THE CITY.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Broad and Locust streets.—"Macbeth."

ARCH-STREET THEATRE—Arch street, above Sixth.—"Love's Labor Lost"—"Scotto; or, the Scout and the Spy."

CONTINENTAL THEATRE—Walnut street, above Eighth.—"Sack Sheppard on Horseback"—"Putnam; or, The Iron Son of '76."

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE—Ninth and Walnut sts.—"Phelim O'Donnell"—"An Hour in Seville"—"Brian O'Lynn."

TEMPLE OF WONDERS—N. E. corner Tenth and Chestnut streets—Signor Blitz's Entertainment.

Proceedings of City Councils.

The first regular stated meeting of the new City Councils was held yesterday afternoon.

SELECT BRANCH.

THEO. CUYLER, President, in the chair.

The following communications were read:

A communication from the Pennsylvania State Library, acknowledging the receipt of a number of public documents from Councils.

From the Controllers of Public Schools conveying an estimate of expenses for the year 1862.

Mr. CATTIN moved offered a resolution calling for the appointment of a joint special committee of six to inquire into the state of finances as they existed on the 1st of JANUARY, 1862. The committee are to be selected from the old Finance Committee, who are not now members of Councils—three to be selected by the President of each chamber. The committee are to have the use of all the books, and are qualified to send for and examine under oath all persons they may see fit.

Mr. LYND moved to refer the resolution to the Committee on Finance; which was withdrawn.

This gave rise to an animated discussion, and finally Mr. MCINTYRE moved to amend by selecting the committee from the members of the present Councils.

Mr. CATHERWOOD strongly urged the passage of the resolution, as he wished to know how the city of Philadelphia stood, and to begin the year anew.

Mr. WETHERILL said if we investigate this matter we should appoint committees and go into a thorough investigation of all the departments of the city. He, therefore, offered as an amendment "that they also inquire into the various departments of the city, as to their expenses for the past year, and report where extravagant expenditures have been made, and also the best method they, in their opinion, can offer to redeem the same." Accepted.

Mr. BAIRD thought both the resolution and amendment as altogether unnecessary. He thought it an insult to the opposition.

Mr. FOX was in favor of having this investigation made. He thought that no one would deny the fact that the finances of the city had been in a terrible state of confusion. No one knows where we stand. He had heard that the city loans had been sold by the city below par. He favored the appointment of impartial persons from outside, as their proceedings must be approved of by Quit Chambers.

Numerous other amendments were made and voted down.

Mr. WETHERILL moved, as a proviso, "that if the next, they be dissolved." Accepted—the 1st of March.

Mr. MCINTYRE again moved to amend by making the committee five persons from this Chamber, which was agreed to.

Mr. FOX moved further to amend by allowing the committee to hire such clerks as may be deemed necessary. Agreed to.

Mr. FOX objected to the proviso as offered by Mr. Wetherill. He thought the committee should have their time, as he did not desire it cramped and dissolved, even though working diligently.

Mr. MCINTYRE said the member from the Twelfth was one of those who were always crying for reforms, and now he had a chance for reform he should not oppose the proviso, as it would compel the committee to make a report and arrive at some conclusion—a thing seldom gained from these special committees.

Mr. LYND said they wanted the committee appointed. *They commenced an investigation, but they were unwilling* that the proviso should be stricken out. He was willing to extend the time, but he wanted some definite period named.

Mr. MCGARY then moved to strike out March and insert July, which was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, was then passed, and the chair appointed Messrs. Mcgary, chairman, Catherwood, Wetherill, King, and McIntyre.

Mr. WETHERILL offered a resolution, that a Committee of Defence be appointed to take the place of the old committee, to have all the powers, and perform the duties, of the same. Agreed to.

Mr. DOUGHERTY offered a resolution, that the Committee on Relief to the Families of Volunteers report as to the propriety of *extending aid to the families of soldiers* and marines enlisted in the service of the United States. Agreed to.

Mr. FOND presented an ordinance appropriating the sum of $14,000 to pay for the opening and cleansing of the sewers and gutters, as shall prevent the overflowing of the sidewalks.

Mr. FOX moved to amend by making the amount $250.

Mr. MCGARY moved $500—which was agreed to. The bill then passed.

The bill from Common Council, making an appropriation of $240,453 to the Guardians of the Poor, for 1862, was taken up, the Chamber going into a committee of the whole. Mr. Dickson in the chair.

The different items of the bill were read and agreed to.

The President announced that the new Committee on Defence would consist of Messrs. Wetherill, Dickson, Davis, Jordan, Armstrong, and McIntyre.

Adjourned.

COMMON COUNCIL.

The Chamber was called to order at the usual hour by Mr. Kerr, acting president.

Several new members, not qualified at the first meeting, were duly sworn in.

The journal was then read by the clerk, and approved of.

The Chair announced that the selection of seats was then in order.

On motion, the seats of the members from the Nineteenth ward were not precluded.

On motion, Mr. Trego, the late president, as a personal compliment, was allowed to select his seat before the drawing commenced.

The members having been seated, the Chair presented a communication from the Board of Control, asking for the appropriation of $607,315 for the expenses of the department during the current year, and $80,000 for the erection of a new school building.

On motion, it was referred to the Committee on Schools.

A communication from Mr. Jno. L. Shoemaker, member from the Twelfth ward, stating that he had declined to present a certificate of election to the person who had had discovered that he had been elected by fraudulent votes, was presented by Mr. Caskey, laid on table.

A communication was received from the Commissioner of Highways calling attention to the shocking condition of the streets. Referred to the Committee on Highways.

Mr. BARGER offered a resolution confirming the action of this body at its last meeting relative to organization. The resolution embodies the compromise already published, by which a temporary organization has been arrived at. Agreed to.

Mr. FREEMAN asked Council to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the ordinance making an appropriation to the Poor Department. Agreed to.

The ordinance was read as follows:

SECTION 1. *The Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia, do ordain:* That the sum of two hundred and sixty-five thousand four hundred and fifty-three dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to the Board of Guardians of the Poor, for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, as follows:

HOSPITAL DEPARTMENT.

For drugs and medicines, ($6,250) six thousand two hundred and fifty dollars.

For sugar, butter, lard, oat and cake meal, ($7000) seven hundred dollars.

For brandy, wine, whisky, and porter, ($900) nine hundred dollars.

For surgical instruments, leeches, and leeching, ($4000) four hundred dollars.

For books and binding for medical library, and preservation of pathological specimens, ($250) two hundred and fifty dollars.

For marketing for hospital and nurse's tables, ($4,200) four thousand two hundred dollars.

For salary of apothecary and assistants, ($1,350) one thousand three hundred and fifty dollars.

For wages on pay roll, ($32,025) two thousand, two hundred and sixty-eight dollars.

For board of eight assistant resident physicians, ($1,675) one thousand six hundred and seventy-five dollars.

For incidental expenses, ($250) two hundred and fifty dollars.

INSANE DEPARTMENT.

For marketing for Insane Asylum, ($2,000) two thousand dollars.

For salary of resident physician, and board of assistant resident physician, ($1,468) one thousand four hundred and eight dollars.

For wages on pay roll, chargeable to Insane Asylum ($2,904) two thousand nine hundred and four dollars.

For incidental expenses, ($200) two hundred dollars.

CHILDREN'S ASYLUM.

For marketing and supplies for nurse's and nursery tables, ($350) three hundred and fifty dollars.

For wages on pay roll chargeable to Children's Asylum, ($488) four hundred and fifty-six dollars.

For salary of matron and teacher, ($575) five hundred and seventy-five dollars.

For purchase of milk, ($1,000) one thousand dollars.

For incidental expenses, ($250) two hundred and fifty dollars.

HOUSE GENERAL.

For flour, corn, and corn meal, ($27,400) twenty-seven thousand four hundred dollars.

For beef, mutton, pork, and bacon, ($28,000) twenty-eight thousand dollars.

For tea, coffee, rye, sugar, and molasses, ($18,000) eighteen thousand dollars.

For codfish, butter, lard, rice, corn, hominy, barley, salt, and pepper, ($7,600) seven thousand five hundred dollars.

For potatoes, beans, and other vegetables, ($2,100) two thousand one hundred dollars.

For crackers, hops, malt, vinegar, and pickles, ($1,050) one thousand and fifty dollars.

For marketing for Old Women's Asylum, ($550) five hundred and fifty dollars.

For marketing for Almshouse, ($500) three hundred dollars.

For dry goods, ($6,000) six thousand dollars.

For boots, shoes, hats, and caps, ($400) four hundred dollars.

For hosiery, yarn, thread, cotton, combs, needles, and trimmings, ($1,500) one thousand eight hundred dollars.

For tobacco, soap, lime, and starch, ($1,350) one thousand three hundred and fifty dollars.

For hardware, crockery, linware, brushes, and brooms, ($1,400) one thousand four hundred dollars.

For purchase and repairs of stoves and cooking apparatus, ($500) five hundred dollars.

For general repairs to house, plumbing, gas fitting, and materials therefor, ($3,000) three thousand dollars.

For fuel, ($10,500) ten thousand five hundred dollars.

For gas and oil, ($5,400) three thousand four hundred dollars.

For furniture and straw, ($1,800) one thousand eight hundred dollars.

For cleaning sinks and chimneys, ($250) two hundred and fifty dollars.

For salary of steward, clerk, house agent, storekeeper, matron and steward's clerk, ($4,825) four thousand eight hundred and twenty-five dollars.

For salary of doorkeeper, engineer, plumber and gasfitter, baker, general watchman and police officer, ($2,570) two thousand five hundred and seventy dollars.

For wages on pay roll, chargeable to house, generally, ($7,800) one thousand eight hundred dollars.

For fire hose, and repairs to same, ($400) four hundred dollars.

For incidental expenses, ($350) three hundred and fifty dollars.

MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT.

For leather, lasts, and shoe findings, ($1,500) four thousand five hundred dollars.

For tallow and caustic alkali, ($1,000) one thousand dollars.

For chain, filling, and weaving materials, ($6,500) six thousand five hundred dollars.

For tools, coal, iron, and steel, ($350) three hundred and fifty dollars.

For tin, glass, paints, varnish, oil, glue, and brushes, ($1,250) one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars.

For lumber, ($1,150) one thousand one hundred and fifty dollars.

For quarrying stone, ($150) one hundred and fifty dollars.

For purchase of iron for manufacturing iron bedsteads, ($500) five hundred dollars.

For salary of superintendent, ($600) six hundred dollars.

For wages on pay-roll, chargeable to manufactory, and overwork, ($6000) six hundred dollars.

For incidental expenses, ($300) three hundred dollars.

FARM AND BLOCKLEY ESTATE.

For lumber and repairs, ($750) seven hundred and fifty dollars.

For lime, sand, and masonry, ($200) two hundred dollars.

For water pipe, fire plugs, and additional gas lamp outside of enclosure of main buildings, ($1,200) one thousand two hundred dollars.

For straw and feed for horses and cows, ($1,600) one thousand six hundred dollars.

For seeds, manures, and farming utensils, ($350) three hundred and fifty dollars.

For purchase of horses and cows, ($400) five hundred dollars.

For iron and blacksmith work, ($200) two hundred dollars.

For salary of farmer and gardener, ($1,232) one thousand two hundred and thirty-two dollars.

For wages on pay roll, chargeable to farm and garden, ($100) one hundred dollars.

For incidental expenses, ($350) three hundred and fifty dollars.

OUT-DOOR EXPENSES.

For salary of secretary, out-door agent, messenger, and wagon driver, ($2,568) two thousand five hundred and eighty-eight dollars.

For travelling expenses of house agent, toll, and support of non-residents, ($350) three hundred and fifty dollars.

For fuel tax, and ground rent of city office, ($250) two hundred and fifty dollars.

For cost of taking up hogs, ($75) seventy-five dollars.

For repairs to city office, gas, water rent, and incidental office expenses, ($225) two hundred and twenty-five dollars.

For expenses of support and bastardy cases, ($9,600) nine thousand six hundred dollars.

For cost of serving processes and removal of non-residents, ($1,150) one thousand one hundred and fifty dollars.

For cupping, leeching, and burial cases, ($700) seven hundred dollars.

For rent of visitors' offices, ($1,072) one thousand and seventy-two dollars.

For salaries of out-door visitors, ($5,050) five thousand and fifty dollars.

For salaries of out-door physicians and apothecaries, two ($2,850) thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars.

For maintaining and educating three deaf mutes in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum in the city, ($480) four hundred and eighty dollars.

For stationery, printing, and advertising, ($1,250) one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars.

For railroad tickets for guardians and medical board, ($250) two hundred and fifty dollars.

For gratuitous for small-pox patients, ($1,000) one thousand dollars.

For partial erection of new building to furnish increased hospital accommodation, ($20,000) twenty thousand dollars.

For incidental expenses, ($150) one hundred and fifty dollars.

FOR RELIEF OF OUT-DOOR POOR.

For First *poor district,* ($14,000) four thousand dollars.

For Second *poor district,* ($4,500) four thousand five hundred dollars.

For Third *poor district,* ($5,600) five thousand five hundred dollars.

For Fourth *poor district,* ($5,000) five thousand dollars.

For Fifth *poor district,* ($4,250) four thousand two hundred dollars.

For Sixth *poor district,* ($4,500) four thousand five hundred dollars.

For Seventh *poor district,* ($3,700) five thousand seven hundred dollars.

For Eighth *poor district,* ($3,500) three thousand five hundred dollars.

For Ninth *poor district,* ($2,250) two thousand two hundred dollars.

For Tenth *poor district,* ($1,500) one thousand five hundred dollars.

For Eleventh *poor district,* ($1,800) one thousand eight hundred dollars.

SECTION 2. That warrants for said appropriation shall be drawn in conformity with existing ordinances.

The item appropriating $20,000 to the partial erection of a new hospital was made the subject of a discussion.

Mr. SYBS opposed the item. The Board should present their full estimate to this Chamber if they desired to erect such building. He moved that the item be stricken out.

Mr. CRESSWELL hoped that the item would not be stricken out, but that an investigation be made. He was authorized in stating that the building when complete would not cost over $25,000.

Mr. FREEMAN was in favor of the appropriation. It was necessary, from the increased number of children who had entered the institution. With the aid of pauper labor, a building could be erected for $25,000, which, by contract or other *wise, would cost $60,000.*

Mr. LEE thought the building was necessary, and that the sum named was not exorbitant.

The item was finally stricken out.

On motion, the following items were respectively rejected:

For four, corn, and corn-meal, ... $25,400.

For beef, mutton, pork, and bacon, from $28,000 to $26,000.

The total appropriation to the Department was, therefore, reduced from $265,453, to $240,453.

The ordinance then passed a final reading, and the Chamber adjourned.

THE HOMICIDE IN THE FIFTEENTH WARD.—Yesterday morning Coroner Conrad summoned a jury at the Fifteenth-ward station-house, for the purpose of holding an inquest on the body of John Conley, who was murdered on Wednesday night at Twenty-fourth and Biddle streets. The deceased had a good reputation for sobriety, not having lasted liquor for twenty years, and as he was rather of an inoffensive disposition, the reason for his assassination is a mystery. The sum of $122 was found upon the deceased, showing that plunder was not the motive. The matter has been placed in the hands of detectives G. H. Smith and Wrigley, who will endeavor to find out the perpetrators of the brutal affair.

The following testimony was given in the inquest:

John Caney, residing at Twenty-fourth and Biddle street, was sworn and testified as follows: Last evening, about ten minutes after six, I came out from supper and stood at Twenty-fourth and Biddle streets; while there saw these three men; suddenly they ran across the street; I thought it was some of the boys skylarking; heard one says, "Let go my" then one came towards me, staggered and fell; I went there and picked the man up, and saw this man (pointing to the other) run away; I went into the tavern for assistance, and the man's wife came out and helped me to pick him up; did not see the face of the assailants; saw nothing but their backs; I was about twenty yards from them, upon the opposite corner; did not know where the man came from; think they came down Twenty-fourth street; when the man ran, they went together down Biddle street; the deceased was one of the threemen referred to before; I asked him murdered man what was the matter with him, but he could not speak.

John McVay, residing at Ringgold and Brown streets, sworn.—I was going down Twenty-fourth street, and met the former; I spoke to him, and passed him; after proceeding a short distance, I turned around and saw a scuffle; I thought I saw the young man who did the act fall; saw Conley have hold of one of them; then Conley staggered and fell; I supposed that one man went down Twenty-fourth street, and went after him; the other two ran down Biddle street; I was out of Twenty-fourth street; I did not know the man who went down Twenty-fourth street or what was the matter; didn't notice the men on the street until I heard the scuffle and the noise attracted me, and saw the previous witness run over; did not see Conley before that; didn't know that he was home; he was a boatman; I have no idea who the two men were; I was not near enough to obtain any knowledge of them; couldn't tell whether they went down or up Twenty-fourth street; when I stopped the man on Twenty-fourth street, I asked him if he was hurt, he said he was stabbed; he said he was not intoxicated at all; he was not excited.

Bridget McFarland, residing at Twenty-third street near Biddle, sworn.—About seven o'clock last night my attorney, and I went to attend to it; as I opened the door leading from the kitchen a man stumbled in; he was excited and said, "let me out;" I asked him what is the matter, but could not get anything from him but "let me out;" he looked frightened, and had blood stained on him; I thought that the rowdies were after him, and I went with him into the Blindfoot mill and showed him the way across the foist; the man was much excited and was crying; upon going out he would not come with me, but went through the lower lot, and through the lower lot, and before in the neighborhood.

Mary McFarland, daughter of the last witness, was sworn, and corroborated the evidence of her mother. The man of the young man who went through the house was bleeding; witness did not know the man; thinks the time mother was getting the man out the back way I saw a young man get front door opened, and supposed him to be one of those after the other man; he took no notice of me; I have seen that young man frequently about the neighborhood.

Mrs. Ann English, residing at Twenty-fourth and Biddle streets, sworn.—About a quarter to seven last evening John Caney ran into our house, and said he; I saw no nobody to give him a lift; I asked him what was the matter; he said that John Conley had been murdered; I went out and lifted up his head; I don't know anything further; had not seen Conley Saturday; Mrs. Conley came out and helped me; no strange men were in my house last evening; we have but two men boarding with us, and they had gone out about ten minutes before; they saw nothing of the occurrence.

Dr. S. Updegrove, who made a post-mortem examination, was sworn, and testified to the nature of the wounds. He found three cuts, one on the line of the base of the lower jaw, another back of the left temples, and the third in the front of the chest. Conley died to death from the latter wound. There were several scratches on the face, which looked as if they had been caused by falling. Saw no marks about the throat.

The case was then adjourned until Monday morning next, at 11 o'clock.

CHURCH CONSECRATION.—The Protestant Episcopal Church of St. Alban's was consecrated on Wednesday with the usual impressive ceremonies. The following ministers took part in the services: Bishop Stevens, Rev. G. Emlen Hare, Rev. Benjamin Watson, Rev. George Leeds, Rev. Richardson Shearman, Rev. E. W. Syle, Rev. E. L. Lycett, Rev. John Leighton McKim, Rev. S. E. Hotchkin, and others.

The church is situated on Fern avenue, near Ridge avenue, Roxborough. It is erected on a piece of ground presented for the purpose by Mr. Frederick Fairthorn, a prominent resident of Roxborough, and through whose instrumentality the church has attained its present condition. The site selected is a beautiful one. The church is built of stone, and cruciform in shape. Its architecture, which is very beautiful, was suggested by Mr. Fairthorne, and the plans drawn by Mr. Dyers, of Philadelphia. The church was organized in June, 1860, and was then a mission of St. David's Church, Manayunk, but it became independent in October, 1861. It was first opened for service in January, 1861, and was consecrated on Wednesday, January 8th, 1862. It will accommodate two hundred and fifty people. The Sunday school connected with the church now numbers over one hundred and fifty children. *The rector, the Rev.* M. A. Tolman, is laboring very successfully in that portion of the city.

REPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REFUGE.—The annual report of this institution has been received. The number of persons received during the year was 253 boys and 96 girls in the white department, and 93 boys and 32 girls in the colored department. Of those discharged 240 were white boys, 73 white girls; 76 colored boys and 23 colored girls. The greatest number of inmates in the whole department has been 238 boys and 90 girls—total, 328.

The treasurer's report reports the payment of the inmates of the White Department, for salaries, repairs, and contingent expenses, $20,347.66; Colored Department, $10,140.65—making a total expenditure for the maintenance of the house of $40,487.71.

The committee examined the accounts of the treasurer for the year 1861, and find a balance in his hands of $78.06 on the first of January, 1862.

The contributors then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

President—Thomas Earp.

Vice Presidents—J. J. Barclay, Isaac Collins.

Treasurer—George W. Fahnestock.

Secretary—Alexander Henry.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL SOCIETY.—The seventy-first annual meeting of this society was held at No. 1122 Chestnut street. The treasurer reported the receipts during the year to be $952.41, and expenditures for the same time $892.30; leaving a balance in the treasury of $102.55. During the past year fifty-seven schools, embracing six hundred and seventy-nine teachers and five thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight scholars, have been assisted. Of this number forty-*a* three were mission schools, and fourteen connected with feeble churches. The following named gentlemen were elected officers and a Board of Visitors for the present year: President, John C. Peckin; Vice President, James Peters; Treasurer, Charles J. Sutter; Secretary, Alexander Kirkpatrick. Board of Visitors—Messrs. A. Martin, Wm. F. Geddes, A. Kirkpatrick, Joseph Divey, A. H. Potter, E. H. Toland, W. D. Thomas, J. Peters, E. T. S. Lentz, J. Boyles, Charles J. Sutter, L. Knowles.

CURIOUS BUT UNSUCCESSFUL RUSE OF A COUNTERFEITER.—Shortly before ten o'clock last night, one of the officers of the Chestnut street station, above Sixth, observed a man place a small bundle behind one of the metallic signs attached to the front of Messrs. Yard, Gilmore, & Co.'s store, and then move off hastily. The officer immediately removed the package and found it to consist of a lot of counterfeit $1 notes on the Citizens' Bank of Middletown, Delaware. Thereupon, he notified the storekeepers and others, in the vicinity, of the discovery, and cautioned them to be on the lookout. Half an hour passed and the suspicious depositor entered the Metropolitan saloon, next door to Yard, Gilmore, & Co.'s store, and attempted to pass one of the notes. He was recognized by the reserve officer, and at once taken into custody and locked up at the Central Station. He gave the name of Henry Hanke. He will probably have a hearing to-day.

ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday John Hays, a member of Baxter's Fire Zouaves, fell from the front platform of a city railway car, on Second street, above Brown. A wheel passed over one of his hands and crushed it in a very serious manner. The sufferer was taken to the hospital. His residence last No. 1013 Cathaline street.

DROWNING CASE.—Yesterday the body of an unknown man was found floating in the Schuylkill river, near the Point Breeze gas works. It is believed that his name is Quintin Devine, and that he resided at No. 702 South Third street. He is about five feet eight inches in height, and wore two pairs of pants, two vests, and a black frock coat. The coroner was notified to hold an inquest.

CHILD SMOTHERED.—A child named Kennedy, four months of age, was accidentally smothered in bed at the residence of its parents in Hare street, near Twenty-fourth, Fifteenth ward, on Wednesday night.

THE THAW.—The thaw has had the effect of breaking up and loosening ice in the small streams, and it is drifting into the Delaware river in large masses. The change in the temperature has made the ice comparatively rotten, and the steamboats break it up without difficulty.

SALE OF A PRIZE.—The schooner *San Juan*, a *prize* vessel, has been sold for $2,200. Her cargo of salt brought 20 cents per bushel.

THE HOWARD HOSPITAL.—The following are the figures of the report of the Howard Hospital, No. 1518 Lombard street, for December, 1861:

Number of patients registered	356
" prescriptions furnished	819
Whole number of patients registered since March 1, 1861	3,076
Whole number of prescriptions furnished in same period	4,075

Arrival of Released Prisoners from Richmond.

We had an interview last night with David Wells and a comrade named Jameson, who were among the captives at the retreat of Bull Run, but returned to Fortress Monroe a little in advance of the main body of the released prisoners, and have since been to Washington, visiting their regiment. Both are attached to Rochester organization, and will leave for New York on the way homeward this morning.

At the battle of Manassas the regiment to which they were attached was panic-stricken early in the afternoon, and although afterward united in part, many of its members failed to appear. Jameson and Wells sought shelter in a clump of trees, the bullets raining around them. They had the indescribable anguish of beholding from this covert many of their comrades struck down and one *you* g man, rushing toward their shelter, had both legs broken by a spent ball only a few feet from the wood. *Jameson* ventured from his concealment to assist him, when he was charged upon by an Alabamian, who wielded a tremendous bowie knife, and called Jameson to surrender. Wells at once ran out to his relief, and both were beset directly by a company of Virginia riflemen. Their hands were tied behind them, and they were led away toward the rebel reserves.

The Virginians were cowardly and cruel beyond all forbearance; but the Alabamian, whose name turned out to be Borland, behaved more chivalrously. He rebuked the riflemen, and finally succeeded in having both Jameson and Wells unbound. As they were almost dead for water, he gave them to drink from his canteen, and his example at length induced clemency in the breasts of the others. They were marched about four miles, when on the way hundreds of dead and wounded rebels that were being carted towards Brentsville in common ox-cars driven by negroes.

The groans and screams of the sufferers, whose wounds bled afresh at every jolt of the cars, were fearful to hear. Once on the way a rebel officer drew a pistol upon Wells, but the Alabamian struck him over the face with the flat of his sword, when he forbore. The town of Brentsville was filled with wounded and dying soldiers; all the houses were used for hospitals, and the citizens were turned away from their homes. All was disorder, and on every hand the rebels believed that they had been defeated.

The captives were quartered, with eight others, in the upper story of a tavern, and had nothing to eat till the next evening. They slept upon the floor, but were so disturbed by the maledictions and groans of some rebel wounded in the room from that their sleep was broken and feverish. Before daylight scattered companies of rebels came into the village, playing boisterous music, and the time till daylight was given to rollicking and merriment. A dozen of the prisoners were marched, on the third day, across the country to Fredericksburg, a movement which they were at a loss to explain. They learned afterward that the colonel of the regiment to which the riflemen were attached was a citizen of Fredericksburg, who desired to gratify his townsmen with a view of the Yankees. Here they were treated tolerably, and some of the women fed them with wholesome food. After two days they were taken to Richmond, over the Richmond and Potomac Railroad, and lodged in the penitentiary on the outskirts of the city.

After a month's sojourn here, they were removed to noisome quarters in an adjoining tobacco factory, and late at the time of writing they were in a loathsome condition, among rats and vermin, constantly insulted by their guard, and too poor to pay for the ordinary necessities of life. *Four bread, and unwholesome,* was doled out to them, and a disease, akin to the scurvy, finally broke out in some of the messes. The Alabamian, Borland, who had captured them, visited the factory one day, and promised to use his influence to secure their release on the ground of sickness. He succeeded in doing so, and they came down to Norfolk three weeks ago in the steamer *Pocahontas*, and were transferred to Fort Fortress Monroe. They can give no knowledge of affairs in either Richmond or Norfolk.

THE QUARTER-MASTER GENERAL of Pennsylvania acknowledges to have received for the volunteers the following donations:

From the citizens of Hopewell township, Bedford county, Pa., the Hon. Thomas Burnett, Esq., of Hartwell, 60 pairs of woollen socks. From Mrs. Hetty R. Baker, Altoona, Pa., 1 pair socks, 2 pillows. From ladies of Sunnyside Female Seminary, Cumberland county, 6 pairs woollen socks, 1 pair cotton socks, and 4 pairs drawers. Mrs. Anna Ebersole, of South Hanover, sends 3 pairs socks, accompanied with 2 pairs from John Gerver, aged 14 years. Mrs. Mary Ann Ebersole, of Hanover, Martha Loseph, Rosy Trillinger, Caroline Hoover, Lea Brenneman, Barbara Yingst, Mary Heisly, Eliza Fritz, Elizabeth Hoover, Nancy Brenneman, Catharine Kinsey, George Stauffer, Lilly Kinsey, Polly Seigel, Suzy Ann Hoover, Mrs. Hoover, Mrs. Frederick McCloud, Molly Shafner, Elizabeth Shafner, Widow Wengerd, Hannah Ebersole, and Elizabeth Gorver.

R. C. HALE,

Harrisburg, Jan. 8, 1862. Quartermaster General.

A THIEF'S DEPRAVITY.—Yesterday, a gentleman, while returning from market along Fourth street, met a friend, who asked him if he knew him, at the same time placing his well-filled basket upon a door step. A moment thereafter he turned to lift up the basket and was astonished at the instance. Some daring scoundrel had seen the golden opportunity and embraced it.

COURTS.

SUPREME COURT.—Chief Justice Lowrie and Justices Woodward, Thompson, Strong, and Reed.—Myers vs. Confort. Judgment of non pros. entered.

Insurance Company vs Fry. Rule to quash writ of error.

City of Philadelphia vs. John Dyer. Error to District Court argued and submitted.

Newbold vs. Appleton. Argued and submitted.

DISTRICT COURT.—Judge Stroud.—Carter vs. Joseph D. Conover and George Dorff, trading, &c. Before reported. Verdict for plaintiff for $3,950.

QUARTER SESSIONS.—Judge Allison.—Nothing of importance transpired in this court during the morning. A number of prison cases were disposed of, the charges being petty larceny.

CITY ITEMS.

Dr. Hayes' Lecture at Musical Fund Hall

A very select and, considering the weather, quite large audience was assembled at Musical Fund Hall last evening to hear Dr. Hayes' second lecture on "Arctic Explorations." At 8 o'clock the lecturer appeared upon the platform, accompanied by a large number of prominent citizens—merchants, lawyers, physicians, and divines.

As Dr. Hayes proceeds with the narrative of his own personal exposure to the rigors of the polar cold, in company with the men who were with him, surprise is excited in the mind of every one, that one, with so few indications of great physical powers of endurance, should survive the fearful ordeal to which he was exposed in his late expedition. His story, although devoid of the brilliancy imparted by genius, is, nevertheless, effectively told.

He commenced by recapitulating what he thought was necessary to connect the first with the present lecture, for the benefit of those who had not heard the former, on Tuesday evening.

The sun, which had gone back to them on the 18th of February, after an absence of one hundred and thirty days, and the lecturer presumed that he had never arisen to a more joyous greeting.

Speaking of their experience while absent, he said that in the manufacture of clothing they had been much assisted by the Esquimaux women, of whom, with their mode of living, a minute and interesting description was given. The men were described as barbarians who were described as by no means uncomfortable, barring the offensive fumes with which, from various unnamed causes, they were pervaded.

The philosophy and difficulties of travelling with dogs sleds in that latitude were next amusingly dwelt upon. Their travelling equipments, he said, had been of the most simple character. Each man in the expedition carried with him a blanket, a knife, a lamp for cooking, an extra pair each of boots, stockings, and mittens—the boots of sealskins, and the stockings and mittens of bearskin. Thus equipped they had accomplished as much as forty miles per day, the temperature sometimes ranging from sixty to sixty-eight degrees below zero. The thermometer at *twenty* degrees below zero, as it was on the 4th of April, when they were about to start farther northward, was designated by the lecturer as a bright, commfortable warm day! too warm for comfortable travelling, and rendering it necessary for them to divest themselves of their coats! Dr. Hayes says there is no danger in travelling, even in early child, at the lowest temperature ever experienced in the Arctic regions, if persons exposed to it *will keep in motion.*

Their food while there consisted of beef, beef-soup, and potatoes, which they cooked in a compact, portable stove, all of the lecturer's own invention. Dr. Hayes' description of a single day's travel—which was a *type of those* which followed—and their mode of preparing quarters for the night was interesting and graphic. When morning came they dismounted from their sledge and proceeded *to dig a trench in the snow, eighteen feet long by seven* feet wide. This done, their sledge was placed over it, covered with two feet of snow. Into this snow-hut, when formed, an entrance was dug from one end. The entire floor was next covered with a sheet of gum cloth. Over this were spread a layer of buffalo robes, and three thicknesses of blankets, when the party, consisting then of eleven, began to "turn in," alternating in the direction of their bodies—the head of the first being followed by the feet of the second. Under this arrangement, after partaking of a hot meal prepared by their cooks, the thermometer was seldom below zero after the first hour.

The highest point made by the expedition under Dr. Hayes was 82 degrees and 40 minutes. The lecturer is strongly impressed with the evidences of an open sea towards the pole.

Some weeks after returning to their boat were spent in collecting photographic pictures and curiosities, and the cabinet of these which they brought home, and since placed at the disposal of the Academy of Natural Sciences, he said was largest ever brought from the Arctic regions. The lecturer's descriptions of many of these specimens were filled with a romantic interest that elicited the breathless attention of his audience, mingled with frequent applause.

Liberal Contributions for the Soldiers.

The following incident is alike illustrative in the liberality and loyalty of the people of Philadelphia, and the potency of the press for good when its influence is exerted in the right direction:

Some time in December, a merchant of this city entered our office and introduced to us Captain Milhous, of Company C, *First Virginia Regiment, who was then on a* business visit to Philadelphia. The Captain, who is himself a Philadelphian, and a man of heart, stated to us that the men in his command were suffering for the want of certain articles of clothing, which he was determined they should have, on his return, and desired that we should state this fact in *The Press*; also, where such articles could be sent during his *brief* sojourn in this city. *His* request was promptly complied with. The day following, we published "*An Appeal to the Patriotic*," and had the satisfaction of learning that before twelve o'clock on the same day quite a large number of the articles specified had been sent to Captain Milhous' order. Our "Appeal" was kindly republished in the *Evening Bulletin* on the same afternoon, and in the *North American and Inquirer* on the day after, and the following exhibits the gratifying result:

Yesterday we received a Wheeling paper, with the subjoined *item of intelligence*:

"CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FIRST VIRGINIA REGIMENT.—Capt. Milhous, of Company C, First Virginia Regiment, has returned from Philadelphia, with a large lot of articles for the boys of the *First* Virginia, the contributions of the people of Philadelphia. Upon the arrival of Dr. Milhous in Philadelphia, the following notice appeared in *The Press* of that city:

[Here follows a copy of our article:]

"This notice met with a most liberal response, and the Captain brought home with him 400 pairs of socks, 200 pairs of mittens, 100 pairs cloth moccasins, a lot of hospital shirts, white paper envelopes, a barrel of pickles, a library for Company C, and a number of articles too numerous to mention.

"The following is a list of the prominent contributors:

"Ladies' Aid Society of Philadelphia; Ladies' Aid Society of Kingsessing; Ladies of Dr. Brainard's congregation; Miss Lizzie Potts; Mrs. A. Henry; Mrs. E. Canby; Mrs. Hone; Mrs. G. W. Allen; Mrs. Roberts; Wright, Smith, & Pennell; Schofield & Co.; H. G. Lee & Co.; C. B. Truitt; W. W. Knight & Co.; Moss Brothers & Co.; Peter T. Wright & Co.; Conrad & Walton; Thomas M. Betton; Faust & Winbourner; Isaac B. Koons; Nickerson, Mosely, & McCoy; Baker, Wescott, & Co.; Woodside & Stadiger; Lesley & Co.; Upton S. Newcomer; Jack Schroyer; G. B. Balius; Wm. F. Kercher; Pennsylvania Central Railroad; Adams' Express Company.

"Captain Milhous speaks in the warmest terms of the patriotism and liberality of Philadelphia. He feels confident that he could have collected *three* thousand dollars' worth of articles there in a week. The Captain will leave for Romney on Wednesday morning, and will carry letters and packages to the soldiers."

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—On Sunday morning next, at 10 o'clock, the Sunday School connected with Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Kensington, will celebrate its anniversary. The exercises will consist of: 1, Morning service; 2, Singing by the Children; 3, Sermon by the Rector, Rev. J. Gordon Maxwell; 4, Presentation of Missionary Offerings. The school is in a very flourishing condition, and now numbers over three hundred and fifty scholars.

WINES AND LIQUORS FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES, of the purest quality, such as are approved and recommended by our first physicians, are always kept on hand by Mr. C. H. Mattson, dealer in fine family groceries, corner of Arch and Tenth streets.

STRANGE COINCIDENCE.—It is a singular fact that Messrs. Mason and Slidell, whose mission to England was at Moonshine, left Fort Warren in the "*Star-light.*"

It is stated that cotton is to be cultivated extensively in the Sandwich Islands. If the negro is indeed a descendant of HAM, we should think that just the place for him would be among the *Sandwichers.*

We have recently had our office door listed with listing of colors comprising the red, white, and blue—kindly furnished us for the purpose, by one of the citizens of stocked "one price" Clothing Store, under the Continental, and it attracts some notice—a friend remarking that he never knew a time when there was so much "*listing* done with the Red, White, and Blue, as there is at present.

SUPERIOR WINTER CLOTHING—GREAT BARGAINS.—Granville Stokes, the Fashionable Clothier, has now on hand, at his Mammoth Emporium, No. 609 Chestnut street, one of the finest and most varied assortments of winter clothing anywhere offered for sale in the city. Every garment manufactured at this popular clothing bazaar is made by the most experienced workmen and composed of the finest and most durable materials in the market. Owing to the great depression of business, Mr. Stokes has recently reduced the prices of this superior lot of clothing to the lowest figures, so that garments of the most