

PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

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PITTSBURG H.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 26, 1851.

READING MATTER WILL BE FOUND
ON EACH PAGE OF THIS PAPER.

IMPORTANT DECISION.—The decision of the Supreme Court on the subject of the rights of the States and corporate cities in relation to the grades of streets, which was pronounced yesterday, is of the highest interest in the community, where the uneven nature of much of the city's grades, especially injurious to many citizens, has to be referred to the general welfare. It appears from such documents that they have the right to establish such grades as the wisdom of their councils shall decree, and that agreed parties have the right to do so. Whether this is strictly just or not, it is certainly very convenient, and our city corporations will not be slow to act upon it. We think it is just in the first instance of fixing a grade, but after the grade is established, and expensive buildings are erected to it, a reasonable compensation is due. This decision, we trust, will be a statutory provision can be made by the Legislature for future cases of injury growing out of changes of grade, and thus ought to be done. Such remedy should be found, however, to damage occasioned by a change of grade established by a city ordinance, because persons who purchase property before any grade is fixed upon, and pay a price accordingly. A grade once established gives a fixed value to property, and persons who purchase property, or build to it, afterwards, if the grade is changed, and they are injured thereby, have just claims for compensation on the principles of equity and justice. It so appears to us.

THE CALAMITY IN NEW YORK.

The New York papers continue to give full particulars of the sad disaster by which so many children lost their lives. In the Tribune there are several columns of details, a few items of which we append.

In a short hour yesterday, Capt. Lovett, Captain Slocum, Capt. Taff, and a number of their men repaired to the building and upon searching in, and around the bottom of the well house, they found a dead child, and a body containing a share of bonnets, hats, shoes, stockings, capes, bags, and other articles belonging to the dead and wounded children, all of whom had been buried in the ground at Jefferson Market, where some of the garments were recognized by heart-broken fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers, many of whom came to identify the bodies, and even the heap of bones torn from the unfortunate little ones, in extricating them from the well-hole, they were in a position to ascertain a惊人的 and affecting scene.

The Coroner's Jury called in a body at the residences of the families of the deceased children, near fifty in number. We give a few of the notices of these mournful visits.

The first place visited was No. 19, Clinton Street, where the body of Virginia Mayo, fifteen years old, lay. She had no marks of violence on her body, but seemed as if she was quite ready to die. The boy J. V. Wood, aged six, had a strong resemblance to his sister. The poor mother had only a short time previous lost one child, and now had another child to mourn.

The jury then proceeded to the house No. 20, Greenwich Avenue, where a more sorrowful sight met their eyes. Two little children, brother and sister, who had been taken up dead, were laid out in the parlour, and the girl, Debina, sixteen years old, lay beside them. The girl was a beautiful creature even in death, and had been one of the most promising pupils of her age in the school—the boy J. V. Wood, aged six, had a strong resemblance to his sister. The poor mother had only a short time previous lost one child, and now had another child to mourn.

Since the melancholy occurrence she has been almost distract.

Proceeding to No. 169, Eighth street, they found George Antonia Jacobs, aged six years, lying dead on the floor. They had been unable to find any trace of external injuries, and among them, those which had local jurisdiction and ministry. The question was brought to me in the case of Bishop Andrew of Georgia, whose duty it was to inquire into the death of a member of the church, and he became, as the Church in convention decided, a slaveholder after his election. He had two-thirds of the Methodist laity, though he had two-thirds of the Methodist laity.

This latter circumstance shows conclusively the cordial, liberal feeling of the Northern Methodists toward their brethren of the South.

Now I am inclined to think that this is the cause in this case, which led to the appearance of the youth as a social institution—which cannot be placed under the ban and denunciation of any religious denomination, extensively prevailing there without danger to the community. If it denounces, of course, no member of the church can be compelled to do so.

The arrival of the south and west, and the north.

It is true, for no mark of mirth or glee, or any expression of joy, was visible on the faces of the children, as they thought, to indicate their consciousness, as they lay in their beds, and the stars above them.

The parents were not yet finished in their grief, when the news reached them that their son had died in the opposite side of the street to No. 169, to find another body of Lucy G. Garfield, a child 5 years old. All the scenes of woe in this village were over.

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The jury indeed had a painful duty to perform, a duty of mourners that had been given to them, in an effort to comfort the bereaved, to know the facts, and to bring them to light.

Two days from this, in the rear, they visited another family who had been bereaved—the parents of Anna Maria Deaconess. She was deceased, and the Government of France is already in the market, with the good news of her death.

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