HOME MATTERS.

DARING HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—A very bold and successful highway robbery was perpetrated on Friday night, by two young men whose names are unknown, and who are still at large—no effort having been made to arrest them. It appears that Major Hughes, a resident of Butler, while on a visit to the city, met two men on Friday afternoon, with whom he had some drink.—The men were entire strangers to him; but the affability of their manner pleased him, and before night he visited several taverns in their company. At nine o'clock they were still together, and when Mr. Hughes proposed to go home, they told him that there was a gentleman at the "Red Lion" Hotel who wished to see him, and offered to conduct him thither. Mr. Hughes expressed his readiness to go there, and the party walked down St. Clair street together. When they reached Penn street, one of the ruffians told Mr. Hughes that they had better walk on to Barkers-alley, and turn down that thoroughfare, as it was much the shortest road to the "Red Lion." The Major, not suspecting their intentions, accompanied them to the mouth of the alley, and had walked but a few steps down it when he was seized by his companion, knocked down and robbed of $174 in money and a valuable gold watch, worth at least $125. Immediately on being assailed, the Major shouted murder at the top of his voice, and the gentlemen in Christy's Hotel, close by, hearing the cries ran to his assistance. When they reached the spot where he was knocked down, the robbers had decamped, and Mr. Hughes was lying senseless on the ground. They carried him into the hotel, and after some time he revived sufficiently to be able to tell what had happened to him. He was merely stunned by the blow which he received, and at eleven o'clock he left the hotel for his home. There were no watchmen about when the affair occurred, and as far as we could ascertain, no efforts have been made to bring the perpetrators of this daring outrage to justice.

COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS.—Before Judges McClure, Boggs and Allison.

The motion in arrest of judgment and for a new trial in the case of the Commonwealth vs Samuel, George and John Baker, was taken up and argued by Messrs. Mahon and Hasbrouck, the Court overruled the motion, and sentenced George and John to pay a fine each, of $25, and undergo an imprisonment in the County Jail for nine months. Samuel, the leader in the affray, was sentenced to pay a fine of the same amount, and undergo an imprisonment in the Penitentiary for one year. The parties formerly resided in McKeesport.

Clark Hosack, convicted a short time since of assault and battery with intent to kill, on oath of George Clark, after receiving a severe reprimand from the Court for carrying concealed weapons, (knucklers,) was sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year. Judge McClure, while sentencing Hosack, gave notice that hereafter he would be unusually severe upon persons guilty of using weapons calculated to take life.

The motion for arrest of judgment in the case of Skyles and George, convicted of arson, was taken up Col. McCandless, counsel for George, withdrew the motion so far as related to his client, but Mr. Hasbrouck, counsel for Skyles, argued at length to show that in his case a new trial should be granted. The Court held the matter under advisement, and the prisoners were remanded. The decision of the Court in this case will be made known in the early part of next week.

PREMIUM AWARDED.—We were in error on Saturday in stating that Miss Patton had been awarded the first premium for driving two horses. The prize was awarded to Miss M. Ritchart of Youngstown, Ohio, and consists of a beautiful gold watch worth $20. Miss Ritchart is one of the most graceful riders we have ever seen, and her riding and driving in the ring elicited the warmest praises from the spectators. She received the first premium for graceful riding, a saddle worth $30. We might add while on this subject that the horse rode by Miss Ritchart was owned by Mr. McQuiston of Enon Valley, and a better trained animal we have never seen. Mr. McQuiston's daughter, a young lady not quite 8 years old, drove him on Thursday, and though a mere child, she exhibited the greatest tact and ability in the management of the reins. Her riding too was really excellent, and the grace and skill with which she rode, attracted the largest possible amount of admiration. She took the first premium in her class for riding. Lawrence county is coming out; it took the first premium for horsemanship.

THE PLOWING MATCH.—Following is the result of the Plowing Match which came off on Friday:

Jonathan W. Garrard, Indiana township, received the first premium, $10. The plow was one of Hall & Speers' No. 5 patent Iron Center Plows.

John Hobinson, of Westmoreland county, was awarded the second premium, $8. Plow used, Hall & Speers No. 10 patent Iron Center Plow.

William Stevenson, Manchester, received the third prize, $6. Plow used, one of J. S. Hall & Speers No. 16 patent Iron Center Plow.

T. J. Wilson, of Jefferson township, received the fourth premium, $4. Plow used, Hall & Speers No. 10 patent Iron Center Plow.

Walter Grubbs M'Candless, a boy 15 years old, received the second boys' premium, $6. Plow used, Hall & Speers' with patent Iron Center.

At a meeting held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, the 26th inst., for the purpose of bringing the importance of the House of Refuge before the public, and giving to the community a better idea of its design and advantages it was unanimously

Resolved, That Thomas G. Rutherford, Esq., late Superintendant of the House of Refuge of Philadelphia, and Superintendant elect of the House of Refuge of Western Pennsylvania, and the Rev. Mr. Passavant should repeat the very able and interesting addresses which they delivered on the occasion.

In compliance whereof the undersigned have the pleasure of announcing to their fellow-citizens that another meeting on the subject will be held in the Second Presbyterian Church, on Wednesday evening next, the 31st inst., when the above named gentlemen will again, with others, address the meeting. A very interesting time may be expected, and the public are most cordially invited to attend.

J. K. MOORHEAD, GEORGE WETMAN, L. R. LIVINGSTON, } Committee.

CHARGE OF LARCENY.—A young man named Richard Balford, was committed to jail by Alderman Parkinson, on Saturday, on a charge of larceny preferred against him by John Shriver. Shriver alleges that he keeps a tavern in the 5th Ward, and that the prisoner called on him on Saturday, and wanted to know if he could board there. Some conversation ensued, after which Shriver went to his dinner, and during his absence, it is alleged, Balford went up stairs, and breaking open eight or nine trunks, rifled them of a considerable amount of money and some clothing. As the trunks belonged to Shriver's boarders, many of whom are absent, he is unable to say what amount of money has been taken from them. Balford will have a hearing to-day.

GRAND DIVISION.—The Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of this State, at its session, held in this city on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday last, elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

John M. Kirkpatrick, Esq., of Pittsburgh, Grand Worthy Patriarch.

Wm. Nicholson, Philadelphia, Grand Worthy Associate.

J. M. Kincaid, Pittsburgh, G. W. C.

Wm. Tracy, Philadelphia, G. W. T.

Rev. W. Boyd, Pittsburgh, G. W. Chaplain.

Dr. O. Cunningham, Beaver Co., G. W. S.

DR. C. M. FITCH'S LECTURES IN ALLEGHENY CITY.—As our readers are many of them aware, Dr. C. M. Fitch will commence his lectures, at Excelsior Hall, Allegheny city, this evening. As this, we presume, will be the last opportunity which will be offered to our citizens to listen to this interesting lecturer, those who did not hear him at Lafayette Hall will do well to avail themselves of the present opportunity. The varied practical useful information which the Doctor embodies in his lectures makes them of very great value, and they are not only valuable but also very pleasing. Indeed an hour can hardly be spent more pleasantly than in listening to Dr. F. and certainly not more profitably. His remarks on the Hereditary Causes of Consumption, at his lecture at Lafayette Hall (and we presume that as the course is the same the individual lectures will be very similar) were very interesting. His strictures on early marriages very just and appropriate, and if our young ladies could hear his suggestions for choosing a wife we know of some who would make a very decided change in their present mode of life. Some of the Doctor's suggestions were so amusing that we may present them to our readers, especially as they embody so much sound common sense.—The lecture on Monday and Tuesday evenings are to ladies and gentlemen, and on Wednesday afternoon the Doctor will lecture to the ladies exclusively. We hope to see a full attendance.

We would call the attention of book buyers to Mr. Pratt's sale to night at Davis' Auction rooms corner of Wood and Fifth streets. He is now closing his 17th annual sale in this city—the assortments unsold, consisting of a large collection of fine standard works in every department of literature, letter and cap paper, gold pens, &c., will be closed out to-night without regard to cost.

PASSING COUNTERFEIT MONEY.—Wm. Akert, a butcher doing business in the New Market House, was arrested on Saturday, and held to bail by Ald. Parkinson, on a charge of passing a counterfeit $8 bill on John Meyer, and afterwards refusing to redeem it.

BY TELEGRAPH.

GREAT FIRE IN CLEVELAND.

Loss over One Million of Dollars.

CLEVELAND, Oct. 28.—At two o'clock this morning, a fire broke out which consumed property considerably over one million of dollars. It originated in the stables of the New England Hotel, destroying the hotel and three entire squares.

The following are among the losers: A. & C. Loeb, Clothiers; Wendell, Druggist; Treat & Edwards, wholesale Grocers, who lost a heavy stock; Bishop, Bemington & Co., Liquor Dealers; Melihinch & Stillman, Commission House; George Sprague, a heavy stock of Groceries and Liquors.

The fire crossed James st., consuming the St. Charles Hotel and the entire row of buildings from Canal to Superior street, as follows—Chamberlain & Crawford, forwarders, whose books were saved; Cleveland Custom House, the books and papers of which were in the vault, are supposed to be destroyed; A. N. Gregg, Iron Dealers; the Board of Trade Rooms; Wilbert & McDowell, Grocers; W. Bingham & Co., Iron Dealers, several Clothing Stores, &c.

The flames crossed Superior street to Lane and entirely destroyed Oviatt's Block, occupied by L. P. & S. Burgess, Grocers and Liquor Dealers; J. Morrison, Broker, in whose safe were $27,000 in bank notes which it is supposed are consumed; 20 tons of tallow were also in the cellar; P. Anderson's store and several other stores. The insurance is heavy, but not yet ascertained.

SECOND DISPATCH.

The fire broke out on the east side of the New England Hotel Stable, which is supposed to have caught from the sparks from the locomotive of the C. C. & C. Railroad. The flames invested the building with great rapidity, the combustible material and hay in it making it like a tinder-box. Around this stable were a number of small frame buildings. These were swept almost instantly in a wide sheet of flame. All efforts were now directed to that noble structure the New England Hotel; in front on Superior street it appeared safe. As the flames increased the wind veered, the whole became a sheet of fire; for near an acre of smaller and smouldering buildings seemed to wrap themselves around it, as if resolved to involve it in a common ruin.

The firemen made a bold and united effort to stay the flames, but in vain. The wooden outbuildings, and the staircase leading to them from the kitchen, caught and the fire quickly pierced into the attics, door-ways and windows, and in a few minutes the west wing was in a fearful blaze. Here the scene was terrific; the fire leapt from the west wing to Merwin, and up Merwin to James street, sweeping Merwin. It destroyed the Merchants' Hotel and barber shop, and Williams' saloon adjoining it; Cook & Allben, clothing merchants; A. J. Wenham, druggist and grocer; Treat & Edwards, wholesale grocers; Bishop & Pennington, wholesale liquor dealers; Melinich & Stillman, commission merchants; H. Crange, grocer and liquor dealer; A. W. Sprague, wholesale grocer, on the north side of Superior st; a large warehouse belonging to H. N. Gates, occupied by P. Anderson and Morrison & Co., bankers, and the warehouse of A. & E. Burgess, wholesale grocers, will, with a number of small frame buildings were burned.

The body of flame was so large and so fierce, that the firemen were unable to cope with it, and it crossed the street catching at first the Custom House. This was quickly enveloped in one sheet of flame. The fire, rapidly spread up the river, consuming on the west side of Merwin street, Chamberlain & Crawford's, warehouse, the Board of Trade Rooms, the Commercial Insurance office, a shoe and clothing store, Wilbert & McDowell, wholesale grocers, J. Bauffet, jun. or, Grey's office, Crawford & Co's., second warehouse, W. Bingham and Co's. hardware warehouse, a clothing store on the north side of Superior st., a building occupied by J. Bergh as a clothing store which were burned.

The new block of Isaacs' was somewhat damaged but the buildings were saved.

The New England buildings were insured for $20,000; Ross, the landlord, $8000 on the furniture, $3000 on the lease, and $1400 on the building; loss $20,000.

Most of the buildings were partly insured: the Merchants' Hotel for $4000; it belongs to J. L. Hewitt; L. & F. Burgess' loss is $40,000, insured for $2000; H. N. Gates' loss is large; he has no insurance. The principal sufferers were partially insured.

During the fire there were four explosions of powder, liquors and turpentine. The first created a panic. At one time the wind suddenly changed to the North when the fire was raging in the rear of the New England Hotel. In every room were persons removing property when the smoke suddenly filled all parts of the building so densely that it was with great difficulty the inmates escaped.

This is the most destructive fire that has ever occurred in Cleveland.

Railroad Collision and Loss of Life.

BUFFALO, Oct. 28.—An accident occurred on the Great Western Railroad, which was occasioned by the bursting of the head of the cylinder of the engine, which threw the train out of time. After a delay of two hours it proceeded near Chatham. A dense fog prevailing it came in collision with the gravel train. The locomotive of the Express was overturned, killing the first and second class cars almost entirely.

The persons in the second class car were either killed or wounded, there being in all 25 men, 11 women, and 11 children. Twenty-one men were killed, and twenty women severely injured, one-half of the latter probably fatally. They were mainly emigrants.

Later accounts state that 48 persons were killed, and two wounded, who have since died.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.—A fictitious Bank, pretending to have an agency in this city, called the Merchant's Exchange Bank of Anacosta, District of Columbia, was broken up. Their bills amount to $100,000, and circulate south-west, mostly west. They are signed F. E. Curtis, Cashier, and H. Dervey, President. They are utterly worthless. Some of the parties are under arrest and warrants are out for the others.

QUEBEC, Oct. 27.—In the Legislative Assembly last night, a stringent law against the manufacture and sale of liquor passed a second reading.

BOSTON, Oct. 27.—Vigorous efforts are making in the principal towns of this State to enforce the Maine Law. Seventeen dealers were arrested in Charlestown, Lowell, and vicinity, and twenty in the municipal court of this city, to-day. Peter B. Brigham, an extensive retailer, was fined $100, and required to give bail in $1000 to cease selling.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 28.—Flour dull at $7,80@$7,85; Oats declined to 85; Whiskey 58½; Provisions—sales confined to small lots; Bacon sides 6@6¼, packed. Nothing new in other articles.

COMMERCIAL.

COMMITTEE OF ARBITRATION of the Board of Trade for October.—W. H. SMITH, V. P.—WM. BIMBERT, WM. REA, BENJ. BARNWELL, & T. BEAN.

PITTSBURGH MARKETS.

OFFICE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE,
Monday Morning, October 28th, 1854.

FLOUR—sales at mill-run and 24 bbls. superfine at $5.65 and 40 do. extra at $5.62½@5.75; from store, 50 bbls. superfine at $5.87 and 30 do. extra at $6.00; from store by dray load at $5.75@6.00; in considerable quantities—These figures indicate a still further advance.

BARLEY—a sale from wagon at 62 cts. at $1.25.

MOLASSES—a sale of 10 bbls. fair cooperage, at 27½, sixty days.

SEEDS—a sale of 60 bus. Timothy at $2.87, cash.

HAY—sales at Scales of 19 loads at $24@25 $ ton.

WHISKEY—sales of rectified in lots of 100 bbls. at 30@36.

BACON—sales of 3,000 lbs. shoulders at 6¾, four mos.; and 10 ccs. Sugar-cured Hams at 14.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

No change took place in the Money market to-day. The Banks and bankers are discounting but little, and the demand for Money in the street exceeds the supply. Some few conscientious lenders discount 12@18 $ cent, but the range is generally from 18 to 30, and the standard for good paper seems to be 24. These figures, of course, refer to the outside business. The Exchange market was unchanged. The Trust Co., continued to draw for customers at 1 $ cent. prem., other purchasers at 1¼, and others at 1 $ cent. prem., at their pleasure. The demand is fully up to the supply. Gold continues in active request, and we heard of large sales to-day at 1.30@100 $ ct. prem. The retail dealers sell it at 2@2½ $ cent.

A movement for the establishment of a "Merchants' Bank," which receives very general favor, has been set on foot, and a few leading business men have already subscribed for the requisite number of shares to make the capital stock—$100,000. It is proposed to make it a Banking Institution, in the most liberal sense of the term. The Bank will confine its operations chiefly to Exchange. Local business will be done occasionally, but only with those of undoubted credit. Notes will be received, in payment not in good standing will not be received. Interest will not be paid on current deposits, but on time deposits a liberal interest will be allowed. In no case will a banking feature, that is, the payment of interest, be taken, in that with reference to the payment of interest on current deposits. This is a system free from all evil, and the sentiment of the business community is strongly opposed to the continuance of the practice.

The representatives of several Country Banks were in the city to-day, on business connected with the proposed new Bank, between themselves and the Bankers of this city. So far as the Directors of the Bank of Pittsburgh, and Citizens' Bank have been heard from, they generally favor the arrangement. The several Bankers in question meet in this city daily. Twelve of the Country Banks have taken them, they will thus be able to arrive at a definite conclusion with regard to the matter. It is generally supposed that the Banks supply the brokers with Eastern Exchange, at a premium of 1 $ cent. Within a few days, and agreeing not to return the notes of such Banks as come to them in payment, the brokers will find it unprofitable of the Association may be returned for redemption at Philadelphia. If it is thought that the contemplated association will be formed, then relief is not obtainable to be required by this arrangement, than relief is not obtainable, until the laws of trade regulate matters. Money is worth, but generally, 1 $ cent. per month, at times like the present, a severe regulator.

Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Manchester Bridge Stock, is firm at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Boston Packets are selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Cincinnati Packets are selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Wheeling Packets are selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Cincinnati Mail Stock is selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Cincinnati Exchange is selling at 1 $ cent. prem. Pittsburgh and New Orleans Packets are selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and New Orleans Exchange is selling at 1½ $ cent. prem. Pittsburgh and Louisville Packets are selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Louisville Exchange is selling at 1 $ cent. prem. Pittsburgh and Louisville Mail Stock is selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Louisville Express Stock is selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Louisville Freight Stock is selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Louisville Tow Boat Stock is selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Louisville Coal Stock is selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Louisville Rail Road Stock is selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Louisville Rail Road Bonds are selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Louisville Rail Road Exchange is selling at 1 $ cent. prem. Pittsburgh and Cincinnati Rail Road Stock is selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Cincinnati Rail Road Bonds are selling at 100 $ cent. Pittsburgh and Cincinnati