THE CITY.

THE RECENT CONFLAGRATION.

Two Bodies Supposed to be in the Ruins.

The ruins of the great fire were visited yesterday by thousands of our citizens from all parts of the city. *The Press* report, delineating in a plain, practical manner the facts attending the sad disaster, was so full and accurate that scarcely anything remains worthy our professional attention, except to correct certain false rumors. It was currently reported that James Wright and family, consisting, all told, of eleven members, perished in the flames. They lived in house No. 1136, the first one adjoining the coal yard of Messrs. Porter & Daily, and the first to take fire from the flowing burning oil. House No. 1136 was occupied by Mr. Wright and family, four in number, two aged German women, and another family or families, consisting of five members, making eleven in all.

When it was very evident that this house was doomed to almost instant destruction, three members of the Moyamensing Hose Company, named Neil McGurk, Thomas McGonigle, and Samuel McMenamin Fleetwood, rushed into the building and saved all therein. The two old German women were carried into a neighboring house, and were finally taken to some other place of refuge by a police officer who knew them. As the officer had not been heard from since that terrible moment of excitement and despair, the report was freely circulated that the old women were burned, and finally that the entire number of eleven perished in the flames.

It was reported that the family of Mr. Scott, residing on Ninth street, near Federal, had perished in the flames. We made every inquiry in reference to this, but could find no one who could give any information on this point. It is believed, however, that, as the residents in this precise locality had twenty minutes' time to escape, the Scott family did not perish, though, so far as we could learn, none of the members have been heard from.

In regard to the number of human beings burned to death, it may be safely stated as follows: *eight* dead bodies, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Ware, were supposed to be in the ruins. Search was being made for them, but up to the time we left the place of desolation last evening no remains had been found.

A THRILLING SCENE.

The firemen as a body, the police, and citizens present at the conflagration, and particularly in the early part of it, worked with almost superhuman energy to rescue inmates of the burning and threatened dwelling houses. Of these scenes we can present one which is full of thrilling interest. Messrs. McGurk, McGonigle, and SAMUEL MCMENAMIN FLEETWOOD, members of the Moyamensing Hose Company, rushed into the building 1136 and rescued all therein. Fleetwood, whose name deserves to be written upon the scroll of fame, rushed into the building occupied by the unfortunate Ware family. At this time the burning oil, hissing and seething, came pouring down the street, and the house, from which eleven persons had been rescued but a moment before, was licked upby the red, fiery tongues of the demon of Destruction. At this time the brave Fleetwood was bearing in his strong arms the body, lifeless as it proved, of Mrs. Ware or one of her daughters. His companions were driven back by the approach of the burning element—the increasing heat and stifling smoke. Almost at the same moment the burning oil burst through the rear part of the house, and, flowing through the entry, all chance of escape was gone. The brave fireman endeavored to fight his way out, still holding the woman in his arms. He reached the door step; he was a moment of horror; he leaped from the step, driven by the flow of burning oil through the house, but the flames closed around him; a groan and a shriek escaped the lips of the victims, and both fell in death. His companions endeavored to rescue both, but it was impossible. The crisped remains of them were found but a few feet distant from each other. We saw the charred body of the brave young man in the basement of the old Southwark Hall. It could scarcely be realized as the remains of a human being; but black as it was, it was worthy of a grave of distinction and a monument or fame, for that frail, crisped form once contained a *soul that made the young man noble.*

A GENUINE HERO'S ASHES.

It was at a time when all the buildings were in flames that another scene occurred, not so melancholy as the foregoing, but still it is interesting. The Perseverance Hose Company had a heavy stream on the rear of the burning tenements. The occupants had already fled for safety. Presently a young Irishman dashed past the firemen and ran into the burning house. The fire was falling all around.

"Come out of there," shouted the "Persy" boys "are you crazy?" But no reply was heard. In a moment after this the roof fell with a great crash, and the firemen backed. It was thought the man had fallen a victim to his own rashness. But from amid the fire and smoke, his shirt sleeve on fire, he egressed from the burning tenement with something under his arm.

"I got it! I got it!" exclaimed he, in accents tinged with the rich Irish brogue.

"Got what?" shouted the fireman.

"The bible me father give me before he died," replied the enthusiastic man, as he disappeared from view.

ANOTHER SAD SCENE.

A MRS. Harkins, who lived in one of the houses that fell an early prey to the flames, died very suddenly. She had prepared supper for her husband and family, and shortly after this complained of feeling unwell. She laid herself down on a settee, after having cleared the table, and died within an hour. She knew her death was approaching, and calling her family of four or five little children, gave them advice. Death stopping in so suddenly as this, taking away the best friend that a child can have on earth, an affliction so deep, that can only be appreciated by those who experienced such a loss, need not be dwelt upon. The family were comparatively strangers. They had not lived in the neighborhood long. Mrs. Smith, who lived next door, was kind enough to interest herself, in sympathy for the afflicted, remained with the motherless family. It was a house of woe. The death chamber of the mother, the sorrow-stricken husband and weeping children around, was finally disturbed by the reports of explosions which sounded like volcanoes. Reports followed one after another, and presently a red glare burst forth, and gleamed through the cracks of the rear doors and window. In a moment the appalling truth flashed all around them that the coal oil immediately in the rear of the house was on fire. The reports that had attracted some attention for a short time were those of bursting Burning Fluid Kegs.

Mrs. Smith had left her husband and family. Her first impulse was to awaken them. Rushing into her own dwelling, and picking up a sick child, arousing her husband and children, escaped through the front door. The children became almost perished in the snow and water that yet filled the street.

Mr. Harkins got his children out of the house; they were suddenly picked up by persons on the street. He returned, and picking up the dead body of his wife, fled to the street, her hair being slightly singed by the bursting fire struggling like a volcano to give full vent to its fury. The dwelling of Mr. Harkins and Mr. Smith were in less than three minutes enveloped in flames.

PULLING DOWN THE WALLS, ETC.

Walls that were in the most dangerous condition were pulled down yesterday by order of the authorities. All, or nearly all, on the west side of Ninth street, north of Ellsworth street, were reduced to piles of rubbish, so that the ruins may be explored without danger of being injured by falling bricks. Ropes were stretched across Ninth street, guarded by a portion of the 1st and 2d divisions of the Police Corps. Thus the great mass of people were kept out of danger. A boy, driving a horse and wagon on the Union railway track, against the route of travel, was told to turn back. He would not obey the police officer, but drove on, giving the officer some impudence. The officer caught hold of the horse's head and turned the animal back. The reckless boy endeavored to guide the horse the other way, and putting the whip to him tried to throw the officer. He did not succeed. Other officers hastened to the scene; the boy was arrested and the horse and wagon taken possession of by the officers. We witnessed the whole transaction. The conduct of the police in this especial case was entirely commendable.

WHAT PROPERTY WAS DESTROYED.

We learn from Fire Marshal Blackburn the following summary of property destroyed:

Forty dwellings,
Two factories,
Seven stables,
One wagon house,
Ten miscellaneous structures,
Twelve frame sheds,
One brick office,
One coal yard,
One large coal shed,
One coal oil storage shed,
which, with outhouses, &c., will make a total of about 100 structures.

The dwelling-houses were occupied by poor people, or persons who had only sufficient means to afford them a comfortable living. The most of these people lost everything—furniture, clothing, trinkets, &c. It is estimated that at least 100 families have been rendered homeless.

The whole loss will not fall short of $500,000. The loss on the coal oil is estimated at $75,000; that of Daily & Porter, coal yard, at $4,000; and that of Mr. David L. Hey, manufacturer, at $10,000. The coal oil is said to be fully insured in New York companies. Messrs. Daily & Porter, and Hey, are partially insured. Of the total loss only about one-third is insured, and the insurance is principally upon the real estate. The Fire Association and the Franklin Insurance Company are the principal losers. A number of the families lost their savings, ranging from $5 to $3,000. Many lost $100, and several as high as from $300 to $400.

ST. PAUL'S M. E. CHURCH RECEIVES COMMITTEE.

The following-named gentlemen have been appointed an executive committee to collect subscriptions and devise means of affording immediate relief: J. Vaughan Merrick, Col. Philip S. White, Rev. Thomas T. Tasker, Sr., Thomas T. Tasker, Jr., Joseph Thompson, Rev. Samuel W. Thomas, David Farrell, Sr., Wm. K. McCleese, Samuel McMakenny. They afforded relief to nearly thirty persons, but more money is absolutely necessary. The wants of this distressed people are pressing. The committee of ladies for receiving clothing and money are Mrs. J. V. West, No. 908 Clinton street; Mrs. Mary Hallowell, No. 2121 Arch street; Mrs. Joseph Canby, No. 831 Arch street, and Mrs. John Lloyd, No. 2025 Vine street.

PROMPT SUBSCRIPTIONS.

At a meeting of the Corn Exchange Association, held yesterday morning, Vice President Geo. Cookman was called to the chair, and Mr. Jos. S. Perot, the secretary, read a statement that they had been called together to adopt measures to relieve the sufferers by the late fire at Ninth and Washington streets. On motion of Hugh Craig, Esq., $1,000 was unanimously appropriated. Mr. Samuel L. Ward moved that a committee of three be appointed to collect private subscriptions, which was agreed to, and Messrs. S. L. Ward, Hugh Craig, and Alexander G. Cattell were appointed the committee. This committee, in a few minutes, succeeded in collecting $500 more.

RELIEF FOR THE SUFFERERS.

Those engaged in the oil trade are raising subscriptions in aid of the sufferers. The money is to be subject to the order of the treasurers of any of the relief committees. About $1,000 has already been collected, and is in the hands of Tack Brothers. It is proposed to raise from $5,000 to $10,000.

NATIONAL CIRCUS.

Messrs. Stone, Rosston, Forepaugh, & Bronson, the proprietors of the National and New York Circus, will give a grand special matinée on next Tuesday afternoon, the entire proceeds being for the benefit of the sufferers by the fire. Dan Rice will perform all his horses and mules, and all the artists connected with the company have cheerfully consented to perform, so that the whole receipts of the house will be given in aid of the sufferers.

FIRE COMPANIES.

Contributions in aid of the sufferers may be made at the Franklin Hose house, Moyamensing Hose house, Wecacoe Engine house, and perhaps at the houses of other fire companies. Chief Lyle, of the Department, and Chief Ruggles, of the Police Department, will be happy to receive any donations in aid of the sufferers.

PETROLEUM LAW.

The Legislature, excited to a degree of partial insanity, have passed a bill in indecent haste that may greatly interfere with the mercantile business. A good, wholesome law is wanted, and the people will have it. But this law should be the result of calm consideration instead of excitement. The law as passed, is said to be as follows:

1. That it shall be lawful to store petroleum, crude or refined, and benzine, in such quantities as shall may require, in those portions of Philadelphia lying south of Mifflin street and north of Allegheny avenue and that part of the city west of the Schuylkill. The act provides that the same shall not be stored within one thousand feet of any dwelling house without the written consent of the owner, and provides that storage and refineries between said Mifflin street and Allegheny avenue shall be subject to such ordinances as may be made by City Councils, who are hereby authorized to make such ordinances to regulate the storage and refining within such limits, and the Mayor is authorized to execute the same. This not to take effect within sixty days."

IMPORTANT SUGGESTION.

Any person who has any knowledge in reference to the fire, or any important incidents connected with it in regard to its origin, or those who first discovered it, are earnestly requested to attend the coroner's inquest, at his office, Fifth street, below Chestnut, at 3 o'clock this afternoon, or to call upon Fire Marshal Blackburn.

FIRST PUBLIC MEETING.

About 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, a meeting was held in Jefferson Hall, at Sixth and Christian streets. It was called to order by Wm. S. Gregory, and Hugh Craig was nominated Mr. Chas. Welsh for chairman; Mr. Jno. W. Frazier was selected as secretary, and Mr. Jno. Kelly as treasurer.

Mr. Gregory moved the secretary be instructed to open a subscription list, so that those present could subscribe. Agreed to, and the sum of $973.50 was subscribed.

A committee was appointed to invite the parties who were to hold a meeting at the Robert Ratkes school house to meet and co-operate with the meeting at this hall.

On motion, adjourned.

THE MEETING LAST EVENING.

A public meeting was held last evening at Jefferson Hall. Mr. Robert P. King was called to the chair. Mr. John Kelly was appointed treasurer. An eloquent speech was delivered by Philip S. White, Esq., in which he touched the sympathetic chords of those present.

An executive committee of ten members from each of the lower or southern wards of the city was appointed.

A committee from the Republican Invincibles paid over a donation of $100 from the proceeds of their recent ball.

A delegation from La Coterie Blanche stated the managers intend handing over the proceeds of their ball to the relief fund.

A resolution was adopted requesting that a collection be taken up in all the churches next Sunday without respect to creed.

A resolution was adopted that articles of food and clothing may be forwarded to the House of Industry, on Chestnut street, above Seventh.

It was announced that the sum of $7,000 had been received in aid of the sufferers.

A committee of five was appointed to inquire into the extent of suffering and loss, in order to avoid imposition.

A distributing committee, consisting of the following-named gentlemen, was also appointed: Rev. S. W. Thomas, John Kelly, Joseph Thompson, Wm. Loughlin, and Jesse Johnson.

The committee finally adjourned to meet at nine o'clock this (Friday) morning, at the Marion House house.

LOOK OUT FOR IMPOSTERS.

It was stated last evening privately by a gentleman who addressed the public meeting of citizens that a person was begging yesterday, urging his claims to sympathy on the ground that he had lost everything by the conflagration. He was known to be a professional beggar. Of course, no matter how disastrous any calamity, there are always mendicants mean enough to impose upon charitable persons. There are many individuals soliciting aid for the suffering who do so from sinister motives. The public should be on their guard and make no contributions to such persons.

CHARITY.

We are requested by Mrs. J. V. West, 908 Clinton street, to say that she has visited many of the sufferers by the recent disaster, and found them destitute of clothing. She has the means at hand to make up almost any amount of clothing. It is desired that dry goods merchants forward articles to her house to be made up into clothing at once.

THE RUINS LAST NIGHT.

A large number of citizens took a moonlight view of the ruins last evening. The Union line of railroad cars are packed with people going to and from the scene.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL.

EXAMINATION IN ORTHOGRAPHY—BY PROFESSOR HOPPER.

Punctuation.—Scholars very often ask, when pursuing some difficult study, "What good will it do me to know this?" But this is not the question. They ought to ask, "What good will I do by this learn it?" What effect upon my habits of thinking, and upon my intellectual powers, will be produced by the efforts to examine and overcome these difficulties?" Do not shrink, then, from difficult work in your efforts for intellectual improvement. You ought, if you wish to secure the greatest advantage, to have some difficult work, that you may acquire habits of patient research, and increase and strengthen your intellectual powers.—*Jacob Abbott.*

Spelling.—Sycophant, synagogue, sympathy, synthesis, buoyancy, paroxysm, eccentric, opaque, chimeras, hemisphere, ecstasy, marine, machine, perceive, receipt, reprieve, decipher, disciple, benign, condign, malign, loquacity, bureau, periphery, fiducial, acidity, belief, leopard, privateer, brigadier, atmosphere, chandelier, predicate, bombazine, hydrangea, isopandy, Milwaukee, Astrachan, Laguayra, Mauritius, Cronstadt.

QUESTIONS IN MENSURATION—PREPARED BY PROFESSOR HOPPER.

1. Describe the different kinds of parallelograms.
2. Define a trustum, a prism, and a lune.
3. Give the rule to find the whole surface of a right cone.
4. The diameter of a circle is 22 rods; find the side of a square containing an equal area, and also find the side of a square inscribed in that circle.
5. A ladder 50 feet long was placed against a building 100 feet in height, in such a manner that the distance of the foot of the ladder from the base of the edifice was 10 feet 6 inches; at what distance from the top of the building did the ladder reach the wall?
6. The radius of a sphere is 36 inches; how many square yards in its convex surface?
7. How many square feet in a plank 9 inches broad at one end, 11 inches at the other, the length being 11 feet?
8. How many cubic feet of rock must be removed in boring a well 1 foot in diameter and 150 feet in depth?
9. How many acres in a field whose sides are 152, 124 5, and 109 4 perches?
10. The area of the outer circle is 100 acres, and the diameter of the inner circle is to that of the outer circle as 3 is to 5, that is ⅗ of it; what is the area of the ring?

FALL OF FOUR HOUSES.

The rear portion of four two-story brick houses, on the east side of Seventh street, above Poplar, fell on Wednesday night last. The occupants were removed by means of ladders, as the stairways leading to the sleeping-rooms were in that portion of the building which fell. The cause assigned is the sinking of the foundation walls, caused by the sudden thaw and rain.

ACCIDENTS.

An unknown woman, about forty-five years of age, fell through the turnpike bridge on the Germantown Railroad, on Tuesday, and was killed. She had on her person a prayer-book, with the names Johanna O. Welsh, Johanna Donnell, and Teresa Welsh, written on the fly-leaf.

James McGee was knocked down by a runaway horse, at Twenty-first and Spruce streets, yesterday morning, and had a leg broken.

Mrs. Miner fell on the ice on Spruce street, below Fifth, on Wednesday evening, and broke her leg. She was taken to her home, Fourth street, below Lombard.

Patrick Fatton was killed yesterday afternoon, at Gray's Ferry, by being crushed between cars.

POLICE APPOINTMENTS.

About sixty-five appointments of policemen have been made under the recent ordinance increasing the force by adding one hundred men.

FORTY DAYS IN JERUSALEM.

Rev. William White Williams delivered one of his highly interesting and instructive lectures last evening on the above subject in the chapel of the First Congregational Church. The lecturer was greeted with a highly appreciative and attentive audience.

THE POLICE.

[Before Mr. Alderman Welding.]

SHOP-LIFTER.

Maria Hulz was arraigned, yesterday afternoon, on the charge of stealing a piece of crash from the front of the store of Mr. H. Albertson, on Arch street, near Seventh. It is alleged that she suddenly seized the piece of goods, and, on being discovered, ran away at full speed in the effort to escape. She dashed into a private alley, scaled a fence, and took refuge in an outhouse, where she held the door fast. A police officer was called into requisition, who speedily enforced the strong arm of the law and opened the door. The woman was very indignant at such an interruption. She was committed to answer.

THE COURTS.

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

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of the City of Pittsburg, appellants, vs. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company. District Court, Allegheny county. In the court below this was an application for an injunction to restrain the railroad company from constructing a railway under and along certain streets and avenues of Pittsburg, and was heard on bill and supplement and answer. The application for the injunction was refused, and the bill dismissed, whereupon complainants appealed to the Supreme Court.

In the court below, also at the argument of the case here, counsel for the appellants contended that the railroad company does not possess the power under their charter to build their road either under or over the streets of Pittsburg, and could therefore only do so by consent of the corporate authorities first obtained.

Counsel for the company, on the other hand, contended that the power under their charter, to construct the road in question is full and complete, subject only to the right of the city authorities to attach reasonable regulations of a police character, to prevent any abuse of the rights she may possess as a trustee of the public.

Argued by J. W. F. White, Esq., for appellants, and by Theodore Cuyler, Esq., for appellees.

The Philadelphia List, on third calling, was then again taken up.

Housekeeper's appeal. Argued by F. O. Brewster, Esq., for appellants, and by J. H. Clay for appellee.

McClintock vs. Cowen. Submitted on paper books.

Myers's appeal. Argued by C. B. Penrose and E. S. Miller for appellant, and by A. V. Parsons for appellee.

Sherrit vs. The Bridge Company. Submitted on paper books.

District Court—Judge Stroud.

Bunn, Raigueel, & Co. vs. Chauncey Hurlburt, surviving partner of Wm. H. Gallup, deceased, late trading as Wm. H. Gallup & Co. An action on a promissory note. The only defence set up was a denial of the existence of a partnership. Verdict for plaintiff, $2,170.72. Hanna for plaintiff; G. Bull for defendant.

Hiram Schloss et al., trading as Schloss & Brother, vs. Thornton Conrow. *This action is to recover for* a number of boxes of tobacco, sold at 40 cents per pound and delivered. The defence was that the tobacco was bought by sample, which was fair, but that the lot generally proved to be badly damaged, and, for this reason, defendant refused to take and pay for the same. Plaintiff, on the other hand, alleged, and called witnesses to show, that the defendant knew perfectly the character of the article he was buying; that he was present at the United States Marshal's sale of prize goods, of which this tobacco was a portion, when they were sold to plaintiff; and that defendant, when he bought of plaintiff, knew that he was buying damaged tobacco. Jury out. Remak for plaintiff; Earle for defendant.

Court of Common Pleas—Judge Thompson.

Shannon and wife et al. vs. Miller, Steinmetz, et al. In this case the jury are out.

CITY COUNCILS.

Both branches of Councils held a stated meeting yesterday afternoon.

SELECT BRANCH.

Mr. LYND, President, in the chair.

A petition for a drinking fountain, at York avenue and Fourth street, was received and referred to the Committee on Water.

Mr. GRAFF (U.) introduced a resolution providing for a joint committee of three from each Chamber to revise the laws regulating the railroads owned by the city, and to report such ordinances deemed necessary to protect the public efficiency and interest in the city. Agreed to.

Mr. MCHENRY (O.) offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Finance to introduce an ordinance allowing the Receiver of Taxes to receive city warrants in payment of taxes.

Mr. FREEMAN (U) suggested that this would violate the law, as it would make the treasury a disbursing office. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Finance.

THE LATE TRAGEDY.

Mr. BARLOW (U) introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on Law to take into consideration the propriety of providing a place of refuge or beacon within the built-up portions of the city, and to report to the Chamber what is necessary to protect the lives of the citizens.

Mr. BRIGHTLY (O) referred to the fact that two years ago Councils considered the subject, and it was decided that there was no authority in Councils. The Legislature acted upon the subject a year ago, and a bill was reported to the Senate, but defeated. To-day we find it announced that a bill has passed both branches of the Legislature.

Mr. FREEMAN (U.) said the bill now passed was undoubtedly crude, and might need revision. He thought the present Legislature, if it reassembled, would probably be disposed to act in the matter. Agreed to.

Mr. BARLOW (U.) said that living within a few minutes' walk of the scene of this great disaster, he felt it proper to offer the resolution. He was surprised to find any objection. If the bill passed by the Legislature was defective, and simple as it was the committee would so report, and there the matter would rest.

Mr. GERRELY (U.) said he had always thought, and he still believed, that Councils had no authority in the premises. If we pass this resolution, it will be tendered to the citizens that Councils have power, and have been derelict in their duty, if no thought the responsibility should rest with the Legislature.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. KAMMERER (O.) introduced a resolution that the City Solicitor be directed to take immediate legal measures to ascertain if the loss of life at the conflagration at Ninth and Washington streets, on Wednesday morning last, was caused by the negligence of the City Councils, in reducing the quota for the first five Congressional districts 3,146 men, making the number required under this second call for volunteers for these districts 3,360 instead of 3,360 men, and issued an order accordingly.

The report was received from the Corn Exchange, enclosing a resolution passed by that association, urging Councils to pass an ordinance regulating the storage of petroleum, and suggesting the ordinance introduced Nov. 23, 1863, by Mr. Catherwood. Referred.

The resolution from Common Council, in reference to fire plugs, was concurred in.

THE CORN EXCHANGE QUOTA.

Mr. CATTEL (U), chairman of the special committee to visit Washington in reference to the quota of Philadelphia, made the following report:

The joint special committee appointed to visit Washington to procure a revocation or modification of the Provost Marshal's order of the 4th inst., respectfully represent the impending draft for men furnished in excess of former calls, and ask the following report:

The committee, immediately after their appointment, invited the assistance and co-operation of Henry C. Carey, Esq., President of the late Union Defence Association, who cheerfully furnished them with statements and data of incalculable value in producing the desired result.

The net quotas of the first five Congressional districts of Pennsylvania, as assigned by Provost Marshal General under the call of December 19, 1864, were as follows:

First district	3,428
Second district	4,474
Third district	4,560
Fourth district	3,749
Fifth district (city portion)	3,013
Total quotas for Philadelphia	17,614

These were the quotas assigned to Philadelphia at the time of the appointment of your committee.

Under the call of July 18, 1864, for 500 000 men, the quota of Philadelphia was 11,762. Under that call its city was entitled to credits up to January 1, 1865, as follows:

One-year men	2,991
Two-years men	236
Three-years men	12,187
Four-years men	109
Total	15,511

Showing an excess to be credited on the present call of 3,769 men. The quotas, as assigned for this call, were therefore manifestly unjust. The committee found that a correspondence had already been opened by Mr. Lex with Provost Marshal General Fry upon this subject, and that a new assignment of quotas had been promised by that officer. Accordingly, a short time after the appointment of the committee, the new assigned quotas were announced, as follows:

First district	1,936
Second district	2,069
Third district	2,913
Fourth district	2,155
Fifth district	1,543
Total	11,496

The last assignment of quotas was still very credible in excess of what your committee deemed this city's proportion of Philadelphia, and they proceeded to Washington. They had the honor to present Mr. Provost Marshal General Fry. They briefly pointed out to him the apparent discrepancy between the numbers required under the previous call and those now called for. They presented a statement of credits due to Philadelphia under the call of July 18, 1864. He explained to the committee that the book of credits was transferred to the present call, and directed the assistant in charge to report that fact to Congress. Subsequently, the figures and calculations submitted by the committee and the War Department. Their examination and investigation showed the existence of a very material error in the accounts of the Enrolment Bureau as to allowances for naval recruits; to correct which fact your committee returned to Philadelphia with the A. A. Provost Marshal General, who, by a careful and rigid revision of the records of the enrolment office in this city substantiated the correctness of the statements submitted by the committee, and the Secretary of War, upon return to Washington, and, on presenting to the Provost Marshal General the facts of their investigation, promptly reduced the quota for the first five Congressional districts 3,146 men, making the number required under this second call for three years or four years 3,360 instead of 3,360 men, and issued an order accordingly.

The report was received and the resolution making an appropriation to pay the expenses of the committee was adopted.

A communication was received from the Mayor, enclosing an official notification of the amended quota for Philadelphia, as follows:

First District	1,357
Second "	1,830
Third "	2,569
Fourth "	1,771
Fifth "	403
Total	7,372

AID FOR THE HOMELESS.

The ordinance from Common Council, making an appropriation for the relief of those who were made homeless and sufferers by the fire at Ninth and Washington streets was taken up and referred to the Committee of Finance, as much doubt was expressed as to the power of Councils to pass such an ordinance. Adjourned.

COMMON BRANCH.

President STOKLEY (U.) in the chair.

RELIEF OF THE SUFFERERS BY THE LATE FIRE.

Mr. WOLBERT (O.) presented an ordinance appropriating $15,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the fire of Wednesday morning. Passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A communication from the Corn Exchange Association, urging the passage of the ordinance offered by Mr. Catherwood, in 1863, providing for the storage of petroleum and suggesting the ordinance introduced Nov. 23, 1863, by Mr. Catherwood. Referred.

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Total	11,496

The last assignment of quotas was still very credible in excess of what your committee deemed this city's proportion of Philadelphia, and they proceeded to Washington. They had the honor to present Provost Marshal General Fry. They briefly pointed out to him the apparent discrepancy between the numbers required under the previous call and those now called for. Mr. Fry presented a statement of credits due to Philadelphia under the call of July 18, 1864. He explained to the committee that the book of credits was transferred to the present call, and directed the assistant in charge to report that fact to Congress. Subsequently the figures and calculations submitted by the committee and the War Department. Their examination and investigation showed the existence of a very material error in the accounts of the Enrolment Bureau as to allowances for naval recruits; to correct which fact your committee returned to Philadelphia with the A. A. Provost Marshal General, who, by a careful and rigid revision of the records of the enrolment office in this city substantiated the correctness of the statements submitted by the committee, and the Secretary of War, upon return to Washington, and, on presenting to the Provost Marshal General the facts of their investigation, promptly reduced the quota for the first five Congressional districts 3,146 men, making the number required under this second call for three years or four years 3,360 instead of 3,360 men, and issued an order accordingly.

The report was received and the resolution making an appropriation to pay the expenses of the committee was adopted.

A communication was received from the Mayor, enclosing an official notification of the amended quota for Philadelphia, as follows:

First District	1,357
Second "	1,830
Third "	2,569
Fourth "	1,771
Fifth "	403
Total	7,372

AID FOR THE HOMELESS.

The ordinance from Common Council, making an appropriation for the relief of those who were made homeless and sufferers by the fire at Ninth and Washington streets was taken up and referred to the Committee of Finance, as much doubt was expressed as to the power of Councils to pass such an ordinance. Adjourned.

COMMON BRANCH.

President STOKLEY (U.) in the chair.

RELIEF OF THE SUFFERERS BY THE LATE FIRE.

Mr. WOLBERT (O.) presented an ordinance appropriating $15,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the fire of Wednesday morning. Passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A communication from the Corn Exchange Association, urging the passage of the ordinance offered by Mr. Catherwood, in 1863, providing for the storage of petroleum and suggesting the ordinances introduced Nov. 23, 1863, by Mr. Catherwood. Referred.

The resolution from Common Council, in reference to fire plugs, was concurred in.

THE CORN EXCHANGE QUOTA.

Mr. CATTELL (U.), chairman of the special committee to visit Washington in reference to the quota of Philadelphia, made the following report:

The joint special committee appointed to visit Washington to procure a revocation or modification of the Provost Marshal's order of the 4th inst., respectfully represent the impending draft for men furnished in excess of former calls, and ask the following report:

The committee, immediately after their appointment, invited the assistance and co-operation of Henry C. Carey, President of the late Union Defence Association, who cheerfully furnished them with statements and data of incalculable value in producing the desired result.

The net quotas of the first five Congressional districts of Pennsylvania, as assigned by Provost Marshal General under the call of December 19, 1864, were as follows:

First district	3,428
Second district	4,474
Third district	4,560
Fourth district	3,749
Fifth district (city portion)	3,013
Total quotas for Philadelphia	17,614

These were the quotas assigned to Philadelphia at the time of the appointment of your committee.

Under the call of July 18, 1864, for 500 000 men, the quota of Philadelphia was 11,762. Under that call its city was entitled to credits up to January 1, 1865, as follows:

One-year men	2,991
Two-years men	236
Three-years men	12,187
Four-years men	109
Total	15,511

Showing an excess to be credited on the present call of 3,769 men. The quotas, as assigned for this call, were therefore manifestly unjust. The committee found that a correspondence had already been opened by Mr. Lex with Provost Marshal General Fry upon this subject, and that a new assignment of quotas had been promised by that officer. Accordingly, a short time after the appointment of the committee, the new assigned quotas were announced, as follows:

First district	1,936
Second district	2,069
Third district	2,913
Fourth district	2,155
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Total	11,496

The last assignment of quotas was still very credible in excess of what your committee deemed this city's proportion of Philadelphia, and they proceeded to Washington. They had the honor to present Provost Marshal General Fry. They briefly pointed out to him the apparent discrepancy between the numbers required under the previous call and those now called for. Mr. Fry presented a statement of credits due to Philadelphia under the call of July 18, 1864. He explained to the committee that the book of credits was transferred to the present call, and directed the assistant in charge to report that fact to Congress. Subsequently the figures and calculations submitted by the committee and the War Department. Their examination and investigation showed the existence of a very material error in the accounts of the Enrolment Bureau as to allowances for naval recruits; to correct which fact your committee returned to Philadelphia with the A. A. Provost Marshal General, who, by a careful and rigid revision of the records of the enrolment office in this city substantiated the correctness of the statements submitted by the committee, and the Secretary of War, upon return to Washington, and, on presenting to the Provost Marshal General the facts of their investigation, promptly reduced the quota for the first five Congressional districts 3,146 men, making the number required under this second call for three years or four years 3,360 instead of 3,360 men, and issued an order accordingly.

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