The Press.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 1865.

## THE CITY.

GRAND MASS MEETING OF HONORABLY DISCHARGED SOLDIERS—A PERMANENT BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION.—On Saturday evening the honorably discharged soldiers held a mass meeting at National Hall, on Market street, for the purpose of adopting a constitution and by-laws for their government. The attendance was pretty large. The Satterlee Brass Band was in attendance, and discoursed most eloquent music. At quarter past eight o'clock, Sergeant William S. Hoster, of the 157th Pennsylvania Volunteers, was called to the chair. Upon entering on his official duties, the President said he hardly knew how to express his thanks for the honor thus conferred upon him by so many of his comrades. In regard to the object of the meeting, he had a few words to say. It was not simply an organization of pecuniary interest, but one to preserve the bond of union formed upon the battle-field. It is an organization that will require care. We should carefully guard against designing men hereafter who might desire to use us for their own advantage. There are two rocks that we must steer clear of—they are religion and politics. Let us do this, and our association will live as long as the glory that encircles the brow of the soldiers who have fought for and maintained the Union of the National Government. But just as sure as we listen to designing men, either in politics or religion, just that sure we will sink; from that moment we are gone. But let us steer clear of these two principal rocks, and we will have an association that will command respect and influence. With these few remarks, the President said he had the honor to introduce the Hon. John W. Forney. [Tremendous applause.]

Col. FORNEY spoke as follows:

If I were about to set a possible limit to the gratitude that should express a nation's value of such deeds as you have done, I would first invoke a god-like power of language and illustration. Let me suppose that your efforts had failed. In the depth of our despair, forgetting the lives that had been vainly sacrificed and the valor that had been vainly displayed, we should have been cast into outer darkness like a benighted people, if the rebellion of Satan had prevailed. There would have been an end of war, but an end also of human liberty on this continent. There would have been peace, but the peace of desolation, starvation, and the grave. This proud city, and that yet prouder metropolis, which glows in all the marvellous splendor of modern wealth and art, on the shores of the Hudson, and receives into its capacious bosom many of the treasures of the world, would have been twinned in their ghastly and horrible ruin. Yonder consecrated pile, where the assembled ages articulated the great truth, now a second time embalmed in the best blood of our race, would have made the temple of Slavery instead of the hallowed shrine of Freedom; and the places dedicated to science and to art would have been converted into barracks where the guards of the tyrant would hold in subjection the uncovered and chafing multitudes who had lost their rights, but not their manhood. In the final conflict, the ship that mate the sea white with a friendly commerce, and that held the great harbor of New York in their circling arms as the foster mother clasps the infant she loves, as if at once for blessing and protection, would be driven off by the warlike foe, like affrighted eagle, contemplating the land of country's woe in the sadness of that despair which bewailed a fate beyond hope or rescue. Our liberties gone, nations bond and destroyed, the States torn from the nourishing breast of the Republic, trade severed from its fountains, and the great lines that bound the people together with iron nerves and sinews, cut by the invader's hand, industry would have had no incentive to inspiration or reward. Ambition no goal towards which to strain its energies. Where, then, would be those citizens whose affluence is based on the wealth of the merchant princes of old, and whose incomes, the product of associated enterprise and of a country's commerce, would be the boasted riches of the nabobs described in the delightful pages of Macaulay, and celebrated in the glowing sentences of Sheridan! Beggars at the footstool of the conqueror, or forced contributors to his arrogance and his pride. The wide besom of confiscation would have swept away the stately fortunes, and their splendid palaces would have been occupied by our new masters and their haughty retinues. Your Government would have been a fugitive. Your favorite statesmen, even your gallant leaders, would have been prisoners, and yourselves probably paroled and thrown broadcast as mendicants upon a people too poor to support and too unutterably despondent to make an effort to relieve themselves. And here let me pause. Captives in such hands, how would you have been treated? Recall the scenes of Libby, the horrors of Andersonville, the atrocities after the first Bull Run, and add to them ten thousand new sufferings invented by these agents of revenge, who have made a science of cruelty to their fellow-beings, and you have some idea of your own fate. And what should be the fate of those foes during the war, with what fiendish exultation they would have hastened to complete the gloomy catastrophe of our conquest! If, if there is a darker doom than this—if human imagination can conceive a sadder fate than, in that unspeakable event, would have befallen our dear country, it must be reserved for some evil spirit to whom is given the fatal gift of torturing the human soul, and of making a hell of the fair world we live in.

But, thank God, this is not your doom, nor that of your country. The reverse of the picture, so bright, so dazzling, and so marvellous, is at once your record and your vindication. For all that this nation may be heretofore, we dare not forget that it is to such as you we are indebted for it. Your triumph is the triumph of Freedom over Slavery. The pride in the ecstacy of his joy anticipated the future, exclaimed,

"Visions of glory spare my aching sight;
Ye unborn ages rush not on my soul."

Could he dream as that which you, my brave countrymen, have placed among the visions that are sure of realization. It is told in the memoirs of one of our astronomers, that once, in his investigations of the heavens, his faith in God began to fail, because, at a certain stage of his labors, he lost the traces of a planet he thought he had discovered amid the nebulous and unsearchable depths of the mysterious skies. At this moment his faithful instrument was placed in his hands, and, lo! in an instant he was introduced into another world, in which the system, the order, the unerring majesty of the Creator, were so gorgeously proved that he fell on his knees and implored forgiveness for his impulsive incredulity. In the dark hours of the rebellion more than one stout heart gave way. Out of the deep intensity of our patriotism we dared to anticipate a glorious exposition of victory, that could not bear a reverse, and too often censured Destiny in the face of Defeat. We had been so fortunate, so spoiled with blessings, so elated with our sudden and what seemed to be our secure happiness, that when the cloud came we darkened our sun almost quarrelled with Providence. And yet the one cloud grew into many—the orb of day went down—your country's horizon was so black with disaster that even the star of hope went out. In the period of midnight despair, it was your art, your noble sacrifices, that saved us all. And as the lowering tempest passed away, and the armies of slavery fled terror-stricken before your pulsant arms, and the star of peace and prosperity shone upon your country, it was indeed not only the salvation of a world that you achieved, but the opening of the way to the discovery and the redemption of other regions now and for centuries past without the blessings of civilization and Christianity.

But these are words of praise. I came here to-night in response to the invitation of your committee, to speak for a moment for a practical purpose. Satisfied as to the future of our country, it becomes us next to consider how to provide for those who have served it. There is no question more interesting and more imperative in its demand upon the statesman and the philanthropist. The victorious defenders of the republic are nearly all at their homes. They are not the objects of charity, but of generosity and of gratitude. Many thousands have gone back to the profitable avocations they left at the time they enlisted. Many have been sought out by the Government and compulsorily drafted to be its soldiers; societies and patriotic bodies, and liberal and wealthy individuals, have done and are doing much to alleviate the suffering and to meet the expectations of others. But the field for effort and for assistance is still very wide. How wide it is, and how great is the work to be done, you may understand when I tell you that, in the eight calls for troops by the President of the United States, from the 15th of April, 1861, and ending with December, 1864, *two millions six hundred thousand men were asked for to put down the rebellion, and there were nearly all obtained by voluntary enlistment and by other methods.* Of this number, Pennsylvania contributed *three hundred and sixty thousand*, according to the report of Adjutant General Russell. Making every allowance for what is done by voluntary and organized charity, we remain for us to do. The City Relief funds have been discontinued by the close of the war. The work given to the Navy Yards, to the Government institutions, such as the Arsenal, has been greatly and necessarily reduced. The Sanitary and Christian Commissions have rendered a noble closing account of their unparalleled labors. If we only consider the claims of those who are partially dependent, or not able to work at all, we shall be startled at the exhibit. A single fact will suffice to show the force of this remark: We find that there are now on file in the Pension Bureau 100,000 widows' applications for pensions, and 75,000 invalids. The number of invalid claims will be nearly doubled during the present year, owing to the discharge of the army, and especially those men belonging to the Veteran Reserve Corps, who nearly all expect to be pensioned.

These facts are eloquent appeals to the patriotic and generous. They cannot be made stronger by additional figures. But where is the remedy? Let me be frank with you. I do not think the Government can do much beyond what it has already done. Even in the equalization of the bounties, which your resolutions demand with so much force, it may be difficult to secure favorable legislation, in view of the interests of the public debt, and the magnitude of the public expenses. In the distribution of its patronage there should be no hesitation in preferring the competent soldier. No civilian should object either to share his pay with or yield his office to his more deserving gallant fellow-citizen. And I am glad to note, and to honor him in noting, that Andrew Johnson has acted upon this policy, and has directed its observance in the Departments of the Government whenever opportunity or occasion serves. Apart from the gratitude that should make this exhibition spontaneous, the politician will find it to his interest to discriminate in favor of the soldiers in making nominations for offices of trust or emolument. Let us look at the figures: There are over 650,000 voters in this State—and it is a low estimate that of the 360,000 men sent from Pennsylvania to the field, exclusive of those she loaned to other States, 200,000 were voters; and with their friends and acquaintances capable of largely increasing this number, and of wielding an almost controlling influence. How effective the example and the suffrage of the fighting men can be, the soldiers' vote of 1863, by which your good friend, Gov. Curtin was re-elected, and the tremendous majorities of 1864, in favor of Abraham Lincoln, the martyred President of the United States, may be cited with wholesome admonition. Will he be said that there is not an amount of ability and experience among these brave men equal to the same number of citizens who remained at home? I will not stop to answer a question that answers itself. For my own part, and speaking with full sense of the force of the words I use, I do not think we should lose by entrusting our best civil positions to the brave men who have rescued the Republic. I not only do not fear, I welcome the experiment. And if, in the next election, your choice for Governor should be a citizen who has proved his eloquence in the forum and his bravery on the field, I do not think that harm would come of it; nor yet that our crest would be lowered, or our fair name tarnished, or the examples of the great men of other days dishonored, if, in the highest as in the secondary branches of Congress, those who have won the applause of the world in fighting down the rebellion should be seated, monuments of the gratitude of their country.

But the practical methods of relief are, at last, to come from those great and prosperous bodies who, having done so much to aid the Government in the prosecution of the war, and so much to alleviate the necessities and privations of the troops and their families, stand ready, as I believe, to resume their noble mission in the presence of this new invocation. It may be said that, to carry on the Government, and to pay the interest on our national debt, will necessitate continuous and burdensome taxation; and that our wealthy men, and those who knew nothing of war save as they read it over their breakfasts, will resist and reject such an appeal. I know that this is anticipated in some quarters, but I believe that all that is necessary to call forth another flood of patriotic benevolence and gratitude, is to show that there is a necessity for it. There is not a loyal heart that will not respond to the call. The efficient societies that closed their doors on the event of peace will open them to assist in the grand objects you have in view. The splendid sisterhood that made the name of American Woman a synonym for all that was heroic and sublime in every land, will gladly revive its wonderful mission. And every party and every sect will strive to do its uttermost to show that, in the midst of our thanks to God for a saved country, we have not forgotten those who, under His eye and His inspiration, have completed the work of redemption and of retribution.

The distinguished speaker retired amid the most deafening applause, which, having subsided,

The President introduced Mr. Charles W. Alexander, who read the preamble, constitution, and by-laws, the consideration of which was postponed.

Letters were now read by Mr. Secretary Brown, as follows: One from Major General Meade; one from Governor Curtin, by his private secretary; one from Postmaster Walborn, by his chief clerk, Mr. Ireland; one from the Hon. Leonard Myers; and one from A. G. Cattell, Esq.

The President now introduced Colonel W. B. Thomas, the Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, who spoke in substance as follows:

The speech of the evening, gentlemen, has been delivered by the Hon. John W. Forney, [applause;] and now that you have before you for consideration the constitution and by-laws of an association, you are assembled in a business capacity. He was present for the purpose of manifesting his approval of the plan about to be adopted. It certainly met his entire approbation. [Applause.] He did not know that he could better entertain the meeting than by briefly giving an account of his stewardship. It is well known that he had been placed in official position by the courtesy of the President of the United States, and, as an officer of the Government, he believed it to be his duty to regard the claims of the soldier above those of civilians. [Great applause.] He thought it the duty of the soldiers to claim the place of office in the city. [Renewed applause.] He would take occasion to say that in the stormy times of the past he had raised regiments upon several occasions. In order to do so, he made an appeal to the men holding positions in the Custom-House to enlist, or resign. The response was met, and all the men of the Custom-House, with the exception of fifteen or twenty, were soon in the ranks. Of those who left there, some were invalids; others believed in nonresistance, although physically able to shoulder a musket; these nonresistants resigned their position. Col. Thomas further remarked that in all applications for office he gave the competent military man the preference; and he really wished he had the power to place every soldier in a good position. [Rounds of applause.] He was sorry, indeed, that his chance of appointing fellows was limited. He has, he supposes, upwards of a thousand applications on his table from Brigadier Generals down to privates, all soliciting positions; and, although every man of them is entitled, yet it is utterly impossible for him to accommodate them.

He had often been asked the question—"are you not bored to death by the soldiers?"

No, he replied; he listened patiently to all of them, and the only annoyance he felt was that the chances of acceding to their requests are so very slim. In the dispensation of offices it would be about one to every five hundred or thousand soldiers; so you can readily see how slim the chance is for an appointment. When a civilian applied for office, whose petition was in proper form and well backed, he would ask the applicant what he thought of the claims of a soldier for position—a soldier fully competent, although maimed for life. The civilian at once admitted the right of the soldier. [Renewed applause.] This appears to be the feeling on the part of the civilians generally, and, so far as he (Colonel Thomas) was concerned, he would always give those who fought for the country a preference over those whom the soldiers fought to protect. [Applause.] In conclusion, Colonel Thomas said that, while he considered the plan and claims of the soldiers good, yet their chances are small, and, when they thought of this, he hoped they would be charitable to the appointing power.

Colonel Thomas retired amid rounds of applause.

The following resolutions were now submitted. They were adopted with great enthusiasm:

*Resolved*, That the heartfelt thanks of every soldier is due to C. W. Alexander, Esq., publisher of the *Soldiers' Casket*, for his earnest and unwavering advocacy of the soldiers' cause.

*Resolved*, That his offer and pledge to place the *Casket* at the free disposal of the soldiers and soldiers' associations as a channel of communication between them, untainted by politics, receives our unqualified admiration and assent.

*Resolved*, That an engrossed copy of these resolutions be presented to Mr. Alexander.

Major General Collis was loudly called for, and spoke in substance as follows:

SOLDIERS: As I understand it, you are called together to-night for two purposes: First, to impress your fellow-citizens with the importance of providing employment for the thousands of returned soldiers; and second, to adopt measures to secure for the volunteers of '61 and '62 the same Government bounties paid to those of '63, '4, and '5.

My own opinion is that the first, at the present time, is the most important, for the question of bounties will, at best, have to be submitted to a tedious course of legislation.

I believe the subject of employing our returned soldiers is the *great question of the day*. It should occupy the attention of our statesmen, and to our capitalists it should present itself as a great question of political economy.

You men, who bore your muskets in the thickest of the fight, are, after all, the men who have saved the Republic. True, you have had able men to plan for and lead you. You have had the gallant General who drove Lee and his thousands from your own State, at Gettysburg. [Cheers.] You have had the gallant hero of the West, who marched his legions from the banks of the Ohio to the shores of the Atlantic. [Cheers.] You have had the gallant, galloping Phil Sheridan. [Cheers.] You have had the dashing Pennsylvanian, who, on the memorable 12th of May, at Spotsylvania, while commanding the immortal 2d Corps, sent word: "I have flushed Johnson, and am now going into Early." [Cheers.] But after all, you have had that quiet, unassuming hero of the war, who, puffing away at his cigar, wrote to our lamented President: "I will fight it out on this line if it takes all summer." [Enthusiastic applause.] Although you are dishonored and sent home to starve, yet the Government knows that, should its honor be again insulted, at home or abroad, it would be unnecessary to send for Gen. Grant, or any of the street corners, and your thinned battalions would again form to defend it.

Capitalists and all employers must know that by employing the willing hands which have just lain down the musket, the price of labor will fall, trade will increase, and taxation will be reduced.

It must not be forgotten that four years, the best young mechanics of our country, some of them with wives and families dependent upon them, have been doing yeoman service for their fellow-citizens at thirteen, sixteen and eighteen dollars a month, while few, very few of those who remained at home have suffered great pecuniary loss, and many have made no personal sacrifices. I feel sure that the grateful public will provide for you suitable employment, but our efforts must be devoted to getting work *today*. I want to see every Navy-Yard and Arsenal, and every Post-Office filled with men who have saved those Navy-Yards and arsenals, at the peril of their lives. (Great applause.)

The Old World is amazed that a people unused to war can enlist, organize, and drill a million of men for the field in a few months, amazed that we can subdue a rebellion covering an area of thousands of miles, and sustained by the resources at hand; but more than amazed to hear that we have disbanded our million and a half of men in two months, and sent them back to their homes. Let us continue to enter to their astonishment and send word to them that our returned heroes are all at work; that our one-armed men are earning their sixty dollars a month, rendering good service to their city, State, or National Government, in some civil capacity; that our sheriffs and prothonotaries and clerks go to and from their offices upon their crutches. Tell them this, and ask them whether it is true that republics are ungrateful.

To gain these objects, it is essential that you soldiers should work together in solid column. Let your influence be felt. State your claims respectfully, but firmly. But, above all, keep together; for I tell you there are breakers ahead yet, and no class is more interested in stemming the flood from the South, which threatens to inundate us, than you soldiers. Take care that those very people whom you have been fighting, associating themselves with the traitors at the North, whom you have been fighting, do not come to Washington, and, brushing aside the Union soldiers' claims with one hand, present with the other their pension list for the wounded sons of the South! [Cries of "Never! Never!"] Take care that they do not come to Washington, and tell the Secretary of the Treasury that the eight greenbacks he pays to the widow of dead patriot are worthless unless the millions of Southern bonds are honored by the General Government. [Cries of "They never shall!"]

Pardon me if I am too much on politics; but I tell you this is emphatically a soldiers' question, and, therefore, it becomes important that our Government should recognize and reward this element, whose interest it is to oppose all attempts to make the North pay one dollar of treason.

At the conclusion of his remarks the General was loudly cheered; after which the meeting adjourned to meet again at the call of the Committee of Arrangements.

CONFLAGRATION OF THE COHOCKSINK IRON WORKS.—On Saturday morning about four o'clock, the immense building, located on Germantown road, below Berks street, known as the Cohocksink Iron Works, was discovered to be on fire. The Cohocksink Presbyterian Church, a new and beautiful structure, was on fire several times, but it was saved from destruction. The iron works belonged to the estate of Charles Cornell, and covered a site fifty feet by three hundred. It was occupied by several parties. The flames first appeared on the third story, and they spread with alarming rapidity. The excitement, at the time, defies adequate description. The residents in an adjacent court, whose retreat was likely to be cut off, commenced removing their household goods. The women and children screamed; the men ran to and fro; and amid all this work of confusion, roaring flames, black smoke and desolation, children became separated from their maternals. Some idea may be formed of the attending consternation, but it cannot be readily written.

The first story and the rear part of the second and third story were occupied by the Cornell estate. The front part of the second story by Mr. George Snyder, carpenter, and the larger portion of the third story by Postel & Co., manufacturers of painted window shades. The losses are estimated as follows: Cornell estate, $15,000—no insurance. Postel & Co., loss $5,000—insurance $3,000. Mr. Snyder, loss $600—no insurance. A considerable amount of worked material, tools, &c., were entirely destroyed. Patterns belonging to the iron foundry, the accumulation for many years, were destroyed. The adjacent property was in great danger, but the promptitude of the firemen saved it. The Cohocksink steam engine and Ringgold Hose Companies paid particular attention to the Presbyterian Church erected a few years since, and its safety may be attributed to the well directed efforts of these branches of the Fire Department.

THE COMING PARADE OF THE FIREMEN.—The Firemen's parade in October promises to be not only the largest ever seen in Philadelphia, but the largest ever witnessed in this country. Music is in great demand, but fortunately all the companies have made contracts, some of them with bands in distant cities. Our people will thus have an opportunity of hearing all the celebrated bands in the country, including the famous 7th Regiment Band of New York, under the leadership of Professor Grafulla. This band will accompany the Firemen's Association of New York, which represents the whole of the New York Fire Department. There will be sixty members, principally from the Firemen and Engineers of the Department, Messrs. Thomas Lawrence, Peter V. Everett, and Assistant Engineer Lamb, will be in the city to-day and to-morrow, to make arrangements for the intended visit.

Engine Company No. 44, "Live Oak Association," also intend participating in the October parade. This organization has appointed Messrs. Wm. F. Squires, Chas. L. Miller, Wm. M. Oakley, and John J. Miller, a committee to make preparations for the company. There are other companies proposing to visit us. But for the establishment of the Paid Fire Department in New York and the consequent disorganization of the Volunteer Department, we should have had an immense turn out from that city.

From the East the companies will be numerous. The New York *Tribune* announces that *sixty companies* will pass through Jersey City the day before the parade, *en route* for Philadelphia. The members of Liberty Engine Company No. 1 (steamer) of Jersey City, are making preparations to visit Philadelphia in October, and while here will be the guests of the Perseverance Hose Company. About sixty active and honorary members will man the ropes.

The Vigilant Fire Company of Pittsburg, having determined to attend the parade with their steam engine, hose carriage, and some seventy members, were desirous of obtaining a Pittsburg band to accompany them, but a band could not be had in the town for love or money. A meeting of the Company was accordingly held, and a committee, of which Mr. R. C. Elliott was chairman, was sent to Chicago, and returned with a contract for the famed Western Light Guard Band, perhaps the best-toned band in the United States, to accompany the Vigilant to Philadelphia and return. The band comprises some twenty pieces.

The Good Will Fire Company of Trenton will also be with us. This organization will number ninety men, equipped with red coats and shirts, and will have with them a steam fire engine that will compare with any machine in the line.

CRICKET—ASHLAND VS. OLYMPIAN.—On Saturday afternoon, the return between the above-named clubs was played, Ashland again smiled on the Ashland, they beating the Olympian by nine runs. The game throughout was finely contested. The small scores obtained may be attributed to the excellent fielding of both clubs. The bowling was first-class, and had the grounds been in better order, more certainly of pitch, could have been obtained, and enabled the batsmen to calculate with better judgment.

OLYMPIAN.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| W. Castle, b Wright | 3 | 1 b w, b Wright | 0 |
| Furniss, c Wright | 0 | c Cunnington, b Wright | 0 |
| Furniss, b Myers | 0 | c Haughton, b Myers | 0 |
| S. Castle, b Myers | 9 | b Wright | 7 |
| Ashton, run out | 0 | b Wright | 1 |
| Lowry, b Wright | 0 | b Wright | 1 |
| Diehl, run out | 0 | c Griffith, b Wright | 3 |
| H. N. Graffen, 1 b w, b Wright | 2 | b Myers | 2 |
| Cunnington, c Stitz, b Wright | 0 | c Paul, b Wright | 3 |
| Rodgers, run out | 0 | c Wright, b Myers | 0 |
| Jenkins, b Wright | 0 | not out | 0 |
| Byes | 9 | | 11 |
| Leg Byes | 1 | | 1 |
| Wides | 4 | | 3 |
| | 34 | | 36 |
| Total | | | 70 |

ASHLAND.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lukens, b S. Castle | 0 | b Furness | 6 |
| Warthman, b Cunningham | 7 | c Furness, b S. Castle | 0 |
| Cook, b Cunningham | 1 | run out | 4 |
| Stitz, c Cunningham, b S. Castle | 0 | b Cunningham | 1 |
| Griffith, b Cunningham | 7 | c Diehl, b Cunningham | 5 |
| Myers, c Graffen, b S. Castle | 0 | c Graffen, b Cunningham | 3 |
| Wallis, c Furness, b Castle | 2 | b Cunningham | 3 |
| Deemer, not out | 1 | b Furness | 0 |
| Houghton, c Loud, b Cunningham | 4 | not out | 2 |
| Paul, b Cunningham | 2 | run out | 0 |
| Byes | 2 | | 9 |
| Leg byes | 1 | | 5 |
| Wides | 4 | | 12 |
| No balls | 1 | | 2 |
| | 33 | | 46 |
| Total | | | 79 |

Umpires, Messrs. H. Graffen and A. Stiegel; scorers, Messrs. A. McCambridge and S. Watson.

SERIOUS FIFE—ST. GEORGE'S M. E. CHURCH BADLY DAMAGED.—About nine o'clock on Saturday morning the roof of St. George's M. E. Church, on Fourth street, near New, was discovered to be on fire. The roof was old and dry, and burned furiously, emitting dense volumes of black smoke. A number of steamers were promptly on the ground, but the flames being mostly between the ceiling and the roof could not be easily reached. It was entirely destroyed, the only thing remaining being a few charred beams. It is supposed to have taken fire from a spark from a neighboring chimney.

The church was quite old, having been built in 1763. It was first occupied by the Methodist Church in 1770. During the Revolution it was taken possession of by the British, who converted it into a hospital, and later, into a cavalry barrack. In 1857 it was thoroughly renovated, and received its present form. It was insured in the Fire Association for nine thousand dollars, which, it is believed, will be amply sufficient to repair all damages.

The premises adjoining on the south side, occupied by Adam Keller & Son, undertakers, were much damaged by water. The stock as well, also, the roofs of the houses Nos. 223 and 225, occupied by J. Schnaitman, optician, and N. Kalck, carver.

Until the church can be repaired, the congregation have been invited to worship at the M. E. Church on Fourth street, below Arch, of which Rev. G. D. Carrow is pastor.

THE LINCOLN MONUMENT FUND.—The following sums have been received by James L. Claghorn, treasurer of the Lincoln Monument Association:

Proceeds of an entertainment given by the Germania Musical Society, $19 50
Proceeds of a fair held in Roxborough, by four little girls, viz: Martha Deaven, Mary Kent, Mary Schofield, and Sallie Shinn, 15 00
Schuylkill Council, No. 56, O. U. A. M., per George W. Jenkins, 10 00
Logan's Valley Baptist Church, Blair county, Pa., per Rev. A. F. Shanafelt, 23 00
Elizabeth H. Skinner, 5 00
Flora Helen, and Carrie Lee Hall, 3 50
Proceeds of a fair held at Roxborough by Sallie J. Doctermann, 5 00
M. Leg, per Lieut. J. C. D., $5, through Soldier's Reading Room, 15 00
Total, $92 00

ANOTHER VICTIM TO REBEL CRUELTY.—Captain Washington Airey, aged 22 years died on Saturday evening, from disease contracted during fourteen months of rebel imprisonment. He enlisted in the Anderson Cavalry at the time of its organization in Philadelphia. He meritoriously served the positions of captain. At Dandridge, in East Tennessee, he led a charge against a rebel cavalry horde; his horse was shot, and he was taken prisoner. The American charge was unsuccessful. For one year and two months he suffered, with thousands of others, in the rebel pest pens, and became inoculated with a disease that finally resulted in his death, on Saturday evening, the third anniversary of the day he enlisted. Thus has another brave young man sealed with his blood his devotion to his country.

POLITICAL.—The delegate elections of the Democratic party will be held this evening in all the wards of the city. The Unionists will appoint their judges and inspectors to-morrow evening, to conduct the election of delegates to take place next week. The political cauldron will of course soon commence to boil. In the Democratic ranks there does not seem to be such a *furore* for the nominations as was the case when that organization was conducted in accordance with the principles of Democracy. The contest for delegates among the Unionists is lively in all sections of the city.

SLIGHT FIRES.—On Sunday morning, a slight fire occurred in a shoe store in Christian street, below Ninth. Damage to the amount of $200 was incurred before the flames were subdued.

Another fire occurred at No. 808 Race street, which was extinguished before serious damage was done.

The roof of the dwelling, No. 130 Union street, was slightly damaged by fire, on Sunday afternoon.

INSANE MAN DROWNED.—Between ten and eleven o'clock, on Sunday morning, Martin Gillen, a patient in the insane department of the Almshouse, was accidentally drowned in the reservoir which supplies that institution with water. He was a native of Ireland, and has been an inmate of the institution for over nine years. An inquest was held by the Coroner.

RUN OVER.—Wm. Patton, seventy-four years of age, was knocked down and run over, yesterday, by the Decatur Engine, of Frankford, on Sixth street, above Susquehanna avenue. On being taken up it was found that he had sustained a fracture of the arm. He was taken to the Episcopal Hospital.

MAN STABBED.—About four o'clock on Sunday morning, a difficulty occurred on Murray street, near Twenty-first street, in the course of which a man named James McAvoy was seriously stabbed in the breast and groin. He was conveyed to the Hospital.

OUT-DOOR TEMPERANCE MEETING.—Under the auspices of the Hierophant Division of the Sons of Temperance, an out-door temperance meeting was held yesterday afternoon in the market place at Girard avenue and Frankford road. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Coleman and Coates. The meeting was pretty largely and orderly. Intemperance seems to be on the increase. It is a pity that so many young men are making themselves swift candidates to poverty, wretchedness and ruin. They are blasting their prospects by inordinate drinking of spirituous liquors. The system of treating each other, as it is called, is most pernicious, and ought to be stopped. The plan adopted by the Germans in their native land, might be emulated in this country with beneficial effect to posterity, as well as those who are at present acting their part on the stage of existence. The system of treating is not popular in Germany. The inordinate use of liquor bites like a serpent and stingeth like an adder. A man is as much of a fool to get drunk as he who would thrust his hand into the fire, because the weather may be cold.

The liquor to be had every day is very much adulterated, some of it poisonous. It eats holes in the liver; incapacitates the drinkers from self enjoyment; sets them crazy, forces them to beat their wives; turn their children out of doors; finally commit murder, and end their own lives by suicide or on the gallows. The warning voice from the scaffold in the prison yard, "beware of strong drink," seems to be powerless. Drunkenness is considered, is a disease. This assertion has been made time and again by educated men. Such an opinion is absolute nonsense. There is no disease about drunkenness. It is a serious evil habit that people get into because they like the taste of liquor; and they must be poor, weak-minded creatures indeed, who cannot summon sufficient moral courage to overcome it. There seems to be entirely too much latitude given in the way of licensing people to sell liquor. We counted no less than "eight whisky mills" in full blast, within the scope of only seventeen houses. In some squares there are a dozen of such places, where the bottles of liquid poison are emptied day and night to the youth of both sex; and this, too, on that great thoroughfare in Chestnut street. There is much work to do. The Hierophant Division has set an example that ought to be followed by others. If the members of that Order should turn their attention to the erection of a House of Correction, to be governed by stringent laws, a salutary reform would soon be apparent. That would be a capital place for those "poor erring" brethren and sisters, who have the "rum disease."

FELL DEAD.—About eight o'clock on Sunday morning a man fell dead at Second and Laurel streets. The body was conveyed to the Seventeenth-ward station-house, where it was subsequently identified as that of Jas. Clarke. The remains were afterwards taken to the residence of William K. Morton, No. 1138 Crease street.

FIRE IN WEST PHILADELPHIA.—About seven o'clock, last evening, a fire broke out in the basement of the West Philadelphia Passenger Railway Company. The flames were very stubborn, but, the building being fireproof, they were prevented from spreading. The horses and cars are all safe. It is not exactly known how the fire originated.

SUPPOSED TO BE STOLEN.—An owner is wanted for two boxes, at the Ninth-ward station-house, which are supposed to have been stolen. One is marked "Joseph Pyle, West Grove, Chester county," and the other "Wm. Johnson, Lancaster, Pa.," and contains inoculators. The contents of the former are unknown.

GUNNING ACCIDENT.—John Catline, while gunning in the lower part of the city yesterday, was seriously injured by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of a companion, the charge taking effect in his head and eyes. He was taken to the Hospital.

ANOTHER STABBING CASE.—Yesterday afternoon a man named John Gill, residing at No. 852 Swanson street, but who belongs to the United States Navy, was stabbed in the stomach with a penknife by another sailor. The injuries are deemed serious.

HAYSTACK BURNED.—A short time before noon, yesterday, a stack of hay belonging to Wm. A. Nester, on the Germantown road, above the Kensington Basin, was destroyed by fire.

FOUND DEAD.—The body of an unknown female was found yesterday afternoon, in the lower part of the city. The body was taken to No. 611 South Front street, and the Coroner was notified.

COLLISION ON THE DELAWARE.—Last evening the steam ferry-boat Mary run down a small boat containing two men, and it was thought both were drowned. The boat attempted to cross the bow of the steamer.

## THE POLICE.

[Before Mr. Alderman Beitler.]

ALLEGED STUPENDOUS SWINDLE.

Hishell Michael, a tailor, was charged with having made away with a large amount of goods, the property of his employer. Prior to his plan of operations was to represent himself to be engaged in the tailoring business, and to have proposals for clothing made up into clothing. This he would sell or pawn, and pocket the proceeds. A watch was set upon the matter constructed to Detective Callinan, who went to New York and recovered the entire lot of stolen goods. It appears that Michael is an accomplice of a fellow named who was committed a short time since for a similar offence, and that the pair of worthies had been preparing for years for a departure to New Orleans. It is not improbable that the contemplated trip will be postponed. A hearing will be had in the case to-day, to which time the accused was held in $5,000 bail. Among the sufferers by the operations of this *chevalier d'industrie* are the firms of Nunes, Stern & Bro., Siegfried, Schloss & Bro., and Newberger & Hockstadter. All other parties who have let goods to H. Michael, Esq., will do well to look up, and have not received the same, are requested to be present at the hearing this afternoon.

ANOTHER BOUNTY MONEY SWINDLE.—John Bonsall, a shoemaker, living in the upper part of the city, had a hearing on an information made by Henry M. Whales. The latter, who is an English sailor, belonging to the navy, says that when he enlisted about a year ago, he left his bounty money, amounting to $350, with Mr. Bonsall, who was then in business. When he returned he went and demanded his money. Martin could not give it to him, but said that he would give it to him as fast as he could.

Martin, in reply, said that more than a year ago Whales came to his house, destitute and hungry, with no place to go to. He took him into his house and kept him for some time. Then Whales wanted to go into the navy, and he went to ship for him, borrowed the money and told him to use it until he came back, when he would go into business with him. In reply to questions propounded by the alderman, Whales said that he came from England in June, 1862, and enlisted a few days after his arrival. He was honorably discharged. This discharge he lost. About three weeks after his discharge he enlisted again, and was again honorably discharged in July, 1865, having served over two years.

This suit had been brought by him at the instigation of a Mrs. Bayne, with whom he was at present boarding. Martin had asked him to come and board free at his house, until the money could be paid, but he refused. When the allegation of Whales was called to the discrepancy of ten months in his story, but either could not or would not explain what he had taken place during that period. He reiterated his previous account of the matter, the case was held over until Saturday afternoon next.

LARCENY OF A CHECK.—Lewis Allman, a darkey, was arrested by Detective Lamborn, on a charge of the theft of a check on the U. S. Treasury, for $186, in favor of Peter Hallowman. The latter, who belongs to the Mississippi Marines, had been discharged from the navy, received the check as payment for his services. After leaving the Navy Yard, he met the accused, whom he knew as Allman, who volunteered to take him to a boarding-house, No. 620 Pine street. Allman saw that he had the check, and in the evening asked him to take a walk. Hollowman consented, and while they were out, Allman asked to see the check. Hollowman placed it in his hands, when the former went into a saloon, pretended to light a cigar, therefor, placed a roll of paper in the hands of Hollowman, saying that was for the check, and then went off. The latter was so much astonished, and immediately secured the services of an officer, and Allman was arrested. At first he denied all knowledge of the check, but after procured it from his brother, to whom he had given it. He wanted to treat the matter as a joke, but the alderman did not see it, and ordered him to find bail in $800 to answer at court.

HEAVY ROBBERY OF A SILK STORE.—The sewing silk store of Mr. F. S. Hovey, 231 Chestnut street, was robbed on Saturday morning early of silk variously estimated at from $6,000 to $20,000. The robbers had a horse and wagon standing on Market street, as seen by a private watchman of a number of stores. This watchman also saw a man on the sidesteps of the rear door of the store of Messrs. Whitaker & Shantz, at the corner of Bank and Chestnut streets. He thought he was drunk. The horse and wagon remained on Market street for a considerable length of time. It seems, upon examining the premises, that an entrance was effected through the rear window of Messrs. W. & S.'s store by means of false keys. The robbers reached the roof, from which they lowered themselves to the adjoining roof, a distance of eight or ten feet. They forced the trap-door of the house No. 231, and, descending to the second story, helped themselves to a large quantity of sewing silk and twist. They must have made their exit by the same way they entered; then carrying the goods to Market street, put them into the wagon, and drove away! This is certainly one of the most daring robberies that has taken place for some time. There are several private watchmen and public officers always on duty here, or ought to be, in the night-time. The robbers are evidently old hands at the business.

[Before Mr. Alderman Mink.]

ARREST OF A DESERTER.—Dennis McLaughlin, a member of the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry, who had arrived at home on Thursday night, went to a tavern and got drunk. His brother Patrick proceeded to the tavern, and warned the proprietor not to give his brother any more liquor. The brother thought this an unwarrantable interference, drew his sword, and struck Patrick a tremendous blow with it, gashing him severely on the head. Dennis was arrested, and committed to await the result of the injuries he had inflicted on his brother.

[Before Mr. Alderman Butler.]

ALLEGED POCKET-PICKING.—A man, giving the name of Michael Burke, was arraigned on Saturday morning on the charge of picking the pocket of a Jerseyman, on Friday night, on Second street. The money alleged to have been stolen was found in the sleeve of the prisoner. The accused was committed.

[Before Mr. Alderman Hutchinson.]

OUTRAGE AT FAIRMOUNT.—Edward Nixon and John Corron were arraigned, on Saturday, on the charge of assault and battery with intent to kill, and with carrying concealed deadly weapons. The evidence developed the facts that on Friday evening, between nine and ten o'clock, a young man named Martin was walking with his sister, and two other young ladies, at Fairmount. It is alleged that one of the prisoners put his hand over the mouth of one of the young ladies, and tried to throw her down. Martin struck the fellow, and knocked him down. The latter pulled out a pistol and attempted to shoot the former, but the cap snapped. The police were called, and the two assailants ran into one of the wheel-houses, in order to escape, but they were ferreted out by Officers Hornkeith and Orr. They were bound over in the sum of $1,000 to