Anecdote of Robert Hoe, Inventor of the Improved Printing Press.

In the summer of 1805, the yellow fever prevailed to a fearful extent in the city of New-York. I never left the city on these occasions. One day a young man stepped into my store. Said he, "I am just come on shore from a passenger ship from England—Bristol, if I recollect right. I fled from the tyranny (not of George the 3d, but) of the Queen-tyrant, commonly called *step mother*. I am only eighteen years of age; by trade a carpenter: my funds are *low*; I can't travel any further.—Can you recommend me to a healthy part of the city, where I may board till the fever is over, when I may get employment, &c?"

Having been a stranger myself, I knew the heart of a stranger. Said I, "Robert, my dwelling, you perceive, is on high ground. This neighborhood is accounted the most healthy in the city—you can board with me; if you take sick, I and my wife will nurse you—we wont send you to the hospital."

At this time he was about five feet five inches; stout and robust, the very picture of health, and as I thought, a fit subject for the yellow fever.—Before a week, he was reported at the Board of Health, a case of yellow fever. I procured an eminent physician; my wife and I nursed him. On the third day he was under the operation of powerful medicine—a burning fever coursing through his veins; his skin yellow, and cheeks as red as a rose, and *homewick* withal. I sat by his bed; he fastened his glassy eyes on my countenance. "Oh!" says he, "Mr. Thorburn, I will die—I will die!"

"Tut," says I, "Robert Die! to be sure we must all die, but you are not going to die this week." In this I spoke unadvisedly with my lips; but I thought the end sanctified the means. I knew he would feel easier as soon as the medicine ceased operating. I watched the first *fall* in the storm; felt his pulse; said he was seventy-five per cent. better; he believed it. I continued a cheerful talk with him. Says I, "I hope to see you buckled to one of our bonny Yankee lasses, and to carry your grand-child in my arms yet."

I lived to see the literal fulfilment of this prophecy before he died, which happened, I think, about four years ago. To return: He swallowed a composing draught; dropped in a sweet sleep, and profuse perspiration. The crisis past, and before twenty four hours he stood as upright in his shoes as ever did a Kentuck volunteer in the Halls of the Montezumas.

He was a man below the ordinary size; rather stout made; smart walk—generally looking on the ground in a "*brown study*." A carpenter by trade, if my memory serves me right. It was when making some repairs in the office of the New York Commercial Advertiser that he first conceived the idea of improving the press.

His two sons now follow, and go yet farther in carrying out the improvements, first commenced by their worthy father.

He was a consistent professor, and an honest man. Robert Hoe was a grateful man also—Every time we met, he reiterated his acknowledgments to me and mine, as being the means of preserving his life. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, &c., &c. When I placed his aching head on my pillow, little did I think there lay the elements that would soon regenerate the world, through the medium of his improved printing press.

The following pleasing incident occurred in a thriving town in the Jerseys, where I was sojourning in the month of July last:

Having left my trunk at the depot, I met a man whom I knew not.—"Friend," says I, "canst thou direct me to a private boarding house, for a few days. I don't like a tavern." Says he, "I can, it's in the next block." We approached a decent looking, three story, brick house; on the stoop sat a homely matron, having a child in her lap. "Good wife said he, "this is Mr. Thorburn, from New York, he wishes to spend a few days in this town; will you board him?" "And that will I" she said, "for a life time if he pleases: for, I have heard with my ears, and my father has told me, that Mr. T. was the means, in the hands of Providence, to save his life." "What," said I, "was your father's name?" "R——H," said she. He left England in his 18th year, having no one in America whom he knew. He landed in New York in 1805; the yellow fever was raging—he caught the disease—and you nursed him, in your house—so we owe you a debt of gratitude." I took her child—Robert's grand child—in my arms. "Now," says I, "Madam, this day my prophecy is fulfilled in your eyes."

"Cast thy bread upon the waters, and thou shalt find it after many days." Yours

GRANT THORBURN.

Baltimore, Nov. 3d, 1847.

STRANGE STORY.—The following anecdote was related by the late Richard Cooper, who instructed Queen Charlotte in drawing, and for some time was drawing-master at Eaton school.

Robert Strange was a countryman of mine, a North Briton, who served his time to my father as an engraver, and was a soldier in the rebel army of 1745. It so happened when Duke William put them to flight, that Strange, finding a door open, made his way into the house, ascended to the first floor, and entered a room where a young lady was seated; she was at her needlework, and singing. Young Strange implored her protection. The lady, without rising, or being in the least disconcerted, desired him to get under her hoop. He immediately stooped, and the amiable woman covered him up. Shortly after this the house was searched; the lady continued at her work as before, and the soldiers upon entering the room, considering Miss Lunsdale alone, retired. Robert, as soon as the search was over, being released from his covering, kissed the hand of his protectress, and at that moment, for the first time, he found himself in love. He married the lady, and no persons, beset as they were with early difficulties, lived more happily. Strange afterwards became a loyal man, though for a long time he sighed to be pardoned by his king, who, however, was graciously pleased to be reconciled to him, and afterwards knighted him.

Ohio Lunatic Asylum.—The number of patients received since the institution went into operation in 1838, is 1,048—being 557 males and 491 females. Of the whole number received, 603 have been discharged. 115 have died, and the balance remain in the institution. Those insane from *disappointed love*, are women without exception, the youngest being 24 years of age. Those insane from jealousy are also women invariably, the youngest being 50 years of age. The largest number insane from any single cause are the religious lunatics, mainly women, who have been excited at revival and other extraordinary meetings. A large majority of those who are single are females.

Extraordinary Fecundity.—The following facts are communicated to us by a gentleman of unquestioned veracity:—Francis Kenny, now residing at the corner of Bridge and Johnson streets, in this city, married his wife Mary when she was 14 and he 16 years of age. When she was 15 she had her first child; at 17 she had two additional children at 18 three more; at 20 she had four; at 21 she had three; and at 22 years she had two, which ere now a few weeks old—making 15 children in 8 years. These extraordinary facts will probably arrest the attention of the faculty. We should like to know how many of these children are now living.

Brooklyn Star.

The Washington Monument.—The joint resolution granting a site on the public grounds in Washington city for the erection of the National Washington Monument, was passed on Wednesday the 26th ult., by the House of Representatives *nem. con.* as it had previously the Senate, and of course requires now only the assent of the President to have all the forms of law. The managers, the Intelligencer understands, propose to lay the corner stone of the monument at an early day—on the 22d of February next, if the proper arrangements can be completed by that day; if not, then on the 4th of July next.

Cotton Works in Georgia.—From a report laid before the legislature, we learn that there are thirty two cotton factories in operation or in construction, in the working and building of which two millions of dollars are employed, 3000 persons, and 6000 derive their support from them. The consumption of provisions and agricultural products, not including cotton for the use of these operatives, amounts annually to 300,000. They use for manufacturing purposes from 18,000 to 20,000 bales of cotton per annum, and the amount of manufactured goods, produced during the last year, was equal in value to a million and a half of dollars.—*Boston Post.*

The Morning Post.

D. HARPER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

PITTSBURGH:
TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 1, 1848.

IN THIS PAPER, THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, TREATIES, RESOLUTIONS OF CONGRESS, &c., ARE PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

VOICE OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY!

FOR PRESIDENT
JAMES BUCHANAN,
Subject to the decision of the National Convention.

☞ F. W. CARR, United States Newspaper Agency, Sun Buildings, N. E. corner of Third and Dock, and 440 N. Fourth street, is our only authorised Agent in Philadelphia.

☞ We are indebted to the Hon. M. HAMPTON for valuable public documents.

Report of the Canal Commissioners.

The report of the Canal Commissioners, which has recently been published by authority of the Legislature, gives a full account of all the public works of our State—the receipts from each, expenditures, and cost of repairs. The report is very lengthy; and we therefore make an abstract of it, which will, we hope be as acceptable to our readers as the full report would have been. The Commissioners say—

"The Canal Commissioners of Pennsylvania in making their report of the operations on the canals and railroads of this commonwealth, for the fiscal year commencing December 1, 1846, and ending November 30, 1847, would remark that the receipts up to the 1st of October, were unprecedentedly great, and the expenses as low as in any preceding year; but on the 7th and 8th of that month a most disastrous flood swept over much of the main line of the Pennsylvania and West Branch divisions, interrupting the thorough navigation between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh to the close of the year, and suspending that of the Susquehanna and West Branch divisions for a portion of the usual season of the season. Notwithstanding the diminution of the revenue from this cause, the receipts and expenditures for the year present the following gratifying result:

RECEIPTS.

For motive power charges and for use of State trucks on the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad, including fines, and for old materials sold,	$299,602 62	
For tolls on the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad,	275,385 65	$574,988 27
For motive power charges and for use of State trucks on the Allegheny Portage railroad, including fines and old materials sold,	181,719 21	
For tolls on the Allegheny Portage railroad,	48,940 67	230,660 88
For tolls on the main line of canal, including collections at outlet locks, bridges and aqueducts; also rents, fines, and for old materials sold,		425 396 78
Drawbacks at Philadelphia, Hollidaysburg, Blairsville and Pittsburgh,		3,231,045 93
Total gross receipts main line,		7,500 95
For tolls, rents, and fines on the Delaware division,		3,233,544 98
For tolls, rents and fines, on the Susquehanna, and North and West Branches,	187,871 55	172,191 15
Deduct Drawback at Dunnsburgh,	2,631 76	185,839 74
Total gross receipts on all the lines,		$3,681,575 87

EXPENDITURES.

For maintaining motive power on the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad, including repair and management of the trucks,	$175,819 99	
For repairs on the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad,	70,193 45	
For collectors, weigh-masters, inspectors and incidental expenses of their offices,	9,225 55	$255,241 00
For maintaining motive power on the Allegheny Portage railroad, including repair and management of State trucks,	126,665 38	
For repairs on Allegheny Portage railroad,	39,132 83	
For collectors, weigh-masters, inspectors, &c	2,455 19	168,253 40
For ordinary repairs on main line of canal,	75,976 32	
For repairs of damage from the October and November flood,	50,035 61	
For completing Clark's Ferry Bridge,	14,832 93	
For compensation of collectors, weigh-masters, inspectors of cargoes, including house rent, and other incidental expenses of their offices,	13,637 56	
For the payment of lock-keepers,	24,818 00	179,300 42
For repairs on Delaware division,	15,257 13	
For collectors, weigh-masters, inspector of cargoes, including house rent and incidental expenses of their offices,	3,924 71	
For the payment of lock-keepers,	4,926 64	24,108 48
For repairs on Susquehanna division,	10,485 38	
For repairs on West Branch division,	10,300 00	
For repairs of damage by October and November flood on Susquehanna and West Branch,	10,904 00	
For repairs on North Branch, including the breach at Nanticoke dam,	19,947 11	
For Collectors, weigh-masters, inspectors of cargoes, and expenses of their offices,	4,644 04	
Lock-keepers,	5,292 00	61,572 53
		$688,475 83
Receipts over expenditures,		$993,100 04

"If the pay of the Canal Commissioners, Secretary, clerk hire, messenger and incidental expenses of their office, amounting to $5,055 64, be deducted from the above sum, it will leave $988,044 40, as the net revenue from the canals and railroads of the Commonwealth for the year ending November 30, 1847; being an increase of $307,522 27, over the net revenue of the previous year. Judging from receipts up to 1st of October, it is confidently believed that, had there been no interruption from floods, the revenue from tolls would have reached $1 900,000. The expenditures, which amounted to $688,475 83, would, by deducting $60,939 61, the cost of the repairs of damage by floods, have been reduced to $627,536 22—leaving the net revenue at $1,272,463 78, instead of $88,044 40."

The expenditures of the past year have been materially increased by the repair of damages from floods, and the increase of motive power on the Philadelphia and Columbia, and the Allegheny Portage Railroads; and in making up the statement of receipts, the actual amount of tolls, whether paid or unpaid, has been given.

On the articles of coal, iron, flour and grain, the tolls collected at the several offices during the year, were as follows:

Names of offices.	Coal.	Iron.	Flour & grain.
Easton,	$88,704 00	$15,172 22	$7,004 00
New Hope,	22 72	4 18	1,274 88
Bristol,	8 92	1.673 88	955 56
Philadelphia,	4,437 67	1,460 58	175 95
Peali,	319 28	3,634 31	2,157 42
Parkersburg,		1,266 16	14,468 37
Lancaster,	7 22	2,072 41	23,791 06
Columbia,	6,196 23	2,848 84	1,350 00
Portsmouth,	2,185 54	999 26	286 56
Newport,	6 99	390 36	2,098 22
Lewistown,	58 93	4,577 69	8,475 62
Huntingdon,	106 05	2,859 60	7,030 09
Hollidaysburg,	1,739 00	14,644 00	1,990 00
Johnstown,	93 54	13,516 49	*
Blairsville,	28 52	2,129 33	8,568 40
Freeport,	14 13	227 37	1,947 96
Pittsburgh,	303 00		34,258 13
Dunnsburg,	4,363 32	5,037 30	5,403 72
Williamsport,	294 30	655 47	1,778 14
North'berland,	3,646 32	17,608 95	7,193 79
Berwick,	57,571 85	2,100 00	195 50
Liverpool,	2,808 39	761 00	1,747 82
Harrisburgh,	86 35	3,033 24	1,245 07
	$218,970 27	$96,582 08	$133,596 27

The tunnage conveyed over the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad has greatly exceeded that of the previous year, being 234,229 tons, or an excess of 94,699 tons. Two new locomotives have been placed on this road during the year—the whole number now being 39, and it is thought that two additional ones will be necessary to meet the demands of the present year.

The trucks used for section boats are not deemed sufficiently strong for the service required;—they are often in need of repairs;—but all will be in readiness for the spring trade.

About 60 tons of new rails have been laid, and about 100 tons will be required for the present year—most of which will be necessary in the vicinity of Philadelphia. It is also recommended that the track between Philadelphia and Columbia shall be relaid, in order to meet accession of business necessarily incident to the completion of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Allegheny Portage Railroad was injured by the floods, to an extent requiring an estimated expenditure of $.4,500; and, from the increase of business upon it, two new engines are deemed indispensable. The increase of tonnage over 1846 is 55,940,800 pounds. Five new setts of trucks have been put upon this road, and two more are expected to be ready by the opening of navigation, in the spring,—which will increase the number from 17 to 24. The relaying of a considerable part of the track on the inclined planes is strenuously recommended.

A considerable portion of the report is occupied by statements of the injuries done to the public works by the floods of the last year; the state of progress made in their repair; and the cost, to the State, of these repairs. All the works are expected to be in operation by the latter end of this month, if the Legislature shall make the necessary appropriations. The total cost of the repairs necessary upon the whole of the State works, is estimated at $265,939 61.

The Board urge the propriety of substituting slack water navigation, below Lewistown, for the present navigation through the Long Narrows.—This is urged on the score of economy; and the alteration, it is presumed, would cost less than the amount which has been paid in a few years past, for the repairs of this part of the work.

The weigh lock authorized to be constructed on the North Branch division, has been located at Beach Haven, on the lower end of the first level below Nauticoke dam. It will be a composite lock, 92 feet long in the chamber, and 17 feet wide in the clear.

The excess of receipts over expenditures on the Delaware division has been $148,082 67—the original cost of this branch of the works having been $1,384,136 96. The outlet lock on this division at Wells' falls, has been contracted to be built at a cost of $2000 less than the estimate, and will be ready for use on the opening of navigation.

"This improvement consists of a guard-lock one hundred by twenty-two feet in the chamber, a canal nine hundred feet in length, and an outlet lock two and a half feet lift, with chamber one hundred by twenty two feet in the clear. The locks are built of ruble masonry laid in the best hydraulic cement. The towing path is paved one foot thick on top, thoroughly walled both outside and in, and altogether is believed to form a complete and durable work. A connexion will thus be formed with the Delaware and Raritan canal, without any diminution of the revenues of the line, the act prescribing that boats passing in or out at the lock, shall pay tolls for the whole distance between Easton and Bristol."

The eastern reservoir has been completed at a cost of $32,566 17—being $2,566 17 more than the appropriation, which is yet to be provided for. The amount appropriated for the construction of a western reservoir, not having been used upon that work, has reverted to the general fund; and the work will therefore require further legislation.

"The estimated cost for repairs in 1848, is $233,300 for ordinary and extraordinary repairs; and $204,500 for the repair of breaches by the late floods, will be amply sufficient for the purpose, should no similar disaster occur, provided the usual appropriation is made of $50,000 for the purchase and preparation of materials for executing repairs after the 1st of December next."

The Board advert to the fact of their having assumed the responsibility of making a temporary loan, in order to meet the expenses of the repairs of damages by the floods of the last year, and "earnestly recommend to the Legislature the propriety of adopting some provision, under proper restrictions, for the repair of extraordinary breaches, when the specific appropriations have become exhausted. The disasters of the present year point to the necessity of adopting some measures, as in similar cases, would advance to the public interests, and, at the same time, relieve the Board and other officers of the government from the assumption of an unpleasant responsibility."

And they conclude, that—

"If so serious breaches should occur, it may be safely estimated that the receipts, from the public works, in 1848, will amount to one million seven hundred thousand dollars. The estimate of expenses in statement, No. 2, and for expenses of motive power, amount to seven hundred and seventy-nine thousand five hundred and ninety dollars. If the estimate of receipts from tolls be realized, the net revenue, from the several lines of canal and railroad in 1848, will amount to nine hundred and twenty thousand four hundred and ten dollars."

☞ We learn from the Harrisburg Union, that LEVI G. CLOVER, Esq. has been reappointed, Collector, and GEORGE A. Kurtz, Esq. Weighmaster, by the Board of Canal Commissioners.

Louisiana.—The Governor of Louisiana, in his late message to the Legislature, comes out boldly War and the Wilmot Proviso, the latter of which he says must be met temperately, but with a firm and uncompromising resistance. He is in favor of occupation of the Mexican territory and its retention until a satisfactory arrangement of opposing difficulties can be made. It appears that there was a cash balance remaining in the Treasury for the fiscal year, ending on the 31st of December, 1847, of $91,338 21 cents.

Report.

The Committee appointed by the War meeting, in the City of Pittsburgh, on the 4th of December last, to ascertain what families or individuals are suffering, by the absence of those serving in the war with Mexico, beg leave to make the following REPORT.

The amount of money collected in the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, which has been placed in the hands of the Committee, is as follows, viz:

PITTSBURGH—2d Ward,	$300 25
" 8th "	9 00
" 6th "	58 50
ALLEGHENY—1st "	32 00
Total amount collected,	$399 75
Of this sum the committee have paid,	$283 83½
Leaving in the hands of the committee,	$115 91½

There were *thirty-eight* persons who applied to the committee for relief. The sums paid to each were from $6 to $10, according to their necessities. Many of the persons who have received aid, have presented themselves to the committee a second time; and unless the relief fund is speedily increased, there will only be about $3 to give to each of those who have already applied, leaving out of view a large number who are doubtless in want, but who have not, as yet, made known their situation to the committee.

It will be seen from the above statement, that the principal amount collected was in the Second Ward of the city of Pittsburgh; and if the collecting committees in the other Wards did their duty, in like manner, there would now be in the hands of the Treasurer, at least $2,000. It is to be hoped that the various committees will go to work at once, and call upon every citizen within their respective wards, and urge them to contribute liberally. Although most of the applications for relief have come from Allegheny, the committee regret that the good people of our sister City have taken so little interest in this truly praiseworthy cause. Let the committees in that city commence without delay, and make up for their past delinquencies.

The undersigned take occasion to state that many of the families of the soldiers are in the most destitute situation—without money, food and clothing. And while the natural guardians and protectors of these poor and helpless families, are risking their lives in their country's cause, shall we permit them to remain in want and misery? Forbid it humanity—forbid it justice—forbid it Heaven!

In conclusion, the committee will state that the books and vouchers are deposited with Mr. HARTLEY, corner of Wood street and Diamond alley, and can be inspected at any time, by those who may wish to see the amount of money received and paid out, and the names of the persons to whom it was paid. Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. EDGAR,
R. H. HARTLEY,
CHARLES BARNETT,
G. R. RIDDLE,
L. HARPER,
Committee.

Jan. 28, 1848.

Note.—Since the above Report was written, the committee have received from Mr. Samuel Morrow, collector in the Eighth Ward, $12,57.

MESMERISM IN INDIA.—We find it stated in the *American Phrenological Journal*, that Mesmerism is attracting more attention in India, at present, than in any other part of the world. The government has introduced it into their Medical College at Calcutta; and the students are required to attend the mesmeric hospital for two months, to study practical Mesmerism, under Dr. Esdaile, previous to their receiving their appointments in the public service. Dr. Esdaile has, by order of the Supreme Government, lately issued a report of Mesmeric practice, relating to the power to render a patient insensible under surgical operations. He says, that of 130 cases, all but seven were rendered entirely insensible; and these were only two cases in which he failed to produce the Mesmeric sleep. He thinks Mesmerism will never be superseded by ether.

☞ Since the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, in relation to the claim of Mrs. Gen. GAINES, has been made known, many writers of letters from the city of Washington have stated (as though the fact was otherwise heretofore,) that this lady has become the centre of attraction in the fashionable circles of the capital. These writers have surely never heard of Mrs. Gaines previous to this season, or they would have known that, whether at New Orleans, or St. Louis, or New York, or Washington, Mrs. G. has always been the centre of attraction, where intelligence, vivacity, and genuine worth were assembled. A correspondent of the New York Evening Post says:—

"Mrs. Gaines' good fortune is quite a topic here. She has added fuel to the excitement among the gossips, by presenting two very estimable young ladies here, five thousand dollars each.—The decision of the Supreme Court snaps many a chain of title heretofore relied on by the property holders of Louisiana, and the demand of "mesne profits," allowed to her by law, will be ruinous to many. It is with very great pleasure, then, that I am able to state, on good authority, that the successful litigant will waive this legal claim, and is willing to give quit claim deeds to innocent and honest purchasers, without extorting an unreasonable consideration. This is honorable, and must silence envy. Indeed, from many of her private acts of benevolence, which have come to my knowledge from time to time, I rejoice in the prosperity of the lady."

CENTRE COUNTY FOR BUCHANAN.—A correspondent of the Pennsylvanian, in writing from Bellefonte, under date of January 26th says:

"Our county delegation have appointed Dr. Ira D. Canfield, delegate to the 4th of March Convention, with instructions to support the nomination of Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN, for President.—Spirited resolutions were passed. At the same time, a war meeting was held in the Court House. Col. Burnside reported the resolutions, and ably addressed the meeting, as did B. Rush Petriken, Esq. There was a small flare up on the Wilmot Proviso, which is no go with us."

WAYNE COUNTY.—The Waynesburgh Messenger, of last week, says that Major John B. Gordon was appointed the delegate from this county, to the 4th of March Convention, and instructed to support Hon. James Buchanan as the Democratic candidate for President, in 1848, and William Searight, of Fayette county, as the next candidate for Canal Commissioner of Pennsylvania.

☞ That able Democratic paper, "*The Wayne County Herald*," hoists the broad flag of JAMES BUCHANAN for the Presidency.

☞ James Munford has been appointed by the Governor Associate Judge for the courts of Wayne county, and Ephraim Fenton for those of Montgomery county.

☞ The Senate on Friday last, confirmed the nomination of James Frow, as Associate Judge of Blair county.

LOCAL MATTERS.

HORRIBLE.—We have been pained in listening to the details of a calamity which befel the family of a citizen of Allegheny, on Saturday last. The death of an interesting child, and the narrow escape of another was the result.

It appears that the little ones were afflicted with an eruptive disease, common to children of tender age. The father went to the Drug store of John Sargeant, to procure some magnesia.—The druggist advised him to take, in addition, some pulverized rheubarb, to which he consented. By some dreadful blunder, opium was given instead of rheubarb! The children were dosed; the symptoms appeared; physicians were called in; and the cause discovered. One of the children, after suffering hours in the most excruciating agony, died, and was thus relieved of pain. The opium acted as an emetic upon the other, and was thus almost miraculously saved.

Mr. Sargent, the druggist, we understand, explains the mistake in this way: Opium had been put up in accordance with a prescription, and lay upon the counter; in the confusion of making up the medicine for Mr Van Winkle, (the father of the children.) the wrong paper was taken. We make this statement in justice to the druggist.

☞ It is seriously contemplated to organize an *Industrial School*, near this city. It will be upon the plan proposed by the agricultural societies generally—the plan, we believe, broached by the celebrated Coleman, than whom a more ardent friend of Agricultural education does not exist.—The plan is feasible; can be commenced with small capital; and will pay the stockholders well. We notice it at this time thus briefly, only to call attention to the subject, and bring to its aid those who would feel a pride in doing something for a cause so noble and so important.

THE WATCH.—The Mayor and Police Committee made the following appointments of City Watch on Saturday evening last:

Captain—Charles Roberts.

Lieutenants—William Reed, George Boston, Hugh Philpot, and Patrick Quinn.

Watchmen—John Crumlish, David Jewell, Francis Mankie, Andrew Wallace, Thomas McKee, James McKelvey, John Conlin, Jabez Jenkins, Phillip Motts, John McClean, James Kerr, Samuel Hassan, Robert Finley, Edward Kearns, Isaac Hull, John Crossit, Samuel Dunbar, James McFarren, James Orr, Thomas M'Coy, Daniel C. Mitchell, and Boyd Rooke.

Substitutes—Alexander McLaughlin, William A. Fitzmorse, William Fife, Thomas Murray, Peter Cavanagh, and Nicholas Young.

"WAKE SNAIX."—The Sunday Mercury made its appearance on Sunday last, and right well did it appear, too. It is well filled with interesting matter; and we are disposed to think that it will succeed, notwithstanding the predictions of its speedy demise. Racy as it is, there is room for improvement. It lacks one requisite for a Sunday paper. It should contain matter calculated to instruct the reader. There is a large class who only read for pastime; but a very large class who choose a paper that will afford food for thought. We give this hint in the best feeling.

Geo. Youngson is publisher; U. J. Jones editor

☞ Andrews has done the city some service, to say the least. He has used up the conundrum system. No respectable man would now risk his reputation by an attempt at such wit. We met an inveterate punster on Saturday, to whom we gave occasion for a sally of his peculiar manifestation of humor—but he was mum. He'll never outrage our glorious language again.

☞ The local column of the Dispatch yesterday contained some singular items. Among the rest, a defence of those fragments of humanity, who enter public halls before the proper time, for the purpose of appropriating to themselves the best seats—to the exclusion of the ladies.

We will just say, that notwithstanding the course of our cotemporary, the front seats of Philo Hall will be reserved for ladies during Mr. Spencer's lectures. The Police will attend to this.

DISCHARGED.—We were taken all aback yesterday, by hearing that Mr. Robb, of the Day Police, had been discharged by the Mayor. We are not permitted to know the why or wherefore, and as it is none of our business, we will not trouble ourselves about it Mr. R. served with Mayor Howard, and has been with the present Mayor since he first came into office.

We have not heard who is to be his successor.

GRAND SOIREE.—We are informed that another Grand Soiree, the proceeds of which, are to be applied to the benefit of the *New Mercy Hospital* will come off at the Lafayette Assembly Rooms, on the 24th of February. We are pleased to learn that Mr. Daniel M'Atee, of Wheeling, and his band, are engaged to play on the occasion. We have no doubt, from the well known energy of the gentlemen, who have undertaken to conduct it, that it will be the most brilliant affair of the season.

☞ The course of Lectures prepared by the Directors of the Sixth Ward Public Schools, are likely to prove successful. We rejoiced to hear that, notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather on last Friday evening, Mr. Bigham's Lecture was attended by about 300 people. This speaks much in behalf of the citizens of the Sixth Ward.

Mr. Allen delivers the next Lecture—on Friday evening.

☞ The two new Monongahela Packets are magnificent steamers; and in all respects adapted to the trade. The line is now complete, and in excellent order; and we anticipate a tremendous increase of business during the coming season.

☞ Col. Diehl "broke a leg and dislocated an ankle," by slipping, on Saturday night, on Smithfield street. Sorry are we to see this announcement. This accident, added to his recent defeat in the City Councils, proves the truth of the old saying, "misfortunes never come singly."

"OUR HOUSE."—The Oyster and Refreshment Saloon of Bennett. Diamond alley, is very neatly fitted up, and B.'s old friends will know where to call, when they "feel a cavity in the abdominal regions."

☞ There was an alarm of fire on Sunday evening, caused by the burning of some shavings or lumber in Awrie's wagon shop, corner of Eighth and Grant streets.

YOUNG LADIES' SEMINARY.—We call attention to the card of Mr. N. W. METCALF, who has removed his Seminary to Colonade Row, Federal street, Allegheny.

☞ Mr. Spencer exhibits his wonderful phenomena in Philo Hall this evening.

RESIGNED.—Mr. Jack, Member of Councils from Third Ward, sent in his resigeation last evening.

☞ The Councils met last evening, but did nothing of striking interest.

☞ The adjourned sale of fashionable Clothing, and superfine imported Broad Cloths advertised in our paper, takes place at the store of Ancker & Mayer, this morning, at 10 o'clock precisely, and will be continued day and night, until the balance remaining on hand from former sales will be disposed of, as the house is rented, and they are positively removing from the city, it will be the last chance persons will have of supplying themselves with good clothing at very reduced prices. Among the lot, are 10 cases of fresh goods, detained on the canal since the freshet in October, received yesterday afternoon.

☞ The Hall was well filled last evening, to hear the original and instructive address of Mr. Allen. We understand that the entire audience expressed great satisfaction at hearing his remarks.

THE DAY BOOK.—We learned last evening that the Day Book would be revived in a few days.

Ireland.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland held a Privy Council on Thursday afternoon, at which a proclamation was adopted declaring the Act of the Prevention of Crime and Outrage to be in force from and after the 29th December, in certain districts specified.

The proclamation includes the whole countries of Limerick and Tipperary.

Also baronies in several other counties, as follows—

Clare—The baronies of Bunratty, Talla, Islands Inchiquin, and Clonderlaw.

Waterford—The baronies of Glenshiry and Upperthird:

King's County—The baronies of Clonlish, Ballybrit, English, and Garrycastle.

Roscommon—The baronies of Athlone, Ballintobbir, Roscommon, Ballymoe, Boyle; the parishes of Criev, Kilcamsey, Kilmeameagh, and Kileola in the barony of Frenchpark

Leitrim—The baronies of Leitrim, Mohill, and Carrigallen.

Cavan—The baronies of Colonmahon, Vullybunes, and Upper Loughtee.

Longford—The baronies of Longford, Granard, and Ardagh.

According to the *Limerick Chronicle*, the Special Commission for Limerick will commence on the 4th January. The Judges are to be Chief Justices Blackburn and Doherty. There are 124 prisoners for trial, of whom 100 are expected to come before the Special Commission.

MR. GREELY'S POSITION.—The New York Tribune emphatically avows its determination to use its influence to prevent the nomination of Gen. Taylor by the Whig National Convention, and to procure the nomination of Mr. Clay.

ANNEXATION OF YUCATAN.—Advices from Washington, state that an authorized and confidential agent from Yusatan, is now in that city for the purpose of entering into negotiation for the annexation of that State to this Union.

☞ The papers have attempted to get up a panic on the subject of a "very dangerous counterfeit" upon the gold coin of the United States. The *Atlas* says, "it is the easiest thing in the world to detect such a fraud, if it really exists: for we have only to take the specific gravity of the coin by the weight in air by its loss of weight in water, when the presence of base metal will be detected. Pure hammered gold has a specific gravity of 19 05-100, and hammered silver has a specific gravity of 10 31-100. Hammered copper has a specific gravity of 8 90-100: This manner of detecting adulteration of gold is not original with us, Archimedes having discovered it *sometime ago.*"

Tribute to American Art.—A Mr. Anthony, of New York, has received from the Emperor of Austria a magnificent gold medal, of the weight of three ounces, in acknowledgment of an engraving of the United States Senate, which he sent to the Emperor.

☞ The following beatiful sentiment was drank "standing and in silence," at a private feast among the first "circle" colored elite of New York, a few evening since:

"Here's to de darkey, far see; dar face needs no paint, dar head no fumery."

ATTENTION NIAGARA!—The members of the Niagara Fire Company, are hereby notified to attend an especial meeting at their Hall, on Tuesday evening, February 1st.

J. E. M'FEELY, Pres't.
S. M'ILWAINE, Sec'y. [jan 30-2t

MASONIC NOTICE.

A stated meeting of Zerubabel H. R. A. Chapter, No. 162, will be held at the Masonic Temple, corner of Wood and 4d streets, this (TUESDAY) evening, 1st February, 1848. A. L., 5848.

By order of the M. E. H. P.

A. G. RINEHART, Sec'y.

☞ Let every one who is in need of some such Medicine as Sarsaparilla, and who wishes a good preparation, put up in generous sized bottles at one dollar each, read the Advertisement in another column, of DOCTOR WOOD'S SARSAPARILLA AND WILD CHERRY, a compound of two of the most valuable medicines in the Materia Medica. As a tonic for General Debility, Dyspepsia, &c. we may safely say it is an excellent preparation.

Sold at the HEALTH DEPOT, Smithfield, between 3d and 4th streets, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Wanted.

WANTS employment—an industrious, sober man, with a working family of Boys, who have with him worked at making Bricks in Ireland and America, wants immediately employment. Also, places soon for a number of good School masters; also, for a number of laborers and boys of different ages. ☞ Places supplied, and all kinds of agencies attended to for moderate charges, to be paid in advance, except for the very poorest classes. Wanted, several sums of money, to borrow for different periods of time on good security. Wanted, employment for a number of colored men and women, boys and girls. All kinds of agencies attended to at short notice, for moderate charges, on all able to pay, at

ISAAC HARRIS' Agency and Intel. Office, 5th st near Wood.
feb1-4t

TO the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace, in and for the County of Allegheny.

The petition of William Schmidt, 5th Ward, of the city of Pittsburgh, in the county aforesaid, humbly sheweth; That your petitioner hath provided himself with materials for the accommodation of travellers and others, at his dwelling house, in the city and ward aforesaid, and prays that your Honors will be pleased to grant him a license to keep a public house of entertainment. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will pray. WM. SCHMIDT.

We, the subscribers, citizens of the 5th ward, do certify, that the above petitioner is of good repute for honesty and temperance, and is well provided with house room and conveniences for the accommodation of travellers and others, and that said tavern is necessary.

John M'Cracken, Emanuel Reis, F. E. Knemer, Joseph Meyer, John Taylor, Jas. M'Lean, Jacob Hay, Jacob Klein, Francis Felix, William Kellenburgh, L. Reis, A. Howeler. feb1-d3t*

DRIED PEACHES—300 Bushels, for sale by
feb1 SMITH & SINCLAIR.

DRIED APPLES—80 Bushels, for sale by
feb1 SMITH & SINCLAIR.

CORN MEAL—28 Sacks, for sale by
feb1 SMITH & SINCLAIR.

Bar Wanted.

THE subscriber wishes to rent a Bar, on some good Steam Boat, running from this place to Cincinnati. Address "B. D." through the Post Office. feb1-d4t*

NEW NOVELS.

THE LAST OF THE FAIRIES—A Christmas Tale, by G. P. R. James, Esq.

James Eyre; an autobiography edition; edited by Currer Bell. Just received and for sale by
feb1 JOHNSTON & STOCKTON.

BLACKWOOD—Johnston & Stockton have just received Blackwood's Edinburg Magazine, No. 386, for December, 1847. feb1

For New Orleans.

THE AMERICAN EAGLE will leave for the above and all intermediate ports, on Thursday, the 3d instant, at 10 o'clock. For freight or passage apply on board, or to

feb1-td GEO. MILTENBERGER, Agent.

Splendid New Steamer Savanna, FOR NEW ORLEANS!

H. DENNISON, Master, will leave for the above and all intermediate ports, on Wednesday, the 10th instant. [feb 1.

☞ For freight or passage, apply on board.

MESMERISM.

MR. SPENCER, respectfully announces to the Ladies and Gentlemen of Pittsburgh, that his demonstrations in Mesmerism, will continue during this week, at Philo Hall. Those who do not believe, had better attend, and embrace the present opportunity to satisfy themselves. The Experiments will, in every instance, be given with persons who are citizens of Pittsburgh.

All may expect to be amazed, astonished and convinced.

Doors open at half past 6 o'clock. Tickets, 25 Cents—can be had at the Exchange Hotel, Office of the Post, and at the door.—Front seats must be reserved for the Ladies. jan31

Young Ladies' Seminary, Allegheny City.

MR. N. W. METCALF would announce to the citizens of Allegheny and vicinity, the intended removal of his School, from the corner of Sandusky and Strawberry streets, where he has been teaching for the last twelve months. On and after April 1st, he will occupy Rooms on Federal street, in "