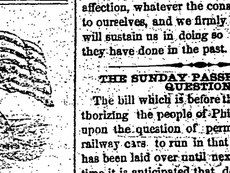
Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1867.



Be just and fear not;
Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's,
Thy God's and truth's.

THE ALMS-HOUSE STATEMENT.

The Annual Statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Alms-House will be found in this week's Journal. Why it was not sent to us last week we do not know.

It will be observed that the expenditures last year are very heavy again, amounting in the aggregate to the following sum:

Received from County Commissioners, $75,696 05	
Orders issued unpaid..... 202 21	
Receipts from part of farm sold 2,161 54	
Total.....	$78,039 83

Average number of paupers during the year, 421.

We do not understand the policy of selling a portion of the farm, even if it could be sold to advantage. The money received from these sales it appears, is not invested in the purchase of other land, but is absorbed in the annual expenditures of the County. The law conferring this power was passed secretly, and part of the property was sold secretly. It is high time this business was checked, otherwise the whole farm will be disposed of and all the money squandered.

The general expenditures our readers can judge of as well as we can.

The salaries of two of the Directors we think are entirely too high. The Board meets at the Alms House once a month—incurs no expense except going and returning. If they spent 48 days, which is 4 days a month, at $5 a day, it would amount to only $240 each, which is a little less than Mr. Orwig's charges.

The salaries paid in the Alms-House [illegible] year, without any charge for [illegible] use last farm, amounted to $6,389 90, or over one-tenth of the whole [illegible]. This is equal to one-fourth of the whole [illegible] House in 1862, when [illegible] not cost of the Alms-House in 1862, when [illegible] and the paupers averaged 315. The Solicitor [illegible] family appears to be well provided for, as the following will show:

[illegible]sel Seltzer, steward, received.....	$600 00
Mary Seltzer, matron.....	200 00
Charles Seltzer, farmer.....	527 50
Elizabeth Seltzer.....	156 50
Amanda Seltzer.....	156 00
Michael Seltzer, traveling expenses.....	57 55
Total salaries.....	$1,697 05

The boarding and lodging are furnished by the County. Of course, it is better that they should be employed instead of others if such employment is necessary, because it would only add to the number living off the taxpayers of the County.

We will give a comparison with the expenses of the Alms-House in 1862, the last year the People's Party controlled it:

1862.

Expenses of Alms-House in 1862.....	$20,445 73
Average number of paupers.....	315
Average expense of each annually.....	$65 00
Dr. A. Schultze, Director, pay and expenses.....	227 91
Wm. Lances, do do	199 86

1866.

Expenses of Alms-House.....	$78,039 83
Average number of paupers.....	421
Average expense of each.....	$185 09

(Nearly treble the expense of 1862, amounting to over $3 55 a week.)

A. Bressler, Director, pay and expenses	$584 75
R. C. Wilson, do do	515 00
Isaac Orwig, Jr., do do	251 85

The expenses of each pauper has been trebled in 1866, and we positively assert that there was no necessity of even doubling the expenses of each pauper. We firmly believe that an examination of all the Alms-House statements where no frauds were perpetrated, will sustain this assertion. We have for a number of years kept an account of our expenditures, and we know that our expenses of living have not been over 60 per cent. over those of 1862 since.

We have only two statements before us to compare with the above, and they are Lancaster and Montgomery Counties for 1866:

Expenses in Lancaster County in 1866	$24,885
Average number of paupers.....	232
Expenses of each pauper	$107

In Schuylkill County, **$185!**

We have no data to show what the expenses per pauper were in Lancaster County in 1862, but we will guarantee that they are not more than double what they were then, while in Schuylkill County they are trebled. In addition the Poor House farm is being gradually sold, thus diminishing it and eating it up, while the number of paupers are increasing.

In Lancaster County there are six Directors of the Poor, and the amount paid to the whole six for services and all expenses was only $425 08. In Schuylkill County there was paid to two Directors $1,000 75!! and we also observe a charge of $61 32 for a trip to Philadelphia.

Lancaster County is Republican, Montgomery County is governed by the Copperheads, and we will compare it with Schuylkill County:—In Montgomery County the three Directors each received $250; expenses of Alms-House, $24,006; average number of paupers, 196; expenses of each pauper, $112, against $185 in Schuylkill County.

Now, we contend that a larger number of paupers can be kept at a less expense per pauper then when the number is smaller, because the salaries are less PRO RATA.

The truth is, that while the people are outraged by the midnight and open day robberies by unknown persons, that prevail in this County, they seem to lose sight entirely of the thousands and thousands of dollars they are daily plundered of by grossly incompetent or dishonest officials.

Men toil to support themselves and families, and try to lay up a little for a rainy day. Poor men and widows with families, some of whom have managed to procure a small house and lot to live on, have their taxes doubled, and those who have to rent houses have their rents largely increased in consequence of these robberies.

There appears to be a Ring formed among those who administer the affairs of the County, (with the single exception of Mr. Orwig, one of the Directors of the Poor, as far as we have observed,) each one charging what he pleases, and of course, no officer finding fault with the other for fear of having his pickings also interfered with. The members elected to the Legislature use their influence also to rob the people by increasing these perquisites largely, and refusing to remedy any of the evils. If these things go on much longer we will have no law, and the whole County will be plundered, and the hard-toiling people robbed of all their earnings by these office-holding blood-suckers.—How long can the tax-payers stand it? Are they mere cravens, to permit themselves to be thus robbed with impunity? Are party ties so strong that if a so called Democrat is robbed by another so-called Democrat, he is bound to support him on that account, notwithstanding the robbery? And such Democracy! There is not as much Democracy to be found in the present Copperhead party of Schuylkill County as would cover the point of a cambric needle. All the old Democrats who really supported the principles of the old Democratic party, have left them, and the present leaders and office-holders, with but few exceptions, are nothing but a political banditti preying upon the substance of the people.

But the meanest part of all this business is yet to be told. While many of these public officers charge every cent that the law allows them, and a great deal more, too, they ask the printers to publish the annual statements, which the law requires them to make, for about one-third to one-half the rates they charge their regular customers, IN ORDER, AS THEY SAY, TO SAVE EXPENSE TO THE TAX PAYERS! Recollect, they require full taxes to be paid by the printers and make no deductions whatever to them; and we think we are safe in saying that we pay more taxes than the three Directors of the Poor combined. They first rob us by squandering the taxes we are compelled to pay, and then turn around and offer us about one-third price for working for the County. Can you find a meaner person than that under Heaven? If you can, we would like to see him.

The Treasurer of the County is allowed by law 50 cents per tract to publish the sales of unseated lands. For this sum he could get it published in three or four leading papers in the County; but he goes around among those printers who want a few crumbs, and bargains for having it published for 6 to 8 cents a tract, in say two papers, costing him 15 or 16 cents for the advertising, and the balance, which the law intended should be expended in giving those interested proper notice, he pockets as perquisites. Such is the way business is done in Schuylkill County. We might secure the business of these officials and make money if we were to connive at these practices, but so long as we hold the position of a public journalist we intend to perform our duty to the public, and expose such officials without fear, favor or affection, whatever the consequences may be to ourselves, and we firmly believe the public will sustain us in doing so in the future, as they have done in the past.

THE SUNDAY PASSENGER CAR QUESTION.

The bill which is before the Legislature authorizing the people of Philadelphia to vote upon the question of permitting passenger railway cars to run in that City on Sunday, has been laid over until next week, at which time it is anticipated that definite action will be taken upon it. Whatever may be the action of the Philadelphia members on this measure, who believe, we presume, that their chances of reelection depend upon advocating and voting for it, we believe that it is a duty the rural members owe to the people of the State, not to vote to submit this question as proposed in the Act. It is a question decidedly, of vice and immorality, and as such should not be submitted to a community, in which the disolute, reckless and wicked would almost to a certainty, carry their point, overawing the timid, and controlling the selfish who for fear of losing business would vote against their convictions of right in the matter.

Adopting the view that whatever encroaches upon the sanctity of the Sabbath, must inevitably lead to vice and demoralization, we urge the members of the country to protect the City against itself, and save it from taking a step towards Sunday desecration and Sunday labor. If the Legislature should legalize Sunday travel, and thus compel the employees of railway companies to work on the Sabbath, for they must do so or lose their situations, what will prevent other branches from being legalized, and stores, work shops, etc., from being opened and [illegible] into full blast on that day? Where will [illegible] be the poor man's rights [illegible] about which so many of the Philadelphia members are so eloquent? Compelled to labor on Sunday or lose his situation—for capital controls labor—what will become of his one day in seven for rest and recreation? Are we not likely to repeat the sad experience of the French Revolution, when throwing down this divinely appointed day of rest, the fanatical French theorists erected on its ruins anarchy and madness?

And this suggests the fact that in treating this subject, as far as the claims of the poor are concerned, those of the Philadelphia papers that have the courage to touch the subject, use arguments more appropriate for pot-house politicians than for papers that claim to lead or reflect public opinion. Now, from the days that Adam delved and Eve span, down to the present, there have been poor people, and unto the end of time we presume they will exist. And we believe that the virtuous poor as a mass, with their simple virtuous poor as a mass, with their simple habits, their freedom from the cares and artificial wants that harrass the rich, are happier than their wealthy neighbors. And we believe that to-day it is not the religious poor of Philadelphia who ask that the passenger cars shall be permitted to run on Sunday that they may go to church or ride for recreation. If they want recreation and exercise on Sunday they walk, and realize more pleasure than if crowded in a passenger car surrounded by horribly smelling whisky bloats.

Another assertion of the demagogues is, that the rich men of Philadelphia ride in their carriages to church on Sunday. This is not true. Very few, unless they are invalids or have to go a great distance, ride to church. They very properly, give their coachmen Sunday for rest and recreation. The only persons in Philadelphia who make a dash with their equipages on Sunday are the vulgar shoddyites, who suddenly grown rich, never weary of sunning their plumes in the eyes of the public. The genteel rich do not ride to church on Sunday, but are content with their poor neighbors, to walk. This peculiar argument of the advocates of Sunday travel, should have no weight with our legislators. We do not take the position that it is wrong to ride on Sunday, either to church, or even for recreation,—although we would select any day but Sunday, for the latter purpose,—if one hitches up his horse and drives himself, but we do contend that it is wrong to compel another to work on Sunday, by doing it for him. The principle applies to employees of railway companies, and although for fear of losing their situations they may not complain, yet we know it is very distasteful to them. We remember some years since when the Reading Railroad commenced running Sunday trains, we asked one of its conductors his opinion of it as far as he was concerned. He told us that he considered it unequivocally, an oppression, as he had no entire day in the week which he could call his own, and which he could spend in the society of his wife and children. He dared not complain, but his compulsory work on Sunday was felt to be a great hardship. Was this a benefit to that poor man? And such will be the benefits conferred on poor men as a mass, if the door should be opened by the Legislature to Sunday labor in this State. Our people will become demoralized and the poor man will have no day to call his own. There is not a workingman who on taking a correct view of this question, can sanction the Sunday travel movement.

The Legislature should grant no additional privileges to railway companies who have the barbarity, the unutterable meanness, to exclude from their cars on account of the color of his skin, the noble Small, who cut out in Charleston Harbor under rebel guns, a rebel gunboat, and brought it safely to our fleet, while they permit any bloat who has a white skin, to taint the atmosphere of their cars with the horrible odor of his fetid carcass. Companies with such narrow souls, deserve no favors at the hands of the Legislature, while the people of the State despise them.

In conclusion we have simply to say that we of Schuylkill County feel every day of our lives the effects of the prevalence of vice and immorality, growing out of the existence of evil, a phase of which the Legislature is asked to legalize in Philadelphia, and practically throughout the State. We earnestly hope that the country members will resolutely oppose the submission of the question which is one of vice and immorality, to a vote of the people of Philadelphia, and by defeating the question save the City and State from an innovation on the sacred character of the Sabbath, which every thoughtful citizen would deplore.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS.—The incompetency if not something worse, of Alexander Delmar, we have fully exposed, as far as the statistics of the importations into this country of foreign bituminous coal are concerned. It would seem that in every branch of the statistical department he is a complete failure. So much so that on Monday last in the United States House of Representatives Judge Kelley rose in his place and offered a resolution declaring that his last report, prepared to be sent to the Paris Exposition, "abounded in ignorant, careless, or wilful misrepresentations," and directing the Secretary of the Treasury and Secretary of State to withhold from circulation such copies as were in their possession." In addition to this we are to state that vigorous efforts are being made to suppress every copy of this blundering statement. Gen. Boynton, the able correspondent of the Cincinnati GAZETTE at Washington, in one of his recent letters sets forth in detail a series of ridiculous and dangerous mistakes made by this Delmar, who is a foreigner with no sympathy with the material interests of the country. It is nothing less than an outrage that so experienced a statistician and accomplished a statesman as Dr. William Elder should have been succeeded by such a nonentity as Delmar.

THE Liberals have carried the parliamentary elections in North Germany.

Local Affairs.

Weekly Almanac.

1867.—Feb.	SUN RISES	SUN SETS	MOON'S CHANGES.	
23 SATURDAY,	6 49.5	45	New M.	4 1 20 eve'g
24 SUNDAY,	6 42.6	47	First Q.	11 5 44 eve'g
25 MONDAY,	6 40.6	48	Full M.	18 5 45 eve'g
26 TUESDAY,	6 38.5	49	Last Q.	26 6 56 mo.
27 WEDNESDAY,	6 37.5	50		
28 THURSDAY,	6 35.5	51		
1 FRIDAY,	6 34.0	53		

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Temperature at Greenwood during the week ending February 21th, 1867.

FEBRUARY, 1867.	7 A. M.	NOON.	5 P. M.
15	34°	48°	38°
16	30	32	32
17	28	45	46
18	28	47	44
20	13	40	38
21	22	39	36
21	21	28	26

The case of Bright vs. Hellner, has been continued until Monday next.

The German Reformed Society of Tremont, contemplates erecting a place of worship.

Mr. Wm. H. Crothers has resigned the position of Principal of the Tremont schools.

Mr. William Kinney, an old citizen, died at his residence in Girardville on Wednesday last.

The body of an infant, half devoured, was found near Mahanoy Planes a few days since.

H. C. Russel advertises an interest in a valuable Coal Tract for sale. See his card in another column.

To-morrow, Eighth Sunday of the year. Sexagesima Sunday. Day's length, 11 hours and 7 minutes.

On the night of the 14th inst., near Locust Gap, a man named Dolan was shot and killed by John O'Donnel. No arrest.

The Rev. Prentiss de Veuve will preach in the 2d Presbyterian Church, Market street, to-morrow morning and evening at 10½ and 7½ o'clock.

Yesterday being the anniversary of the birth of Washington, flags were displayed at different points in the Borough and places of business were closed.

Frederick Douglass will on next it stated, lecture in Union Hall, this Borough, in April. This celebrated colored orator cannot fail to attract a large audience.

On Monday night last out of the new houses being built in Richards' Addition to Pottsville, was entered, a carpenters' tool-box broken open and the tools stolen.

On Thursday last the nomination of Mrs. Amelia Hannum as postmaster at Schuylkill Haven, and of Edward O'Brien as postmaster at New Castle, were sent to the United States Senate.

Several ruffians attempted last week to rob the house of Mr. Guenther, butcher, between Ashland and Locust Gap. His wife resisted, and the robbers shot her, inflicting two severe wounds in her side.

Lumber.—Silas Ball, Coal street, has on hands all kinds of frame, sill and other lumber. Ball has his own timber land with steam sawmills capable of sawing from three to four hundred thousand feet per month.

A snow storm prevailed during Wednesday and Thursday. Snow fell to the depth of about a foot, and the sleighing is again good. A farmer friend predicts that we have eight more storms just like it before the Winter is over.

Self-binder for Music.—Max Leimmers, Centre street, sells a very convenient article for those having loose music, in the shape of a self-binder. Koch & Jacob's invention. It is a cheap, convenient and useful article, and worthy of inspection.

On Saturday and Monday last, Thomas Border, Thomas Baird and William Taylor, of Tuscarora, charged with shooting John Donohoe, were before Court on a writ of habeas corpus for release on bail. After hearing the evidence Judge Ryon remanded them to prison for trial.

Rev. E. M. Long of St. John's Lutheran Church, Tremont, will shortly remove to Philadelphia. Last week the ladies of the congregation took to his house substantial evidences of their esteem for their pastor, which were highly appreciated by the worthy recipient.

Camp 47, P. O. of J. S. of A., Schuylkill Haven, will attend divine service in a body at the St. James Episcopal Church of that place, to-morrow afternoon at 2½ o'clock. All members of the Order are invited to be in attendance. They meet at the Centennial at 2 o'clock before proceeding to the Church.

A fight and a runaway in front of the Post Office yesterday afternoon. The fight was a thrilling row between one of the works of a black boy, and meeting with a repulse and a discolored eye. The runaway was a horse with a sleigh, both being brought up suddenly by meeting in collision with another sleigh at the Post Office.

A woman named Bickleman and a boy named Jack Weed were arrested, have both been held, the former in $2400 and the latter in $600, to answer charges of burglary and theft. Kossuth Bickleman is also implicated. One of the places recently robbed by them is alleged, is the jewely establishment of Mr. Bright, Tremont.

J. Dutton Steele, Esq., has been chosen Chief Engineer of the Wilmington and Reading Railroad, the new line of road which is to run from Wilmington, Del. to Birdsboro, Pa. This important railroad connection will be commenced this season and completed at an early day. Edward Brooke, Esq., of Birdsboro', is President of the Company.

Mr. John Curry formerly of this Borough, died in Mahanoy City on Saturday last, and was interred here on Tuesday, attended to the grave by a large number of friends and the Brigade of Mahanoy City. Mr. Curry was a member of one of the first companies to reach Washington in 1861 for its defence. He was a good soldier and worthy citizen.

Hotel change in Minersville.—On Tuesday last Mr. Morgan Swartz, late ticket agent on the Mine Hill Railroad at Westwood, became landlord of the Washington House, Minersville, owned by Mr. Alexander Jeffries, and lately occupied by Daniel S. Reib. From his business capacity we judge that Mr. Swartz will keep a good house and merit the liberal patronage of the public.

Killed in a Slope.—On Monday evening last at Frederick Arnold, of Tremont, was coming up the slope of Dutters & Co., Donaldson, in a car, his head struck a timber in the roof, taking the top of his head off, injuring his brain. Death of course, was instantaneous. The deceased was an estimable young man, the only child of Mr. Henry Arnold, of Tremont, and but recently married.

Arrest of Alleged Incendiaries.—In Ashland on Saturday morning last, about 2 o'clock, Patrick Sweeney, Patrick O'Leary, Patrick Kelly and a man named Monlagan, all Irishmen, employed at the Big Mine Run, were arrested charged with incendiarism. It is stated that they attempted to set fire to a building made to Mr. Feustermacher, carpenter. The accused had a hearing before Squire Foster of Ashland, and were committed to prison for trial. Ashland has suffered severely from fires during the past year, which are attributed to acts of incendiarism. If convicted of this crime these men should be punished.

Untrue.—Last week we published on the strength of information received from a respectable citizen of Tamaqua, a statement to the effect that Mr. Ulrich had seen the body of John Donohoe, and recognized it as the body of the murderers of George K. Smith. Since that time Mr. Ulrich has called upon us and states that the story is untrue. He has not seen the body of Donohoe, and never said that Donohoe was one of the murderers of Mr. Smith. From all the information we can glean on the subject, the belief as to the identity was expressed by an officer residing in this County who at the time of the murder of Mr. Smith went to Carbon county to investigate the matter and make arrests. Mr. Ulrich had nothing to do with the matter, of the alleged recognition.

Proceedings of the Borough Council.—A stated meeting of Council was held on Tuesday evening last. Present, Messrs. Leonard, Straub, Reed, Fox, Griffith, Moyer, Dobson, Shearer, and Cochran, Pres't.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and adopted.

Street Committee reported wall built at Morris Addition by Jacob Madara.

Statement of Borough Treasurer read and filed.

Bill of B. Bannan read and referred to Committee on Room, Stationary and Fire Apparatus.

The following bills were read and ordered to be paid:

American Hose Company.....	$50 00
Jacob Madara.....	67 40
Street hands.....	26 27
Charles Madara, culvert.....	75 00
	$268 67
Previous issue.....	16,295 54
Total.....	$16,564 21

Adjourned.

G. A. of R., of U. S.—We call attention to the following order just issued by the Commander of this District:

HEAD QUARTERS DISTRICT OF SCHUYLKILL CO.
GRAND ARMY OF REPUBLIC OF U. S.
MINERSVILLE, Feb 16, 1867.

GENERAL ORDER. No. 1.—In accordance with General Order No. 6, Head Quarters Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. of R., dated Philadelphia, Feb. 5, 1867, I hereby assume command of this District.

Commanders of Posts of G. A. of R., within the limits of this District will at once report to these Head Quarters, as follows:

1. Name and Post Office address of Post Commander.
2. Date of organization.
3. By whose authority organized.
4. Present strength.
5. Location, town or township.

The District staff will be announced in future orders.

Honorably discharged soldiers and sailors desirous of organizing Posts of Grand Army of Republic within this District will address these Head Quarters.

GEORGE W. BEMUS, Commanding District.
Official:—ELIAS MILLER, A. A. A. Gen.

"Olivier Cromwell."—Mr. Henry M. Vincent's lecture on this subject at Union Hall on Tuesday evening last, was listened to by an appreciative audience. Mr. V. occupied about two hours in its delivery, securing the attention and interest of the audience to the close. The lecture is well worthy of the high encomiums which have been bestowed upon it in Philadelphia and elsewhere. As an analysis of Cromwell's character it is masterly. The descriptive passages we have never heard excelled—especially the description of the Roundhead victory at Marsden Moor. Mr. Vincent's lecture was a rare treat.

A Bold Robbery.—The Robbers enter the office of a Colliery on Pay Day and Carry Off Forty-five Hundred Dollars.—The most daring robbery that ever took place in Schuylkill County, was perpetrated on Saturday last by ten men, at the office of the Boston Run Colliery, Althouse & Koch, about three miles from Mahanoy City. Saturday was pay day at the Colliery, and on the previous day Mr. George D. Althouse had arrived from Philadelphia with $6000 to pay the miners. On Friday evening this money was put in envelopes as is the custom, by Mr. Benjamin Focht. During the night an attempt was made to enter the house where this money was kept, but fights having been kept burning the men who made the attempt desisted after opening some shutters.

About 9 o'clock on Saturday morning Mr. Focht took the money to the office and commenced paying. Shortly after Mr. Althouse and Mr. Jacob Focht (Mr. B. Focht's father) went to the office, where they remained, and when a chance in paying him. They had paid twenty-one men, and there was no one in the office except Mr. Althouse, Mr. Focht and his son, when Mr. Jacob Focht who was looking out of a window, suddenly exclaimed, "There come four men." He had hardly uttered the exclamation, before they entered the office. One of the men asked Mr. Focht if he was informed that there was none to-give. The men then made a movement to enter inside a railing which separated the entrance from the interior of the office. The movement made this movement Mr. B. Focht suspecting that their object was robbery, sprang over the railing for the purpose of going out to give an alarm and to receive any further alarm, he would put a ball through him. The two men took him about ten steps to the middle of the road, delivering him into the hands of a confederate, at the same time with their revolvers keeping off unarmed men who were coming to his assistance. The man took Mr. Focht down the road about two hundred yards. A woman who saw the occurrence screamed, and one of the robbers fired two shots at her, neither taking effect. The man who held Mr. Focht in charge robbed him of a gold watch and chain valued at $200, and then compelled him to jump into a creek close by, and in jumping a stone which however passed over him shortly after the other robbers nine in number, came down the road and passed on. Mr. Focht then rose, and with the assistance of a fellow, went to Shenandoah City, where a hundred armed men were soon got together, to go in pursuit of the robbers.

While the men were operated upon as above outside, a desperate fight took place in the office between Mr. Althouse and Mr. Jacob Focht and two of the robbers. Mr. Althouse knocked one of them down, and then engaged in a struggle with another, which however, came to the robber's assistance and striking Mr. Althouse a severe blow on the head with the butt of his revolver, knocked him to the floor senseless. Mr. Focht also had his assistant by the throat with one hand, while with the other he held the barrel of the robber's revolver from which four shots were fired while that position without injuring Mr. F. After Mr. Althouse fell the robbers succeeded in getting the money, nine in one bundle and twenty-five envelopes, and decamped hastily, dropping fifteen of the envelopes in making their hasty ex. The amount taken was $4500. During the fight the shots were heard by several balls passed through Mr. Althouse's clothing. He was slight wounded in the hip by a ball. Mr. Focht was wounded on the head by the butt end