The Philadelphia Committee within Sight of Petersburg—A Second Interesting Letter.

We take pleasure in printing a second letter from Mrs. Hutter, descriptive of the visit of the Philadelphia committee to the "outer verge" of the extreme front. It will be seen that they have proceeded within very sight of ill-fated Petersburg, and have been instrumental in furnishing many comforts to our brave soldiers. Such proofs of interest in their welfare, as are conveyed by *personal* visits to them and *words* of encouragement audibly spoken, cannot fail to be peculiarly grateful, and inspire them with fresh zeal and courage. That we have here in Philadelphia, not only men, but even noble *women*, who, in their desire to benefit and bless the soldier, are willing even to penetrate into the thickest of danger, fills us with a glow of honest pride.

FRONT OF PETERSBURG,
FRIDAY EVENING, January 27, 1865.

Would you believe it, our committee, ladies and all, are within *three-quarters of a mile* of the famous city of *Petersburg?* Here we have witnessed scenes, to-day, which have thrilled our very souls. There was a most-parade and imposing review-parade, thousands of soldiers, as far as the eye could reach, participating in it. The sight to me was very beautiful, but at the same time, oh! how sad the reflection, that very soon multitudes of these noble forms, now so full of vigor and animation, may be sleeping beneath the clods of the valley! But, what will surprise you most, will be to learn that we were the eye-witnesses of a heavy bombardment of the city. The spectacle was truly grand. The heavens were literally filled with fire and smoke, the shells whirlingand whizzing like so many balls of fire. We were in an open wagon, and hence had a full view of the bombardment. It took place from what they call here by the not very refined name, "Fort Hell," the place where the explosion took place under Burnside. My feelings on witnessing this scene, at once so terrible and sublime, it would be impossible to describe. To judge from my own emotions, however, I should conclude that the soldier, as he rushes into the realities of the battle-field, is never under the influence of fear. Although we were so very near, heard the roar of the cannons, and saw them belch forth fire and smoke, I yet felt not the slightest apprehension of personal danger. It fills one rather with a strange exoitement. A mysterious spell binds one to the place, and there is no wish to get away, even were it in our power. Such, at least, were my feelings, and I believe they were shared in by all of our committee.

A most interesting sight is it to see our brave soldiers in their "winter quarters." Their war homes are built of logs, the interstices filled up with mud, each one having a fire-place, with sundry other conveniences; and really they have much more an air of comfort than I had at all supposed. We were permitted to inspect the cooking kitchens of some of them, which are quite inviting. The officers' quarters have plenty of books and newspapers, many of them of a religious character, furnished by their friends at home, and by the Christian Commission. They all love our two noble Commissions, and have reason to love them, for they have saved the lives of thousands, and smoothed the dying pillows of thousands of others whom no earthly skill or remedy could save. The soldiers, for the most part, seem cheerful and contented, and are consoled for all their discomforts by the reflection that they are enduring them in a just and holy cause. It would be idle, however, to affirm that they do not often feel very sad when they think of the happy homes they have left. That would be unnatural, and not to their honor. Oh, no; they think much of the dear ones at home. The greatest sufferers, however, are our poor prisoners. Oh, what a sin and a shame, before high Heaven, is the treatment of them by the rebels! Only think of *starving* defenceless prisoners, and exposing them to heat and cold, wind and rain, without any shelter! Surely, the God of truth and justice can never prosper a people guilty of such horrible barbarities. We are hot prophesying the North, I know. We have many sins of commission and omission of which to render an account. But, in no pharisaical spirit may we say, "We thank thee, O God, that we have at the North no Libby Prison, no Belle Island, no Andersonville, no Salisbury!" We know from such a fearful page as this such heaven-darning iniquity Thou hast graciously been pleased to preserve us!"

The country; all the way from Alexandria down, presents a scene of wide-spread desolation. As far as the eye can reach it is a wilderness. There are but few dwellings of any kind left, and those that remain are but a wreck of their former selves—the doors and shutters all gone, the fences disappeared, gardens uprooted, trees levelled with the earth, forests gone—in a word, desolation, drear and wide, abounds. Truly, the land has spewed the wind and reaped the whirlwind. The retribution is most just and righteous. They are the *authors* of this dreadful war, they inaugurated it by firing on our beautiful flag at Fort Sumpter, and it is meet that *they* should bear the bitterest fruits of it.

I must not omit to state that we have personally visited hundreds of our sick, suffering, and wounded soldiers, and, I think, we have done them good. We had still a handsome little fund left of the proceeds of table No. 45, at the Fair held at Concert Hall, last June a year, and have distributed it in sums, large and small, among our most needy soldiers. Oh! how grateful they are for the least service rendered them.

On our return, and before we proceed up the Shenandoah, the scene of our brave Sheridan's exploits, we intend to pay another visit to the President and endeavor to impress him more fully with the necessity of making the amplest possible provision for the *orphans* of our fallen defenders. These children are the legacy of the Nation, bequeathed to us from God Himself, and never, never let the shame rest on us, of seeing a solitary one of them begging bread, or growing up in poverty and neglect. The fathers have *died* for us, and we be unto us if we provide not for their orphaned *children*.

E. E. H.

The Protection of Working Women.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: I have noticed the interest you take in the destitution of the working women in the city of Philadelphia, and your desire to remedy the same, so I take the liberty to call your attention to a system I found in every instance in cities of Europe, and

Stock companies are formed, say with a capital of about $50,000, or more, store rooms rented, material purchased, and work is given to the needy at a fair compensation. The products are sold by the company at a profit of 10 per cent. on the original cost price, wholesale and retail; this, together with the benevolence of the institution, almost defies competition, and realizes for the stockholders a fair dividend, while it gives employment to all who seek it.

The stockholders appoint a president or treasurer from among their own number, and he selects a business manager to act under his instructions, employs the necessary labor, and procures the material.

This system, I have no doubt, could easily be inaugurated in your city, and would be found of great benefit. Not able to take stock in the enterprise, I shall take a pleasure to advance the interest of the same, and be ready to assist with heart and hand in any capacity assigned to me, and if you think favorably of my proposition, Mr. Chas. D. Benton, No. 18, Penston Office, Washington City, can refer you to my address at any time.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. E. BUEHLER.

HARPER'S FERRY, Va., Jan. 30, 1865.

Observations Concerning the Stromboli—Torpedoes and Submarine Navigation.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: Ever since torpedoes have obtained an important rank in naval warfare, and having successfully worked in the Grecian revolution and in the Crimean war, numerous experiments have been made by different nations in order to ensure the efficiency of this redoubtable engine. But in the line, as well as in the construction of enormous iron vessels of different denominations, the improvements have been going on backward, receding from the fundamental principle of naval warfare, which is *swiftness*, which enables either to attack or to avoid the enemy. It is upon this principle that the success of all *privateers* depends. The performance of this assertion has been confirmed by recent disasters.

For the conveyance of *torpedoes*, swiftness is not absolutely necessary, but *invisibility* is rigorously required, under penalty of missing the object, for, any object seen by the enemy above the surface of the water becomes even more suspicious to him than an ordinary craft floating with all her colors on. Consequently, the famous Stromboli, which has just been constructed in New York, and which is being paltoned upon the public as *the most formidable arm of warfare in the world*, can only, in reality, serve to demonstrate the immense power of powdar when applied under a mass of water, and give the public the spectacle of a marine water-spout in a bay, as has been lately demonstrated in New York harbor. It may be reasonably asked what has that Stromboli to make it so formidable, since it can be seen afar, and would find itself in the impossibility of defending itself if it were attacked? Not being high enough above the water, why a small boat manned by five or six men could board it, make the whole crew prisoners (as they would be on a level on both sides), stop its propeller, throw fulminating matters in the smoke stack, and destroy it by explosion by means of a cubic torpedo affixed upon its deck. It may also be sunk by means of a tugboat striking it amidship. It would, indeed, require a very willing or negligent enemy to be surprised by an engine in itself so defenceless.

Such is the real position in which the Stromboli is presented to the public. It is, then, for the interest and welfare of the parties interested in the employment of that engine that we present these observations; for, in such an undertaking, any failure must be fatal or humiliating.

Until now, the Secessionists alone have known how to render the torpedoes formidable, even against the most powerful ironclads. Quite a number of awful disasters have signalized their entire success in that department of warfare. The experiments made at the North have resulted in horrible catastrophes, simply because special men in that art have not been employed, as lately shown by the expedition of Neuse river, N. C., where more than one hundred persons have lost their lives or been mutilated through the incapacity of the officers chosen for the direction of this dangerous arm.

As to the machines constructed at so great an expense for the destruction of the torpedoes in Charleston harbor, and so mismamed "DEVILS," they have not obtained even an honorable trial, the officers appointed for that service having come to the conclusion that they would run much more danger by their being employed than their enemies would. Understanding perfectly this matter, which is an accessory to my system of *submarine navigation*, I gave my opinion regarding torpedoes and their future in *The Press* of October 27th, 1863. Therein I took into consideration that formidable and economical way of waging war as a means of putting an end to the extravagant and ruinous new constructions which have only resulted up to this day in either scalding or drowning men, enriching the contractor, and adgmenting the naval budget. But in order to excel in the use of torpedoes, it is necessary to make real progress in the system, and not capricious and theoretical improvements. We repeat it: It is necessary to unite, first, *invisibility* on the surface of the water; second, the means of affixing torpedoes at given points; third, the power of defending one's self against any attack, either from under or from above the water. Well, this important progress has been attained, and we will offer to carry it out as soon as the opportunity may be deemed favorable.

DR V.

How the Car Election was Conducted.

To the Editor of The Press:

SIR: A gentleman friend of mine, resident of the Eighteenth ward, riding in a Richmond passenger car last evening, was approached by the conductor and proffered a ticket to vote for or against the negro riding in the cars. The vote cast was "For," and was handed to the conductor, who looked at it and then proceeded to the back platform, rolled it into a ball, and deliberately, with his thumb and finger, shot it into the street. In the meantime a man got in the car and asked the conductor how the voting was going on, when he replied: "Did you see that lady that just left the car? Well, she voted for the niggers, and this is the way I serve them kind of votes." Sticking his tongue out of his mouth, with the ticket chewed up, he spat out on the floor of platform. All this was closely watched.

Yours,

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 31, 1865.

G. M. H.

THE CITY.

The Thermometer.

FEB. 1, 1864.		FEB. 1, 1865.	
6 A. M.	12 M.	3 P. M.	6 A. M.	12 M.	3 P. M.
40	47	47	35½	40	38
WIND.			WIND.		
SE	SSE	NW	NNW	NW	N by W

MILITARY.

A NEW REGIMENT AUTHORIZED.

The Union League has received authority from the War Department to organize a new regiment, to be credited against the quota of the city of Philadelphia. In order to insure the speedy filling of the regiment, Governor Curtin has promised to send commissions for mustering in lieutenants, and the documents will be in the city to-day.

Major Gorgas, of the old National Guard, takes command of the regiment as colonel, and Major Jacob M. Davis, of the same regiment, will be lieutenant colonel. Captain Hewlings will be major. The design is to fill the regiment within seven days. As the Union League has been very successful heretofore in its efforts to secure men for the army, there is little doubt but that the new regiment proposed will be soon in marching order. If the ward committees will lend a helping hand, by sending men to this regiment until it is full, not only will the Government be assisted, but at the same time the city will secure a credit for one thousand men. The Government, city, and ward bounties make up a considerable sum, even for recruits for one year, and advantage ought now to be taken of every effort to avoid the threatened draft.

MAJOR J. H. LANE.

From the following it will be seen that this officer has fully vindicated his character, and that he has had his entire disability, imposed by the sentence of the court-martial, removed:

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1865.—James H. Lane, Esq., late Major 31st United States Colored Troops, care of Fletcher Budd, Esq., United States Assessor Third District, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.—SIR:—I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that after a careful examination of the record and evidence upon which you were cashiered, the disability to your reappointment in the military service of the United States has been removed by the President. I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. FOSTER,
Assistant Adjutant General.

THE PHILADELPHIA QUOTA.

Some of the newspapers, in publishing the quotas, also publish the credits up to December 31st, 1864. This is calculated to mislead the public. The exact number of men to be raised may be ascertained from the official reports that have already appeared in *The Press*. The whole number to be raised in the city of Philadelphia foots up to 10,518. The credits up to December 31st, 1864, amount to 3,709. This is not to be deducted from the 10,518.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE SALE OF THE BULLETIN NEWSPAPER.

The *Evening Bulletin* newspaper was sold yesterday afternoon under the following publication: By unanimous agreement of the proprietors, this very able newspaper establishment, now in a most prosperous condition, will be sold at public auction on the first day of February next, in consequence of the time for which the partnership association was formed expiring on that day. The present organization of the establishment is upon the basis of a capital of fifty thousand dollars, upon which sum the dividends (declared semi-annually) for several years past have exceeded 30 per cent. per annum, and the business is now more prosperous than ever, making it a most valuable investment for any person desiring to engage in such an enterprise. The sale will take place at half-past four o'clock P. M. on the above-mentioned day, in the publication office of the establishment, 112 South Third street, and will include all the rights, property, the press, the engine and boiler, the types, and all materials whatsoever; the subscription list; also, all the advertising business, the good will and every interest in or connected with the *Bulletin* establishment (excepting the accounts due at the time of sale and the paper and ink on hand.) Immediate possession will be given. The purchaser shall have the right to take the accounts that may have accumulated after the 1st of January, 1865, at a discount of 25 per cent., of the paper and ink on hand at cost. The terms to be cash immediately at the time of sale, and if not complied with the property to be immediately resold at the risk of the former bidder.

It was announced early in the afternoon that the sale would take place in the publication office, in the third story, and accordingly quite a number of newspaper men, consisting of proprietors, editors, and reporters, assembled there. About ten minutes before the time fixed for the sale, Mr. James A. Freeman, the auctioneer, made his appearance, and arrangements were made to go on with the sale. A large round-table, upon which the editors and reporters had written many items of facts or fancy, was divested of its usual paraphernalia, consisting of inkstands, pens, paste, scissors, odd scraps of paper, clippings, and rejected manuscripts, and pushed to the end of the room. It was upon this the auctioneer was to take his stand, and from which point the establishment was to be put up simply to be knocked down to the highest bidder.

The crowd augmented; the entry leading to the room contained quite a jam of compressed humanity. The clock on the wall of the *sanctum* denoted the time (twenty-five minutes past four o'clock.) Presently Col Alexander Cummings approached Mr. Freeman, the auctioneer, who was yet leaning against the table aforesaid, and said:

"The sale should not take place here."

"Do you object?" replied Mr. Freeman.

"Most certainly I do," responded Col. Cummings.

"Down stairs, down stairs," was ejaculated by several, and the crowd commenced moving.

"As you were, gentlemen," said Mr. Freeman, edging in the crowd from an adjoining room.

A pause ensued. Mr. Freeman resumed his position, ready to mount the table, *ala statue Blanche*, when presently a little man with a duster on, and a steel pen behind his ear, whispered something to the auctioneer, but the remarks we could not hear. "Down stairs, gentlemen," said the leader, for such the worthy auctioneer was at this time. A second rush was made; the second charge was eminently successful. The publication office in the first story the press experiment was spoot of the gentlemen of the *Press* corps pressed on to the railing fence, where their passage was disputed, but through the kindness of Mr. Williamson, the gate swung upon its hinges, and the reporters were admitted.

The gentlemen composing the firm or association were all present—Colonel Cummings, with his elbow on a writing desk, and his care-worn brow resting upon his hand; Mr. Gibson Peacock stood as far off at the limited space behind the counter would allow.

B. H. Brewster, Esq., and W. L. Hirst, Esq., the legal advisers of the firm, were present.

Time was now called, and Mr. Freeman, with his usual agility, sprang to the counter-top.

At the request of counsel he read the original contract of copartnership, and the advertisement. The sale then proceeded, as follows:

"Now, gentlemen," said he, "what do you bid for the establishment? Do you bid $75,000? [No response.] Do you bid $80,000? [No response.] Do you bid $85,000? [No response.] Come, gentlemen, do you say $90,000? 55! 57! 56! 55! 54! 53! 52! 51! 50,000, once, 50,000, twice, 50,000, well, gentlemen, I have bid of $50,000." The sum run up, $1,000 at a time, to $85,000. Here the auctioneer dwelt; but $86,000 being in hand, he waited a little longer. Some one in the crowd bid $87,000, but in a moment he was relieved from exposing his cash to this amount by another gentleman raising $88,000. A little man in the crowd, whom nobody seemed to recognize, but who is favorably known to many business men in this city, bid $89,000. No one seemed disposed to advance. "89,000, once, 89,000, twice, 89,000, $89,000 three times." The hand-hammer of the auctioneer fell. "It is your bid, sir," said Mr. Freeman, pointing to the little man aforesaid.

"What's my name, sir?"

"Gibson Peacock."

A burst of applause and cheers were given, and the excitement was of a pleasant character. The gentleman who bid for Mr. Peacock was Mr. John J. Mcmurtrie.

The sale being over, the crowd dispersed, and thus we close our brief description of the scene.

We are informed that the property was bought in the interest of a portion of the late Bulletin Association, Messrs. Cummings and Chambers retiring from the concern, their respective interests having been purchased by their late partners at the sale.

We learn from excellent authority that the retiring members of the firm, with a subscription capital of $75,000, intend to start another afternoon paper.

A FROZEN OYSTER MADE TO SPEAK.

Rather an amusing scene is said to have occurred, in a first-class restaurant on Chestnut street, a few evenings since. A couple of gentlemen were seated in a private box, indulging in "greasy backs" panned in a style to suit the taste of the most fastidious epicure. Presently a gentleman entered, dressed somthing like an English fop. His Dundreary-whiskers and eye-glass, and immense collar, evidently latter being quite out of fashion at this season of the year, attracted more than ordinary attention. Stepping up to the eating bar, he asked if there were "any frozen oysters on 'and?" "Plenty of them, sir; plenty of them, sir; 'greasy backs,' 'Chincoteagues,' 'Maurice river,' 'Saddle backs,' and 'Absecum.'"

"Aw, sir, I hopen you have a few of the gweasy backs," replied the customer, as he arranged his frizzled moustache so as to admit the bivalves.

The attendant speedily inserted the unrelenting knife behind the shells, and displayed an oyster not to be seen every day. It was hard as a bone, white as pure ivory, and glistened with an enamelled surface. It was evident not be easily penetrated by an ordinary fork, and therefore the exquisite customer raised the shell by the application of the forks fingers, and bolted the frozen bivalve whole. A groan escaped the lips of the man, and the words "Oh! don't crush me," followed in deep guttural sounds. The oyster was speedily swallowed, the exquisite turned pale with fright. "Gwys than, ow's that?" said he, recovering somewhat from his spasmodic nervous attack.

"Got the toothache, sir," replied the attendant, as he placed another palate-tempting bivalve on the bar. "Frozen oysters are bad for the toothache, sir."

"Toothahke! no, sir! good evinge, sir, the hoyster spoke."

"The oyster spoke?" reiterated the half-startled attendant, with a stare. Several customer assembled around the stranger, supposing another new dodge was on hand, or that the man had just arrived from Dr. Kirkbride's.

The astonished oyster lay melting on the bar, and presently it hissed, like the escape of steam from a try-cook.

"Extraordinary oyster remarked, in the language of old Neptune himself, "Oh, I'm frozen."

The scene now became more and more amusing and interesting. Two or three additional oysters, though frozen very hard, were opened and laid on the bar. One seemed to say, "I'd rather be stewed," another remarked, "put me on the pan;" "my me hoyster," said the last one that was opened. Another oyster took occasion to inform the wonder-struck group that all the oysters on the pile could hear if the man at the bar would only open their mouths.

The exquisite gentlemen believed the place "cursed," and his duster was soon seen waving up the passage way into the street.

The two gentlemen alluded to in the beginning of this item, having finished their repast, egressed from the room, and at the door overtook the man of them was recognised as Signor Blitz, the wonderful ventriloquist. The entertainment may thus be accounted for.

THE ARSENAL WORK.

The committee appointed to wait upon President Lincoln in reference to a supply of work at the Arsenal will hold another meeting at Jefferson Hall this morrow evening. While the committee were in Washington two hundred jackets were cut out at the Arsenal and given out to be made up. This spasmodic effort seems to have so completely overcome the powers that be at the Arsenal that the shears have been almost idle ever since. It is stated that some cloth was borrowed or bought from a heavy army-clothing contractor for the purpose of keeping up a show of work. It should be publicly known that it is stated by gentlemen of authority at the Arsenal that the *Government cannot get a supply of cloth*, and this is urged as the reason why there is no work to be given out. It is stated that a quantity of cloth was taken from the Arsenal after nightfall within the past week. This, to say the least, appears very singular indeed. The question of work for the poor has been satisfactorily settled by President Lincoln. The women were pleased with their reception at the national capital, and it would be rather important for any one to authoritly, no matter whom, to endeavor to detain the President. It was an unlucky day for the working women when Col. Crosman retired from active duty at the Arsenal. A considerable number of the women are very desirous that he shall again take hold of the reins of government at that place.

PHILADELPHIA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture was held yesterday morning, at the rooms of the society, Walnut street, above Seventh.

A corn-planting machine, which drops the corn, covers, and drills it, was exhibited by a lady. It is constructed very much in the shape of a plough.

Drs. S. S. Brooks and William Weighman were elected members of the society.

The Executive Committee reported favorably upon the proposition to offer a premium for essays upon one or more agricultural subjects, and recommended the passage of a resolution to that effect. The report was adopted.

A discussion then ensued in regard to proper subjects for the prise essays.

Dr. Robert McClure, V. S., made a statement in regard to glanders in horses. He said that by a scientific process recently discovered, and first applied by him, this fatal disease can be checked.

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL—THIRD DAY.

The following questions on the history of the United States were propounded to applicants for admission into the Girls' High School yesterday:

1. Name five expeditions that sailed from France to America in the first seventy years. Give the date and commander's name of each.

2. When, where, and by whom was the treaty of peace signed which terminated the war with Mexico? What were the terms of the treaty?

3. When and where did the first Continental Congress meet? Give some account of its action.

4. Give an account of the great financial crisis in Van Buren's administration.

5. Name ten events that occurred in 1777.

6. Name five States admitted into the Union during Monroe's administration. Give the date of each admission.

7. Describe the capture of Stony Point during the Revolutionary war. Give the date and commander's name.

8. Describe the Louisiana purchase. When and during whose administration did it occur?

9. Name five battles fought during the year 1781. Give the commanders' names, and result of each.

10. Name five measures of Congress passed during Washington's administration. Give the date of each.

STRIKING ILE.

Anything relative to "striking ile" at the present time is interesting. People generally have no idea of the arrangements which are necessary for boring for the source of oil or petroleum. In the show-window of Messrs. Cornelius & Baker, on Chestnut street, may be seen several curiosities. The gentlemen named have "smoked up" by having inkstands and matchsafes made that are exact models of the derricks, pumps, engine-houses, and other appurtenances of a "ile" claim. Pumping water in Venango county. These curious contrivances will serve as useful models of the agency employed in this latest marvellous development of the wealth of Pennsylvania. We are informed that of the great petroleum era, and they have their origin in an enterprising establishment that is equally at home in the shedding of light by means of gas, electricity, or oil.

GREAT SALE OF DRY GOODS.

The largest sale of dry goods ever held in this country, took place yesterday, at the auction house of John B. Myers & Co. The sale was under the direction of Mr. F. M. Reazor, of this city, and comprised 1,503 lots, including every variety of domestic, cotton, and woolen goods. The goods were arranged on the second and third floors, and were open for inspection previous to the sale. Some five hundred merchants were present, from all parts of the country, over one hundred being from New York; Boston, Baltimore, Louisville, and San Francisco, were also represented. The goods sold rapidly, and the prices obtained were from 15 to 20 per cent. above those realized at a sale in New York last week. The sale will reach $1,500,000.

NEW STEAMSHIP.

The new steamer, George Appold, Capt. Solomon Howes, will leave her moorings this morning, Calhoun street wharf, for Baltimore, at 10 o'clock. This vessel was built by John Lynn, for the Merchants' and Miners' Transportation Company, of Baltimore. Her construction was completed last April. The length of the ship is 240 feet, width of beam 38 feet. The engines, which are of the highest order, and of the best construction, were built by Messrs. Neafie & Levy, Kensington. The diameter of the cylinder is 55 inches, and length of stroke 44 inches. The vessel, it is intended, will ply between Baltimore and Boston. The chief engineer is John McCausland, an experienced and able machinist.

ADVANCE OF FARE.

The railroad companies generally raised their fare to meet the increased price of iron previously announced, and the same rate would have been fixed long ago had it not been for the want of change. The companies purchased hundreds of dollars' worth of nickels in order to make change, but the passengers generally, instead of circulating them, put them away. It was a losing game with the companies, and the price had to come down to the rate of five cents. Now that three-cent notes are circulated, the change can be readily made.

LA COTERIE BLANCHE.

The private boxes for the fancy dress hop of La Coterie Blanche have all been disposed of at an average price of $45 each. The tickets are nearly all disposed of. The demand for them is unprecedented.

BUILDING PERMITS.

The following permits for buildings were issued during the past month: Dwellings, 7; bath-house, 1; dye-house, 1; factory, 1; restaurant, 1; shops, 3; stables, 1; sugar-house, 1; store-house, 1; vault, 1; alterations and additions, 10. Total, 30.

CASUALTY.

Conductor Fetters, of Car No. 2 on the Bridesburg Passenger Railroad, was very severely injured before the morning in the Hibernian Hall, he was caught between a post and his car, while assisting some ladies in. He was removed to his home in Crease street, Kensington.

THE COURTS.

Supreme Court—Before Woodward, C. J., and Justices Strong, Read, and Agnew.

The court yesterday took up the list of cases from the Western District, assigned for argument here. But one was argued.

The Lycoming County Insurance Company vs. Mitchell & Hope. Common Pleas of Lycoming county. Argued by Thos. White for plaintiff in error, and by R. D. Foster and W. M. Stewart for defendant in error. The court then adjourned.

Supreme Court at Nisi Prius—Judge Thompson.

Elijah D. Marshall vs. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company. This case involved the question of the right of the company to eminent domain to lands along that portion of the road of their line purchased by the commonwealth. The right of eminent domain having been granted them by the Legislature, the question now was whether its provisions extended to the road subsequently purchased by them.

The plaintiff claimed the following opinion, delivered yesterday, decides affirmatively.

The sole question argued on this motion for a preliminary injunction arises out of the question whether the company have the right of eminent domain, so as to enable them to take the plaintiff's property, on which they have erected a freight depot and necessary buildings connected therewith, for the accommodation of their road.

This company became the purchasers of the main line of the road, by sale under the provisions of the act of Assembly of May 16, 1857, a part of which was the railroad from Columbia to Philadelphia. The 11th section of that act provides:

"That should any company already incorporated by this Commonwealth, become the purchaser of any main line, they shall possess, hold and use the same under the provisions of their act of incorporation, and any supplement thereto, modified, if need be, so as to embrace all the privileges, restrictions, and conditions granted by the act in addition thereto."

By the 11th section of the act 13th April, 1846, which is the act incorporating the Pennsylvania Rail road Company, it is amongst other things provided that the company may "enter into and upon, and occupy all lands on which the said railroad may be located, and offices, coll-houses, engine and water stations or other buildings or appurtenances hereinafter mentioned may be located, or which may be necessary for the support or for the erection of the same, or for any other purpose necessary to carry into effect the construction, maintenance or repairs of said railroad, and therein and thereon to do, dig, excavate, land embank, make grades, lay down and construct the same."

The right of the company, under its charter, as referred to above, to take the private property for the purposes of such a construction or erection, is not a subject for enjoin, on compensation being made or secured, cannot admit of a doubt. And the State, in consolidating the possibility of a purchase by a company having such a right of eminent domain in its original charter, very properly, and certainly very excusably, kept the right to hold, enjoy, and possess the new acquisition under the act of 1857, subject to the burdens, duties, and express terms of the section quoted. The act does not mean that the railroad purchased should be under provisions, satisfied by being exercised, but under the provisions of the charter in full activity and vitality, so that whatever right be exercised on the terms of the charter when the road was being made originally can be still exercised in the enjoyment of the road purchaser. There seems to me no room for modification on this point. As the preliminaries for taking the property in question are not disputed as to legality and regularity, I see no ground to grant the injunction asked for on the ground of want of power. Injunction refused.

District Court—Judge Stroud.

Levan & Adams vs. H. G. Leisearing. Before reported. Verdict for defendant.

The Commonwealth, at the instance of George W. Wise, vs. Jerome Fox. An action of debt on a bond for penality imposed by act of Assembly for shipping lumber from this port to a foreign port without inspection. Verdict for plaintiff $300.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Hon. Joseph Allison, Associate Justice.

[William B. Mann, Esq., Prosecuting Attorney.]

DOCK-STREET MORALS.

The case of Emma Holland, charged with committing an assault and battery, and assault with intent to kill Mary Barrett, was resumed.

The defence proceeded with the examination of their witnesses sworn.

Jane Dorsey sworn.—I reside at 223 Front street; Emma Holland was there; Mary Barrett came there to see Emma, and the latter said she did not intend to prosecute Emma Holland, as she did not think she was guilty, and the shot was not intended for her; Mary Barrett said she had gone away, and if she did not come back, she (Mary Barrett) would be Mrs. Holland.

Cross-examined.—I was here three years ago, for assault and battery; was never here for larceny.

Mary Ann Jones sworn.—Mary Barrett asked me to go with her to Mr. Collins' office to settle the case, as Emma Holland was intoxicated, and did not intend to shoot her; have seen Mary Barrett and Emma Holland living together as man and wife; I heard Tom Holland say that if Mary Barrett would come back he would not proceed against Emma she should never want for a home; he told her to put on Emma's clothes, and go home, saying that it would be time enough to be married; Emma was sentenced; besides Emma's clothing, Mary Barrett was in the habit of bringing home other articles.

Cross-examined.—I belong to New York, but live now at 223 Front street; I have not married, my husband being on the Quaker City; I have lived, my husband being forwarding for eight years; I was in this court once before, charged with larceny; I was discharged; Emma, when he lived with his first wife; never knew Emma Holland and when she lived with her first, second, or third husband.

Mrs. Dorsey was recalled, and said that Thomas Holland told her if she testified in court it would pile it into him.

Patrick Burnsworn.—I am a pilot on a steamer; saw Mary Barrett two weeks ago, and she said that she came to take the case against Emma off the docket of the court; would not believe Mary Barrett on her oath.

Cross-examined.—I mean by character for truth that I have seen Mary Barrett lay drunk in the street.

Philip Dorsey.—I know nothing about this case, and have not said I did.

Verdict, guilty.

We have given this case more fully, with a view of showing what kind of a class of persons infest the vicinity of Dock and Front streets, notwithstanding the advantages for business that this locality gives, and the high price of rents, still there are scores of house occupied by parties who do not pay a dollar for rent, and cheap equally as bad, thus showing that the business must be very lucrative.

RETURN DAY FOR FRAUDULENT NATURALIZATION PAPERS.

District Attorney Mann submitted several bills of indictment against persons for presenting fraudulent naturalization papers. He said that he had presented a number of these persons, but some were discharged on the ground of their being illegal voting. A number of the persons in that ward, among them those whose names appeared on the above bills, had voluntarily come forward and made themselves into court, and they would be destroyed.

Twelve bills of indictment against persons one of the bills had been drawn, appeared in court and swore that after her husband voted at the last election she burned his papers; that she did not believe Mary Barrett on her verdict of not guilty was taken on the bills. Mr. Mann has now possession of fifteen fraudulent naturalization papers that have been voted upon for years past.

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