The Pittsburgh Gazette.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1865.

TRAVELERS' GUIDE.

Arrival and Departure of Trains.

Pennsylvania Central Railroad.

Departs.	Arrives.
Day Express.....2:30 a m	Mail.....1:50 a m
Fast Line Accom'n 7:10 a m	Fast Line.....2:40 a m
Chicago Express 8:50 a m	1st Wall Accom..6:25 a m
Mail.....11:50 a m	1st Penn Accom..7:55 a m
Express.....2:50 p m	2d Wall Accom..8:50 a m
Johnst'n Ac'n 4.15 p m	Johnst'n Ac'n..10:05 a m
Fast Line.....10:00 p m	Phila Erie Mail 10:25 p m
1st Wall Accom. 6:30 a m	Baltimore Exp's 1:30 p m
2d " " 10:45 a m	2d Wall Accom.. 1:50 p m
1st " " 6:00 p m	Phila. Express.. 2:05 p m
1st Penn Accom'n 10:20 p m	2d Penn Accom'n 4:25 p m
2d " " 8:00 p m	Altoona Accom.
	1st Emigt Train 1:45 p m

The church train leaves Wall's Station every Sunday at 9:05 a. m.; returning, leaves Pittsburgh at 12:50 p. m.

Pittsburgh, Columbus and Cincinnati.

Departs.	Arrives.
Fast Line.....2:05 a m	Fast Line.....3:30 p m
Mail.....8:15 a m	Mail.....3:30 p m
Express.....2:45 p m	Express.....10:05 a m
Steubenville Ac.	Steubenville Ac.
commodation..4:15 p m	commodation..10:25 a m

Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago.

Departs.	Arrives.
Express.....7:05 a m	Express.....2:05 a m
Express.....1:58 p m	Express.....9:15 p m
Express.....8:25 p m	Express.....2:50 p m
Express.....7:15 a m	Mail.....6:15 p m
Mail.....Exp. 6:15 p m	

Wheeling Junction Accommodation leaves Allegeny at 6 a. m., 11:50 a. m., 4:30 p. m., and 8:45 p. m.; Rochester, 7:15 p. m.; New Castle, 8:50 p. m.; Economy, 10:20 p. m.; Wellsville, 2:50 p. m.

Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Wheeling.

Departs.	Arrives.
Express.....9:23 a m	Express.....3:55 p m
Express.....2:50 p m	Express.....9:15 p m
Mail.....6:25 a m	Express.....2:25 a m

Steubenville Accommodation leaves Allegheny at 3:50 p. m.

Pittsburgh and Connellsville.

Departs.	Arrives.
Mail.....7:15 a m	Mail.....6:05 p m
Express.....3:50 p m	Express.....10:00 a m
1st McKeesport.11:00 a m	1st McKeesport 6:50 a m
2d " " 6:35 a m	2d " " 2:00 p m

Allegheny Valley Railroad.

Departs.	Arrives.
Mail.....6:45 a m	Express.....11:50 a m
Express.....6:10 p m	Mail.....6:10 a m
Accommodation 1:40 p m	Accommodat'n 9:00 a m

Pittsburgh and Erie Railroad, to Oil City and Franklin.

Arrives.	Departs.
No. 48 Express. 7:45 p m	No. 47 Express. 8:35 a m

Via Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago and Beaver Valley.

Brownsville Boat—Grant and Water S

Arrives.	Departs.
1:00 a. m.	4.00 p. m. 8:00 a. m. ..... 6:00 p. m

Harmony Stage—Red Lion Hotel, St. Clair Street.

Arrives.	Departs.
6¼ p. m.	6:00 a. m.

Butler Stage—No. 6 St. Clair Street.

Arrives.	Departs.
2½ p. m.	6¼ a. m.

Washington Stage—Hare's Hotel.

Arrives.	Departs.
2½ p. m.	8:00 a. m.

EXCELSIOR OMNIBUS AND LIVERY STABLE,

410 Penn Street,

JAMES DAIN & 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.

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CITY AND SUBURBAN.

Central Skating Park.

This beautiful sheet of ice, situated on the line of the Citizens' Passenger Railway, in the Ninth ward, was yesterday thrown open to visitors, and was thronged with ladies and gentlemen during the entire day, and up to a very late hour last night. The officers of the company are Major Joseph G. Knap, President; W. C. Moreland, Esq., Vice President; Orlando Metcalf, Esq., Secretary, N. McClintock, Esq., Treasurer; D. P. Corwin, Esq., General Superintendent; and Messrs. C. T. Hughes and A. D. Reno, Assistant superintendents. The last mentioned gentlemen have a general supervision of the grounds, and are both graceful and accomplished skaters.

The company have erected an elegant and commodious building for the accommodation of their patrons. It is almost completed, one week of warm weather being all the time required to give it the finishing touches. On entering the front hall, the ticket office first presents itself, connected with which is the skate room, where skates or skeletons and patterns can be obtained. There two gentlemen, under the immediate control of Mr. Jos. A. Summ, a gentleman well known in our community, and whose urbanity and polite attentions will make every visitor completely at ease from the first. Across the hall from the ticket office is the ladies' reception room, where an attentive colored porter will be found ready to take charge of gentlemen's overcoats, shawls, &c.

Next to the gents' room is the saloon or dining room. This is under the control of Mr. Jonas Smith, whose skill as a caterer is spoken of in the highest terms of commendation. At the end of the hall is the ladies' reception room, a large and elegant apartment, intended exclusively for the use of the ladies, and adjoining, which is a ladies' dressing room. A lady will be in attendance here to attend to the wants of the fair skaters.

The different rooms are well heated by stoves, and are as comfortable as one's own fireside. They are well lighted by beautiful chandeliers, furnished by W. N. Ogden, of Market street. The building was erected by Messrs. Smith & Bungey, and the furniture was purchased of Dravo, Lindsay & Co., of Penn street. Nothing seems to be wanting to enhance the comfort of the guests.

From the different runs are doors opening out upon a gallery which was around the back part of the house, and from this gallery one descended upon the ice. Up to our arrival there last evening, it was estimated that nearly one thousand persons had visited the park yesterday. Some fifteen or two hundred persons upon the ice at one time, of whom eight were ladies. At intervals around the park were large lamps, eight or ten in a row, and the effect, even though no lights are by day, a most fairy light prevailed in whose enclosure, making objects distinctly visible. There will be twenty-four of these lamps burning to-night. In addition to these, Mr. John W. Pittock has sent out for ten dozen Chinese lanterns, which will extremely express to-day. To-night being a grand carnival night, the brass band will discourse music during the entire evening.

The Central Park may now be regarded as a perfect success. The water in the deepest part is only eighteen inches deep, and all weak points will be marked with a flag. Last night there was but one place thus marked, and we are of the opinion that it will be perfectly sound this morning. The seasons during which the grounds will be fit for skating purposes, will be duly announced at Pittock's and the Passenger Railway Station on Penn street.

The opening last night was made the occasion of a banquet given by the managers of the Park. Among the invited guests upon the occasion, we noticed the President of the Citizens Passenger Railway Company, James Verner, Esq., Mr. Jones, of the Jones & Nimick Manufacturing Company, Capt. Hay, of the Pittsburgh water works, Col. Jos. Kaye, of the Fort Pitt Foundry, Mr. Wamelink, of the firm of Wamelink & Baer, Mr. Bruce McClelland, of McClelland's American House, W. C. Moreland, Esq., and Mr. Woodward, of the Pittsburgh bar, Messrs. Irwin, Locke, Purdy, Houston and Pittock of the Pittsburgh press, and a large number of others. The table was most bountifully spread, and when we mention the fact that Col. Parker was *chef de cuisine*, we know that its merits and excellence will be fully understood. That it was appreciated no one need doubt. After each and fully tested its merits, speeches and toasts became the order of the evening.

The toasts were led off by Mr. Shaner, who offered "The President of the Central Skating Park, and the President of the Citizens' Passenger Railway Company." The gentlemen responded with their characteristic modesty and good taste, after which the "Union" was drank standing, with three hearty cheers and a tiger. Speeches were then called for, and a number of gentlemen were called to their feet. Maj. Knap stated that the object of the Association was not entirely to make a pecuniary success, as to make the park a desirable place for healthy amusement. If they succeeded in that, it would be all they wished. Pittsburgh had long needed a breathing place, where ladies would resort to without fear, and where gentlemen could spend an hour or so daily in healthy and exciting amusement, where the cares and troubles of business would be thrown aside for the time being, and free of judgment nearly the place of the fevered brow and overtasked body. It was the intention of the Association to make the Park an inviting place to frequent, and if they succeeded in pleasing their patrons, it would be all they would ask. W. C. Moreland, Esq., spoke at some length upon the same topic. Mr. Wamelink said that he could not make a speech, but he would compose a Volka, and call it the Central Skating Park Polka. Mr. Irwin and Mr. Locke made short speeches on the part of the press.

The guests were indebted to the courtesy of James Verner, Esq., President of the Citizen's Passenger Railway for special cars to take them out and bring them in. A sufficient number of cars will always be kept running for the accommodation of skaters, the last car leaving the park according to the route up to the city, at half past ten o'clock at night. On carnival or other extra occasions, additional cars will be placed upon the road. We close by reiterating Mr. Shaner's toast, "Success to the Central Skating Park, and the Citizens Passenger Railway Company."

Our Book Table.

THE STRUGGLE IN FIRST PERIODS. By Captain Joseph Fergusson, with an introduction by Rev. J. T. Cooper, D. D. Philadelphia: J. M. Ferguson, Publisher, 25 North Sixth street, Pittsburgh: for sale at the U. P. Book Rooms, third street.

This little work contains a thrilling account of the sufferings, escapes, adventures and starvation of Union prisoners, so far as they came under the author's observation. Captain Fergusson very narrowly escaped being torn to pieces by blood hounds, as shown by the illustration on page 70. No one who reads this book will doubt the barbarities practised by Wirz and others. We have the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the author, and from his well known Christian character, we have no doubt that the book contains a faithful representation of the scenes through which he passed in behalf of his country. It is certainly one of the most entertaining works that we have seen on this subject.

In addition to illustrations, there is an appendix, containing the names, regiments and date of death of Pennsylvania soldiers who died at Andersonville.

Agents wanted to canvass for the book.

THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.—Told in verse by Richard Henry Stoddard: Illustrated. New York: Hurd & Houghton.

As a holiday gift for children, this book is highly commendable. The old familiar story of the "Babes in the Wood," is told in excellent style, and the illustrations are in a corresponding style of excellence. There is not a family in which it would not be welcomed by the children.

For sale by Davis, Clarke & Co., Wood street.

Union Skating Park.

The Union Park of Allegheny City opened gloriously yesterday afternoon, it having been visited by over one thousand of the *elite* of both cities, there having been visitors from this side, residing as far away as Centre Avenue. The number stated visited the Park before gas, lighting, and what number were there after dark we can only conjecture. It is expected that to-night there will be an immense attendance. Locomotive reflectors have been obtained, and stationed at intervals around the Park, disseminating sufficient light to render every object plainly discernable. A very handsome building has been erected, with everything necessary for the convenience and comfort of guests. The arrangements for the pleasure of ladies are most perfect, a good band of music is in attendance, and nothing has been omitted to make the Union Skating Park a pleasant place of resort for all. No danger need be apprehended from the ice breaking, for even if it were not strong enough—which is not the case—a child could not be drowned, as the water is not deep enough. The grounds are very extensive, embracing a little over five acres, room enough for all who wish to indulge in the pleasant, healthy and exciting exercise of skating. The Allegheny curling club was last night organized, and the managers have set aside a certain portion of the grounds for those who wish to participate in the game. We expect that the Park will be filled all day, and that to-night will witness the triumph of the skating carnival.

Amusements.

The Columbus *Journal*, speaking of the Mirstrel troupe, who are to visit us next week, says:

ANTHENEUM.—"Old Drury" was crowded again last night to witness the chaste minstrel performances of Burgess, Pendergrast, Hughes & Donaldson's excellent troupe. The sublime and ridiculous are admirably interwoven, making a medley of fun and sentiment, rich, rare and racy. The excellent ballad by Mr. Pendergrast, "Father, come home, little dennie is dead," was rendered with true artistic skill, and brought tears to many eyes.

They will open as Masonic Hall on Tuesday night.

THEATRE.—To-night closes the engagement of Miss Kate Reignolds, which has been one of unbounded success. She has, during her brief sojourn among us, won hosts of friends by her delineation of the characters in which she has appeared, to-night she appears as Romeo in the great Shakespearean play of "Romeo and Juliet," the afternoon being the "Maniac Lover."

OPERA HOUSE.—To-night is the last night of the engagement of Mrs. Maj. Pauline Cushman, the Union Spy. She appears in the two great plays of Cynthia, the Gypsy queen, and Virginer Na Caillie. On Monday night, Miss Annie Eberle, the Lessee and Management of the Opera House, takes her first benefit this season, in which she will appear as Miami, the Hunchback of the Mississippi. This a version there will be a matinee, at which the Octoroon will be played in full. Mr. Mc. Atwater on the same evening, in his best, one hundred dollars, never will be missed. The woman has a realistic and powerful hold of water, and does some very clever thinking in the character. She is also well supported by the attached to the personnel. Miss Mc. Mc. Jeffrey sweet-human child. Miss Mc. Mc. Jeffrey sweet-human child. Miss Mc. Mc. Jeffrey sweet-human child