CITY BULLETIN.

CITY COUNCILS.—A stated meeting was held yesterday afternoon.

Select Branch.—The chair presented a communication from Robert M. Fleet inviting Councils to attend the inaugural address of President Grant.

Mr. Stokley moved that the Directors of Girard College, and Committee of Councils, did not respect College, as resolved, would have suggested that the Council, or their investigation ordered by Councils action said Mr. He objected to the reception of the committee. He, therefore, moved an amendment to the communication on the subject of the resolution of Mr. Page withdrawn it table, but at the request of Mr. Page withdrew it for the present.

The Chair presented the following communication, saying, it had been received by mistake, and was taken on the above subject:

To the Councils of Philadelphia: At your instance a joint special committee of five members of each branch was appointed to examine into all the circumstances connected with the removal of Major R. S. Smith from the presidency of Girard College. That action was regarded by many as the assertion of your controlling power in matters over the directors.

The committee appointed on behalf of your bodies has met, and has agreed upon a plan which will secure the object of your resolution, which is (as we understand it) not to make an investigation as will enable the Councils to discharge their obligations as well to the wards of Mr. Girard as to the community, and your committee is in no to disagree with your work. We learned on our new progressing, and that notwithstanding your the 5th of October that we should report, and action, a simple inquiry of the board of directors, as to the propriety of such a course, and to inquire if they would have resolved to inaugurate a president on Friday, November 1, 1867, although Francis Ellen Smith previously informed them in writing that we proposed to wait and submit to your action in this matter.

The undersigned (fearing that this conduct might produce injury to, as he was a member of the institution) immediately filed a bill in equity to stay proceeding for the present (a copy of which bill is enclosed), and they do now submit to your better judgment and their report. It would be against the dignity of the Councils to be present at the installation.

On the question shall the invitation be accepted, it was decided in the negative, yeas 12, as follows:

YEAS—Burton, Cattell, Fox, Kersey, Manuel, Ritchie, Shermer, Smith, Stokley, Wagner.

NAYS—Barlow, Campbell, Dunlap, Hodgson, Hopkins, Jones, Kametly, Klug, Marcus, McCutchen, Page, Rowland, Smith.

So the invitation was not accepted.

The following resolution from the Board of Directors of Girard College are hereby instructed to suspend all proceedings in the matter of the installation of the 11th of September, 1867, relating to the President of said Institution. The resolution on the first reading was adopted by a vote of 12 yeas to 10 nays, but Council refused to suspend the rules by the same vote, for the final passage of the resolution.

Mr. Kamerly offered a resolution providing for the appointment of a special committee to investigate an apparatus to insure safety of steam boilers. Agreed to.

A resolution was adopted calling upon the Board of School Controllers to inform Councils how much of the School Loan had been assigned to each section, how much had been expended in each section, school-houses, their location, and whether any additional appropriation would be required.

Mr. Hodgdon, of the Committee on Water, reported a resolution providing for the laying of water pipe on Paul, Faulkner, Opal, Sixty, Ontario, Tulpehocken, Jefferson, Franklin and Green streets.

The Chair decided this resolution not to be in order.

Mr. Smith had hoped this body would have either asserted *our* discretion from the beginning, instead of that, honorable gentlemen were finding fault with gentlemen on honorable ground. He was sorry he was compelled to be understood as being a champion of nothing but right and justice. The chairman of the investigating committee he (Mr. Smith) determined to conduct it with justice and propriety, but hasty members, the Mayor, had had given information outside. He affirmed the statement of Mr. Stokley as to these members swearing that no caucus had been held, and hoped that the only subject to be considered was as to the acceptance of the invitation.

Mr. Page replied that the full of Girard Councils were the trustees of the estate and were responsible for its management. If the directors elected were not competent for their duties, Councils should fill their places with others.

Mr. King moved to postpone the subject one week.

Mr. Cattell said he came in late, but from what he heard of the discussion, he thought some slurs or highwaymen were on him. He was surprised to find the subject was only as to the reception of an invitation. He took up the published statement of the directors and said that if one-half contained in it were true, the action of board of directors were amenable for not turning on Mayor Smith possible. He was a member of the committee now investigating the subject, and would try to do as right as he could let him in that investigation. Nevertheless, he would refer to the printed paper.

Mr. Coleman said he felt a delicacy to speak on the subject, as he was a member of the board of directors of this college. He intended to resign as soon as the committee of investigation, on their report, but of course could not do so in justice to himself until that question was settled. He said if this printed document was true, the board should be removed, as all of the complaints they referred to were attributable to their neglect as a board and as committees. As to the House of Refuge complaint, he did not know of an case in two years wherein boys had been sent from the college to that institution. That was a case where two boys were detected in setting fire, one to a closet, and one being spared by the direct. The president of the board of directors, with the chairman of the committee on the subject in charge, waited on Mayor Henry, and after consultation with him and the Fire Marshal it was determined that it would not do to let these boys run at large perhaps to destroy the property of the city, but to send them to the House of Refuge. The boys were not sent to the House of Refuge by the board of directors. It was the duty of the matron and governesses to see to the beds and clothing, and in fact the entire condition of the boys. The president of course has general supervision and makes his reports to the board once a month. The first intimation he had of the removal of Major Smith was a resolution introduced just at the adjournment of a meeting. About three months after he thought he met a gentleman in the street, who said they were going to move Major Smith, as they had counted noses and found they had a majority in favor of the course. He paid no attention to the remark, however, but when the resolution was introduced he objected to the manner of the proceeding. He did not stand here as the champion of Maj. Smith, for he had never exchanged two words with him outside of the meeting rooms of the college. All the bugging referred to could be showed only of boys came under the charge of the committee on discipline and discharge, of which one of the signers of the paper is chairman. He would defy any one to show that any of the college that discipline had not been maltreated, or that a charge had been brought before the board against the president. He recollected on one occasion of being in a barber shop when the barber was cutting the hair of two boys, and heard him say there was vermin in their heads. He at once inquired of them some mischievous way, was to see to this, and was informed it was the matron's. He never heard a complaint after this. If the college was in a dilapidated condition it was the fault of Councils, who did not appropriate the necessary money to keep it in order.

Mr. Stokley interrupted, and asked if the Councils did not give money enough why did the directors attempt to increase the president's salary from $3,000 to $3,500, and when they could not accomplish that to give the $500 to the prefects.

Mr. Coleman said, by the action of one member, who understood that Major Smith's salary was to be the same as Professor Allardy, the bill had been reported. Some of those whose names are signed on this paper had voted in the vote to give the prefects the money. He desired to say that he did not vote for the bill, but he thought it made concerning the treatment of children at the college, as he had seen more in six-eighths of the teachers in the city could be hung if the evidence of the children and their parents were taken. In conclusion, he said he was in favor of the board of directors, against Major Smith or his policy as president of the college, and therefore the statements made by ten directors, without the knowledge of the other eight, should be taken with great allowance.

Mr. Page spoke at length about the infamy of striking down a man's character without his being heard. The will of Mr. Girard was in direct opposition to the action of the directors.

Mr. Smith said it was refreshing to hear the member from the Fifth (Mr. Page) speak about the College. He read from the journal of Coun-

cils to show that the Democratic party swept out the entire board of directors of the College without any cause, and against the protest of such men as Alex. Henry, John P. Verree, and others of the character.

Mr. Page said he considered that action of the Democrats a great compliment.

Mr. Smith—I don't know if that opinion of the gentleman will help this cause any. (Great laughter.)

Mr. King moved to refer the invitation to the Committee on Girard College investigation. Committee of Councils, and Committee of Investigation ordered by Councils action said Mr. He objected to the reception of the committee. He, therefore, moved an amendment to the communication on the subject of the resolution of Mr. Page withdrew it table, but at the request of Mr. Page withdrew it for the present.

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