30 a m	Mail.....9:00 p m	
Johnstown Ac'n 4:15 p m	Johnst'n Ac'n..10:05 a m	N. Castle & Erie 5:30 p m	
Fast Line.....10:00 p m	Pitts & Erie Mail 12:35 p m		
1st Wall Accom. 6:30 a m	Baltimore Exp's 1:20 p m		
2d " " 10:45 a m	2d Wall Accom.. 1:10 p m		
2d " " 8:05 p m	Phila. Express.. 2:05 p m		
1st Penn Accom. 8:00 p m	1st Penn Accom 6:25 p m		
2d " " 8:10 p m	N. Altoona Accom.		
	Mail Train.....10:50 p m		

The church train leaves Wall's Station every Sunday at 9:05 a. m.; returning, leaves Pittsburgh at 12:30 p. m.

Pittsburgh, Columbus and Cincinnati.

Departs.	Arrives.	Departs.	Arrives.
Fast Line.....9:05 a m	Fast Line.....3:30 a m	Express.....3:00 p m	Mail.....10:00 a m
Mail.....6:00 a m	Mail.....3:15 p m	Express.....12:55 p m	Express.....7:20 p m
Express.....2:20 p m	Express.....12:55 p m	Steubenville Accommodation.....10:10 a m	
Steubenville Accommodation.....4:00 p m	Steubenville Accommodation.....10:10 a m		

Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago.

Departs.	Arrives.	Departs.	Arrives.
Express.....3:50 a m	Express.....1:50 a m	Express.....1:10 a m	Express.....8:10 p m
Express.....9:45 p m	Express.....2:10 p m	Express.....4:00 p m	Mail.....9:00 p m
Mail.....7:00 a m	Mail.....9:00 p m	N. Castle & Erie 6:40 a m	N. Castle & Erie 5:30 p m

New Brighton Accommodation leaves Allegheny depot at 8 a. m., 11:00 a. m., 4:30 p. m., and 6:40 p. m.; Economy, 10:30 p. m.; New Castle, 8:50 p. m.; Economy, 10:30 p. m.; Wellsville, 8:50 p. m.

Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Wheeling.

Departs.	Arrives.	Departs.	Arrives.
Express.....3:35 a m	Express.....1:30 a m	Express.....2:10 a m	Express.....8:10 p m
Express.....9:45 p m	Express.....2:10 p m	Express.....3:45 p m	Express.....8:20 p m
Mail.....6:10 a m	Mail.....8:20 p m	Steubenville Accommodation leaves Allegheny at 3:20 p m.	

Pittsburgh and Connellsville.

Departs.	Arrives.	Departs.	Arrives.
Mail.....7:55 a m	Mail.....4:00 p m	Express.....10:00 a m	Express.....6:50 a m
Express.....3:00 p m	Express.....10:00 a m	1st McKeesport 6:50 a m	1st McKeesport 11:20 a m
2d " .....6:15 p m	2d " .....2:00 p m	1st Braddock's. 6:30 a m	1st Braddock's. 11:20 a m
2d " .....4:10 p m	2d " .....8:45 p m		

Allegheny Valley Railroad.

Departs.	Arrives.	Departs.	Arrives.
Mail.....9:45 a m	Express.....11:00 a m	Express.....6:10 p m	Mail.....6:15 p m
Accommodation 1:00 p m	Accommodation 9:20 a m		

EXCELSIOR OMNIBUS AND LIVERY STABLE,

40 Penn Street.

JAMES DAW & SON, Proprietors.

OMNIBUSSES AND CARRIAGES furnished for all trains. Also, Carriages for Funerals, Weddings and Parties, at short notice and reasonable rates. STABLE OPEN DAY AND NIGHT. nov19yd

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

THE VERSAILLES TOWNSHIP HOMICIDE.

Trial of Richard Snaiden et al. for the Murder of Cornelius Bresslin.

CONCLUSION OF THE EVIDENCE.

Arguments of Counsel

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

THURSDAY, Nov. 30.—The Versailles Township homicide case was proceeded with.

Richard Snaiden, Sr., recalled—Question by Mr. Howard—On the next morning after the difficulty were there any marks of violence upon your son?

Answer—There were.

Question—What were they?

Mr. Kirkpatrick—We object. The testimony is irrelevant.

The objection was not pressed.

Witness—I said that his son had no marks of violence upon him on the evening before the difficulty. Saw him about eleven o'clock next day, and discovered a mark above the eye, where he had been struck, being very much discolored. That was all the mark of violence he noticed.

Samuel Dias corroborated his brother as to what occurred at the hotel in Coulterville prior to defendants starting down to the dance at Early's. He said that if any conversation had taken place about arms, or weapons, or of going prepared for a disturbance, he thought he would have heard of it. When the crowd started down to Early's, witness went in an opposite direction.

Robert Morris, of Elizabeth township, testified that he knew all of the defendants well, except Herrington, whom he knew by sight. On the evening of the difficulty he was with them, before they went to the hotel in Coulterville, and with them there until they left. Ryan, who came from McKeesport, on the evening train, told witness of the dance at Early's, and asked him if he would go down. Corroborated other witnesses as to the conversation which took place, as going to show that there was no premeditation, or preparation for a fight. Witness thought if there had been anything of the kind he would have heard it, as he was with the party from the time they left the hotel until they went into Early's, between eight and nine o'clock. At the time of the fuss, in which Bristlin was killed, he was in the bed-room adjoining that in which the dancing was, but saw nothing whatever of the actual fighting, being asleep in one of the beds. Early in the evening, after the first difficulty, Snaiden came in and asked him to take a drink, and some man took a weapon of some sort from under the tick of the bed, could not tell what it was, or what it looked like, the person who took it concealing it quickly behind his back. The article or weapon was from fifteen to eighteen inches long. The man who had it was not one of the defendants, but witness believed he had seen him in court this morning, and to leave the court this moment; his name was Daniel Murday.

Mr. Kirkpatrick called Munday, who appeared, having left the room on his appearance.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, (pointing to Munday)—Is that the man?

Witness—Yes, sir; it is.

Cross-examined.

Q. by Mr. Miller—What time did you go to bed that night?

A. Can't tell just what time. It was raining and I went in to see the dancing. Seats were scarce, and I sat down on the bed.

Q. Were you not drunk that night?

A. No, sir. I am not in the habit of drinking.

Q. Did you tell Felix M'Kenna that you were so drunk that night that you did not know what you were about?

A. No, sir. I didn't know Felix M'Kenna.

Q.—What time did you get up that night?

A.—I was wakened by hearing a woman screaming. Saw a man standing on the door with nothing on but his pants; he had been out. I then went home.

Q.—In going along the railroad, to Early's, was not the crowd pretty much scattered, walking along the ties?

A.—Yes, we were.

Q.—How many walked abreast?

A.—I suppose about two, or three.

James O'Rourke testified that he kept a drinking-house, on Grant street. Constable Edmondson and Norman Herrington were coming from the Connelsville National depot, and I met them good morning. Said to Herrington, this is a nice scrapp you have got into. He said, "Yes, it is." I said, that is what comes of getting into bad company. He said, "I ought to have my head blowed off," and tears came into his eyes. I think Herrington got a glass of ale; can't recollect that I shoved the bottle of whisky to Edmondson.

George R. Kuntz testified that, as far as he could hear, the character of Snaiden and Dias for peace was good. Dias belonged to the 4th Pennsylvania Cavalry and Snaiden to the 5th Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery.

Thomas Coats testified that Ryan's character for peace was good; he belonged to Company F, 5th Heavy Artillery.

John M'Oleary had known Ryan for seven years; he is a coal miner; his character as an orderly, quiet young man is good.

Hugh Miller testified to the good character of Ryan; he had heard of Snaiden getting into a fuss in a tavern.

Thomas Lamb had known Snaiden for fourteen years; his reputation as a quiet, civil, young man is good, as also was Ryan's.

Jacob Lubwig, storekeeper near Coultersville, remembered the fact of the defendants coming to his place of business, while Jackson was there, on the evening of the dance at Early's. Jackson was on the counter, and not in a position that another man could sit upon his knee.

Wm. Duncan, called to contradict Catharine Early, testified that on one occasion she said, under oath, that she told William Jackson that he was as welcome to the party as if he had been invited. Felix McKenna also stated, at the preliminary examination, that the man with the club came into the dancing room, before the quilting, with the club, which he picked up near the door as he passed in. Have known Dias since he was a boy; his character for peace is good.

Cross-examined—Since I came home from the army I have heard of a difficulty that he was in.

Rev. David R. Rhine testified that he had been acquainted in the neighborhood where Snaiden resides for about seven years; took Snaiden into my church (Methodist); his character for peace is good.

Cross-examined—Took him in my church during the first year of my officiation, as a full member; after serving the usual probation. Can't say that he is yet a member of the church, having been removed to another pastorate. Five years have passed since I have been located in the circuit in which Snaiden resides.

Rev. Robert H. Sutton testified that he had charge of the Coultersville congregation for two years. Was acquainted with Snaiden's character for peace; it is good.

Cross-examined. Took charge of the congregation after Rev. Rhine retired, two other pastors having intervened. My charge ceased last September. Snaiden was a member of my congregation, and during the last year of my pastoral charge he was in the army. Know him since his return; he is yet a member of the church. William J. Kranth was a member and very well acquainted in the congregation spoken of, Snaiden was a member, was very intimate with his family, his character is good.

Cross-examined—Have been residing in the city constantly for eighteen months. Snaiden went into the army after I left Coultersville; have seen him since; visited his family. Heard of a difficulty he had, prior to one in question, on the railroad.

Robert Cornell, eight years a resident of Coultersville, had known Snaiden for fourteen years knew his reputation for peace; it was good.

Cross examined—Don't know what other people think of him, I always considered it good; he has worked for me ever since he was old enough.

Captain F. C. Flanegan and George Giles also testified to Snaiden's good character.

Dr. Penny testified that between one and two o'clock in the morning after the fuss at Early's, Herrington, accompanied by Snaiden, Dias and Ryan, called upon him.

Mr. Howard offered to prove the condition of the defendants by witness as to sobriety at that time.

Mr. Kirkpatrick—*We object* on the ground that it is irrelevant. *Objection* sustained.

Mr. Howard *renewed* the offer of the testimony of the witness on the stand to be followed by that of another who was with defendants all the way *from* the scene of the difficulty to the *physician's* office, by whom he would prove that they *did* not drink anything on the way, or *stop at any* place where they could get drink.

Objected to by Mr. Kirkpatrick, on the ground of *irrelevancy*. Objection overruled, although the court thought it was going to the very outside limit.

Mr. Swartzwelder—Simply, your Honor, that is a *reductio ad absurdum*.

Mr. Kirkpatrick—I agree with the learned counsel that the offer, if proven, would certainly be a *reductio ad absurdum*.

Mr. Howard (irritated)—If it is not evidence, I do not want it.

Mr. Howard, to witness—You have told us the defendants came to your office, now tell us their condition.

Witness—They were all under the influence of liquor when they were at my house. There was a scalp wound on Herrington's head about two inches in length, to which I applied adhesive plaster. I noticed a slight abrasion of the skin on the back of Ryan's head, about a half an inch in length, which did not require any attention. Herrington had a contusion, with considerable extravasated blood, made with a blunt instrument.

Joseph Dick testified that at the time of the last difficulty he saw a man with a club; it was about the time the fuss began, and before he knew any outbreak was done. I saw the man pick up the club from about the foot of the bed and go towards the dancing-room with it. I was in the bed-room part of the time, and part of the time up stairs. Daniel Munday came in the bed room and said he was cut; this was the first I knew of the cutting, it was not a great while before this that I saw the man pick up the club; it might have been five minutes or ten.

Cross-examined.—I had a watch, did not look at it; don't know anything about the time; there was a good deal of fuss in the dancing room, and I was outside; it is mere speculation.

Robert Morris was recalled and testified that he caught up with defendants at Coultersville, after they left Early's, and went with them to Dr. Penny's. They drank nothing on the road that I know of; there were no public houses.

Cross-examined.—They had gone up the railroad about half a mile before I caught up; left them and went to the river; could not get across, then followed and caught up with them again at Coultersville.

REBUTTING TESTIMONY.

Felix McKenna, re-called—Saw the witness, Robert Murrow, at the house that night. He appeared to be sober.

Q. Did he not tell you that he knocked down three or four?

Objected to by the defense, on the ground that the witness' (Murrow's) attention had been called to the matter. Objection sustained.

The evidence in the case having closed, the counsel arranged for addressing the jury.

There will be seven speeches in four on behalf of the defense, by Messrs. Marshall, Swarzwelder, Howard and Evans, and three for the Commonwealth, by Messrs. Moreland, Miller and Kirkpatrick. The Court desired that the argument should close this evening.

Court took a recess till two o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Court re assembled at two o'clock, when counsel began their argument to the jury.

Jacob H. Miller, Esq., of counsel for the prosecution, submitted the following propositions, citing a number of authorities:

1. That a common purpose existed among the defendants, or some of them, to assault and a trespass, likely to involve a serious breach of the peace.

2. That in pursuance of this unlawful common purpose, one of the prisoners killed Bristlin.

3. If the jury are satisfied that the party killing entertained a specific intent to take life, the homicide will be murder in the first degree in the party perpetrating the offense, and his abettors.

4. If there was no specific intent to take life, but to do great bodily harm, then the grade of the crime would be reduced to murder in the second degree.

5. If the jury believe that the prisoners, or any of them, entered into a contest dangerously armed, and fought under an unfair advantage, though mutual blows had passed, the killing is not manslaughter, but murder in the second degree, at least.

6. That there is no such evidence in this case of passion superinduced by adequate provocation, as will reduce the grade of the homicide to mere slaughter.

M. Swartzwelder, Esq., of counsel for defense, submitted the following points, which he read to the court:

1. If the jury believe, under the evidence, that there was no premeditated concert between the prisoners, then the offense is not what is termed a felonious homicide, and the law applicable to homicide of that character cannot be applied in that case.

2. If the jury believe that the prisoners had only the common purpose of forcing their way into the house, should they be refused admittance, then, under the evidence, the killing of Bristlin was not in pursuance of their common design, and therefore the act of one is not the act of all. (Duffy's case, 1 Law. 194.)

3. If the jury believe that Bristlin was killed in a sudden affray, the killing by one is not the act of all.

4. If the jury believe that the act was done with malicious intent by the person killing, all aiders and abettors are not responsible therefor, unless the jury are satisfied that they were cognizant of the malicious intent of the slayer.

5. There being no direct evidence as to how and by whom the fatal blow was inflicted, the jury must be satisfied beyond a doubt, that there is no other mode, under the evidence, of satisfactorily accounting for the death than that of the guilt of the prisoners.

6. There being but one fatal blow given, the jury must be satisfied, beyond a reasonable doubt, by whom it was given.

Mr. Miller proceeded to address the jury. After explaining the Pennsylvania law of homicide, he argued from the evidence that defendant, went to Earley's with a purpose likely to create a breach of the peace. He referred to the conversation at Ludwig's store, in Coultersville, when Jackson refused, as represented by Snaiden, to go to Earley's for the reason that he had not been "invited," Snaiden then saying, "its no odds for that, if old Early says anything, we'll put him out." The statement of Herrington to constable Edmundson, as to the object of Snaiden and Dias being "to cut the hearts out of two d——s of b——," and the interrogatory put to Morgan, "whether he would not "fight the Irish," was further proof of the "purpose." After reciting the evidence as to what transpired during the fight, the cutting of Monday and death of Bristlin, he referred to the remark of Snaiden, subsequently, when outside the house, and going away, that he had "cut one or two of them, and doubled his knife in one." Dr. Woods, who made the *post mortem* examination said that the wound (of Bristlin) "in the true tissue was larger than the external wound would indicate, as if the knife had been *worked inside*." After this, it could fairly be argued that Snaiden was the man who gave the fatal blow, and his associates were aiders and abettors. His (Snaiden's) conduct was terrible. Of his having plunged a knife three times into Munday several witnesses had testified. After going out of the house, and when Bristlin was dead, or dying, he and Dias forced their way back, breaking in the door, and both brandished knives. Snaiden rushed into the room, and raising his knife aloft, *swore by his God that he would spare neither man nor woman!* Herrington said it might be known what kind of a man he was "*by the cut of his hair*," and that (putting his hand upon his pocket) "*anything was to happen*, he had the documents, or was in for it." Jackson had made a great mistake. He should not have been persuaded to go to Earley's, and was very foolish in so doing. The question of character had been entered into as to all the defendants, but this was only of service in doubtful cases. A singular feature in this respect, as regarded Snaiden, was presented. Mr. Howard, one of his counsel, called two ministers of the Gospel to establish the fact that Snaiden was a Christian, a member of church, and having done this, immediately thereafter called a witness to prove that he was drunk on that fatal night! A member of the church and a drunkard at the same time! It was all right in Mr. Howard, for the purpose of the case, to prove that Snaiden was intoxicated, and no fault could be found with him. Mr. Miller elaborated on the propositions which he had submitted, and argued that from the evidence the jury could not well find the defendants guilty of a lesser crime than murder in the second degree.

James Evans, Esq., counsel for Herrington, next addressed the jury. He confined himself, specially to the evidence against his client, and made a very creditable effort.

Thos. M. Marshall, Esq., for the defense, next addressed the jury, first, however, directing his remarks to the Court on the question as to common purpose. He contended that the Commonwealth must show affirmatively, clearly, and beyond a doubt, that it was the intention of the defendants to commit a murder, (and read from Wharton on Homicide, page 346.) before they could convict any of the defendants of such crime. His argument, perhaps, from the nature of the case, was not as clear and well digested as it is his wont to make in the many cases of importance in which he has been engaged during our experience as a reporter. Adverting to the evidence, the conclusions he drew therefrom were plausible and presented with his usual eloquence and force. The burden of his speech was as to the common purpose of the defendants to commit a trespass, or do the deed for which they were upon trial. He spoke about an hour and a-half.

W. C. Moreland, Esq., for the Commonwealth, followed. In his opening to the jury, at the beginning of the trial, he said he had for shadowed what the Commonwealth expected to prove, and he would call the jury to witness, after the lapse of nearly four days in the examination of witnesses, that every promise he had made had been fulfilled. He disclaimed any personal feeling, or any personal pride, and would only ask such verdict as the law and the testimony would require. The Commonwealth did not seek for blood, the lives or liberty of the prisoners, unless they had forfeited such by an undisputed violation of the law. Throwing aside all sympathy for the dead, and calmly, temperately and dispassionately considering all the testimony, the jury in their action would make true deliverance between the Commonwealth and the defendants. It must be agreed on all hands that a great public wrong had been committed, a most unprovoked murder—Constantine Bristlin sent before his Maker without a moment's warning. The question as to who did it—who raised the bowie-knife that caused the life-blood to flow was shielded in doubt, the Commonwealth could not say, behold the man in Snaiden, or behold the man in Dias. All the Commonwealth could do was to adduce the plain unvarnished facts. He had never in his life, or in his experience at the bar, saw so unsatisfactory or inconsistent a defence as had been made in the case. The defendants had offered evidence of good character against the damning proof that shortly before murder had been committed by them. As he had stated in his first opening, the conviction of Jackson and Snaiden was not asked for, unless the jury believed they wilfully joined in the design of the other defendants in going to the house of John Early, and participated in what followed. Mr. Moreland then called the attention of the jury to the evidence upon combination, what the defendants avowed, what they said, and what they did at Early's in pursuance of their common purpose. First there was a fight with Gilkey, and next the murder of Bristlin and the stabbing of Munday. The defendants came to the house, said they would have whatever they wanted, took possession of the dancing floor; Dias and Snaiden had knives, the blade of the former four and three of the latter inches long, and Herrington had a "hangin billy." Bristlin, besides his knife, had knuckles, with which he struck Dias.

At a quarter to six o'clock, Mr. Moreland was interrupted in his speech, and Court adjourned till nine o'clock this morning, when he will resume.

Fire in English and Co.'s. Publishing House—Girl Severely Burned.

The alarm of fire last night was occasioned by the partial burning of the Odeon building, on Fourth street near Wood, occupied by A. H. English and Co., as a book bindery and publishing house, and R. H. Long's sewing machine ware room. On the 30th day of July last, just four months ago, the same firm were burned out, the main building now occupied by them being the one in which the fire originated. The damage was soon repaired, however, and the firm was again in active operation. The increase of their business required that they should occupy more room, and a few weeks since they rented a portion of the Odeon building, joining the two houses by cutting door ways from one to the other. The front part of the first floor in the Odeon building was partitioned off, and was used by Mr. R. H. Long, as a sewing machine ware room. Immediately in the rear of this room was the drying room of the bindery and in it twenty girls were employed.

A young girl named Maggie Ellis, daughter of Robert Ellis, a printer employed at W. S. Haven's, was in the act of lighting the gas in the back part of the room, accidentally set fire to the paper which was hanging suspended on strings for the purpose of drying. Terror at what she had done caused her to faint, and she was only restored by the intense pain occasioned by her burning clothing. In her frenzy she dashed through a back window, narrowly escaping falling in the cellar, and by some means scaled the brick wall in the rear of the building, and made her way into Frank Ardman's office, where she was attended to by Dr. Murdock, and subsequently injured very severely and conveyed to her father's residence on the Hill. She was terribly burned about the face, breast, and arms, but the Doctor does not consider her injuries dangerous.

In the minutes the flames were spreading with terrible rapidity, and in a few moments the first and second stories of the Odeon were a mass of fire. The prompt arrival on the ground of the fire department prevented the fire from spreading, but owing to the combustible material in the building, the destruction of the two stories and their contents was nearly complete. Mr. Long saved a number of sewing machines in a damaged condition. They were taken to the Mayor's office, where they remain at present. It was impossible last night for any of the parties interested to make an estimate of their loss. The main building of English & Co. received all the damage from water. Although the flames failed to set the premises with it, it was most thoroughly drenched.

Mr. Long is not insured so far as we could ascertain. The other insurances are as follows:

A. H. English & Co are insured in the		
Ætna Ins. Co. of Hartford, Ct.		$5,000
Firemans " " "		2,500
Charter Oak " " "		1,000
Thames " Norwich,		2,500
Harmony " New York		3,000
Total		$16,000

Messrs. Smith and Jenkins are insured on electrotype plates for $2,000, by the Ætna Insurance Company of Hartford. Messrs. A. A. Carrier & Bro. are the agents for all of the above insurance companies.

The fire department are certainly entitled to great credit for the promptness with which they were on the ground and in operation. Both buildings were filled with combustible material, and had they been a few minutes later, there is no telling to what extent the destruction of property would have spread. Thanks to their energy, the destruction was stayed with comparatively a small loss.

Decision in the Case of Copeland vs. Burtis and Morey.

Judge M'Candless, of the United States Circuit Court, yesterday rendered a decision in the case of Parvin T. Copeland vs. Daniel H. Burtis and Albert G. Morey, in which some $250,000 were involved. The allegation set forth in complainant's bill was, that he had been induced, by fraud and misrepresentation, to part with his farm on Pithole, under certain stipulations, to Morey, at a price greatly below its value, and he asked the Court in equity, to annul the deed. Judge McCandless, in his decision, stated that the deed had been obtained by gross fraud, and ought to be set aside and annulled—and that the complainant is entitled to a decree according to the prayer of the bill. The facts in this case were fully reported in our paper at the time of the argument, about two weeks since, and we need not repeat them now. Reverdy Ferriance and B. F. Lucas, Esqs., appeared for the complainant, and H. D. Foster and W. J. Corbett, Esqs., for respondents.

Freedmen's Meeting.

On Saturday evening, at Lafayette Hall, our citizens will have the opportunity of hearing some of the veterans in the cause of Freedom, at the anniversary of the Freedmen's Aid Commission. Judge Bond has taken a very active part in the measures which led to emancipation in Maryland. Mr. Shepherd is Secretary of the new National organization, which is uniting the efforts of all the Freedmen's Aid Associations in the country. Mr. Garrison and Mr. Thompson, are known everywhere. We hope our citizens will give these gentlemen a hearty welcome.

Reckless Driving.—A young man who gave his name as Jones, was arrested for driving through the streets in a furious manner. He was very abusive to the officer, and a complaint for disorderly conduct was also lodged against him. Upon being taken to the Mayor's office, he was recognized as an old offender by the name of Wells. He stoutly denied this being his name at first, but finding he was too well known, he admitted his name to be Wells. He was fined two dollars and costs, and was committed to the watch house to remain there until this morning, at which time, if the fine is not paid, he will be committed to jail for twenty-four hours.

Rain.—The barometer gave no false indications this time. It denoted rain yesterday evening, and a short time after dark the rain commenced falling. It looks at present as though we should have enough to cause the river to rise.

Filthy Crossing.—The attention of the street commissioner is called to the state of the crossing at the intersection of Grant, Liberty and Washington streets. It is in a terrible condition. Passengers bound for the depot are the principal sufferers.

The Family Letter Scale, for ascertaining the amount or number of postage stamps to be affixed to a letter, is the simplest and most durable instrument of the kind yet introduced. For sale by W. A. Gildenfenny, 43 Fifth street.

Book Notices.

HISTORY OF THE RISE AND INFLUENCE OF THE SPIRIT OF RATIONALISM IN EUROPE. By W. E. Lecky, M.A. In two volumes. New York: D. Appleton, & Co. Pittsburgh: Davis, Clarke & Co., 83 Wood street.

Evangelism, Ritualism and Rationalism have long been contending for the superiority. Their success has been various. Sometimes one has swept the field and gained the preponderance, and sometimes another. During the apostolic period the contest was fierce between the respective abettors of Evangelism and Ritualism. In a short time, however, the former triumphed and Judaism declined. The next contest was between ritualism and rationalism. At length the former carried the day and gnosticism waned. In the Reformation of the 16th century Evangelism triumphed once more, and for a long time kept in the ascendent. Afterwards rationalism became rampant on the continent of Europe, and ritualism enjoyed a revival in England under Laud. The labors of Wesley, Whitfield, and others completely sapped the foundations of the rationalistic form of christianity which commenced its career in England on the restoration of Charles II.

At this distant day no definition of Rationalism is required. It subordinates everything to the test of human reason, which is held to be of supreme authority in deciding matters of faith and morality. It ignores entirely the supernatural and miraculous in worldly affairs.

When Merle D'Aubigne made his first visit to Germany in 1817, shortly after his consecration to the ministry of the gospel, he "was astonished—almost overwhelmed, by the tempest of rationalism and infidelity which was then raging." Every periodical he read, and almost every man—lay or clerical—whom he met was more or less under the influence of the poison of rationalism and infidelity. But the rationalism of the present day is very different from the rationalism *vulgaris* which D'Aubigne found in Germany in 1817. Skepticism and infidelity seek to lure the multitude now by the meretricious adornments of a classical and dignified style, and a graceful and polished rhetoric.

The object of our author, as stated by himself, is to "trace the history of the spirit of Rationalism," by which he understands "a certain sort of thought or bias of reasoning," which "leads men on all occasions to subordinate dogmatic theology to the dictates of reason and conscience."

The doctrine is broadly laid down and maintained, that whenever a change of opinion takes place in society in regard to any subject, it is effected through the "intellectual condition" of the people, and is the result of "general causes." Or, in other words, men change not their opinions in consequence of any process of argumentation that may have been brought to bear upon them, but solely "on account of a predisposition to receive" the opinions that prevail. Thus, the revival of Grecian literature, the improvements in the arts, and the opposition to the scholastic dogmas of the middle ages manifested "the tendencies of the reformation" long before its advent.

It would be impossible, however, within our narrow limits, to examine such a work thoroughly. The style of the book, although far from being faultless, is nevertheless good. Its historical records, we think, may be relied upon. But from the sentiments uttered above, it will be seen that the reasoning is very illogical and sophistical. Besides, this book abounds with sly flings at the Christian system, and although valuable for reference, it will have to be read by the orthodox with great caution.

MR. BUCHANAN'S ADMINISTRATION ON THE EVE OF THE REBELLION. Written by himself. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Pittsburgh for sale by Davis, Clarke & Co., 83 Wood street.

The author of the "Attic Nights" desired that he might live no longer than he was able to exercise the faculty of writing. Some one has said, he might, in all decency, have added, "and find readers." If this is to be the measure of James Buchanan's life we think his days on earth are very nearly at an end. Although there is much curiosity manifested in certain quarters to see how the politically defunct "old fossil statesman" vindicates himself from the oft repeated charge of having betrayed the cause of the Union, we do not think that "Buchanan's Administration" will be very generally or very long read. So far from vindicating him, his book only involves him in greater guilt, as it is a mere repetition of the platitudinous ideas to which he gave utterance while he disgraced the Presidential chair. When Sir Morton Peto, the great English railway king, was in New York, he declared in one of his speeches that Mr. Buchanan was to blame for much, if not all of the opposition given in England to the Federal cause during the progress of the rebellion, because he declared when President of the United States, that the government possessed no power to "coerce" a State to remain in the Union. On this declaration he made, the English people, relying upon the soundness of Mr. Buchanan's interpretation of the fundamental law of the United States, looked upon the war as murderous and unconstitutional on the part of the North. This doctrine Mr. Buchanan reiterates in his book (Administration), and not only contends for States' rights, but for States' sovereignty, which is only another name for States' supremacy. There never was a greater political absurdity. Its absurdity was sufficiently demonstrated under the "Confederation," which was one of the most inefficient and powerless governments that ever was established. Under the Articles of Confederation the Union was among the *States*, and according to the second Article of that instrument, it "each retained its *sovereignty, freedom and independence*." It was soon found that a government based upon such principles could not be anything else than inoperative, and a convention was accordingly called in 1787 to amend the articles of confederation. Instead of carrying out the intention, the convention framed the present Constitution, the war power of which has been demonstrated by the brave patriots in the land, but we think far more efficiently by Grant, Sheridan and Sherman and their heroic legions. But the incorrigible old demagogue is neither convinced nor conquered yet. He very modestly states in his preface that although his book was written immediately after the outbreak of the rebellion, its "publication was delayed to avoid the possible imputation, that at this period it would have been, that any portion of it was intended to embarrass Mr. Lincoln's administration in the vigorous prosecution of pending hostilities." But he has no conscientious scruples against publishing it now, although it seeks to rekindle the nation-destroying heresy of States' sovereignty, and thereby to throw obstacles in the way of reconstruction. It is a glorious consolation that his pen is impotent to accomplish evil, as he is despised both by political friends and foes, North and South.

He was very tender of Mr. Lincoln's Administration. He slyly insinuates that it was "the operations in Bank shares to-day, save a few shares of Peoples National at 100 Exchange National Bank offered at 855—[illegible] bid; M. & M. 56 bid.

Nothing of interest to report in oil shares. Petroleum continues to decline, 10 cents bbl the stock was offered on the street at 25½—25 was bid at morning board for a limited amount. Philadelphia, Lancaster & Cherry Run changed hands to some extent at one dollar per share, but closed with a downward tendency, offered at $1.00—90c bid.

—The bank movement in New York, as indicated by the return of weekly averages of the leading items, indicates an easier money market. The aggregate of the loans and the amount of legal tenders held by the banks are up about two millions since Monday of last week. And the currency and gold balances in the Treasury Office are up about eight millions. These are signs of a favorable domestic exchange in the direction of New York, and as the market of that city is considerable extent, controls here, the favorable influence may be expected to extend to this city. The legal tender notes held in bank alone are close on to fifty millions. The other departments of the bank returns also favor a steady, if not an easier money market. The leading National Banks there are gradually availing of the profits of a liberal circulation which the system affords to the associations of large capital. As compared with this time last year, the banking capital of New York city has increased about eleven and a half millions, the loans about thirty-two and a half millions, and the deposits about fourteen millions. The increase in the Sub-treasury there is a few hundreds less than thirty millions. The mass of specie in the same time is some eight millions. These are very simple facts, but they point plainly to the cause of high prices, and mark to the mind of every observing man the great difficulty in the disparity of the upward movement of paper, and downward course of coin to be overcome in reaching an early resumption of specie payments.—*Phila. Ledger.*

—In order to keep up a supply of currency, generally scarce in the interior, some of the banks are remitting securities in liquidation of their balances; which accounts for the steady influx of Government and their weakness in the Eastern cities. With such a condition of exchanges, however, although we may not be sure of any important surplus of currency, yet we are clearly safe against any drain, and an easy condition of the money market may be reasonably calculated upon. The pressure for currency in the west will tend to draw out the unissued portion of the National bank circulation to which that section is entitled, a process which will soon enable the banks to remit cash in currency instead of securities, tending to strengthen governments and to augment our surplus of money.

—A Washington dispatch says:

To set at rest all the rumors with reference to an increase of $100,000,000 in the National bank capital, which, it is reported, will be recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury, we can state upon the very best authority that no such increase of the bank capital will be recommended, either by the Secretary of the Treasury or the Controller of the Currency, except upon the express condition that the increase in 5-20 bonds purchased with $100,000,000 of legal tenders, to be withdrawn from the currency and replaced by $100,000,000 of National bank notes. This will result in an actual reduction of $10,000,000 in the currency.

—The exports from New York continue large. The following shows the exports (exclusive of specie) from New York to foreign ports for the week ending November 28, and a note the beginning of the year:

	1865	1864.	1863.
For the week.....	$4,239,534	$1,895,237	$3,980,339
Prev. reported..	151,622,655	196,823,579	146,015,966
Since Jan. 1....	$156,862,189	198,703,816	149,996,305

The exports of domestic produce for the week include 80s lbs beeswax, 52,571 bbls wheat flour, 10,000 sys flour, 1246 bbls corn meal, 28,970 bush wheat, 630 bush peas, 84,900 bush corn, 711 pkgs candles, 86 tons coal, 7267 bales cotton, 1543 bales other pkgs cruce tobacco, 28,123 lbs manufactured do, 225 bbls rice, 556,208 lbs tallow.

From Yesterday's Evening Gazette.

Reward for Escaped Prisoners.

The four prisoners who recently escaped from the Lawrence County Jail at Newcastle, are still at large, and rewards have been offered for their arrest and delivery to the jail. The following are the descriptions of the fugitives, with the rewards offered for each:

Thomas Lykens, of Marion county, Ohio, committed for an assault and battery and larceny; he is about five feet ten inches high, slender built, dark complexion, black hair, mustache; went without a hat, and had on a blue blouse—may be wounded with a pistol shot; about 25 years old. $150 reward.

Albert Curtis, about five feet eight inches high, heavy built, dark complexion, probably 25 years old, some negro blood in him, pimples on his face, his residence was in Shenango township, Mercer county; was in prison on the charge of horse stealing—had on a frock or half sack coat. $150 reward.

Peter Miller, was charged with larceny; five feet nine or ten inches in height, heavy built, an Irishman by birth, dark complexion, dark hair—had on a short sack brown coat, slouch hat. $100 reward.

Unphry Conkly, goes by the name of Jim; charged with larceny; about five feet eight inches high, slender built, light half and complexion, has a scar on his left arm, caused probably by a burn, had on when he left a long dark frock coat; of Irish descent; 25 or 30 years old. $100 reward.

Payment of Commutation Does not Exempt from Bounty Tax.

An important case, and one in which the public in general are interested to a considerable extent, was disposed of in the District Court on Saturday last. It was presented in the form of a stated case in which the School Directors of Plum Township were plaintiffs, and John Ewer was defendant. The facts of the case are as follows: John Ewer, a citizen of said township, was drafted in July, 1863, under the act of Congress, paid the $300 commutation and was discharged from further liability. In 1864, a Bounty tax, under the provisions of the Bounty act of Pennsylvania, was assessed and levied on him, amounting to $55, by the School Directors of said township, which he refused to pay, claiming that he was exempt under the exceptions in said Bounty act, and hence this stated case. The point of law submitted to the Court for its decision was, whether he, having paid the commutation in 1863, was liable to pay a bounty tax under the provisions of said act.

Messrs. Moffitt and Cochran appeared for the School Directors, and B. C. Childs, Esq., for the defendant. After hearing the arguments of the counsel, the Court decided that the payment of commutation did not bring the defendant within the exemption contained in the 4th section of said act, therefore he was liable to pay the tax, and ordered judgment to be entered in favor of the plaintiffs for $55, the amount of tax so assessed and levied on him, as a citizen of said township.

"Beggar" Sent Up.—A man named Silas Jackson, hailing from Maryland, was arrested this morning by officer Hess, of the Allegheny police, for drunkenness. It appears that for some time past Jackson has been going from house to house begging for money with which he intended he procured the necessaries of life, but quite to the contrary, he has spent it for "old Rye," and has been seen before been locked up for drunkenness. He was sent to jail for twenty-four hours.

The Chartiers Valley Railroad.—The sale of the Chartiers Valley Railroad, which was to have taken place to-day, (20th inst.), by order of the Supreme Court, to satisfy the holders of the mortgage bonds, has been postponed on application of the contractors, who