

## Wilkes-Barre.

[The Tribune has opened a branch office at No. 28, Lanning building, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre. It is the purpose of the publishers to issue a newspaper as valuable to the general public as the metropolitan dailies, and deliver it to the people throughout northeastern Pennsylvania from three to five hours earlier than the Philadelphia and New York papers can reach them.]

### GEORGE METZGER'S HEARING

Given Another by Aldermen Thomas and Bowman, Charged with the Murder of the Arab.

Yesterday afternoon George Metzger, the young accomplice of William Penn Bowman, charged with the murder of the Arab peddler at Red bridge, was given a hearing before Aldermen Thomas, of the Ninth ward.

Metzger was brought down from the jail in a closed cab by High Constable Charles Bauer and Officer Evans on the warrant which Mr. Bauer swore out for him on Oct. 27, 1894. The squire read the warrant and asked Metzger what he had to say.

"Not guilty," replied the prisoner in a loud, clear voice.

Constable Bauer was sworn and said Metzger was a statement that he and Officer Evans at Mauch Chunk when he was arrested, in which he admitted planning the shooting with Bowman and later killed the Arab.

Metzger retorted: "I have nothing to say just now; my attorney is out of town and I won't talk about the case." Then looking at the reporters who were writing, Metzger added: "Say, if there is anything said in the paper about me, I want nothing but the truth."

He was assured by the newspaper men that they would treat him fairly. One of them asked if he did not feel better than when he was first arrested, and he replied that he did feel a great deal better, but was still troubled with a bad ear, on which the physician's skill had not made any impression.

Metzger again asked the reporters to treat him fairly, and said: "I would like to see a telegram about me, and if I could get that reporter I would like him." "You wouldn't shoot him, would you?" said the alderman, to which Metzger replied: "No, but I would like to use my fists on him to get even."

"Leslie is a scrapper himself," said the squire, "and he might be too much for you."

"Oh, I ain't afraid of that," said Metzger. "I've been in a couple of fights myself."

This raised a laugh, and Constable Bauer asked Metzger when he was in town last before running away. Metzger said: "I was here on Aug. 19. I was on the corner of Northampton and Washington streets that evening and wandered over to the square at 6 o'clock next morning and saw a policeman. I was very sick then, almost unconscious, was just getting over the typhoid fever. When I saw the officer I became scared and went away. I then went to Mauch Chunk to see a cousin of mine, Jim Munno, and there I was caught. I was out west as far as Denver, Colo."

"How did you leave here the first time?" asked Constable Bauer.

"Well, I started out a few days after the shooting and then I became scared and jumped on the Lehigh Valley cannon ball freight and went to Mauch Chunk. I did not have any money until I reached Trenton, where I met some gamblers at the fair there. When I came back to Mauch Chunk I saw Engineer Dumaw, of the Valley road, and I guess he recognized me."

Metzger was then taken back to jail and held for court without bail. He is rounding into good physical shape rapidly and his eyes, which were almost blind, although from his conversation it is evident that his mind has not yet recovered its full strength. He took a great interest in the proceedings, and had been asked would doubtless have told all he knows about the murder.

### THE COMPANY'S SIDE.

What They Say About the South Washington Street Switch.

The answer of the Traction company to the bill in equity recently filed by Dr. Weaver and James Campbell was given into the care of the prothonotary yesterday. The bill, which was remembered, was about a switch which the Traction company laid one dark night, in front of the properties of James Campbell and Dr. Weaver, on South Washington street. The answer of the company is as follows:

That they had a right to construct a switch or turnout; that the space left between car and curb is quite sufficient for ordinary public travel; there was no hindrance to travel nor danger to life, and no damage to Weaver's or Campbell's property; that there is a necessity for the switch in order that cars going in different directions may pass.

They further say that their right to construct and operate the switch is derived from a contract with the Commonwealth Railroad company, and that the municipality of Wilkes-Barre required by said charter and the necessity of each switch or turnout.

The Traction company asks to have the bill dismissed with their costs in this behalf wrongfully sustained. H. A. Fuller appears as attorney for Traction company.

### FIXING THE COURT HOUSE.

Work the Commissioners Have Had Done During the Vacation.

The county commissioners have been busy during the summer vacation cleaning up the court house. Court room No. 1 has been cleaned from top to bottom, and new window shades have been put on. In addition to this, the woodwork of the bar and court has been repainted, and a handsome Brussels carpet adds greatly to the appearance of the room. A Wilton carpet has been laid on the judge's elevation, and everything about the room has been cleaned in as thorough a manner as possible, and made to look like new.

The waiting room for the juries has also been retitled. The gloomy, dark paper has been removed, and the walls repainted and the woodwork re-stained.

The greatest change has been made in the jury room, where the jury has been seated. Heretofore the room has been decidedly uninviting, the floors being uncarpeted, the beds and rusty and the mattresses dirty and evil-smelling. Now the floor has been car-

peted and the beds repainted. New mattresses have been provided, and new bed clothing now takes the place of the old. The sleeping rooms now for the first time within the memory of the oldest inhabitant look quite tempting, and wherever the commissioners have touched there are evidences of newness and refreshing cleanliness.

### ENLARGING THE JAIL.

The Scheme to Render the Prisoners More Comfortable.

The county jail is badly overcrowded and ever since the beginning of his term of office, the commissioners have been endeavoring to do something to render the prisoners more comfortable. A few days ago 172 men were confined in the jail, and as only three have been discharged since, there are still 169 in jail; and the healthy capacity of the prison is only 102. For a year past it has been apparent that something must be done to accommodate the enormous crowd of criminals and the county commissioners have taken the matter in hand. Several schemes have been proposed, but as yet none have been adopted. The most recent one is the extension of the wing, commencing at the boiler house, into the side of the hill at the rear, and the other is the entire removal of the hill, the former is adopted. It will be detrimental to the health of prisoners. The cells will have the appearance and every condition of those on the basement floors, and will be damp, gloomy and unhealthy. But if the entire hill is taken away an addition of any desired size can be erected and still be a healthy place. The hill is composed of solid rock, which could be used to good advantage on the streets or on the river bank. Whatever changes are to be made must be made at once.

### RAILWAY MEN'S MEETING.

Annual Meeting of Their Association to Be Held Next Week.

Next week the Pennsylvania Street Railway association will hold its annual meeting at the Wilkes-Barre, and a couple of hundred delegates will be present from all over the state. They will begin to arrive on Monday, but the majority of them will arrive on Wednesday, last of Thursday. General Manager John Graham, of the Traction company, has the matter in charge and has all the preliminaries well arranged for the accommodation and reception of the distinguished visitors. He has engaged the Ninth Regiment band for a concert at Hanover Park Wednesday evening which will be free to everybody.

On Thursday the general reception and banquet will be held at Hanover park, to which only those will be admitted who have been invited. The gathering will be one of representative business men, prominent in street railway management throughout the state. A number of practical tests of fenders and other improvements in the street railway line will be given.

### No Bonds Sold.

Quite a large crowd assembled at the auctioneer's office a few days yesterday morning at the sale of Kingston school bonds. At the recent election the people voted to issue \$18,000 of bonds to meet the expenses of a new school building. The matter was made legal by a resolution of the school board to take effect. In transcribing the record in the clerk of the court's office an error was made by use of the word "inclusive" by which it appeared that the total issue might be construed as \$19,000. In order to correct this record an error was made by use of the word "exclusive" by which it appeared that the total issue might be construed as \$18,000. In order to correct this record an error was made by use of the word "exclusive" by which it appeared that the total issue might be construed as \$18,000.

### Frank Pettibone's Funeral.

The funeral of Frank Pettibone took place from his late residence at Dorchester at 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Revs. H. H. Welles and W. F. Gibbons, of Forty Fort, and J. C. LaBar, of Wyoming, officiating. The Methodist Episcopal church choir of Forty Fort led the singing. The pallbearers were: Revs. H. H. Welles, Alexander Nical, Edward Bierman, I. A. Bennett, Ralph Shaver and Willard Keeler, all of Kingston. There were a number of very handsome floral tributes. Interment was made in Forty Fort cemetery.

### Narrow Escape.

Yesterday morning about 8:30 o'clock, while passenger train No. 5, of the Delaware and Hudson railroad, going north, was slowing up at Parsons, the engine hit a horse and wagon driven by Jacob Remy's son, the Five Point. The wagon was smashed into a thousand pieces and the horse slightly skinned, but the boy who was driving escaped unhurt. The young fellow said he thought the train would stop before it got to the crossing, which is only twenty feet north of the depot. The train whistled and the debris was removed and found that the boy was not injured.

### Bitten by a Dog.

Yesterday morning a boy named John was bitten by a dog, and this time the unfortunate was John Jeremy, who was tackled by the brute as he entered the house of Russell Brown, 248 Northampton street. The mail carrier when he entered the yard, paid no attention to the dog, which was lying by the fence. After he had passed the dog sprang at him, biting him in the right leg and ruining his trousers. The wound was cauterized and Jeremy will be all right in a few days.

### A Bill in Equity.

A bill in equity between Charles Baab and John T. Hauer was filed yesterday. The claim is that some years ago Baab sold a lot to Hauer on Barby street in Wilkes-Barre and by the wording of the deed the idea was conveyed the coal and surface was sold. Hauer carried on the coal business and sold coal. It was not intended that the coal should be sold, and the bill is to recover possession.

### Killed on the Road.

About 10 o'clock yesterday forenoon engine No. 602 of the Lehigh Valley railroad struck and instantly killed a Hungarian laborer named George. He was on one of the Coxton coal pockets. The remains were taken to the dead man's boarding house by Foreman Peterboro and deputy Coroner Perkins and was notified.

### A Huge Cable.

The largest cable in the world will be shipped from the Hazard Wire Works today to the Metropolitan Traction company of New York, which company has already taken five big cables from the Hazard works. The cable to be loaded today is 37,800 feet in length, or about seven and one-half miles.

### BRIEF NOTES.

John Mellet, a young company hand in the Dorchester colliery, was badly squeezed yesterday between a car and a rib in the mine.

A well-attended concert was given in St. Leon's church last evening for the benefit of the church choir.

Rev. Dr. Joseph has returned from his vacation and will conduct services at the Temple this morning.

Judge G. M. Harding this week received 1,000 yellow bass from the state fish commissioner and stocked Bear Lake with them.

Arthur Cohen has resigned as leader of the Music Hall orchestra and has been succeeded by William P. Rieg, who led the orchestra there last year.

Jacob Mann, who caused the arrest of Yank Tighe and Jim Reynolds in this city a few days ago, says the Ma-

ston Standard, is well known in that section as a gambler. It is true that the man from the peanut town had better drop the case.

A handsome new four-story brick building will shortly be completed on North Main street by J. I. Ribble and Frank Henniges. It has a frontage of fifty-two feet and a depth of 114 feet. Henry T. Leach and John Henniges. Goughly were married at Plymouth last Thursday evening by Rev. O. L. Severance.

One prisoner was before the mayor yesterday and was discharged with a reprimand. He was asleep in the street and on being awakened refused to give his name or address.

Members of the Wilkes-Barre wheelmen will make their first run to Berwick and Danville tomorrow. It is not a club run and anyone who wishes can go. No scoring will be done and the whole day will be taken for the run.

Miss Stella Leach and Albert H. W. were married at a home in the bride on Jackson street, last Thursday morning.

City Clerk Dietrich spent part of yesterday in this city, having come over from Harvey's Lake.

The Sheldon Axle works will, after today, work ten hours a day instead of fourteen, as heretofore.

When the George Jones case begins to run today a 20-minute service will be given the residents of the hill.

William H. Thompson, a constable of Glen Lyon, has been held by Aldermen Ford under \$500 bail for court, on a charge of stealing \$400 from the bureau of a man upon whom he made a levy.

Superintendent Morgan, No. 2, at Nanticoke, has laid off several employees for three days because they went to a picnic without informing their bosses, thus making the mine short-handed.

The Hanover Park theater will close for the season with tonight's performance.

### PITTSBURGH.

[The Pittston office of the Scranton Tribune has been opened by H. W. Cruser, agent, at No. 5 Williams street, where contribution of news complaints and every other for job work of all descriptions, should be addressed and regular subscription rates cheerfully submitted.]

Before many weeks more roll by the electric cars will be running through Broad street. The road is completed as far as Scotch Hill, and it will only take a few weeks to bring it down to Main street, and the road crossing the railroad will be completed by the end of the month. This will no doubt bring more business to Pittston, beside being a great convenience. At a late meeting of the board of directors of the Lehigh Valley Construction company, of Easton, was awarded the contract. Last Sunday the work of driving the piles at the railroad crossing was begun. The track is running through the week days made this necessary. The crossing in Moosic will probably be in place in about two weeks, and the road completed and in running order by Oct. 1. The Smithville, a fine new bridge 1,200 feet long and 21 feet high will be erected. 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