The Press.

TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1865.

Our Agricultural Prospects.

THE CROPS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Mr. William Pruellen, Special Agent of the Treasury Department for the West, has arrived at Washington, and reports the prospects for crops in the lower Mississippi Valley much better than heretofore supposed. The leasing of abandoned plantations by Northern men proved a losing speculation in 1863 and 1864, but is likely to be very remunerative the present season.

A much greater breadth of cotton was planted this spring, and the region between the Arkansas and Red Rivers is beginning to assume its former agricultural importance. Wherever the cultivation of cotton could not be resumed, corn has been planted almost exclusively, and an immense yield is promised on hundreds of plantations.

Nearly all the planters between the mouth of the Red River and the Gulf had devoted themselves to sugar-growing for years before the war. The stoppage of all extended operations in this region the first two years of the war reduced the amount of cane to such an extent that but half the land has been planted in any season since. Last year it was estimated that more than half the cane grown was saved for seed; consequently very little sugar was made. It is not known what proportion of this year's cane will be saved for seed; but the probabilities are that the amount of sugar manufactured will still be insignificant with a continuation of the present favorable season. The planters can all be well supplied with cane seed for next year's crop, and the usual amount of sugar is expected to be thereafter made.

Some losses by inundation have occurred in the vicinity of Lake Providence and other localities where the levees were destroyed by Federal armies, but these have been fewer and less disastrous than was generally apprehended.

ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI.

The St. Louis *Republican* says: The reports of the crop prospects from Missouri and Illinois are generally very highly favorable. The present splendid harvest weather will enable all the farmers, who can command the necessary amount of labor, to secure their summer crops in the best condition. Wheat has suffered from rust, but the crop generally will be fairly determined till the grain is threshed. A large breadth of land had been appropriated to its cultivation; and it may be presumed that after making all proper deductions on account of this mischief, the product will be above the average. Barley was extensively put in last spring, and will furnish a meagre yield. Rye is a very good crop. The grass crops have been most luxuriant, and the yield unusually abundant. Oats, too, will come in well. The tobacco fields look finely; and the promise of corn, though much of it was planted late, and never better. We may close this brief summary with the remark that our gardens were never more profuse in their promises than they have been this season, and that the peach and apple orchards promise to yield far more abundantly than the average of the last three or four years."

IOWA.

In Northern Iowa the tremendous rains, in the latter days of June, washed out the corn, and there will be but little, if any, of a crop in failure. The potato, in Iowa, is ruined by the bug. Fruit promises a fair yield; peaches in particular, of which there will be a great abundance. The apple crop will be light, but of fair quality. Of small fruits there is a generous supply.

FLORIDA.

The Augusta (Ga.) *Constitutionalist* says: It is reported that the crops through the country bordering on the coast are in a very flourishing condition, notwithstanding the devastation in parts where the army has passed. Everything wears an animated appearance, and promises as good a harvest as could be expected.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Erie *Dispatch* says: The crops in this vicinity look admirably promising. The wheat is "ripening to the harvest," the barley is nearly ready for the reaper, and rye is fast reaching the climax, while the oats are already heading at a very fair height from the ground. The prospect for small grain never looked better. Corn is of excellent thrifty color—is growing rapidly, and will, we have reason to believe, exceed the crop of last year by from a third to a half. This is the estimate of old farmers in some sections. Garden truck—early corn, peas, beans, potatoes, late turnips, etc.—are fairly astonishing their producers by the rapidity of their growth and good quality.

The Franklin *Repository* says: Within the past week the will-weevil has appeared in the wheat fields of Chambersburg, and has been very destructive. Most of the Mediterranean wheat on the heavy limestone lands has been very seriously injured; but the white wheat, as far as we have been able to learn, has not been disturbed by it, as the grains were too blind when the weevil made its appearance. Some fields of barley wheat in that neighborhood are almost entirely destroyed. In Mercersburg, the wheat crop, which is now being harvested, it is said, is considerably injured by the weevil and rust. In York county, Pennsylvania, the weevil has also been destructive.

The Norristown (Montgomery county) *Herald* says: The reports current some weeks ago concerning the crop prospects, were all of the most favorable character, and calculated to excite the expectations of a heavy yield. Since that time, however, as harvesting drew near, all the information respecting the wheat crop has been of a most discouraging character. It seemed that the longer it remained upon the ground the poorer it became. In this county it has suffered from rust to a considerable extent, but much more from fly and weevil. For some reason the heads are not well filled, the grain shrivelled and imperfectly formed, and this is said to have been caused by rains or high winds which blew the pollen off the blossoms, and in the latter case, rendered this made its appearance. Many fields in different sections of the county are scarcely worth harvesting, and many more will not pay more than a third of a yield. On the whole, from all the information we can obtain, we do not believe the wheat crop of Montgomery county will be more than half an average yield.

The recent rains have had a very favorable effect on the oats, and generally we have a large growth and heavy headed. For the last year or two it has been infested about harvest time with a peculiar species of fly which destroys it great damage. It is yet rather too soon to speak confidently as to the prospect of a visit from this pest this season.

The corn generally looks well, and promises very handsomely thus far. Some of the most forward fields are already in tassel, and with very few exceptions, the crop is thrifty and growing rapidly.

The hay is a very fair yield, but considerable has not been housed in good condition. It is also greatly mixed with weeds, in many localities.

Early potatoes come up better than late ones. With this exception the latter look well, and thus far give good indications of a large yield.

Effects of Bad Air.

At the request of the Royal Commission, which has recently reported on the condition of the Cornish and other metalliferous mines, Dr. Angus Smith examined the quality of the air which prevails in these localities, to the impurity of which is chiefly attributable the early breakdown in their strength. A healthy atmosphere may be taken to be one with 20.9 per cent. of oxygen, and .04 per cent. of carbonic acid gas. Late in the evening in the pit of Lorenzo mine (Tavistock) it was found to 0.320 per cent. of carbonic acid has been found, but the average of above three hundred samples of air taken from these mines had 0.05. Two-thirds of the samples presented an atmosphere exceedingly bad, and the worst parts of the mines had only 18.0 per cent. of oxygen, and as much as 1.8 or more of carbonic acid—in one instance 2.26 per cent.

In order to trace the effects of such bad air, Dr. Smith caused to be constructed a small, close chamber of lead, with windows sufficiently large that they might in any emergency be broken through for a way of escape. The first trial was made by sitting down in this chamber for six successive nights. This produced about one per cent. of carbonic acid, and the air became cheerless. A young lady was anxious to be in the chamber when the air was certain that candles would burn. She was not much struck by the imparity of the air on entering, although the candles were diminishing to go out. There was not quite nineteen per cent. of oxygen, and there was rather more than two per cent. of carbonic acid. Two persons breathing in the chamber, so that organic matter from the person was absent, and that makes a great difference. Six short five minutes were spent, making light of the difficulty, but suddenly became white and could not come out without help.

On another occasion a still greater amount of carbonic acid was present in the chamber, but it was not accompanied with the corresponding loss of oxygen, for the gas was driven in upon pure air, there were 20.19 per cent. of oxygen, with 1.84 of carbonic acid, two persons breathed in the chamber, and were unable to stay above seven or eight minutes. Dr. Smith stayed about twenty minutes, but felt very anxious to get out, as his movements were made with great haste, and both mind and body betrayed symptoms of feverish activity. The face was flushed, and the lungs acted more rapidly than usual. In fact, there was a burning haste to live, as if life were afraid of being put out. It seems to him impossible to endure four per cent. of carbonic acid for any length of time. There was a very remarkable lowering of the pulse, and as this happened regularly he puts it down as the result of poisoning with carbonic acid gas, and asks whether it may not suggest a mode of lowering the pulse in a fever.

These experiments show the great mischief that must arise from the impure, unwholesome air in metalliferous mines. The men call it "thin," "poor," "dead;" the effect is slow poisoning. The explosions of gunpowder produce sulphide of potassium, the effect of which is probably like that of sulphide of hydrogen, but from its acting more slowly there is distributed over a long period that death which might cause instantly, and so, in chemical phrase, the effect is dissolved in health, and becomes disease. Gun-cotton seems to promise to perform the work of blasting with less injurious influence upon the air.

In the coal districts, where, on account of the dangerous gases, great attention has been given to the proper ventilation of the mines, the mortality (accidents excepted) is considerably less than in the metalliferous districts, and this shows that the excessive mortality in the latter is not caused by the mere working under-ground in dark galleries.

Dr. Smith touches incidentally in his report upon various points of practical importance. He notices the purifying effect of rain upon the air, of which there was such a scarcity last year. Moisture with a high temperature is oppressive, but moisture with a lower temperature improves the air, and he holds that cold and moisture in such amounts as those in which they are found in Great Britain are capable of producing powerful constitutions, and that the more watery districts of the kingdom present in many instances the most healthy spot. Still, in relation to ventilation he notes that "chemical action, with all the fuel things, demand a certain amount of warmth first, and above all things. No function can go on without it. In any live hours, days, or years in dirty ventilated places, with more or less discomfort and danger, but a draught of cold air may kill like a sword. In railway carriages, in houses, also, the great instinct of man is first to be warm enough; and he is quite right. Such a universal instinct must not be sneered at."—*English Paper.*

A LONDON HOTEL.—In a quarter of London quite as fashionable as Madison Square is for New York, a company of noblemen and gentlemen have erected a hotel at an expense of $1,500,000. The building is splendid, alike as to its dimensions, its style, its decoration, and its furnishing. Every improvement suggested by our American hotel system, as well as by the best Paris hotels, has been introduced. The building is perfectly fire-proof; but, as an extra precaution against all sort of risks, water is so abundantly supplied from an artesian well, to tanks distributed throughout the building, that anything in the shape of fire could be quenched almost in an instant.

SHAKER WORSHIP.—A correspondent of the Lewiston (Me.) *Journal*, who visited the Shaker villages at Poland and New Gloucester, Mass., writes as follows:

"The societies are made up of persons of all ages, and the best of homes are provided here for many orphans and all indigent or able-bodied persons, whose fortunes and services may be thrown into their common lot. They believe further, in the temporal kindom of Christ; a kingdom indivisible, one in property, spirit, and action. Simplicity and an earnest zeal mark their religious gatherings. Their assembly room is a medium-sized hall, well constructed, and finished in sky-blue paint. The sexes enter at different doors. At the appointed hour, the presiding brother gives a sort of nasal twang which soon increases to full musical cadences and brings all the worshippers to their feet. They then form in platoons, facing each other, men on one side and females on the other, and indulge in full choruses and chants, beating time by an oscillating movement of their hands, with upturned palms. This finished, the elder advances from his seat, and after a brief exhortation to a quiet and godly life, resumes his position. The tune and dancing are then indulged in, with quaint steps and a pendium movement of the body; they move in forward advances, and all hands rest around the choir, that chants in the centre of the circle, sometimes giving a double shuffle. An exhortation more and the families separate and leave the hall, previously inviting the spectators, the 'worldy people,' to keep seated until they shall have retired. The remarks made are highly interesting, and the 'laboring,' as they term the dancing, is of a decidedly queer and impressive nature.

"The Shakers on the whole are unobtrusive, orderly, and peaceable. They own all things in common, and develop much ability and business tact."

THE LARGE FISH IN BRITISH AMERICA.—I have never seen any fish half as fat and as good for a late winter food as these little lamp fish. It is next to impossible to boil or fry them, for they melt completely into oil. Some of the most wonderful fatness may be gleaned from the fact that the natives use them as lamps for the lighting of their lodges. The fish, when dried, has a piece of rush pith, or a strip from the inner bark of the cypress tree (Thuga-gigantea) drawn through it, a long round needle made of hard wood being used for the purpose; it is then lighted, and burns steadily until consumed. I have often read comfortably by its light. The candlestick—literally a stick for the candle—consists of a bit of wood split at one end, with a lamp fish inserted in the cleft. These ready-made sea-candles—little dips, wanting only a wick, that can be added in a minute—are easily transformed, by heat and pressure, into liquid. If the Indian drink, instead of burning them, he gets a fuel in the shape of oil, that keeps the combustion within himself, and is consumed in the lungs, just as it was by the wick, but giving only heat. It is by no mere chance that wayside or small fish, in the defiance to wondrous instinct, annually visit the northern seas, containing within themselves all the elements necessary for supplying light and heat and life to the poor savages, who, but for this supply, must perish in the bitter cold of the long dreary winter.—*All the Year Round.*

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF RICHMOND.—The *Republican* says: "It appears from the statement that, though the operations of the bank extend over a period of not quite two months, they have discounted for our business men to the amount of $164,483.39. The liberality and ability of the bank will be better understood when it is known that it has not received any portion of its circulation, but has been enabled to extend this great accommodation to the public by means of other facilities it commands. When it receives its own notes, of course the public will be materially benefited by its increased capacity to undertake to their wants. The deposits have reached the amount of $605,413.01, of which $120,495.02 is on Government account. We understand it is the intention of the stockholders to largely increase the capital stock, as is authorized by the articles of association.

A DISAPPOINTMENT.—The Vienna *Presse* relates the following incident: "On Monday last a manufacturer of this city was going to celebrate his marriage with a young girl without any fortune. On arriving at the church the intending bridegroom wished to leave his bride in the carriage. He raised his hat, but unfortunately brought away his wig as well. No sooner did the young lady see the artificial head of hair detached from the skull of her lover than she refused to become his wife, and each returned home, to the great disappointment of the witnesses and others who were present."

THE CITY.

GUARDIANS OF THE POOR.—The stated meeting of the Board of Guardians of the Poor was held yesterday afternoon—Thomas Everly in the chair.

The report of the Steward showed the census of the house, for the week ending Saturday last, at.....2,502
Same time last year.....2,205
Increase.....297

Admitted within the last two weeks, 155; births, 11; deaths, 36; discharged, 15; eloped, 43; indentured, 3; granted lodgings, 36; granted meals, 91.

The inmates are classified as follows:

Total males, 1,033; females, 1,450; healthy males under 50, 149. In the workingmen's wing, 245. Total number of both sexes in insane department, 569.

The following committees were then appointed by the chair:

Accounts—Messrs. Haines, Taylor, and Woodward.

Children's Asylum—Messrs. Grover, Townsend, and Field.

Manufacturing Department—Messrs. Haines, Townsend, and Bullock.

Farm and Garden—Messrs. Field, Crown, and Nickerson.

Classification and Diet—Messrs Woodward, Lowry and Field.

Hospital—Messrs. Whitall, Field and Haines.

Warming and Ventilation—Messrs. Whitall, Haines and Field.

Insane Department—Messrs. Taylor, Whitall and Haines.

Out-wards—Messrs. Brown, Field and Townsend.

Support Cases—Messrs. Grover, Lowry, Wood'nd, Nickerson and Bullock.

Children's New Asylum—Messrs. Townsend, Server, Field, Haines and Nickerson.

Adjourned.

FISH STORY.—On the Fourth of July, a party of five gentlemen of this city, who were fishing for perch, a short distance below the Lazaretto, met with a rather surprising adventure. They were in a large boat, and were across the river, in a leisurely and comfortable manner, when *rush! whizz!* from out the depths, close to the boat, darted a great sturgeon, shooting ten feet into the air, and then falling *into the midst of the astounded party!* He nighted almost in the arms of one of the oarsmen, who retreated backwards with an almost incredible rapidity. Lashing his tail and thundering his seven feet of glistening body, the enormous fish held undisputed control of the boat for a few minutes. When the fisherman recovered their presence of mind, they put an end to his ponderous antics by breaking his head with an oar, used as a battering-ram. They then rowed ashore with their prize, which measured a few inches over seven feet in length, and was estimated by an expert to weigh about 250 pounds. Had the fish fallen on any of the party, or had the boat been a small one, the result would have been less pleasantly exciting than it proved to be.

THE COOPER-SHOP SALOON.—The President of the Cooper-shop Volunteer Refreshment Saloon desires an appeal to be made through this column, in behalf of the institution that has done so much for the Union soldiers. The visitors are returning home in large numbers, and the constant demand is made heavier than it was in the beginning, has exhausted the funds of the committee. Patriots, individually and collectively, banking and other wealthy corporations, should forward the one thing needful, and thus maintain the organization until the last soldier arrives in our city en route for home.

THE DOUBLEDAY COURT-MARTIAL.—The court re-assembled yesterday morning, all the members present. The case of William Neal was resumed. An assistant inspector under Mr. Neal was examined. The evidence showed that Mr. Neal had exercised much care in the inspection of tents, and that he had rejected many of the Cozzens tents. The case will occupy several days before the evidence is concluded.

VERDICT IN THE CASE OF ISAAC SIDES.—The Coroner's Jury yesterday rendered the following verdict in the case of Isaac Sides: "That the said Isaac Sides came to his death from stabs inflicted at the hands of Adelia Hicks, July 3d, 1865, at No. 1170 North Third street."

FATAL SHOOTING.—Newman Hersey, aged six years, was accidentally shot yesterday, by a boy named George W. Nailor, while playing with an old musket at the house of Harvey's father, No. 1429 North Third street. The Coroner held an inquest, and rendered a verdict that the deceased was accidentally shot.

HIGH SCHOOLS.—The successful candidates will be admitted into the Girls' and Boys' High Schools today. The semi-annual commencement of the Central High School will take place next Thursday at the Academy of Music.

WEATHER RECORD.—A comparison of some of the meteorological phenomena of June, 1865, with those of June, 1864, and of the same month for fourteen years, at Philadelphia, Pa. Barometer 60 feet above mean tide in the Delaware river. Latitude 39 degrees, 57½ minutes N.; Longitude 75 degrees, 10½ minutes W. from Greenwich. By JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK, A. M.

	June, 1865.	June, 1864.	June, for 14 yrs
Thermometer.			
Highest degree.....	93.00	96.00	98.00
Do. date.....	30th.	26th.	29th, 1856
Warmest day—mean.....	88.00	89.67	90.50
Do. date.....	30th.	26th.	30th, 1856
Lowest degree.....	61.00	51.00	42.00
Do. date.....	6th.	12th.	5th, 1859
Coldest day—mean.....	65.33	59.33	55.00
Do. date.....	6th.	11th.	6th, 1861.
Mean daily oscillation.....	13.33	11.42	10.50
Do. range.....	4.32	5.69	4.84
Mean at 7 A. M.....	72.79	67.33	68.99
Do. 2 P. M.....	82.28	78.22	75.85
Do. 9 P. M.....	74.73	69.69	71.61
Do; for the month.....	77.26	71.86	73.02
Barometer.			
Highest, inches.....	30.099	30.087	30.251
Do. date.....	6th.	21st.	13th, 1852
Greatest daily pressure—mean.....	30.035	30.029	30.231
Do. do. date.....	6th.	31st.	13th, 1852
Lowest, inches.....	29.959	29.296	29.183
Do. date.....	20th.	9th.	11th, 1857
Lowest daily pressure—mean.....	29.964	29.358	29.222
Do. do. date.....	26th.	9th.	11th, 1857
Mean daily range.....	0.081	0.157	0.099
Mean at 7 A. M.....	29.802	29.291	29.241
Do. 2 P. M.....	29.831	29.777	29.777
Do. 9 P. M.....	29.831	29.305	29.292
Do. for the month.....	29.839	29.793	29.763
Force of Vapor.			
Greatest, inches.....	0.848	0.850	1.059
Do. date.....	30th.	25th.	30th, 1858.
Least, inches.....	.359	.521	.122
Do. date.....	15th.	28th.	5th, 1859
Mean at 7 A. M.....	.625	.494	.594
Do. 2 P. M.....	.691	.478	.591
Do. 9 P. M.....	.646	.503	.589
Do. for the month.....	.645	.477	.593
Relative Humidity.			
Greatest, per cent.....	90 ⅌ ct.	89 ⅌ ct.	100 ⅌ ct.
Do. date.....	9th.	5th.	6th, 1856.
Least, per cent.....	50.0	54.0	22.0
Do. date.....	15th.	28th.	16th, 1863
Mean at 7 A. M.....	74.1	65.9	72.1
Do. 2 P. M.....	57.9	48.4	55.3
Do. 9 P. M.....	74.2	67.1	70.3
Do. for the month.....	68.7	60.4	65.4
Clouds.			
Number of clear days*.....	8 days.	10 days.	8.1 days.
Do. cloudy days.....	22	20	21.9
Mean of sky cov'd 7 A. M.....	63.7 ⅌ ct	58.7 ⅌ ct	59.0 ⅌ ct
Do. do. 2 P. M.....	65.0	54.7	60.8
Do. do. 9 P. M.....	63.0	48.0	54.4
Do. for the month.....	57.2	49.8	51.7
Rain.			
Amount, inches.....	4.815	2.246	4.388
No. of days on which rain fell.....	11 days.	7 days.	11.6 days
Winds.			
Mean direction.....	S 30½ W	S 73½ W	S 74½ W
Times in 1,000.....	1.88	845.	222.

*Sky one-third or less covered at the hours of observation.

EARLY CLOSING.—The principal dry goods and carpet stores on Second street will be closed, during the months of July and August, at five o'clock P. M.

FIRE.—Yesterday morning, the room of a dwelling at No. 410 Arch street, occupied by Mrs. Anon, was slightly damaged by fire.

THE POLICE.

[Before Mr. Alderman Toland.]

AN OLD GAME REVIVED.

On Saturday last, Officer Brown, of the harbor police, discovered three men acting in a very suspicious manner with all soldiers they met. The officer quickly donned citizens' attire, and following the trio, saw that they were playing the thimble-rig game, with an attempt, of course, to swindle the victims. Two of the parties, John Bailey and Wm. Smith, were arrested, but the third effected his escape. The cups and little joker were found on the prisoners, and Alderman Toland committed them, in default of $600 bail.

NUISANCE BEING ABATED.

Two men were engaged in driving about Fairmount Park, on Sunday, in a noisy manner, and on being brought to by Officer Thorn; one of them, Geo. Sheridan, committed an assault and battery upon him. He was held in $600 to answer, and the other was fined $2 and costs for fast driving. The officers deserve credit for their endeavors to abate the nuisance of reckless driving in the park.

SUNDAY BATHERS.

Complaints having been made of men and boys bathing in Frankford Creek, Lieutenant Commander made a descent upon them on Sunday, and captured fourteen, whose ages ranged from forty-three years to twelve. They were each fined one dollar and costs.

[Before Mr. Alderman Lutz.]

DANGEROUS CHARACTER.

John Herlbert was before Alderman Lutz yesterday morning, on the charge of beating a man and his wife at Broad and Christian streets, and with having a large black jack on his person. He was committed, in default of $1,300 bail.

LARGE RAUL.

At a late hour on Sunday evening, Lieutenant Francks made a descent on a disorderly house at 421 St. John street, and captured Betty Leurton, the proprietress, and twenty-one of her guests. The former was held for court, and the latter held to bail for a breach of the peace.

[Before Mr. Alderman Swift.]

STARTING LIFE EARLY.

A small boy was brought to the Mayor's office yesterday. He was the most dilapidated little specimen of humanity we have seen in a long while. The sun had tanned his skin so as to make it of a copper color, and his clothing was just held together by threads. His account was that he had resided in Franklin county, and being an orphan, concluded to visit Philadelphia. The metropolis possessed elements necessary for supplying light and heat and life to the poor savages, who, but for this supply, must perish in the bitter cold of the long dreary winter.—*All the Year Round.*

HARD DRINKERS.

Pat Rork, aged twenty-five, and Pat Morray, aged twenty-three, had evidently considerable on the drink, as they broke into a store at Twenty-fifth and Pine streets, and stole a keg and a demijohn of port wine. Swift, upon hearing in a wholesale manner of disposing of the ardent, committed the two Patricks to Moynamensing.

THE COURTS.

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

CHARGE OF ASSAULT AND BATTERY AND LARCENY.

James Burk was charged with assault and battery on George Phillips, and with stealing his watch. It appeared that the parties got into a quarrel in the saloon of Hannah Monaghan, near Broad street, Phillips charging Burk with having spit upon him, which the latter denied. Monaghan, fearing of a row, turned out all who were in the bar-room. There were several.

After all, including Burk and Phillips, were outside, Phillips was struck and knocked down, and when he came to his senses he discovered that his watch was gone. He then went to Burk and told him that he knocked him down, but who did do it. The District Attorney thinking the identification was not sufficient to warrant a conviction, withdrew the prosecution, and the jury rendered a verdict of not guilty.

ROBBING A SOLDIER AND THE CONSEQUENCES—HEAVY SENTENCE.

The same defendants, James Burk and Joseph Donnelly, were then tried upon a charge of highway robbery, committed upon Elisha H. Rust, a returned soldier. Each testified that while walking down Washington street on the evening of the 5th of July, between 9 and 10 o'clock, he accosted by Burk, who, after inquiring where Federal street was, and where the Baltimore depot was, struck East with a pickaxe handle, and knocked him down. Upon recovering consciousness, he found that Burk was rifling his pockets, and Donnelly was feeling about his legs and the collar of his coat. They took from him $11, all he had. After they had gone, East walked to a neighboring hospital, where his wound was dressed. Information was then given to the police on duty at the Baltimore depot, and they went to a saloon in the vicinity, where the soldier, through the window, recognized Donnelly and Burk, who were at the bar drinking, as the men who had robbed him. Upon seeing the officers, they attempted to slip two five-dollar legal tender notes into the pocket of Donnelly, but failing in this, the money fell to the floor. They attempted to pass out of his possession the blackjack with which he had struck East. In this he likewise failed, as one of the officers saw the effort and arrested it. They were then taken into custody, and were fully identified by East as the robbers.

The defendants called witnesses to prove an alibi; but only one of them testified that he was with the defendants at the time and place which would cover the time fixed by East (between 9 and 10 o'clock in the evening) as the time when the robbery took place. This testimony was so contradictory as to make no impression. Another of the witnesses, Benjamin Taylor, a hackman, testified that he had seen East and Burk, sitting on a log in the neighborhood of Nineteenth and South streets, at half past 9 o'clock on the evening of the robbery, and that subsequently, at half-past 11 o'clock, he saw him in the same place in company with a third party, who was a stranger to him. While watching them, a struggle ensued between East and one of this party, in which East was knocked off the log, and the party in question joined the party, and they all sat down again together. Taylor said that neither Donnelly nor Burk was one of the men.

The defendants likewise called witnesses as to character.

The jury rendered a verdict of guilty as to both defendants.

In imposing sentence upon these two men, Judge Allison said this thing of robbing soldiers was becoming too common. He was astonished at the number of cases of this character that had come before him during the present term. The sums of money taken from these soldiers were, in many instances, large, and earned by long exposure and hard labor and danger. The law empowered him, where a robbery was committed, accompanied, as in this case, with an assault with a dangerous weapon, of the party, or had the boat been a small one, the result would have been less pleasantly exciting than it proved to be.

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VERDICT IN THE CASE OF ISAAC SIDES.—The Coroner's Jury yesterday rendered the following verdict in the case of Isaac Sides: "That the said Isaac Sides came to his death from stabs inflicted at the hands of Adelia Hicks, July 3d, 1865, at No. 1170 North Third street."

FATAL SHOOTING.—Newman Hersey, aged six years, was accidentally shot yesterday, by a boy named George W. Nailor, while playing with an old musket at the house of Harvey's father, No. 1429 North Third street. The Coroner held an inquest, and rendered a verdict that the deceased was accidentally shot.

HIGH SCHOOLS.—The successful candidates will be admitted into the Girls' and Boys' High Schools today. The semi-annual commencement of the Central High School will take place next Thursday at the Academy of Music.

WEATHER RECORD.—A comparison of some of the meteorological phenomena of June, 1865, with those of June, 1864, and of the same month for fourteen years, at Philadelphia, Pa. Barometer 60 feet above mean tide in the Delaware river. Latitude 39 degrees, 57½ minutes N.; Longitude 75 degrees, 10½ minutes W. from Greenwich. By JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK, A. M.

	June, 1865.	June, 1864.	June, for 14 yrs
Thermometer.			
Highest degree.....	93.00	96.00	98.00
Do. date.....	30th.	26th.	29th, 1856
Warmest day—mean.....	88.00	89.67	90.50
Do. date.....	30th.	26th.	30th, 1856
Lowest degree.....	61.00	51.00	42.00
Do. date.....	6th.	12th.	5th, 1859
Coldest day—mean.....	65.33	59.33	55.00
Do. date.....	6th.	11th.	6th, 1861.
Mean daily oscillation.....	13.33	11.42	10.50
Do. range.....	4.32	5.69	4.84
Mean at 7 A. M.....	72.79	67.33	68.99
Do. 2 P. M.....	82.28	78.22	75.85
Do. 9 P. M.....	74.73	69.69	71.61
Do; for the month.....	77.26	71.86	73.02
Barometer.			
Highest, inches.....	30.099	30.087	30.251
Do. date.....	6th.	21st.	13th, 1852
Greatest daily pressure—mean.....	30.035	30.029	30.231
Do. do. date.....	6th.	31st.	13th, 1852
Lowest, inches.....	29.959	29.296	29.183
Do. date.....	20th.	9th.	11th, 1857
Lowest daily pressure—mean.....	29.964	29.358	29.222
Do. do. date.....	26th.	9th.	11th, 1857
Mean daily range.....	0.081	0.157	0.099
Mean at 7 A. M.....	29.802	29.291	29.241
Do. 2 P. M.....	29.831	29.777	29.777
Do. 9 P. M.....	29.831	29.305	29.292
Do. for the month.....	29.839	29.793	29.763
Force of Vapor.			
Greatest, inches.....	0.848	0.850	1.059
Do. date.....	30th.	25th.	30th, 1858.
Least, inches.....	.359	.521	.122
Do. date.....	15th.	28th.	5th, 1859
Mean at 7 A. M.....	.625	.494	.594
Do. 2 P. M.....	.691	.478	.591
Do. 9 P. M.....	.646	.503	.589
Do. for the month.....	.645	.477	.593
Relative Humidity.			
Greatest, per cent.....	90 ⅌ ct.	89 ⅌ ct.	100 ⅌ ct.
Do. date.....	9th.	5th.	6th, 1856.
Least, per cent.....	50.0	54.0	22.0
Do. date.....	15th.	28th.	16th, 1863
Mean at 7 A. M.....	74.1	65.9	72.1
Do. 2 P. M.....	57.9	48.4	55.3
Do. 9 P. M.....	74.2	67.1	70.3
Do. for the month.....	68.7	60.4	65.4
Clouds.			
Number of clear days*.....	8 days.	10 days.	8.1 days.
Do. cloudy days.....	22	20	21.9
Mean of sky cov'd 7 A. M.....	63.7 ⅌ ct	58.7 ⅌ ct	59.0 ⅌ ct
Do. do. 2 P. M.....	65.0	54.7	60.8
Do. do. 9 P. M.....	63.0	48.0	54.4
Do. for the month.....	57.2	49.8	51.7
Rain.			
Amount, inches.....	4.815	2.246	4.388
No. of days on which rain fell.....	11 days.	7 days.	11.6 days
Winds.			
Mean direction.....	S 30½ W	S 73½ W	S 74½ W
Times in 1,000.....	1.88	845.	222.

*Sky one-third or less covered at the hours of observation.

FISH STORY.—On the Fourth of July, a party of five gentlemen of this city, who were fishing for perch, a short distance below the Lazaretto, met with a rather surprising adventure. They were in a large boat, and were across the river, in a leisurely and comfortable manner, when *rush! whizz!* from out the depths, close to the boat, darted a great sturgeon, shooting ten feet into the air, and then falling *into the midst of the astounded party!* He nighted almost in the arms of one of the oarsmen, who retreated backwards with an almost incredible rapidity. Lashing his tail and thundering his seven feet of glistening body, the enormous fish held undisputed control of the boat for a few minutes. When the fisherman recovered their presence of mind, they put an end to his ponderous antics by breaking his head with an oar, used as a battering-ram. They then rowed ashore with their prize, which measured a few inches over seven feet in length, and was estimated by an expert to weigh about 250 pounds. Had the fish fallen on any of the party, or had the boat been a small one, the result would have been less pleasantly exciting than it proved to be.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR MATERIALS IN THE NAVY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF STEAM ENGINEERING,
June 28, 1865.

SEALED PROPOSALS to furnish materials for the Navy for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1866, will be received at the Bureau of Steam Engineering until 12 o'clock A. M., of the 31st day of July next, at which time the opening will be commenced.

Proposals will be received for Proposals for Materials for the Navy, "that they may be distinguished from other business letters, and directed to the undersigned, Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering.

The materials and articles embraced in the classes named are particularly described in the printed schedules; any of which will be furnished to such as desire to offer, on application to the commandants of the respective yards, or to the navy agent nearest thereto, and those of all the yards, upon application to the Bureau.

This division into classes being for the convenience of dealers in each, such classes only will be furnished as are actually required for bids. The commandant and navy agent for each station will, in addition to the schedule of classes of their own yards, have a copy of the schedules of the other yards for examination only, from which may be judged whether it will be desirable to make application for any of the classes of those yards. All other things being equal, preference will be given to articles of American manufacture.

Offers must be made for the whole of the class of any yard upon one of the printed schedules, or in strict conformity therewith, or they will not be considered.

Upon application to the Bureau, to the commandant or navy agent, or to any navy agent, the form of offer, of guarantee, and other necessary information respecting the proposals will be furnished.

The contract will be awarded to the lowest bidder who gives proper guarantee, as required by the law of August 10, 1846, the Navy Department reserving the right to reject any bid, or any part thereof, which may be deemed exorbitant.

The contracts will bear date the day the notification is given, and deliveries must be made within the time specified.

Securities in the full amount will be required to sign the contract, and their responsibility certified to by a United States District Judge, United States District Attorney, or Collector of Customs, or a national security, twenty per centum will be withheld upon the amount of bills until the contracts shall have been completed, and eighty per centum of each bill, approved in triplicate by the commandants of the respective yards, will be paid by the Navy agents at the points of delivery, in funds or certificates, at the option of the Government, within ten days after the warrant for the same shall have been passed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The classes of this Bureau are numbered and designated as follows:

No. 1. Boiler iron, &c.
" 2. Tubes.
" 3. Sheet iron.
" 4. Nails and bolts.
" 5. Copper.
" 6. Tin, zinc, &c.
" 7. Lead.
" 8. Spelter.
" 9. Solder.
" 10. Babbitt metal.
" 11. Pipe, lead, and traps.
" 12. Hackmatack timber.
" 13. Ash logs and planks.
" 14. Ash oars.
" 15. Hickory bats and bars.
" 16. Black walnut and cherry.
" 17. Cedar and cypress boards.
" 18. Locust timber.
" 19. White oak staves and heading.
" 20. Black spruce.
" 21. Locust tenons.
" 22. Mahogany.
" 23. Lignumvitæ.
" 24. Boxwood.
" 25. Rope, yarns, and Tarred Oakum.
" 26. Sperm oil.
" 27. Spermaceti oil.
" 28. Whale oil.
" 29. Tallow, soap, and sperm oil.
" 30. Rosin.
" 31. Pitch.
" 32. Tar.
" 33. Turpentine.
" 34. Varnish.
" 35. Linseed oil.
" 36. Glass.
" 37. Brushes.
" 38. Fish oil.
" 39. Tallow, soap, and sperm oil.
" 40. Junk.
" 41. Ship chandlery.
" 42. Oakum.
" 43. Tank iron.
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