AMUSEMENTS.

—To-morrow evening, at the Academy of Music, the benefit of Mr. Peter E. Abel, tendered him by his friends and gentlemen of the dramatic profession, takes place. The new drama, entitled, *The School for Scandal*, will be presented, with an excellent caste. A galaxy of popular artists have volunteered their services for the occasion, prominent among whom are Mrs. Hale Josie Orton. The will appear as "Lady Teazle," Mr. Robert Craig and Mr. J. P. Cathcart. A large and efficient orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. J. W. Post, will be in attendance and will perform a number of choice selections. We hope and have no doubt that Mr. Abel will have a crowded house upon this delightful occasion. The programme speaks for itself, so that any recommendation from us is superfluous.

—Bryant's minstrel company meets with continued success at the Arch Street Theatre. One good thing about this company is that they are always producing something new. Mr. Dan Bryant will have a benefit, when a good bill will be presented, including a burlesque of *Trovatore*. A prominent feature of the entertainment is the delightful singing of the vocal quintette.

—*Rip Van Winkle* is still the attraction at the Walnut. The crowds drawn to see Mr. Jefferson's perfect personation of "Rip" do not diminish in size.

—A variety entertainment will be given at Fox's Gaiety by a good company. It is announced that on Monday next Tony Pastor's combination of New York artists will appear.

—Mme. Marie Zoe will appear every evening during the week at Dupree & Benedict's Seventh Street Opera House, in the military drama, the *French Spy*.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Mr. Henry C. Lea is an author, whose learning, culture, research, fine analytical powers and pure style are better appreciated in England than in America. But that he has a large body of readers at home is proved by the fact that his admirable work called "Superstition and Force" has gone to a second edition, which has just been issued by Messrs. J. B. Lippincott & Co. In the preface Mr. Lea says: "In reprinting the work, numerous changes and additions have been introduced, which, it is hoped, may render the volume more worthy of the favor with which it has been received." The subjects treated of in this work are "The Wager of Battle," "Ordeal by Water," "The Ordeal" and "Torture." Of course the the studies for these subjects are found chiefly in the middle ages; and Mr. Lea has explored most thoroughly, and then brings down the history of each of the four illustrations of superstition and force united, to the time of its extinction. He gives a wonderful amount of well digested, well arranged and valuable information. The book and its successor, the "Studies in Church History," are the best of American contributions to real, solid literature. Philadelphia has great reason to be proud that so distinguished an author is one of her citizens.

The Life of George Peabody, published by B. B. Russell, of Boston, can hardly attain to high rank as a biography. It is a hastily prepared collection of facts already well known, with a vast amount of "padding" from the long articles that appeared in the English and American papers, from the long period that elapsed between the death and the final interment. Some of the illustrations are interesting. The author is Phebe A. Hanaford. Member of the Essex Institute and author of the life of Lincoln."

Hugh Miller was an honest, simple, sensible Scotchman, who did a great deal of good in his day, and made some valuable contributions to literature. His son-in-law, the Rev. John Davidson, has performed the pious duty of collecting from various periodicals and journals large number of other writings of his, which have been published in a stout, handsome volume of 450 pages, by Virtue & Yerkton, of New York. Many of them are out of date, and most of them were of interest only in the places where they first appeared. But there is a great deal of sound sense, religion and morality in them, and the admirers of Hugh Miller ought all to procure the volume to complete their sets of his works. The title of it is "Leading articles on various subjects."

Professor J. H. McIlvaine, of Princeton College, has written a work called "Elocution: the Sources and Elements of Its Power," which is designed as a text book for schools and colleges, and a book for every public speaker and student of the English language." It is a very elaborate treatise, but we think it will make an art which so many Americans are quite easily too abstruse and too much a matter of study. Has it a text-book, in classes where all are not born orators, it will doubtless be found useful. The publishers are Charles Scribner & Co., of New York.

Mr. T. Ellwood Zell has brought his Popular Encyclopedia down to the name "Kean," which appears on the last page of No. 35. The success of this important and useful work is deservedly great.

Dr. W. W. Hall, editor of *Hall's Journal of Health*, has had published by Hurd & Houghton, of New York, a volume called "Health and Good Living," which appears to contain a great deal of good advice as to the best modes of preserving the health, or restoring it when impaired. It is not technical or learned, but is intelligible to every reading creature. For sale by Lippincott & Co.

D. Appleton & Co. have issued Cæsar's Commentaries on the Gallic War—one of their series of Harkness's Latin and Greek Text-books. The notes are copious, and make the work of translating and construing very easy. A map of Gaul is prefixed, and a dictionary of all the words used is appended. For sale by Lippincott & Co.

The American Sunday School Union has just issued three new juveniles; all good, of course. They are entitled respectively "Daisy's Companions," "Snarly or Sharly?" and "Allie Moore's Lesson."

In one of the dainty set of volumes called "The Bayard Series," Messrs. Scribner, Welford & Co., of New York, have printed some "Letters, Sentences and Maxims of Lord Chesterfield," preceded by a charming essay by Sainte-Beuve, the eminent French critic. Lord Chesterfield is not valued now as he was in a past generation, but his writings addressed to his son contain a great deal that is useful, and it may be said that all such is here collected. Sainte-Beuve's essay, written in 1859, is excellent.

A new edition of "Major Jones's Courtship" has been issued by the Peterson. It is known to their "Library of Humorous American books," and is illustrated by Darley.

One of Disraeli's early novels, which was very popular, "Contarini Fleming," has been issued by Appleton & Co. in a cheap but quite good cloth form.

Miss Eliza A. Youmans is the author of a "First Book of Botany," published by Appleton & Co. It is designed to cultivate the observing powers of children when they are rambling among flowers and plants. The method is new and appears to be excellent. Each lesson, or exercise, is illustrated in a manner to make the text perfectly intelligible.

A little hand-book, with the ghastly title of "Skeleton Tours through England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Poland and Spain," has been published by the Appletons. Its author is Henry Winthrop Sargent. People, not skeletons, going to Europe will find it to contain a vast amount of useful information, in a highly concentrated form. It can be carried in the pocket easily.

LETTER FROM POTTSVILLE.

[Correspondence of the Philada. Evening Bulletin.]

POTTSVILLE, June 14, 1870.—This is a splendid morning to write a gossipy letter one had no work to do. The sunshine! June sunshine—doubly welcome after the long week of rain—is suggestive of nothing so much as lying on your back under an apple-tree in some breezy orchard, with the sky above you flooded with sunshine and the air around you full of bird-songs; with an old familiar friend of a book in your hand, and no passer-by to molest you with you please to call "conversation." But such dreaming is premature, and I will away with it. The Sabbath of the year! comes not until August, which is holiday time for everybody but newspaper men, who are expected to be present to stay at home and solace their souls with Bryant's dreamy lines about "The fourth August noon."

Practical life demands a supply of current notes. The best news is that the abominable nuisance of a hay market, which has long disgraced the busiest portion of Centre street, has at length, by a tardy ordinance, been removed to Market square (where the wagons will be a temporary substitute for the soldiers' monument, which some folks are desirous of erecting there), and the portion of Centre street in the neighborhood of the City Hall—portion where a long string of hay-wagons may be observed this morning, for the first time, extending nearly the whole length of the space allotted to them—greatly to the detriment of the gallery of fine arts, which propriety of venues are in the habit of displaying on that interesting territory. About a year ago Council passed a resolution appropriating $1,000 per year to the fitting up and beautifying of the grounds appertaining to the soldiers' monument, and I presume the hay-wagons are the beginning of the improvement.

The Court of Quarter Sessions is *apparently* in fringing upon the late law, which says it shall not for the transaction of criminal business but one week in a year; being superseded, at other periods, by the new Criminal Court (Judge Pierce's court), and, having sat all last week, is prolonging its session into this one. A number of petty cases, principally liquor, were disposed of yesterday, nobody pleading to the jurisdiction of the Court. How it will be when the—suicide cases come up—there are always plenty of those—remains to be seen.

At any rate, the question will be settled next week. A *certiorari* has been prepared, and will then be argued in the moot court, and it is expected that the decision of that learned body will be accepted as conclusive by both contending parties. This is a new court established by the Young America element of the county bar, without the assistance of the Legislature, and without any question as to the constitutionality of the act. It is an offshoot of "The Law Association of Schuylkill County," which is modeled after that of Philadelphia—is in the nature of a moot court, with power to hold jury trials, and though but a fortnight old argues its cases and renders its decisions with a vigor and ability that stond its weeks.

Another organization is the Young Men's Christian Association, whose *debut* I mentioned a few days ago. It completed its organization last evening, adopting a form of constitution and by-laws similar to that of most societies of the kind throughout the country. The officers are not yet elected.

I don't know whether it is because Pottsville is the wickedest or the most righteous place in the country, but it seems to be an special favorite with the ministerial fraternity this season. First, the Philadelphia M. E. Conference brought us about two hundred—the Presbyterian Synod, at the same time, bringing about a dozen additional, by an adjourned session. Afterwards, come the Grand Lodges, and then the Presbyterian stated meetings; and now the German Lutheran Synod is filling the town with white neck-ties and high Dutch. This body is a venerable one. Organized in Philadelphia in 1748, it is its 123d annual session, its numbers having swelled from a dozen ministers and a few lay delegates to a ministerial representation of about one hundred and fifty. The lay delegates are a representation of what was once a favorable impression of their intellectual standing; though being, as the name denotes, essentially a German Church, they have a tendency to occasionally drop the English, and, warmed up in debate, and roll out spontaneous Teutonic polysyllables, intensely aggravating to one whose German has been neglected.

The treasurer's sale of land for taxes took place yesterday, most of the land going into the hands of the County Commissioners. Very little coal land was sold, though a great deal was advertised for sale, the taxes being very generally paid to the treasurer after advertisement. As a whole, the sale could scarcely be called a success. WICO.

CITY BULLETIN.

—The Congressional Committee on Manufactures and on Foreign Relations, the Senators from Pennsylvania, and the members of Congress from this city will arrive in Philadelphia by special train on Thursday night, and will visit the Continental Hotel. On Friday morning, in company with the Council Committee, the distinguished visitors will visit Independence Hall, where they will be formally welcomed by the Mayor of the city. On Friday afternoon they will be conveyed to Baldwin's locomotive works, on Broad street, and from there to the Girard College. From this point the party will be conducted to Fairmount Park by a committee of the Commissioners, for the purpose of examining the ground selected for the proposed International exhibition. On Saturday morning the visitors will take the steamboat Twilight for a trip along the Delaware River, to enable them to examine the mills at Gloucester, and the manufacturing establishments at Kensington. A salute will be fired at the Navy Yard as the boat passes at that point. In the evening the Union League will be visited. It has been ascertained that the committees visit the coal regions on Sunday, starting from this city early in the morning and returning the same day in time to enable the members of Congress to start for Washington on the Sunday night, if they so desire.

—John Fourey, aged twelve years, was run over last evening, by a street car, at the corner of Ninth and Cherry streets, and sustained severe injuries. The little fellow was removed to his home on Queen street, below Fourth.

—The Controllers of the Public Schools held a stated meeting, yesterday afternoon, M. Hall Stanton, Esq., President, in the chair. Communications were received from the Sections, asking appropriations for various purposes. The Third, for the purchase of lots of ground on the east side of Fourth street, below Greenmah, to erect a school building thereon, for which $15,500 are wanted. The Twelfth for the purchase of property to be used as a primary school. The Fifteenth asking for additional school accommodations. The Twenty-third for school purposes now occupied by the Decatur Primary, in Frankford. Favorable reference was made of the communications. The Committee on Supplies reported that they had awarded contracts for supplying the school-houses with coal and kindling-wood at the following rates: *Coal*—1st Dist., $7 50 per ton; 2d, $6 25 per ton; 3d, $5 94 per ton; 4th, $5 93 per ton; 5th, $5 40 per ton; 6th, $5 39 per ton; 7th, $7 75 per ton; 8th, $9 73 per ton; 9th, $6 73 per ton; 10th, $7 48 per ton. *Kindling-wood*—1st Dist., 26 cents per box; 2d, 26 cents per box; 3d, 29 cents per box; 4th, 28 cents per box; 5th, 28 cents per box; 6th, 30 cents per box; 7th, 30 cents per box; 8th, 34 cents per box; 9th, 32 cents per box; 10th, 30 cents per box. Charcoal at 45 cents per barrel for first 20 Wards; 50 cents per barrel for rural Wards. The Board then received the report of the Committee on the Girls' Normal School reported that the number of pupils in the school is 480, of whom 48 will graduate; average number leaving at the end of the term 25; number present at the beginning of the term 409. The committee admit the same number as at the last examination would make the whole 532, which is beyond the capacity of the building to accommodate. They recommend that four be admitted from the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 24th and 27th sections; three from the 5th, 14th and 22d sections; two from the 25th, 20th and 28th sections, and eight from the 14th section, to be laid over for consideration at the next meeting. The Board was notified of the election of Bessie Archer, Mamie Green, Hattie C. Filson, G. B. Higgins and John E. Rickel for teachers of music in the schools. The Board adjourned until Tuesday next.

—The Republican delegate elections last evening, as a general thing, passed off quietly. There were two or three rows, but no serious consequences resulted. About four o'clock in the afternoon, George Finney created a disturbance at the division house, corner of Passyunk road and Wharton street, just as the ward committee had formed his way into the room occupied by the inside officers, and carried the books away from them. Not content with this, he pulled a knife out of his pocket and attempted to stab Mr. Horton Howell. Fortunately the knife only cut through his garments, slightly grazing the skin. He was arrested and committed and taken before Alderman Hagan, and bound over in the sum of $1,000 for the peace and the voting in the first division of the Eighth Ward, last evening, a general disturbance occurred, during which the ballot-boxes were sealed and broken open and the ballots scattered over the street. Fortunately no one was seriously injured. The police were on hand, but no arrests followed.

—Messrs. Thomas & Sons sold, at the Exchange, yesterday, the following stocks and realestate: 1,000 shares Lecuna Gold Mining Co., $3 00; $800 Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad, $80; $450 0 per cent. Cape Island bonds, $80; 3 shares Chamber of Commerce, $50; 19 shares Philadelphia and Trenton Railroad, $118 00; $3,000 Warren and Franklin Railroad, 80 per cent.; $6,000 Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad, $81 75; 25 shares Bank of the Republic, $95; 1 share Mercantile Library, $5 50; 2,407 shares Campbell Iron Co., $20 37½; two-story brick building, 1,800 Ridge avenue, $1,000; two-story brick building, 1,802 Ridge avenue, $1,000; two-story brick building, 1,804 Ridge avenue, $1,000; two-story brick building, 1,806 Ridge avenue, $1,000; two-story brick building, 1,808 Ridge avenue, $1,000; 1 share