PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

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PITTSBURGH.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1851.

County Convention.

☞ The Whigs and Antimasons of Allegheny County will meet on Saturday, the 31st of May, prox., at the usual places of holding primary meetings in the Townships respectively at 3 o'clock, P. M., and in the several Wards and Boroughs at 7 o'clock, P. M., to select two delegates from each election District, to a County Convention, to be held at the Court House, on Wednesday, the 4th of June next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to make the County nominations preparatory to the next General Election, and also to appoint delegates to the State Convention, to meet at Lancaster, on the 24th of June.

JOSIAH KING,
Ch'n of Committe.

WM. C. FRIEND, Sec'y.
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To the Whigs of Pennsylvania.

☞ A STATE CONVENTION will be held in the City of Lancaster, on TUESDAY, June 24th, 1851, for the purpose of selecting candidates for the offices of Governor and Canal Commissioner, and also for a Judge of the Supreme Court.

HENRY M. FULLER, Chairman.

Joseph B. Flanegin,	Samuel McIlvaney,
G. Alex Norton,	C. Thomson Jones,
Wm. H. Slingluff,	Samuel B. Thomas,
Samuel Bell,	John S. Brown,
Nathaniel Ellmaker,	T. Taylor Worth,
Wm. J. Robinson,	Alexander E. Brown,
Worden P. Preston,	Wm. Baker,
Thomas E. Cochran,	Wm. M. Watts,
Henry Johnson,	James Clark,
Charles B. Bordman,	Sherman D. Phelps,
George Cress,	Edwin B. Wilson,
D. A. Finney,	John Allison,
J. O. Loomis,	Daniel McCurdy,
John Bausman,	George Meason,
Wm. Evans,	Alex'r M. McClure,
John C. Neville,	Francis Jordan.

B. RUNDLE SMITH, Secretary.

First page—Conclusion of "Scenes from an unknown World," an original communication from Mr. J. C. Schaad. Prof. Pages Electro Magnetic Locomotive, and Miscellaneous articles; Commercial News, &c.

Fourth page—Interesting Miscellany.

Third page—Home Matters, Telegraphic News, &c.

OHIO AND PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.—Messrs. Bailey, Hayden & Co., contractors for laying the track from Pittsburgh to Massillon, having laid down the timber for a considerable distance, laid the first Railroad Iron, on Thursday, the first of May, at Hays' tavern, ten miles below Pittsburgh. The work was done in the presence of the Chief Engineer, and a car was immediately placed upon the track, for the transportation of materials. The Contractors have brought on a large force of experienced workmen from New England, and work will now proceed rapidly. Only twelve months have elapsed since the grading and bridging were begun, between Pittsburgh and Beaver; and the work was retarded for several months, by the necessity of re-constructing the public road; so that the progress which has been made in a short time is the best evidence of the energy with which the work has been conducted.

MORE OF THE JENNY LIND MOB.—Our exchanges at a distance, continue to give us *news* concerning the mobbing of Jenny Lind. The New York Express says:

Jenny Lind, we see, has arrived at Baltimore. A telegraphic despatch, published yesterday, mentioned a villanous attack that had been made upon her carriage by a number of villains, in the streets of Pittsburgh. We are at a loss to conceive what possibly could have been the occasion of so disgraceful a proceeding. It is barbarous enough to stone any woman in the streets, but who but a miscreant young or old—should have raised a hand to insult or assault Jenny Lind? We are glad to see that the municipal authorities of Pittsburgh are determined to bring the scoundrels to the punishment they so richly merit.

The *Courrier des Etats Unis* gives an additional item of news, and grows still more eloquent. It exclaims that nothing was wanting to the glory of Jenny Lind's triumphant tour through the United States, until she encountered the *gamins de Pittsburgh*, who threw stones at the carriage of the benevolent songstress, and even carried their want of decency so far as to throw stones at her *bed chamber windows*." We might continue such quotations, but they multiply so fast that we yield in despair. Our contemporaries will oblige us by stating, that Jenny Lind's carriage was surrounded by a mass of worshippers, who would have gladly kissed the hem of her garment. The horses became frightened, and Mlle. Lind thought it advisable to descend. So much for the carriage story. The *Courrier's* account of the storming of the bed chamber, has no foundation at all, save in the imagination of some reckless manufacturer of "interesting items."

"THE FLAG OF THE PALMETTO."—A Charleston correspondent of the New York Herald writing on the subject of secession says:

Nor is it absolutely certain that South Carolina will even wait to form a coalition upon a new basis, with the Cotton States—popular opinion appears to be almost unanimous for separate State action, and that policy is just as likely, and perhaps more likely than any thing else.

Governor Means is now engaged in a tour of inspection of the military of the State—passing from district to district, and reviewing the volunteer companies, battalions, and regiments enrolled for the defence of the flag of the Palmetto against the "star spangled banner" of the Union should the pending issue come to a collision.

There is something so ludicrous in the latter paragraph that we might pronounce the correspondence the work of some boaxing wag, if the columns of Southern newspapers did not afford confirmations of this and other absurdities. We defy history to produce a greater farce than this tour of Governor Means. If the warlike Executive would consult "the sporting gentlemen" of England, (the best judges in the world of the chances of a fight,) they might possibly decide that the odds would not be against him if the "flag of the Palmetto" should be hoisted in opposition to the "flag of Allegheny County, Penna." They are, however, very careful to ascertain whether a champion is affected with any disease, and we fear, when they would, discover that the chivalrous Commonwealth, notwithstanding its length of *wind*, is almost eaten up with that species of social scrofula called, "Peculiar Institutions," they would advise the Governor to keep out of the ring altogether, and adhere to the good old mode of warfare which requires wind, and nothing but wind.

Not the least prominent point in the farce is the Yankees struggling with each other who shall get the profitable job of manufacturing the weapons, which are intended to effect their own annihilation. According to the Woonsocket Patriot, Messrs. Waters, of Milbury, Mass., have obtained the contract for the "small arms," viz: six thousand muskets, three thousand rifles, and two thousand pistols. The Patriot adds:

The field artillery are to be made in South Carolina, and the authorities were very anxious that Messrs. Waters should manufacture the small arms there also; but this could not be, and get the arms completed within the time allotted by the contract. Messrs. Waters, however, have contracted to establish an armory in South Carolina, after the completion of this order.

We would, in all seriousness, call the attention of our Pittsburgh Founders to this subject. The cannon cast here for the United States Government, have been put to the usual tests, with the most satisfactory results. With the evidences of this fact, which are always at hand, our Founders might go to South Carolina, and obtain some large contracts, as the project of casting cannon at home, will in all probability be abandoned.

We received a few days ago, a despatch stating that the new Methodist Church, in Danville, had been struck by lightning. Our eastern exchanges furnish us with the particulars. While the congregation were at prayer, and immediately preceding the time appointed for the administration of the communion, the lightning struck the steeple, passed through the roof, and down the lamp rods, to near the centre of the Church and in the midst of the assembly, and thence shooting off in every direction. Mrs. George Pensyl, a highly respectable lady, was struck and instantly killed; fifteen others were more or less injured, but are expected to recover.

The occurrence caused the greatest excitement and alarm, and interrupted the services for the day. The shock was very severe, and many of the females were carried out of the Church fainting. The steeple was completely shattered, and will have to be removed. Several pews were torn loose, the floor boards torn up, and the doors shattered. The injury to the building was considerable. It was a very hadsome edifice, and had been but recently completed. The funeral of Mrs. Pensyl, took place on Wednesday.

Market Street Store for Rent.

FOR RENT.—The Store, 118 Market street, the second door from the corner of Market and Liberty streets. Possession given the 1st of April next. Inquire of DAVID OLIVER, 100 Penn st. m6ds

PROFESSOR MITCHEL AND THE "RAPPERS."

We published, some time ago, an account of an interview of Professor Mitchel, with the spirit of La Place, in which the spirit solved a very difficult mathematical problem. It was generally believed that Professor Mitchel of Cincinnati was the person alluded to, and the weight of his name was used to add strength to the Spirit Rapping imposture. A gentleman of this city, feeling interested in the distinguished astronomer's reputation, addressed him the following letter, enclosing the article to which we have alluded:

PITTSBURGH, April 24, 1851.

DEAR SIR—The enclosed article was published a few days ago in one of the newspapers of this city. It assumes the authority of your name, you will observe, in favor of the reality of the spiritual manifestations which have been so much talked and written about in different parts of the country, and recently, in this city also.

Be kind enough to state whether or not the facts mentioned in relation to your visit to Rochester—your interview with the spirit of La Place—and his demonstration of the problem in his "Mechanique Celeste" propounded by you, are true.

Respectfully and truly yours &c.

To this Prof. Mitchel replies as follows:

CINCINNATI, 29th April, 1850.

Dear Sir: Yours of the 24th inst., is just received. If there be any truth in the statement made by Joel Tiffany, Esq., with reference to an interview between Prof. Mitchel and the spirit of La Place, I am not the person meant by "Prof. Mitchel." I never visited either Rochester or Auburn for any purpose. I never on any occasion even so much as expressed a wish to have the opportunity for such an interview. I never witnessed the so called "rappings" but once, and that was in a private house in Bridgeport, Conn., when all the spirits declined to hold any intercourse with me, or with any one else in my presence. The statement therefore, (if I am the person meant by Prof. Mitchel) is without the slightest foundation in truth.

Very truly yours, &c.,
O. M. MITCHEL.

As this wonderful story has thus been chased out of an important stronghold, we hope some friend of the Rappers will tell us where the *Simon Pure* (not Simon Ladd) Professor Mitchel lives, whose powerful testimony has been so triumphantly brought forward.

INCENSE OR CRIME.—The New York Courier and Enquirer of the 28th inst., contains a leading article of great length, in which it is shown that while that city has reached a remarkable degree of physical prosperity, and is making rapid advances in every particular of material progress, it has been greatly retrograding in respect of social order and the morals of its population.—That paper says:

But, after all, our moral advance is far from being proportionate to our material progress; and, what is worse, it is absolutely certain that this disparity is every year growing greater.—The monarch of the plain is thickening its roots, and extending its branches with a vigor that astonishes, but the canker on the trunk is growing wider and deeper with a more than equal virulence. The crime of our city is yearly augmenting in a ratio out of all proportion to the increase of our population. In 1840, the number of commitments to our city prison was 18,042; in 1850, the number was 21,299; showing an increase in one year of 3,257, or more than one-sixth per cent., while it may safely be assumed that the population did not increase one-twentieth.

The Second Advent Convention which was in session for three or four days in New York, has adjourned *sine die* without coming to any very remarkable conclusions. They do not want to be called Millerites in consequence of the prejudices against that now defunct prophet, who originated the sect. Some of the brethren, however, openly avow themselves Millerites in name, as well as Millerites in doctrine, and say that the only mistake Miller made was in putting the time too close at hand. On the first day of the Convention, one of the prophets, a Mr. Reed, made a long speech upon the 2,300 days, and avowed that he was ready, with positive proofs, to convince the brethren that Christ would come before the 23d day of July next. It appears, from the proceedings of a subsequent meeting, that the members of the convention were not entirely satisfied with his proofs, and kicked at the idea of fixing another day, especially so soon, after so many prophecies of the same kind turning out to be "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare."—When the 23d day of July arrives, we shall see what we shall see.

THE RAILROAD CONSPIRATORS.—We are told that Dr. FITCH, the leader of the gang of depredators arrested in Michigan, is a man of considerable talents, easy, insinuating in address, and commenced his career of depravity and crime in consequence of a difficulty with the Railroad Company in crossing his premises with their track. He meditated vengeance, declared the cars never should run over his lands in safety and that he would blow them up even if he knew his own father and mother were in them! Step by step he organized the gang, and became deeper and deeper steeped in crime. The Detroit Tribune gives the following leaf in the history of the conspiracy. It shows a true of villainy of the darkest dye.

At one of the regular meetings, which they were in the habit of holding periodically at their place of rendezvous, for the purpose of consultation as to future movements, and the division of plunder, it was reported by some of the order of business, that one of their sworn number, whose name was stated, had been detected in revealing some of the secrets that should have been known only to the initiated. Suspicions of betrayal were freely indulged in, and to the question, as to how the guilty one should be punished, one of the conclave made the significant remark that "dead men tell no tales!" Acting upon this hint, it was unanimously agreed that the punishment should be death; and that the duty of carrying the penalty into effect should be let out to the lowest bidder for the job.

The first offer was named at $250 for *assassination*, and the bidding went on till the sum was lowered to $100—the bidder reserving the right to put the victim out of the way in his own place and manner, and the time allotted not to exceed four days. This offer was the price finally agreed upon, and the money was immediately counted out and paid over to the fiend who had agreed to sleep his hand in the murder. The individual complained of, and thus singled out as the victim of their vengeance, was one of the two who for eighteen months had been under pay of the Central Railroad Company for the purpose of detecting and bringing to justice this most abandoned gang of desperadoes.

Fearing that he had become suspected of treachery, he had disguised himself, and in the capacity of one of their more western accomplices, had presented himself by the proper passwords, and was present throughout this interesting conclave, where his life had become a prize! At the first opportunity, after these interesting preliminaries had been settled, our "marked man" withdrew from the infernal cabal, little relishing, as may be supposed, the warm position in which he found himself placed—making it the last time he ever met the precious gang in council, and being but a day or two before their official assembling to our city, under the guidance of the sheriff and his posses.

HOUSE OF REFUGE FOR WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.—A memorial from the citizens of Allegheny county was presented to the Legislature, (which passed that body,) to incorporate an Association for the establishment of a House of Refuge for Western Pennsylvania. The design is to "save the morals of the rising generation—to rescue heedless youth from the fate that awaits a career of vice and crime—to wean them from dissolute haunts and habits—to bring them over to the side of virtue—to transform them into worthy members of society, and to qualify them for the honorable discharge of their relative duties in after life."

Joshua Hanna, Esq., and Rev. A. W. Black, of Pittsburgh, have been appointed by the Board of Directors to bring the matter before the citizens of this and adjoining counties, and are now here for that purpose, and also for the purpose of receiving subscriptions to aid in carrying on this good work.

The Legislature appropriated, from the State Treasury, $20,000, to be paid when a like amount should be raised by voluntary subscription. Allegheny county has subscribed $25,000, which secures the State appropriation. The Common near the Penitentiary has been selected as the site for the building. We hope our citizens will subscribe liberally to this laudable enterprize. Each county subscribing will be entitled to appoint, by their County Commissioners, one Manager for every $2500 subscribed. Beaver county should have at least two Managers. If our citizens will take the matter in hand, and call a meeting, this week, Messrs. Hanna and Black will give all the necessary information.—*Beaver Argus.*

THE OYSTER LAWS OF DELAWARE.—The Legislature of Delaware last session passed an act or supplement to former acts, making it a fine of $20 for any persons, to catch and carry away at any one time, more than 20 bushels of oysters from any of the waters of the Delaware. The master of the sloop Victory was fined last week for a violation of this statute. He pleaded ignorance of the law, which, though said to be no excuse, yet it ought to be so where no pains are taken by the Legislature to have its laws published for public information.

The noted Miss MARTINEAU has at length landed in downright Atheism. From believing too much, she has finally evinced the most astonishing credulity by discarding a Divine Creator. Her new work, "Man's Nature and Development," it is said abounds with the grossest Atheistic sentiments, disgraceful to her as a woman, and demoralizing to the community. The work is the joint production of herself and Henry George Atkinson, F. R. S. The editor of the Boston Transcript, who has seen the English work, says that the pupil, Miss M., promises to out-do her master, and that in the work "Christianity is denounced as an old woman's tale, and a failure, with not so much truth in it as Mahommedanism. Christ is classed with 'the American boy Davis.'

"All theologies," says Mr. Atkinson, "will be found to be the offspring principally of abnormal conditions or disease." "Philosophy finds no God in nature; no personal being or creator, nor sees the want of any; nor has a God revealed himself miraculously; for the idea is in the mind of most savage nations, because under like influences like effects will occur." "The desire of a future existence is merely a pampered habit of the mind, founded upon the instinct of preservation. It is a longing, and those who have it are like drinkers or children. Philosophy has always been engaged in unteaching the world; and has still a mighty task to perform in this respect." "The carpenter's son, like the boy Davis, in America, astonishes men with his learning."

"Miss Martineau chimes in with all these sentiments; asking questions occasionally, and always apparently well content with the responses of the oracular Mr. Atkinson. In her enlightment, she exclaims with undisguised contempt for the vulgar, who are still groping in their superstition in regard to a Deity and a future state.—"To think what the God of this multitude is—morally as well as physically! To think what the God of the spiritualists!" "How far happier it is to see—how much wiser to admit—that we know nothing whatever about the matter! And, from the moment when we begin to discover the superstition of our childhood to be melting away,—to discover how absurd and shocking it is to be talking, every day about our sweet home and poured over him the anxious and prayerful prayers of the pious mothers, and the prayers of the pious mothers, and the prayers of the pious mothers, and the