PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

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PITTSBURGH.

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PITTSBURGH WEEKLY GAZETTE.—The extensive circulation of our Weekly Gazette offers to our business men a most desirable medium of making their business known. Our circulation is between four and five thousand, reaching almost every village and county in Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio.

ADVERTISERS.—Neither the Editorial Rooms nor Printing Establishment of the Daily GAZETTE are opened on Sunday. ADVERTISERS who desire their notices to appear in the paper on Monday morning, will please hand them in before 5 o'clock on Saturday evening.

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

THE COMMISSIONERS AND THE SHERIFF.

A petition to the Legislature is in circulation, praying for a law to take the appointment of County Jailor from the Sheriff, and vest it in the Commissioners; also, to empower the Commissioners to furnish the daily allowance of food for all prisoners, said allowance not to cost more than eight cents a day for each prisoner; and further, to give the County Commissioners entire control and supervision of the Prison and buildings thereto attached, and to furnish all materials necessary to keep the prison in good order, &c.

This petition is based upon an alleged desire to decrease the taxes of the County.

So far as we have noted the expressions of public opinion on this petition, they have been uniformly against it; and we do not hesitate to add our disapproval of the changes which it contemplates.

The laws of Pennsylvania regard the Sheriff as the proper custodian of all prisoners. They are committed to his keeping, and he is responsible for their safe detention. He is, in fact, the Jailor of the County. The turnkey is merely a deputy, for whose acts the Sheriff alone is amenable. In all the counties of the Commonwealth, houses in connection with the Jail are furnished for the Sheriff to reside in, that he may be placed so contiguous to the Jail as to give his personal supervision to its entire management. And it is fit and proper that it should be so. The Sheriff's office necessarily includes the whole business of securing, keeping, feeding and providing for prisoners, and their production whenever called for by the proper authorities.

To take from the Sheriff the appointment of Jailor, the control of the Jail, the care of its inmates, and the whole supervision of prison affairs, would be to work a radical change in the policy heretofore pursued, and would be a departure, so far as this County is concerned, from the long established practice prevailing in Pennsylvania. If the legislature, in its wisdom, finds that the system is a bad one, let it be abandoned all over the State; but we can see no good reason for picking out Allegheny County as a single instance of variation from the common law of the State.

The change contemplated in the petition before us, would reduce the Sheriff's office to a mere instrumentality for the collection of debts. It would make it the Sheriff's office, with the part of Sheriff omitted. The whole structure of our laws would have to be altered. Prisoners would be committed, not to the custody of the Sheriff, but to the custody of the Jailor; the Courts would have to resort to the Jailor for the bringing in and taking out of prisoners; the Jailor would convey convicts to the Penitentiary, and the Jailor, we suppose, would also hang condemned criminals. It would be, in fact, creating a new office, with large responsibilities, and vesting the appointing power in a board of commissioners in which the accountability is divided up between three men. If the change is to be made, it would be more fit to give the appointing power to the people, than to a board with divided responsibilities.

It may be said that it is not designed to take from the Sheriff all responsibility in the care and management of prisoners; but merely to take from him a few perquisites of office and a little appointing power. If that be the case, the whole thing becomes still more objectionable. To hold the Sheriff to all his present responsibilities without the attaching perquisites, and thrust upon him a deputy in whose selection he can have no voice, would lead to constant collisions and angry feelings between the Sheriff and the Commissioners? No probable advantages of such an arrangement could justify the state of things that would be likely to result.

As to the allegation that it would save money to the county, and reduce the taxes, we are of opinion that the saving would be too trifling to lead to any such result. The saving cannot possibly be very large; and we class this, with many other schemes of nominal retrenchment, as belonging to the large category of "penny wise and pound foolish" schemes which so abound in this day and generation.

BISHOP O'CONNOR AND FREE SCHOOLS.

The pending controversy with regard to Washington College has afforded to Bishop O'Connor an opportunity of following in the footsteps of his exemplar, Archbishop Hughes, by making an attack upon our whole system of Free Schools. The only difference between the original attack lately made by Archbishop Hughes, and the imitation got up here, is that the Archbishop's attack is the most open and candid, and leaves us less in doubt as to the purposes contemplated by the Catholic Church.

Bishop O'Connor asserts that Catholics are *excluded* from our public schools. How excluded? By any law of the schools, expressly prohibiting their admission? No; the Bishop admits that the schools are open to them, if they choose to go: but, they are *virtually* excluded by the system of education pursued there.

We do not exactly understand whether the Bishop's objection is based upon what *is* taught in our schools, or upon what is *not* taught. In reading his article, it would sometimes seem that his objection is to the employment of the Bible in our system of education; but the great objection seems to be that *no religion at all* is taught. He denounces the system as irreligious and infidel in its tendency.

Archbishop Hughes, who leads in this new *foray* against our free school system, frankly avows the doctrine that Religion is not an *individual* affair, but a social one—that *Society*, and not individuals, is to teach and inculcate it. In other words, Religion should be taught in our public schools instead of at our firesides.

But *how*? Shall our teachers be directed to educate their scholars in Catholicism, and Presbyterianism, and Methodism, and all the other various shades of religious belief? Yes, say these prelates, that is the duty of our public schools. But the thing is impossible, exclaims every one. Not as all, if these reverend men be judges; the public school fund has only to be divided *pro rata* among the various sects, and then let each have its own school, and teach its own doctrine!

This is the new scheme of Catholicism. The object is no longer to exclude the Bible from the public schools, but to introduce Catholicism into them. The Bishops demand the establishment of Catholic schools, to be supported with the public money. Instead of seeking for a common platform on which children of all sects can be taught, society is asked to enter upon the labor of drawing division lines among its members, and perpetuating religious distinctions. It has come to *that*.

Bishop O'Connor urges *conscience* as a plea.—The Catholic cannot *conscientiously* send his child to a school in which his religion is not taught; and a change is demanded as necessary to meet the conscientious scruples of the Catholic population. Is this a fair plea, coming from such a source? Let us see. In all Catholic countries in which the Catholic religion is taught in the public schools, is there any provision made for a separate education of Protestants? Can a Protestant plead his *conscience* for any privilege in Catholic countries? In Rome, and in most of the Catholic countries of Europe, a Protestant cannot worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, much less have his children educated as Protestants, at the public expense; and at this very moment, the Madiais are suffering a great imprisonment for having conscientiously had a Bible in their possession. Those who do not regard the claims of conscience in others, urge their own claims on the same score with an ill grace.

Protestants recognize fully the right of Catholics to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. But they do this upon the ground that Religion is an individual affair, over which society should have no control.—Catholics may teach their children, at home, whatever religion they choose; and so may Protestants; but let the idea once be recognized that society is to teach religion as a part of its system of education, and the whole basis of a national religion, and a union of Church and State, is yielded. Against anything which can lead to such a result we set a face of flint.

The people of this country cannot too soon or too firmly array themselves against this new and insidious effort to change our glorious system of free schools into nurseries of sectarianism and catholicism. The newly-developed scheme of these Catholic prelates merits an early and emphatic condemnation. Our schools impart an education which is necessary to all, common to all, and injurious to none. If the Catholic chooses to reject its advantages, because he cannot have his religious peculiarities imparted to his children at the public expense, the fault is his, and society is absolved from all obligations to him on the score of education.—Let him teach religion to his children at home and in their church, and society will give them all the other education which its means will allow; and if he will not do this, the blame is upon himself alone.

BISHOP SIMPSON'S LECTURE.—This Lecture comes off this evening at Masonic Hall. The subject is the "Preternatural." The avails of the lecture are to be applied to a benevolent object. When the distinguished character and the ability of the Lecturer, the interest of the subject, and the deserving nature of the object, are all considered, we have reason to expect a crowded house. We therefore advise our friends to go early.

AN EXPLANATION—The *Monongahela Republican* thinks that our depreciation of the Hempfield road as affording a good investment does not tally very well with our statement of the injury such a line may do to Pittsburgh.

We can very well see how both may be true. We have not said that the Hempfield road will prosper, or will do a heavy business; but that it cannot prosper without more or less injury to the lines through Pittsburgh. And here the danger to us lies. If Philadelphia expends her means largely in that project, it will be her interest to foster it. The consequence will be great danger of discrimination, in favor of that road and against Pittsburgh, being made by the Central Railroad. If we have no other outlet to the east, the Central road is sure of all which comes here, but at Wheeling a vigorous competition must be waged with the Baltimore road. It is this unfair rivalry we fear. We do not believe the Hempfield will be profitable stock in any event; neither do we believe it will do this city much injury except in the manner we have pointed out. If our Monongahela city neighbor will carefully weigh our arguments he will see no inconsistency in them.

We suppose we may take it for granted, now, that the Hempfield will be built. Philadelphia seems determined to invest capital in it, and she will be compelled to bolster it up, and to furnish the million, or so, dollars more, which will be required to finish and stock it. Pittsburgh, in self defence, must build the Washington branch, and the Connellsville road; and then we can bid defiance to any injury it may do to us. Pittsburgh and Baltimore will then derive far more benefit from it than Philadelphia or the Central road.

PITTSBURGH COAL AT CLEVELAND.—Some of our Pittsburgh capitalists have organized a company for shipping Coal from here to Cleveland, by way of the Cleveland and Wellsville road. The coal is sent from here by river to a point near the mouth of Yellow Creek, below Wellsville, where it is transhipped on the railroad to Cleveland. The coal finds a ready market, and we have no doubt that the enterprise will prove a profitable one.

WHIG ALMANAC.—We are indebted to the publishers for a copy of the Whig Almanac for 1853. As usual, it is full of valuable statistics, and, next to the American Almanac, is the most valuable work of the kind now published. We suppose it is for sale at our periodical Agencies: published by Greely & McElrath, New York.

THE CHINESE IN CALIFORNIA.—Many of our readers will be greatly pleased to see the following extract of a letter from Rev. WM SPEER, formerly of this city, dated December 15, 1852, to a friend in Pittsburgh:

"The missionary work among the Chinese has proved very interesting thus far. I have been received very cordially by this people. Mand and four Mission scholars from Canton, Hong Kong, and Macao, and-merchants and others that I know, are here engaged in trade or mining. I have not yet opened a chapel, but am engaged in visiting their sick, distributing tracts, and preparing the way for future and active labors amongst them. The Chinese language comes back to me much more easily than I had expected. Much sympathy is expressed in the work by our Christian friends here."

The following extract from the San Francisco Herald, will show the appreciation in which Mr. Speer is held on the Pacific:

MISSIONARY TO THE CHINESE.—Last Sunday introduced to the citizens of San Francisco the Rev. W. Speer, for a number of years a missionary to China, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Board of Missions, and now transferred to this city, where he is to devote himself to the religious instruction of the Chinese portion of our inhabitants. Mr. S. is a ripe scholar, a polished writer, and a most agreeable and graceful orator. His address at the Stockton street church on Sunday morning was one of the most interesting and instructive discourses that I have heard from the pulpit during my residence in this city; and it is a matter of congratulation, that the clerical corps have received so valuable an accession to their number.

Mr. S. is a proficient in the knowledge of the language of China, so difficult of attainment to persons in general, which he speaks with considerable fluency—thus is he enabled to address, in their own language, these strangers, who are residing amongst us, on the great principles of the gospel. As he will probably preach successively in the different churches, I feel confident that his audiences will not only be charmed by his manner, but will be deeply interested and instructed by his discourses. L. S.-M.

The fine packet *Messenger* went out this morning with a larger load of cabin passengers than we have seen on a Pittsburgh packet this season. A large proportion were bound for Wheeling. The influence of the opening of the railroads thereaway is already seen in its effect on the current of travel.—*Cin. Atlas*, 18th.

The passengers for Wheeling were landed at that place; and after staying there 24 hours, without finding any means of getting away, got on the Buckeye State, came up to Pittsburgh, and went east on the Central Road, experiencing no delay, after leaving Wheeling.

Messrs. Tilden & Young, of Boston, have taken the contract for building the Railroad from Attica to Olean, 70 miles, for the sum of $1,500 000. They are to receive $800 000 in stock, $500,000 in bonds, and $200,000 in cash.—*N. Y. Trib.*

This is one of the Eastern connections of our Allegheny Valley Railroad.

PITTSBURGH AND ERIE RAILROAD.—At a meeting of the Directors of this Company, held at New Castle on the 18th instant, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the President be authorized and directed to have the survey of the south end of the line completed to the city of Pittsburgh, at the earliest practicable period consistent with the interests of the Company.

Resolved, That the President be authorized and directed to put under contract, for immediate construction, such portions of the grading of the surveyed line between New Castle and the Ohio river as he may deem most conducive to the interest of the Company, subject however, to the approval of the board at their next meeting.

This seems to sanction a report we have heard, that the Directors intend to construct an independent line to Pittsburgh.

IMPORTANT FROM RUSSIA.—The Boston Traveller is indebted to a mercantile house of that city for the following extract from a letter just received from St. Petersburgh, and dated the 21st December:

"There is a report that the plague has entered Russia, and is prevalent at Astrachan and another place. The Emperor has ordered a military cordon of sixty or seventy thousand men to prevent its advancing further into the interior of the country. Some alarm is felt at St. Petersburgh, though in former times, as in the reign of Catherine, it stopped at Moscow."

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Daily Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1858.

French Spoliation Bill—Annual Treasury Report—Cabinet Intrigues—Indifference of the President elect.

I should not be surprised if a fortnight were consumed in the effort now making to rush through the House the French Spoliation Bill.—The friends of the measure are convinced of its justice, and they are desperate from long waiting and hope deferred. If they do not pass the bill at this session, the last shadow of a chance will have faded away. But resolute as they are, there is another division of members as determined to throw every obstacle in the way of the passage of the bill, or the final payment of the claims. This party is headed by Major Polk, brother of the late President, and they are prepared to call the yeas and nays on *pro forma* motions, as long as they can get one-fifth of the House to sustain them in such a course.—The Speaker throws all his influence into the scale of opposition, and he appears to enter the contest with a zest and interest equal to that of the hottest of the combatants. Nevertheless, there is a small majority in favor of the claims; and the battle will be between members on one side, and parliamentary tactics on the other.

Mr. Corwin transmitted to-day his annual report to Congress. It is a very able, clear, and statesmanlike document. Mr. Corwin shows that the surplus is not nearly so large as has been anticipated, and that on the 30th of June next, it is not likely to exceed five millions and a quarter of dollars. The receipts into the Treasury from the 1st July to the 30th November, 1852, that is for the first five months of the fiscal year, were but $22,220,000, an amount somewhat less than was expected, and which shows that the receipts on the whole year will probably not be much in excess of expenditures, on an economical scale. The appropriations made at the last session of Congress exceeded the estimates of the Secretary of the Treasury for the current fiscal year by ten millions of dollars. Appropriations are not made to be expended at the discretion of the Executive, but in accordance with the laws prescribing the objects of said expenditure. Although there has been no extravagance in the disbursements, it is evident that the dominant party in Congress, and not the Executive, should be held responsible for any expenditures that may have been made beyond the strictest rule of economy.

The Secretary takes a forcible and comprehensive view of the sources of our revenue, and demonstrates that a turn of the tide has commenced, and that we are not likely to be troubled with too much money beneforward.

I have never considered there was any danger of such a result, and when Mr. Brooks and other protectionists of the Derby-D'Israeli stamp, made a dive for deep water on their tariff, upon the pretence that the revenue must be reduced, I thought it would be well enough to wait for official figures upon that point, before making admissions favorable to free trade fallacies.

Mr. Badger still hangs by the eye-lids in the Senate, and I think will be dropped just outside the palings.

Nothing further about the Cabinet, except that Senator Mason, finding the obstacles to his own admission there, has saved his dignity, of which he is very tenacious, by giving out that he declines the honor. Gen. Cushing is still supposed to be the most likely to assume the portfolio of State. So far from Pennsylvania being barren of candidates for these responsible posts, I learn that she is rather better supplied than most other States. George M. Dallas for Secretary of State, Judge Black, Judge Woodward, Judge Campbell, Simon Cameron, and half a dozen more local celebrities, have been entered on the minutes of Pennsylvania worth and greatness, forwarded to Gen. Pierce.

In the mean time, the President elect stands aloof, with a stricken heart, from all this intrigue, musing upon the shadowy memories of his boy, and coldly replies to all inquiries that he will not be in Washington until the 20th of February. JUNIUS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, 1853.

It appears to be settled that the President elect had resolved to appoint General Dix, of New York, Secretary of the Treasury or of War; but an opposition has developed itself in the Senate, at once so virulent and so vigorous, as to render it probable that Gen. Pierce will be driven from his ground. A struggle has already commenced as to who shall be President. The people have chosen Gen. Pierce of New Hampshire; but a cabal in the Senate, now understood to be headed by Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana, and James M. Mason of Virginia, has already assumed the most important of the powers reposed by the Constitution in the Executive, and undertaken to eviscerate his administration of its most important prerogative. The indications at present are that this obscure faction, burrowing in their midnight conclaves, will prevail so far as to control the President in the choice of his most trusted advisors.

The pretence for this attempted usurpation is that the southern rights faction will be in danger of persecution if Mr. Dix is clothed with any portion of the appointing power. The President of the Senate, Mr. Atchison, and others who sympathize with him assert that Mr. Dix is the bosom friend of Ex-Senator Benton, and that if he goes into the Treasury or the Interior, he will so dispense its immense patronage as to proscribe every opponent of Benton who contributed to his defeat, and thus secure his return to the Senate upon the expiration of Atchison's term.

It was at one time an understood part of the arrangement in favor of Gen. Dix, that a set off to his free soilism should be introduced by bringing in Jeff. Davis, Mr. Rhett and some other disunionist, but that has been broken up, and the President has now before him the naked choice of yielding to the Senatorial faction or forcing a division of the party at the very beginning of his administration.

Mr. Badger's nomination was debated for two hours in executive session to-day, and there is a prospect of his confirmation, unless the dissenting democrats talk out the session which is likely enough.

The French spoliation was slain yesterday by a decision of the speaker. It cannot now be reached this session, and it may be set down as dead and buried beyond the power of resurrection.

An old claim for experiments in water rotted hemp, on behalf of the Navy Department, in favor of David Myrle, which has been pending for many years, and excited great interest, was passed by the House to-day. I believe it is a just claim and ought to be paid.

Dr. Gardiner returns to Washington to-day, with evidence, as he and his counsel both declare, sufficient to establish the existence of his silver mines, and to refute the adverse report of the Commissioners with whom he went and returned. It is a curiously complicated business. The trial which will take place at the next term of the criminal Court, will possibly clear up the mystery.

The committee on commerce are about to report the bill for establishing reciprocity of trade with Canada and the Eastern Provinces. The bill will provide for the admission into both countries of lumber, coal, fish and agricultural produce free of duty. These articles are now charged under the Canadian tariff with twelve and a half per cent duty. The advocates of the measure commend it to Pennsylvania, by urging that it will open a vast market in the upper province for her coal, and that it is only an opening wedge which must provide the way for another bill securing to her citizens the free admission into the Canadas of all those manufactures in which they excel.

We are about to have an industrial exhibition which deserves the attention and encouragement of your citizens. It is the first annual fair or exposition of the Metropolitan Mechanics Institute. It will be held in the noble hall of the new patent building, and will open on the 20th February next. Contributions appropriate to the object of the exhibition are expected from all considerable manufacturing places in the United States. Great interest has been manifested in the enterprise, and it will attract a crowd hardly less than that drawn by the Inauguration. JUNIUS.

Coal lands near Wheeling, Va., are selling at $1,400.

FROM NEW YORK.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh GAZETTE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22, 1853.

For local news just now we have nothing more exciting than a family row among the Locofocos, hard and soft. The hards, or old hunkers, own or control Tammany Hall, built, as is well known, by the republicans or jacobins of Jefferson's time, in which to hold the powwows of the party, as well as to rival the federal party which built "Washington Hall," razed to make room for Stewart's dry goods palace, after passing through the preliminary stages of a gambling house and drinking shop. Tammany Hall has passed into a rum tavern, and its saloon has for years been the resort of gambling politicians, and "Moses" and "Lize," who think a ball dull unless Tammany is the spot. The old Hunkers having been defeated in securing the city committees, now order the landlord, under pain of losing his lease, to exclude the softs, who in return threaten to erect a new hall for the use of the "Democratic party." By the terms of the lease the landlord is not to let the room for purposes antagonistic to the principles of "republicanism," and he naturally construes it to be "anything calling itself democracy that has the money for the rent. As March approaches and the spoils grow nearer, the quarrel will gradually heal, money generally overcoming democratic scruples in this region.

The women of the State Temperance Society on yesterday, were allowed to present a petition relative to temperance to the Legislature in person, thus taking one step towards that recognition of woman's rights about which some of them rage so furiously. Mrs. Bloomer was there and quite a host of other women of ability, and the scene is represented as very striking. Probably our Legislature would be improved by being composed of fairer and intelligent women. They certainly would surpass in value to the State the rowdy politicians that are gathered there this winter with no aim but self aggrandisement.

The jury in the case of Capt. Farnham of the Reindeer, has been discharged, being unable to agree, standing six to six. As Sir Lucius O'-Trigger would say, it is a pretty quarrel.—In 1838, when all steamships used wood, Congress made it imperative upon the managers of the boat to raise the safety valve when at the dock or landing, in order to prevent an explosion, from an excessive accumulation of steam, while the boat was at rest. Under the provisions of this law Capt. Farnham is tried, for what? Why for running a steamboat which from its peculiar fuel (coal) needs only to have its furnace doors opened upon stopping, to produce such a reduction in the steam as to make a safety valve of no consequence whatever, and the law itself valueless. The evidence has been conclusive against the boilers themselves, and on fair grounds the Captain is acquitted. Captains and engineers have rights as well as travelers, and they will not be hung in this meridian very soon for such accidents as these.

In Wall street there is not much movement.—All kinds of State and railroad bonds are in good demand at full prices, and a few kinds of stock are fully supported. The general demand for money, and the approach of the Spring trade, which promises to exceed in amount anything ever known, which will make money still more in request, keeps the rate of interest well up. Nothing is done under six per cent. Seven is the common rate, and auctioneer's paper can be bought as well as one per cent per month.

Railroads hereabouts are earning a good deal of money, the receipts of the Erie reaching, in the first twenty days of January, a sum nearly equal to the month of December. The other roads leading West and South are doing equally well. Our hotels are all full and the high tide of Spring trade will tax the rooms of our hotels, extended as have been our additions in that way this season. C.

SUSQUEHANNA ROUTE TO THE WEST.—We have heretofore stated that some of the invited Baltimore guests who went to Wheeling on the occasion of the recent Baltimore and Ohio Railroad celebration, subsequently extended their visit to Cincinnati, where they were hospitably received. Previously to their departure homeward from Cincinnati, as we learn from one of the party, they were waited on by Gen. Strader and Mr. Clement, the President and Superintendent of the Cincinnati Railroad, who voluntarily made to them the liberal tender of a free passage to Pittsburgh by the route through Xenia, Columbus and Cleveland. This route is described as one of great interest—passing, as it does, for the greater portion of its length, through one of the most fertile and thickly populated sections of the State of Ohio! Independently the celebrated Miami Valley. Our informant speaks in high terms of praise of the amenities and comfort of the travel—all the cars being placed on Pullman's Indian rubber springs. Conversation and reading were carried on without any effort, and it was a source of pleasant remark to all that so little fatigue was experienced in the journey.

On their arrival at Pittsburgh, the efficient agents of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company—Messrs. Scott and Franciscus—courteously tendered to the entire party of excursionists a free passage to Harrisburgh; and from thence, as a matter of course, every attention was paid to them, and a free passage to Baltimore offered by the officers of the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad.

We learn that some seventy or eighty of the excursionists returned home by this route—having in every instance arrived here punctually, in nineteen hours from Pittsburgh and thirty-eight hours from Cincinnati. Our intelligent informant also states that the travel from Cincinnati to Pittsburgh is expected to be accomplished, about thirty days hence, in thirteen hours, by the completion of a shorter route, viz: the Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad. He further informs us that in September next the substitution of the Pennsylvania Company's Railroad track for the State Portage road now used, will reduce the time so that the passage between Pittsburgh and Baltimore will be made in twelve or fourteen hours.

According to our informant, the low freight and fare system is the one universally adopted by the railroads in Ohio; and its legitimate results have been fully realized in the enjoyment of a large business and liberal profits. The line from Cincinnati to Cleveland paid its stockholders last year fifteen per cent., and that from Cleveland to Pittsburgh paid ten per cent.

Since the completion of the Western Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, an active and valuable trade has been carried on between Baltimore and the West, via Pittsburgh. Large quantities of Western produce are daily coming to Baltimore by this cheap, expeditious and comfortable route; and in return Baltimore is sending daily to the West, by the same route, large supplies of coffee, sugar, and other articles. Dry goods, both domestic and foreign, intended for the consumption of the West, have been sold in the Baltimore market, during the month past, to an amount in quantity and value exceeding all previous experience—all of which have gone forward with regularity and dispatch by this route. In illustration of the business done in Western produce, we may mention that a single house—that of Messrs. Thomas J. Carson & Co., of this city—has paid within the last six weeks upwards of $10,000 for freights from Pittsburgh to Baltimore. The capacity of the Railroad line from Pittsburgh east, we are informed, is now 400 tons daily, and by the 15th of February will be 600 tons daily. Of this business, we are assured, Baltimore is getting a full half.—*Baltimore American, of Saturday.*

SHIPWRECK.—*Eighty six Lives Lost.*—The large English ship Successor, lying in Madras Roads, having on board 244 persons and a great number of horses, foundered at her anchors, in sight of hundreds of people, on the 9th of Oct. last. The captain and 24 officer had gone on shore, leaving the ship in care of the mate. A squall arose, the mate at the time being too drunk to take the measures necessary to save the ship, she was totally lost, drowning eighty-six men and all the horses. Safety lines were projected from the shore by means of rockets, but the helplessness of the officer in charge rendered them of no avail.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN MASILLON.—Last Thursday night about 12 o'clock, a fire broke out in the grocery store of Martin Hain, on Erie st.

We have endeavored to ascertain the loss as far as we could, and we are happy to know that it is not so great as the extent of the fire would lead a stranger to suppose. M. A. Withington, jeweller, loss $2,800—insured for $1,200 in the Columbiana Mutual. A. & Z. Harsh, loss $500, no insurance. Dickey & Bardill loss $500, insured for $600. V. S. Buckius, loss $800, no insurance. L. Lehman, grocer, loss in building $2,400, insured for $1,600, in goods $3,000, insured $1,600. Total loss $5,400, insured $3,200; $2,200 in the Stark Mutual, and $1,000 in the Medina Mutual. C. A. Hinderer, inn keeper, loss $2,600, insured for $1,025. J. Terry, loss $200, no insurance. R. Wheaton, of Millersburgh, loss $300. Geo. Harsh, loss $500, no insurance. N. Sibila, inn keeper, loss $3,000, insured $1,884. J. Jacoby loss $400, insured for $300.

Martin Hain, who lived in the rear of the building which was first discovered to be on fire, lost everything which he possessed—not being able to save his children's clothing.—*Massillon News.*

A patch of cotton has been matured in the Sacramento Valley, California, in ninety days. Mr. Colby, who raised it, will, in February, sow a large field and make it a permanent business. Tea, sugar cane, figs, rice and cotton, have been raised thus far by experiment, proving that the soil and climate is adapted to the culture of each of them.

THINGS IN NEW YORK.—The Dutch Reformed Church, in Franklin street, near West Broadway, was sold at auction on Thursday for $10,100. (The gas fixtures, altar and pews were not included.) The lecture room adjoining was also sold at $14,000.

The Ohio and Indiana Railroad company purchased, on the 20th inst., through their agents, Messrs. Winslow, Lanier & Co., 6,000 tons best T rails, for delivery at an early period in the coming spring.

The steamships Ohio and Uncle Sam, for Aspinwall, and the Northern Light, for San Juan, left this afternoon, with a large number of passengers for California. The Ohio had nearly 500 on board.

The squabble between the "Soft Shell" and "Hard Shell" Democrats, which has been going on for some time past, is likely to meet with a solution at the hands of the Sachems. The Sachems are the owners of Tammany Hall, and two factions must stop, else both must "clear out" of the Wigwam. To settle the matter, the said Sachems claim the right to say who of the claimants are entitled to seats in the General Committee. The Hunkers, meanwhile, say they will never submit their claims to any such arbitration, but threaten to cut loose altogether from any further connections with the Barnburners, and go so far as to talk of building a new house for their meetings, if they are to be turned out of the Wigwam. In fact, on Thursday night, when a decision was made in favor of admitting the Barnburners to seats, which had been contested, $15,000 were subscribed upon the spot to build a new Tammany Hall.

Hon. Wm. A. Graham, of North Carolina, on Thursday evening, delivered a lecture before the New York Historical Society, in aid of the funds for the erection of a new building for their accommodation.

Two singular suits for damages were decided in the Courts on Thursday. A man, named Tooker, for assaulting a minor, named Cheeks, and putting him in a sack and keeping him there confined for twelve hours, was mulcted in $400 damages.

A man named John Poole, for violently assaulting a lady, on the suspicion that she had deprived him of his morning paper, by quietly laying it aside for her own use, was required to hand over $500 as damages.

EXCITEMENT IN MASILLON.—An attempt was made last week to collect the unconstitutional taxes assessed against the Masillon bank, which created quite an excitement. The bank has heretofore paid its taxes according to its charter which amounted to about $2,000. If taxed as other property its taxes would amount to $3,500, which the bank is willing to pay. But under the law effect which the taxes would amount to nearly $8,000. This amount the bank refuses to pay, and Treasurer McCadden, with a posse of six or eight men, attempted to seize upon the coin in the vault, but did not succeed. We understand the matter was compromised, and the Treasurer agreed to wait the result of an application to the court for an injunction.—*Cleveland Herald.*

The Treasurer of Jefferson county, on yesterday, proceeded to the Jefferson Branch of the State Bank of Ohio, and seized and removed various articles, consisting of desks, tables, books, chairs, &c., in order to enforce the collection of taxes. We understand that the Bank claims that they have paid the taxes required by their charter. As they are a law abiding people, we see no reason why such proceedings should not be settled in a lawful manner. The tax so attempted to be enforced is claimed by the Bank to be in violation not only of its charter, but of the constitution of the State. Let the law be fairly adjudicated, and all law abiding citizens will submit cheerfully to the result.—*Steubenville Herald.*

MAINE.—The Whig Senate of Maine has elected as Secretary of the Commonwealth Mr. Sawyer, Democrat, with four Democrats and three Whigs as Councillors.

Philadelphia, Jan. 21.—Two large dealers of this city have failed, with liabilities to the amount of $200,000. They were arrested to-day, charged with a conspiracy to defraud their creditors, and held to bail in $8,000 each.

Providence, Jan. 21.—The Senate to-day refused to join the House for the election of Senator, which settles the question for the present session.

LARD.

D. B. WATSON is now engaged, in slaughtering 5,000 Hogs, and will have constantly on hand a large stock of Bulk Pork of his own cutting, 200 barrels of Extra Mess Pork, and a No. 1 article of Lard, in barrels and kegs, for sale at his Warehouse, corner of Liberty and Wayne streets

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IT is due to Kier's Petroleum to say that it has been known to completely eradicate every vestige of this dreadful disease in less time than any other remedy, and at less cost or inconvenience to the patient.

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To be having a dread of mixtures are advised that this medicine is purely natural, and is bottled as it flows from the bosom of the earth.

The following certificate is copied from a paper published at Syracuse, New York, and bears date August 2, 1852, to which is also appended the certificate of the editor:

"Mr. Y. Fox, M. D., of Syracuse:

"This may be truth certify, that I have been so badly afflicted with Scrofula for the last seven years, that most of the time I have been unable to attend to any kind of business, and much of the time unable to walk, and confined to my bed, and have been treated nearly all the time by the best physicians our country affords, and consequently got some relief, but not cure, and continued to grow worse, until Dr. Foot recommended me to try the Petroleum, or Rock Oil, as every thing else had failed. I did so without faith at first, but the effect was astonishing; it threw the poison to the surface at once, and I at once began to grow better, and by using seven bottles, I have got a cure worth thousands of dollars.

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This may certify that I have been acquainted with Kier's Petroleum, or Rock Oil, for more than a year, and have repeatedly witnessed its beneficial effects in the cure of incident wounds, and other diseases for which it is recommended, and can with confidence recommend it to be a medicine worthy of attention, and can safely say that it succeeds as well as, where other medicine had failed.

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