HOME MATTERS.

RIVER ITEMS.—The river is still receding; the **metal mark** indicated scant 29 inches last evening.

There were no arrivals from below Wheeling.

The *Yorktown*, a new sternwheel boat, drew up to the landing, and commenced taking in a cargo for Cincinnati and St. Louis. The *Georgetown* was also landing for Cincinnati. There appeared to be enough freight for both.

The favorite *Exchange* is the packet this morning for Wheeling.

The Louisville Courier of Monday last contains the following item, which will be read with interest here. We give it for what it is worth:

MERE CHANGES—*Amalgamation of Packet Lines.* —We learn that Davy Holmes, the dictator of the Pittsburgh packets, together with a number of the owners of the Union line, and Capt. Glover, of the U. S. M. contractor, and the Madison packet company have all been in close confab at Madison for several days, including Old Enterprise in the talk, the result of which we have not fully learned. Our guess is that the great Pittsburgh packets will come down, sell out two of the lightest, and form a connection with the Wisconsin and Hoosier State of the daily packets between this city and St. Louis, said line to connect with the great Union Line of daily packets between Louisville, Madison, Cincinnati and Wheeling. The two Pittsburgh boats above mentioned, to form a daily line between Wheeling and Pittsburgh, to complete the connection all the way from St. Louis to Pittsburgh. This is a spirited enterprise, and when completed we will allude to it again.

The following items are from the Louisville Courier, of the 4th:

The river continues to fall and the navigation of the Ohio is extremely precarious, and we are stricted to the very smallest and lightest boats. In the canal there are less than 3 feet water, and the Portland and New Albany bars having washed out, are no longer a dread of boatmen. The sticking point in the lower Ohio is at Scuffletown bar, where but 30 inches water were found by the last boat.

Between this point and Cincinnati the bars are daily becoming more formidable, and nearly all the packets are aground at Warsaw. The little stern wheeler flier *Ben Cousin*, due from Cincinnati yesterday morning, did not arrive until the afternoon. She reports but 3 feet water on Warsaw bar, and the Golden Gate aground on the bar.

The *Forest Rose*, that arrived from St. Louis yesterday, brings the passengers of the *Chancellor*, from New Orleans. She found considerable trouble in the lower Ohio, and grounded at Raleigh, Trade Water, and Scuffletown bars.

From the St. Louis News of the 29th, we extract the following:

FROM THE OHIO RIVER.—Two boats, the *Royal Arch* and *Forest Rose*, arrived last night from Cincinnati—the first for several days.

The *J. W Faden*, just in, makes the third arrival from the Ohio river to-day. She comes like the two previous boats, loaded chiefly with dry goods and furniture.

A FLEET OF LOW WATER BOATS.—We noticed five or six low water stern wheel craft at the levee this morning, most of them from Pittsburgh and that vicinity. At the Keokuk wharf boat there were no less than four or five "regular packets" to supply the place of the withdrawn Louisville packets. All to start positively at 4 and 5 o'clock. P. M.

The Telegraph No. 2 arrived from the Ohio river this morning. She met the Lady Franklin at the "Sisters," and exchanged trips with her. The Franklin returned to Louisville literally black with passengers. She obtained over one hundred cabin passengers from the Telegraph, besides about an equal number from other boats and off shore. The Telegraph lays up at this place. Capt. Tucker, we understand, intends chartering the Josephine, a low water boat to run during the present stage of the Ohio, between this city and Louisville.

PREPARING.—The commanders of the Illinois packets are beginning to look about them for something suitable for passengers between this and Lasalle, during an extreme low stage of the river. Capt. Byder, of the *Prairie State*, was aboard the *Henrietta* this morning for a charter, but it was "no go." The H. is offered for sale at $16,000 cash or its equivalent; but she is not for charter. Low water boats will be a cash commodity in the course of a few weeks, should nothing unusual happen.

OHIO RIVER BOATS.—The following Ohio river boats were gathered at and around the Keokuk wharf boat this morning: *Fanny Sparhawk*, *Ledger no. 2*, *Scotia*, *Fanny*, *McFaden*, and *Telegraph No. 2*, and *Henrietta* lying outside, there not being room enough for them to get in.

BROKE A WHEEL.—The steamer *Henrietta*, in coming into port this morning, floated down against the bows of the *Telegraph No. 2*, laying outside of the *Dis Vernon*, and crushed in pieces a considerable portion of her wheel. The H. is a stern-wheeler, and of course could not afford to lose much in that line.

JOHN M. KENNEY.—This individual, who has gained so unenviable a notoriety, within the past few days, in connection with the balloon ascension and fire works affairs, appeared yesterday morning, in two articles—in the Dispatch and Union—in which he attempts to justify himself, and repel the attack made upon him, by Professor Wise. His article in the Dispatch, goes on to show that he did procure sufficient vitriol, notwithstanding the assertion of the Professor to the contrary. He says the Professor has made more than twenty successful ascensions for him, and that on the Fourth he procured more than one thousand seven hundred and eighteen pounds of vitriol, being one hundred pounds more than ever required of the writer before, by the Professor, the balloon being capable of containing the same quantity of gas.

In his article in the Union, he states that Professor Wise having had years of experience in the balloon business, the failure on Monday could have been no fault of the writer. He says the tickets for fire-works were the only thing that seemed to be right, and the cause of that was the non-arrival of the packages until the afternoon of the Fourth, and the subsequent apprehension of a disturbance. He adds that he made every effort to induce Mr. Wise to make the ascension at the latter end of the week, and tendered him the balance of his engagement (or, $600,) besides $100 for the expense of inflation, which he, (the Professor,) utterly refused. The writer is convinced that Mr. Wise wanted to get free of his engagement with him, as he had an engagement in New York at a better salary, and that that desire caused the failure in the ascension.

Mr. Kinney announces positively that on Saturday, if raining, he will give a display of fireworks to the citizens, free of charge. The prices drawn by the citizens are now ready for delivery at Messrs. Reineman & Co.'s, who have already redeemed about 120 of them.

The letters of Mr. Kinney certainly look fair, and condemnation should be withheld until it is seen whether he will fulfill the promises contained in the communications.

LICENSES GRANTED.—The following petitioners received licenses yesterday from Judge McClure:

First Ward—Henry Voerheller, Alexander Cupples, Hugh Sally.

Second Ward—Patrick Ingoldsby, Joseph Spengler.

Third Ward—George Aurentz, Elisabeth Hill, Joseph Kaiser, John N. Berthe, John Mish, Jas. Shannon.

Fourth Ward—Harrison Graham, Sam'l. Hare, D. J. Potter, V. Fehl.

Fifth Ward—Morris Martin.

Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Wards—None.

Ninth Ward—John S. Miller.

First Ward, Allegheny—John Emerick, George Proudley, John Goebring.

Second Ward—George Walters.

Third Ward—Peter Geise, Thomas Atkinson.

Fourth Ward—William Pillinan, John Solan, Peter McGinniss, James McDermott, Winifred Sweezy.

IMPORTANT SUIT—CHARGE OF PERJURY.—David Munn, of Canonsburg, appeared before Alderman Reinhart several days ago, and made oath that James W. Guthrie, of Clarion county, on the 26th of July, 1842, swore before Alderman Watson that he, the said Guthrie, had a just and equitable defence to the whole of plaintiff's claim, in a certain action then pending in the District Court of Allegheny County, in which Munn was plaintiff, and Crawford was defendant, and which oath or affidavit of defence was filed of record in said suit.

The affiant declares that it was not a just and equitable defence, and that he believes Munn well knew it not to be, and he also verily believes that it was a wilful and corrupt perjury, and prays that a warrant may issue, &c., &c.

A warrant was issued, but Crawford has not yet been arrested.

PATENT COUPLING AND FOREPLATE.—Mr. Jacob Reese, the inventor of a Patent Coupling and Foreplate announces that his invention may be seen in operation at Bally, Brown & Co.'s mill, on Wayne st. The advantages of the invention are that it obviates the necessity of stopping the engine or throwing off the "crab" to connect the top roll when "securing," and from the simplicity of the foreplate it can be placed or displaced in half a minute, without removing a guide, scraper, bolt or nut, and enables one to scour the rolls between "beats," thus making a higher polish on nail plate and sheet iron than has ever been received before. The inventor may be seen at the "Clinton Mills, Pittsburgh," where rights to use the invention, and further information may be obtained.

RELEASED.—Michael Mullen was released yesterday by the Commissioners. He was committed in default of payment of costs by Court.

MAINE LAW CONVENTION.

At 10 o'clock yesterday a County Convention of the friends of the Prohibitory Liquor Law, was held in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, (Rev A. M. Bryan's) on 6th Street, at the call of the State Central Committee for Western Pennsylvania.

Dr. JAMES CAROTHERS was appointed Chairman, and Dr. A. G M'CANDLESS, Secretary, temporarily.

Dr. PRESLY stated that the object of the Convention was to form a County Association, to take measures in relation to obtaining the passage of the prohibitory liquor law.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Sparks, a Committee of five was appointed to report officers for a permanent organization of the Convention. Rev. Mr. Sparks and Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Steele, Marshall and Hultz, were appointed as the Committee.

The committee retired, and after a short absence, reported the following officers:

President.—Hon. JAMES CAROTHERS, Wilkins Township.

Vice Presidents—James, Fife, Upper St Clair Township; Rev. A. D. Campbell, of Manchester; Francis G. Bailey, Pittsburgh; Thomas McConnell, Allegheny City; Thos. J. Bigham, Lower St. Clair Township; and John Wright, Pitt Tp.

Secretaries—Dr. A. G. M'Candless and Danl. O'O. O'Neal, Pittsburgh.

On motion of Mr. Kirkpatrick a committee of five was appointed to act as a business committee. The following persons were appointed:—J. M. Kirkpatrick, Thomas Steel, Rev. John T. Pressly, Rev. A. M. Bryan, and Dr. J. H O'Brien.

The Rev. E. W. JACKSON, the State Agent, then addressed the convention, explaining the measures taken in Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, and Michigan, to secure the passage of the Prohibitory Liquor Law. The plan which the gentleman unfolded, was the union and merging of the different temperance associations throughout the State, into a general State Association, with a Central Committee, into whose hands all the funds raised throughout the State, should be placed. All the gentleman asked was the appointment of a committee in every ward and township, bearing the same relation to the County Committee that that Committee had to the State Committee. When this was done, the organization would be complete throughout the State.

At the conclusion of the address, the convention adjourned until 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At the hour appointed, the Convention re assembled.

Dr. PRESSLY moved that the Chair appoint a committee of three to wait upon Gov. Bigler, and welcome him to the city and invite him to attend the mass convention to be held in the evening. Adopted.

Messrs. Pressly, Campbell, and Hultz were appointed.

Col. HULTZ moved the Central County Committee be instructed to canvass the several election districts of the county, during the month of August. Adopted.

John M. Kirkpatrick, Esq, presented the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, The "State Prohibitory Liquor Law Convention," held at Harrisburg in February last, appointed a "State Central Committee" to direct the efforts and manage the affairs of the friend of prohibition throughout the State; and whereas, the members of the said State Convention pledged themselves to raise ten thousand dollars, to be appropriated for the purpose of canvassing the State and securing competent and experienced speakers to bring the subject properly before the people, therefore, on motion,

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the proceedings of the State Convention, and pledge our cordial support to the State Central Committee.

Resolved, That we will raise one thousand dollars, the amount subscribed by Allegheny county, and pay the same over to James W. Wiser, Esq., Treasurer of the State Central Committee.

Resolved, That Dr. Thomas Dale, George R. White, Rev. John T. Pressly, C. S. Magee, Rev. Samuel Williams, John Alexander, and Thomas Steel be appointed a committee to raise the aforesaid sum of money, and such other funds as they may deem necessary.

Resolved, That we recommend the "*Crystal Fountain and State Temperance Journal*," published at Harrisburg, to the support of all the friends of prohibition, being a paper ably conducted and every way worthy of their support.

Resolved, That we hereby request the State Central Committee to prepare cheap tracts or publications on the subject of Prohibition, for extensive circulation throughout the Commonwealth.

Resolved, That in our opinion the great question of Prohibition, now before the people of Pennsylvania, is of more importance than any or *all* questions of State policy.

Resolved, That we call upon the organized political parties to nominate candidates for office worthy of our confidence, as none other than reliable temperance men, no matter to what political party they belong, shall obtain our support.

Resolved, That a County Central Committee of five, with one additional from each election district to be selected by the said Committee, be appointed by the Chairman, to act in concert with the State Central Committee in carrying out the objects of this organization.

The following gentlemen were chosen to serve on the Committee noticed in the last resolution: John M Kirkpatrick, Thomas McConnell, Col. Hiram Hultz, Dr. James Glenn, John D. Bailey.

Some discussion arose on the second resolution, but resulted in its unanimous adoption. The resolutions, as a whole, were unanimously adopted.

WM. H. BURLEIGH, Esq, addressed the Convention very eloquently. At the conclusion of the address the Convention adjourned.

HORTICULTURAL MEETING.—A regular meeting of the Pittsburgh Horticultural Society was held in the Rooms of the Board of Brokers, on Wednesday, July 6th, at 10½ o'clock, A. M., J. CHARLETT, the President, being in the Chair.

In the absence of the Secretary, Thos. J. Gallaher was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*

Mr. Bigham, chairman of the committee to revise the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society, reported, which report, with but one slight amendment, was adopted as read.

A certified copy of the charter of the Society was received, and read by the Secretary.

The following gentlemen were admitted as members of the Society: Alex. Wallace, Hugh Loe, G. S. Chittick, Adam Ammon, Geo. A. Berry, A. Bradley, Geo. Black, Wm. B. Pusey, Wm Cartwright, Jas. George, Jas. Kennedy.

On motion, adjourned.

On the adjournment of the Society, the Executive Committee of the same convened at the same place, the President of the Board, H. Woods, taking the Chair.

The following gentlemen were in attendance: Messrs. Woods, John Murdock, Jr., Chilcott, Wardrop, Bigham, Hersperger, Updike, Williams, McKnight, Goehring, Lowen, McKee, Campbell, and Gallaher. Several spectators were likewise in attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

The standing committee, whose duty it is to report monthly on the fruit most worthy of cultivation in this county, made a lengthy, as well as learned and interesting report, on the varieties of strawberry which flourish best on our soil.

This report elicited a very interesting and animating discussion, in which nearly every member of the Board participated. From the able manner in which the facts laid down in the report were discussed, it was plainly evident that the report was incomplete, and perhaps, on certain points, not very reliable. It was therefore withdrawn by the committee, who were allowed another month to complete their investigations.

At the meeting there was a better display of plants, flowers and vegetables than we have had for some time. Among the articles exhibited for competition, we observed new corn, beets, tomatoes, red peppers, cherries, raspberries, gooseberries, and flowers, of almost every hue.

All the articles exhibited were excellent, but the gooseberries in particular were very large and fine. We have never seen better specimens than were exhibited.

The following is the report of the committee on plants and flowers:

The Committee on Plants and Flowers report that Messrs Kennedy & Co., of Baywood's Nursery, exhibited a very choice collection of one hundred varieties of seedling Carnations, most of them wanted by exhibitors, and well worthy the attention of Florists, to which they award a premium of $3.

To the same gentlemen, for the best collection of roses, a premium of $2

To Capt. D. Holmes, for a seedling phlox, very pretty, $2.

To John Murdoch, Jr., for best bouquet, $1.,

Signed, ROBT. M'KNIGHT,
A. CAMPBELL.

The following premiums were also awarded to exhibitors:

One dollar to David Holmes, for the best beets.

Fifty cents to W. H. Williams, for a basket of fine Fastolf raspberries.

One dollar to A. Herspergor, for twelve varieties of gooseberries.

On motion, adjourned.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY.—Wilson Rea was arrested on a boat at the wharf, on a charge of assault and battery and disorderly conduct, yesterday. As the constable and the prisoner reached day. As the constable and the prisoner reached the corner of Wood and Water streets, an attempt, though unsuccessful, was made to rescue him. Two men were arrested for participating in the attempt at rescue, and were fined, one paying, and the other in default, committed. Rea was fined and paid ten dollars for disorderly conduct. His examination on the other charge was postponed.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—As the freight train of the O. and P. R. R. which left the city yesterday morning at 5 o'clock, was passing Fredonia, the centre bolt of the forward truck of the locomotive worked out, letting the drivers on the ground. This accident detained the accommodation train from Brighton, due here at 8½ o'clock, until about 12 o'clock.

NEW FIRM.—We beg leave to call the attention of those dealing in their line, to the card of McDonough & Stewart, who are now prepared to execute all orders in the foundry business. Their warehouse is at No. 283 Liberty street. As they are both conversant with every branch of the business, anything they turn out may be confidently relied on.

TIPPLING HOUSE.—J. O. Morey and J. Blasdell laid separate charges before Alderman McMasser, yesterday, against John Yerger, proprietor of the Glenn Hotel, Braddock's Fields, for keeping a tippling house. A warrant was issued. About twenty-five of the boarders were summoned as witnesses.

CANVAS ATTACHED.—Dan Rice having refused to pay the fees of the police who were stationed in and around the circus, Dougherty, one of the Mayor's police, attached the canvas just as it was being taken down. Dan paid the fees, and the canvas was released.

THE MASS CONVENTION.—The Maine Liquor Law Convention, last evening, was very well attended. Speeches were made by Messrs. Burleigh, Jackson and others. The audience contributed five hundred dollars towards the advancement of the cause.

STATE FAIR.—The Committee for the selection of a State site for the Fair, have we understand, selected a large piece of ground belonging to the Denny Estate, just beyond the limits of the Ninth Ward.

FIRE.—A fire broke out in Hartley's Ice House, back of the Second Presbyterian Church, about two o'clock, yesterday morning. The second story was much damaged. We did not learn how the fire originated.

FIRE.—The alarm of fire yesterday about 12 o'clock was occasioned by the burning of a chimney. No damage was done.

BY TELEGRAPH.

NEW YORK, July 7.

The America's mails are due here to-night.

The Hermann arrived this morning, having sailed from Southampton on the 23d. She brings London dates to the 22d.

The news of the capture of Nankin is confirmed, with the subsequent evacuation of the city, and the defeat of the rebels outside.

British troops have been ordered to Shanghai for the protection of British interests.

The U. S. vessel Susquehanna was going up to Nankin with the American Commissioner when she grounded and finally returned.

Pirates were busy on the coast, and had attacked several English vessels

All was quiet at Canton, and the trade in imports was large at reduced rates.

Business was suspended at Shanghai.

The steamer Mississippi was expected at Shanghai on the 27th April.

The Atlantic arrived out on the 21st, at 10 in the evening, and sailed on the 11th.

PHILADELPHIA, July 7.

An accident occurred last night on the Baltimore road. The train due here at midnight, was thrown from the track this side of Wilmington by a piece of wood which had been placed across the road. The baggage and express cars were smashed. Three persons were standing on the platform and two of them passed over, one of whom was killed and one of the badly wounded. The name of the latter is unknown; the two who were wounded belonged to Philadelphia; their names were James Riddle and John Jeffrey. The company offer a reward of $500 for the arrest of the perpetrators of the mischief.

A meeting is to be held here to-morrow night to make arrangements for the reception of President Pierce.

WASHINGTON, July 7.

The statement that the President has determined to decline public receptions on his trip to New York, is untrue. I am authorized to state that he will leave Washington on Monday, and remain in Baltimore that night; he will reach Philadelphia, and leaving there on Wednesday will arrive in New York on Wednesday evening. His suite will compose Mr. Guthrie, Gen Davis, Gen Cushing, Judge Campbell and Mr. Sidney Webster.

BALTIMORE, July 7.

New Orleans papers of Friday are received, but there is no news.

The Republic says the frigate Columbia is still at Pensacola to take Mr. Buchanan to Central America, but nothing is known of his movements. He has not communicated with the State Department since he left Washington City.

ASHTABULA, O., July 7.

The body of J. B. Benoy, mate, who was lost off the Propeller Ogouta, last spring, was found and buried here to-day.

TELEGRAPHIC MARKETS.

NEW YORK, July 7.—Flour: 11 000 bbls sales at $4,62@$4,68; Ohio $4,62@$4,81. the steamer's news had a depressed effect on the market. Grain: sales 50,000 bus. wheat at $1,22 for Western, easier; sales 10,000 bus corn, mixed 66½, yellow 68 easier. Whiskey, Ohio 22½, tolerer. Provisions: sales 400 bbls mess pork at $15.50, prime $12.62, steady; sales 200 bbls mess beef at $12,75, steady; beef hams 12@15 dull; sales 200 bbls shoulders 6½, hams 9. firm; sales 200 bbls lard at 10½; better. Butter firm at 10@15. Cotton: sales 1500 bales, better — Coffee: sales 900 bags Rio at 9½, firm. Sugar: sales 650 hhds sugar, Orleans at 4¼. Muscovado 4¾. Molasses: sales 100 bbls Orleans, at 29 dull.

CINCINNATI, July 7.—River stationary. Weather fine. Flour: sales 800 bbls at $3 75@3,85. Whiskey closed dull at 17½. Coffee in active demand at 9½. All other articles unchanged.

PHILADELPHIA, July 7.—Flour market unchanged; sales 500 bbls mixed Western at $4,62; some newly ground at $4,70; sales 250 bbls Brandywine at $4,75. Rye Flour $3,62½. Small sales Corn at 64; Wheat but little arriving; sales 1000 bushels new Southern red at $1,10, some to arrive next week at $1,06. Rye steady at 83. Corn heavy, scarce, and in demand; the last sale of yellow was made at 63.

STEAM BOATS.

Regular Pittsburgh and Wheeling Passenger Packet.

THE new, light draught passenger packet MAGNOLIA, Capt. Thomas D. Moore, will leave Pittsburgh for Wheeling and all intermediate ports, THIS (Tuesday) day, at 5 o'clock, A. M. and Wheeling on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the same hour.

The Magnolia connects at Wellsville with the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad, and at Wheeling with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The Magnolia is entirely new and draws but 15 inches water.

For freight or passage, apply on board, or to
jy6 J. D. COLLINGWOOD, Ag't, 62 Water street.

Wheeling Packet.

THE new and staunch steamer KNICKERBOCKER, Capt. Rhodes, will run as a regular packet between Pittsburgh and Wheeling, Glasport and Sunfish, leaving Pittsburgh every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY of each week at 5 o'clock, P. M.

For freight or passage apply on board, or to
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For freight or passage apply on board, or to
JAMES WARDROP.

Regular Packet for Wheeling.

THE fine, light draught passenger packet D. Moore, will leave Pittsburgh for Wheeling and all intermediate ports, on MONDAY, July 10th, at 5 o'clock, A. M. and Wheeling on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the same hour.

The Magnolia connects at Wellsville with the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad, and at Wheeling with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The Magnolia is entirely new and draws but 15 inches water.

For freight or passage,