THE COURTS.

YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

[Reported for The Press.]

COMMON PLEAS—*The Board of Health and Mayor Henry*—Judge Thompson.—Mayor Henry had a hearing on yesterday morning before Judge Thompson, on *habeas corpus*, charged with interfering with an officer of the Board of Health in the execution of his official duties. The Mayor, attended by his counsel, Mr. Paul, was in Court. Mr. Attamon Phillips, the solicitor of the board, made some preliminary objection to the case proceeding, as there did not appear to be a warrant of arrest issued. After some conversation between the counsel, the objection was waived, and the case proceeded with.

Arthur Hughes, the health officer, was sworn, and testified that on the 9th of June he had received instructions from the board to close the First district station house, it having been declared a nuisance; that he went down to the station house, and saw Lieutenant Hamilton, to whom he communicated the orders of the board; that subsequently he was waited upon by Hamilton, and Mr. Ruggles, chief of police, who asked him if the order could not be suspended for some days, it would put them to great inconvenience to close; that by some means the order was rescinded, and on the 29th of June a fresh order was passed by the board, by which he was directed to close the station house in forty-eight hours; that he communicated that order to the Mayor, who informed him that he would resist the closing of the building, and upon sending down some men, there that afternoon, they were arrested, taken before an alderman, and held to bail; that he went there a second time, and found the place full of police, and was informed by the lieutenant in charge that he would resist every attempt to close the building, and that he was acting by orders of the Mayor.

Upon cross-examination, the witness admitted he did not go into the building to examine its condition; but he knew the basement to have been in a filthy condition and ought to be used as a place of custody.

James Smith, an ex-police officer, testified that the cells were in a filthy condition, and full of vermin, but he believed that the cells were now closed.

Mr. James H. Paul, for the defendant, denied the right of the Board of Health to close the station house, and asked to be shown the law on the subject.

Mr. Phillips replied by reading several passages from the laws regarding the board, which he contended gave them the power to declare a building a nuisance and close it.

Judge Thompson then proceeded to deliver the opinion of the court, and reviewed the powers given to the Board of Health very fully. He was of opinion that the board had no right in this case after the cells were closed and the nuisance abated to close up the building, and that the Mayor, in resisting the officer of the board in attempting to do what he had no legal right to do, had been guilty of no breach of the law which gave these powers to the board. He would therefore order the discharge of Mayor Henry.

QUARTER SESSIONS—Judge Allison.—*The Kirkpatrick Poisoning Case.*—Yesterday morning, having been fixed for the trial of this case, the court room was crowded with the witnesses and friends of the parties. There are no less than five counsel engaged for the defendants, and the case seems to excite a great deal of interest, and is a singular one considering the standing of the parties—prosecutor and defendants. Messrs. Brewster, Hazlehurst, L. Hirst, and Hagert, for the defendants, respectively made applications for a postponement, in consequence of the absence of a material witness, which was stoutly opposed by Messrs. Kelley and Coffee for the prosecution. Judge Allison fixed the case positively for ten o'clock this morning, and the probabilities are that it will occupy two or three days on trial.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

THE MONEY MARKET.

PHILADELPHIA, July 6, 1858.

Stocks were a little more firm to-day than at the close of the week, but the sales were not large.

In the money market there is no movement; all is steadily fast and dull.

The Fire Insurance Company of the County of Philadelphia, has declared a dividend of three and a half per cent. payable on and after July 16th.

The Planters' Bank of Tennessee has declared a dividend of ten per cent. out of the profits of the last twelve months, which is payable to Eastern stockholders on demand at the Western Bank, Philadelphia.

The Mechanics' Bank of St. Louis, which has been in operation only a year, but which was the only bank there that did not suspend, makes now the handsome dividend of ten per cent. on all stock payments made prior to the first of April, 1858, having first set aside, as required by charter, two per cent. for the contingent fund, and having still left a reserve fund of $9,060.42.

The Bank of the State of Missouri has declared a dividend of 5 per cent. out of the profits of the past six months, after placing 2 per cent. to the credit of the sinking fund. There is also declared by this bank a dividend of 15 per cent. to the holders of the old stock, on account of the surplus of profits under the old charter.

The Bank of St. Louis has declared a dividend of 5 per cent. out of the profits of the last six months, on all stock paid prior to the 10th May, and at the rate of 10 per cent. upon all paid since, after reserving 2 per cent. for special contingent fund, and 1 per cent. of the paid-up capital to the credit of the general contingent fund.

The Merchants' Bank has declared a dividend of 6 per cent. on the paid-up capital out of the profits of the past six months' business, after paying a bonus of 1 per cent. to the State, and placing 2 per cent. to the contingent fund, as required by the charter, and has still a reserved fund of $2,440.

There are a good many inquiries made as to the payment of interest on the bonds of the North Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The interest that has fallen due on the ten per cent. bonds, maturing on the 1st April, and the 1st October, being small in amount, has been regularly paid when due. The coupons of the six per cent. bonds due on the 1st January last were paid in instalments during the past six months, and the earnings of the company during the half year now entered upon will be devoted in the same manner to the payment of the interest that fell due on the first of July. The bondholders are very generally well satisfied with this arrangement, it being at once an evidence of the entire good faith of the company, and of the earnest desire of its officers to fulfil to their greatest ability its engagements. The receipts of the road during the six months ending with May, a period of great depression, were $434,365, an increase of $46,049 over the receipts for the corresponding period in the previous year. The net earnings were for the same six months $70,195, a sum not far short of the whole amount of the accruing liabilities of the road for interest, &c. The road is now doing a good business, and it is not at all a sanguine calculation that the net earnings of the present half year will considerably more than suffice for these purposes, and give promise of something for stockholders in the not distant future. Meanwhile, an instalment of the interest due will be paid on the 15th of September next, and the balance before the 1st of January, 1859.

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