GAZETTE—CITY DEPARTMENT.

PITTSBURGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 1855.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF COMMON COUNCIL.—*Monday, March 26, 1855.*—Members present Messrs. Barr, Black, Caldwell, Duncan, Edgar, Evans, Felix, Gracey, Griffin, Hamilton, Herdman, Irwin, Kelley, Kennedy, Kirkpatrick, King, Lewis, Little, Mackin, Moorhead, M'Adams, M'Master, Poor, Scott, Seits, Selden, Tucker, Wilson and President Long.

Mr. Edgar presented a petition praying that Foster's alley might be graded and paved.

Referred to Committee on Streets.

A communication, from Thomas M. Little, President pro. tem. of the Firemans Association was read. The communication contained a copy of the law recently adopted by the Firemen's Association, for the re-organization of the fire department, and stated that the writer was directed to submit it to Councils for their consideration.

Referred to the Ordinance Committee.

A communication from the Vigilant Fire Company, remonstrating against the proposed ordinance, was read, and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

A communication from the City Treasurer was read, stating that he had waited on the different aldermen of the city, in compliance with the directions of Councils, and was informed by them that they had no fines nor other moneys belonging to the city in their hands.

The resolution, instructing the members of the Legislature to procure the passage of an act authorizing the establishment of a chain gang in Pittsburgh, which was postponed at last meeting, was next taken up. The resolution was read a third time, passed by the following vote:

YEAS.—Messrs. Black, Caldwell, Edgar, Evans, Felix, Gracey, Griffin, Hamilton, Herdman, Kelly, King, Little, Mackin, M'Adams, Poor and Scott—16.

NAYS—Messrs. Duncan, Irwin, Kennedy, Kirkpatrick, Lewis, Moorhead, M'Master, Seits, Tucker, Wilson and President—11.

Mr. Selden from Ordinance Committee reported an ordinance for the better prevention of huckstering in the Diamond market. The ordinance makes it unlawful for any huckster, butcher or other person to sell or expose for sale during market days, any meat, poultry, eggs, fish, or such other articles as are usually sold in market, which he, she or they may have purchased within the city limits, and fixes a penalty of $5 for every offence under it.

Read three times and passed.

A communication from T. Mitchel was read, asking councils to re-imburse him for damages which his wagon sustained in crossing a gutter on Cherry alley. Referred to Finance Committee.

The following resolutions were offered by Mr. Irvin, and adopted:

WHEREAS, Our city is heavily indebted, and it is due to our tax payers that any further burthens imposed upon property therein should be placed upon such as is now (by State laws) exempt from taxation; and whereas, large amounts of real estate in this city are now enabled to escape payment of their proportionate share of public expenses, to the large increase of taxation upon such as is not so favored; be it

Resolved, That our Representatives be earnestly requested to procure the passage of a law, by the present Legislature, giving to the Councils of Pittsburgh power to provide by ordinance for the assessment of any property now exempt from taxation by State laws, and to impose thereon such city, poor, school and improvement taxes as may be imposed upon other property in said city.

Resolved, That the clerks of Councils be instructed to forward copies of these resolutions to the Senators and Representatives from Allegheny county, in the General Assembly.

Mr. Edgar offered a resolution, calling on the Market House Association to repair the roof of the Council Chambers, was read and adopted.

The remainder of proceedings same as S. C.

COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS.—Before Judges M'Clure, Boggs and Adams.

The case of the Commonwealth vs. John Merriman and son, already reported, occupied the attention of the Court yesterday. The jury was addressed by Mr. Marshall for the defence, and Mr. Black for the prosecution. The arguments of the gentlemen were very forcible and eloquent, and were listened to with much attention by a large number of spectators. At four o'clock Judge McClure charged the jury; but when we left the court, no verdict had yet been returned.

A HOPEFUL SON.—A woman named Catharine Owens appeared before Alderman Parkinson yesterday, and made oath, charging Peter Owens, her son, with disorderly and improper conduct. The poor woman states in her information that the accused comes home intoxicated, frequently, and abuses his father and herself in an outrageous manner. He sets at defiance authority at defiance, and as a last resort, she is now compelled to appeal to the law for protection from the abuse and violence of her own offspring. A warrant for his arrest was issued. The Penitentiary is the proper place for a boy like this.

CHARGE OF LARCENY.—Mayor Vols yesterday issued a commitment against Benjamin Wilson, a negro confined in the county jail on charges of larceny and burglary. The charge against the defendant in the present instance is one of grand larceny, he having as is alleged, stole a valuable waterproof overcoat, the property of Samuel Warren, from the stable of that gentleman, on Crawford street. Ben is a hardened offender, and has already served one term in the Penitentiary. His chances for a ticket of admission to his old quarters are, just now exceedingly promising.

MORE CHARGES AGAINST JAMES DIXON.—Mayor Adams, on Tuesday, sent up three commitments for Arson, against James Dixon, the young incendiary whose arrest we have already noticed. The commitments were issued at the instance of William Dilworth, Jr., who, in three distinct informations, charges the accused with setting fire to his saw mill, which was burned some weeks ago, and his stable and two dwellings which were burned last week. If the unfortunate young man be convicted of all the offences with which he now stands charged, his best days will be passed in a penitentiary.

ECCLESIASTICAL CHANGE.—At a recent meeting of the Presbytery of New York, the Rev. D. J. Lewis presented a certificate of dismission from the Pittsburgh Conference of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church, and requested admission to this Presbytery. After a full examination, and an assent to the constitutional questions, he was received. Mr. Lewis is under appointment from the Board of Missions, to preach to his countrymen at San Francisco.

COMMITTED ON A BAIL PIECE.—John Snyder, charged with assault and battery with intent to kill, was committed to jail on a bail piece yesterday—his surety having refused to be longer answerable for his appearance. Gotleib Schaffer, a witness in the above case who it was feared wished to absent himself from the city, was committed in default of bail to appear and give evidence when called on.

IMPORTANT DECISION.—Judge Hampton, on Monday, read an opinion in the District Court, setting aside the executions recently issued against certain fire engines belonging to the city, for debts due by the corporation. The Judge held that property belonging to municipal corporations is not subject to sale under this process, and that the parties must find their remedy, by the course pointed out by the act of Assembly.

ELECTION IN LAWRENCEVILLE.—In our recent return of the result of the election in Lawrenceville, we stated that there was a tie vote between William Bishop and Samuel Lindsay, candidates for membership in the Borough Council. A special election to decide the matter, was held on Tuesday, at which Mr. Bishop received ninety-six votes, and Mr. Lindsay sixty-four. Mr. B., was therefore elected.

DONATION.—The Ladies' Helping-hand Society" (through Mrs. M. H. Brunot, their Treasurer, presented to the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, the handsome donation of sixty dollars and ninety three cents. The ladies of that society furnished many of the rooms and wards of the Hospital previous to its opening. They deserve the grateful thanks of the community.

SALE OF PEWS.—The sale of pews in the Methodist church, on Penn street, was very largely attended. Forty-five pews were sold, realizing the snug little sum of $22,000. The highest pew was assessed at $600, and sold at $170 premium. The others were valued at $500; and many of them were speedily disposed of at premiums varying from fifty to one hundred dollars.

A GOOD SELECTION.—The Lawrenceville borough Council have elected Mr. David Hunter clerk of that body, for the ensuing year. Mr. Hunter is an industrious and courteous young man, and we have no doubt but that he will discharge the duties of the office with credit to himself and benefit to the borough.

ARRESTED.—J. Gallagher and S. Barber were arrested in Allegheny City, yesterday, by the Mayor's police, on a charge of disorderly and riotous conduct on the public streets. They were locked up for an examination, and will probably go to the Hill to-day.

THE WESTERN UNIVERSITY.—The workmen engaged in the erection of this building have resumed operations. The edifice gives promise of being one of the finest educational structures in the West.

SWORN IN.—Mr. J. Gebhart, recently appointed interpreter of foreign languages to the Court at Quarter Sessions, was sworn in on Monday afternoon by Judge McClure.

COMMITMENTS.—There were twelve commitments to jail yesterday, nine of which were for vagrancy.

BY TELEGRAPH

One Week Later from Europe.

ARRIVAL OF THE ATLANTIC.

NEW YORK, March 27.

The steamer Atlantic arrived with Liverpool dates to the 10th.

The Emperor Alexander II. has succeeded peaceably to the Russian throne, and has issued a manifesto stating that he will adhere to the policy of his father Nicholas. Constantine and his other brothers and officers have taken the oaths of allegiance. Alexander has confirmed the diplomatist Gortschakoff's previous instructions, to negotiate and the first and preliminary conference has been held at Vienna. Nicholas had recalled Menschikoff and appointed Gen. Gortschakoff to the chief command; Osten Sacken to the second, and Luders to Bessarabia. Alexander has also appointed Gen. Rudimer Minister of War.

The Allies have ordered their Generals to press forward the war.

There had been more fighting in the Crimea. The French stormed a redoubt erected skilfully by the Russians during the night; several hundred were killed.

There is a strong rumor that the Grand Duke Michael is wounded and dead at Sebastopol.

A large force of Russians threatens Balaklava.

The blockade of Danube is raised.

Brousa has been destroyed, with most of its inhabitants, by an earthquake.

A speck of disagreement had arisen between Napoleon and England. Napoleon said the armies should not act together if Roebucks committee proceeded; Lord Clarenden went by express to Cologne and made matters straight; meantime the committee proceeds, but it is thought that the Parliament will be dissolved.

The difficulties are serious in Ticino, Switzerland. In Belgium the crisis continues. The king of Denmark is sick.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.—COTTON—Brown and Shipley report cotton as having begun active, but it fell off at the close and it was tame at a decline of ⅛ advance. Milligan reports the sales at 87,000 bales, of which 17,000 were on speculation and 12,000 for export. Fair Orleans 5¾; Middling 5⅝; fair uplands 5¼. Middling 4¾; prices advanced ⅛, the Market opened with a good demand but fell off at the close.

Breadstuffs Dull at 2d decline on wheat, and 1s on flour; also a decline of 1s on corn.

Flour Western canal 38s; Ohio 42s; corn yellow 41s; white 42s.

Business at Manchester was better.

Baring reports in London a fair business generally. Iron quiet:—American stocks quiet and unchanged. Money easier.

The Atlantic left Liverpool at 2 o'clock, P. M. on the 10th. She did not come in until daylight, she encountered westerly gales during her entire passage. She brings 74 passengers; and amongst them are Archbishop Hughes, Bishop, Newman, etc.

The Atlantic arrived out at Liverpool on the 4th.

The Czar expired shortly after noon on Friday, March 2d. His disease was atrophy of the lungs. He had only a few days of sickness. His last words to the Empress were: "Tell Frederic, King of Prussia, to continue attached to Russia as he has hitherto been, and never forget his father's words." It is said that a few days before the Czar's death he succeeded in effecting a complete reconciliation between his two eldest sons, Alexander and Constantine, who were at variance.

The news of the Emperor's death was received in England with demonstrations of joy. Several of the theatre managers came before the curtain and announced the fact, which was received, in most instances, with tumultuous cheering.

The Berlin Court placed itself in mourning.

Orders have been issued for the whole of the Prussian army to wear symbols of mourning for four weeks.

At Vienna the news caused great agitation.—The Emperor of Austria directs, in acknowledgement of the services rendered by Nicholas during a time of unfortunate trials, that the Nicholas regiment of Cuirassears shall always preserve his name as a souvenir in the Austrian army.

At Paris the police arrested some ballad singers while chanting verses disrespectful to the dead Czar.

The Ambassadors announce the new Emperor's accession. A synopsis of Alexander's manifesto was received via Koningsburg; it declares that the welfare of his empire is his only object; he will endeavor to maintain the high honorable standard of power and glory; and aim to accomplish the incessant wishes and views of his predecessor, and expresses a hope that the zeal of his subjects will assist him therein.

Immediately when the death of Nicholas was known at Paris, orders were sent to Canrobert to press on the siege of Sebastopol with the utmost vigor.

Of the departure of Napoleon for the seat of war, nothing is known additional. It is rumored that preparations continue to be made.

The first meeting of the plenipotentiaries was held at Vienna on the 6th. Then debates were had for the object fixing the precise meaning the 3d of the guarantee points. The Russian representatives were not present. Further conferences would be held without delay.

Gen. Weddell left Paris on his return to Berlin, it was said; to be bearer of instructions which would insure the conclusion of a treaty between Prussia and the Western Powers.

The chamber of Deputies at Stutgard voted three millions of thalers demanded by the Minister of War but inserted formally in the bill a recommendation to follow closely the policy of Austria.

Ratifications of treaty with Sardinia have been exchanged.

A dispatch dated Sebastopol March 5th, reached Paris on the 7th, which stated that 50,000 Russians had threatened the English forces at Balaklava. Bosquet was endeavoring to get his corps in the rear of the enemy with a view of cutting them off from reinforcements and becoming the attacking party.

The weather was very variable at the latest dates. A convoy of 200 wagons succeeded in entering Sebastopol. The firing continued on both sides with more or less steadiness. During the night of the 21st the Russians came up as a mad redoubt on the flank of fortifications of Sebastopol and on the night of the 24th it was attacked and stormed by the French.

Accounts of the event directly contradictory by Menschikoff says that the French were repulsed with a loss of 600 men. The whole of the French accounts claim a victory, with 100 of their men killed. They likewise destroyed the works around Malakhof, but with great loss, on the 26th February.

Nothing new had occurred at Eupatoria.

The Liverpool circulars are very contradictory as to their quotations of Breadstuffs.—Messrs. Dennision quote Flour as declined 2s, Wheat 3d and Corn 2s 6d. Western Canal Flour is quoted at 38s@37s; Baltimore and Philadelphia 37s and 39s; Ohio 38s@42s. White Wheat 11s 2d@12s; red mixed 10s 6d@11s 3d. Corn, yellow and mixed 40s@41s 6d; white 41s@43s.

A special correspondent of the *London Daily News*, under date of Balaklava, 19th, says that Canrobert has ordered the Court Martial of an officer in high command in the French army, who is accused of holding treasonable correspondence with the enemy.

Bronsica has been nearly destroyed by an earthquake. A large number of inhabitants lost their lives; a dispatch says two thousand.

The blockade on the Danube was raised on the 16th of February.

There is a rumor that Schamyl, in conjunction with Nail Mehemet, will invade the Crimea by way of the sea of Azolph.

AUSTRIA.—A daughter was born to the Emperor and Empress of Austria on the 5th.

SWITZERLAND.—Disturbances have broken out in Tyrol. The difficulty is between the federal council and the citizens of the Canton.

BELGIUM.—The political crisis continues; the country is yet without a ministry.

The King of Denmark is dangerously ill.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The London *Morning Herald* says:—we have the most excellent authority for stating that the French Emperor has remonstrated against the committee for enquiring into the conduct of the war and that he has said in the event of the Committee continuing to sit, the armies of the two countries cannot act together although they may act for the same object. In order, therefore, to satisfy Louis Napoleon without affecting the English people, a dissolution will, it is stated on the same authority take place immediately. It is not known whether the recent visit of Lord Carendon to the Emperor of the French had reference to the above matter or not.

Lord Lucan has been denied a Court Martial.

The Roebuck committee is proceeding in their investigations. Apprehensions are felt that another Caffee war is about to take place and the government is taking active measures if possible.

PHILADELPHIA, March 27.—The foreign advices were unfavorable for breadstuffs, but have had no perceptible effect. The receipts are small, and the stocks of Flour unprecedentedly small, and prices are well maintained; there is some inquiry for shipment, and a sale of 500 bbls standard brands was made yesterday at $9,37½ per bbl, but holders now ask $9,50@$9,62½. Rye Flour in better demand, and advanced 25c; sales of 500 bbls at $6,12½ last evening, and to-day at $6,25. Corn Meal held firmly at $4,25. Very little Wheat offering and it is wanted; sales 200 bush prime red at $2,28 per bushel; prime white is worth $2,25@2,28. Rye sold on arrival at $1,25. Corn in demand, and prices 1c higher; sales of 10 to 12,000 bush yellow at 92½ cts afloat last evening, and to-day at 93c, including 100 bush in store delivered.—Oats remain without change. Coffee in fair demand at full rates; sales 100 bags Rio at 9¾@11¼, and some St. Domingo at 10c ₱ lb, all on time. Sugar held firmly, and further sales New Orleans made at 5@5¾ on time. Whiskey, holders now ask 23 for bbls and 22 in hhds.

BOSTON, March 27.—Thomas W. Hooper, paying teller of the Merchants Bank in this city hung himself this morning in the Bank cellar. His accounts are all right as far as known.

The Africa leaves here at ten o'clock to-morrow; the mails closing at 9.

The Atlantic saw the Asia on Saturday, at three o'clock in the afternoon, bound for Liverpool.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Cotton dull; no sales. Flour stiffer but not higher; sales 4500 bbls good Ohio; southern buoyant; sales 1400 bbls at $9,18@$9,81. Wheat firm. Corn firm; sales 34,000 bus Fork unchanged; sales 1000 bbls. Beef firm with upward tendency; sales country mess at $9,25@$11,50. Lard dull; sales in bbls. 9¼@9¾. Sheldlers lower; sales at 6¾@6¾; sales 100,000 lbs. rough sides at 6¾ to arrive. Whiskey, Ohio 30¾@31. Groceries quiet and firm. Stocks heavy and quiet. Money unchanged Virginia sixes, 96¾; Cumberland, 34; N. Y. Central, 92¾; Cleveland & Toledo 69; Erie, 48¾; Reading, 84¼.

CINCINNATI, March 27.—Flour scarce at $8,30@$8,40. Whiskey declined to 25¾. Provisions buoyant; sale 400,000 lbs. bulk meat at 5c for Shoulders, 6c for Sides; prime bbl'd Lard 9c.—Mess pork $13,75; clear pork $15. Molasses advanced; now held at 27c. Other articles unchanged.

The river has fallen 15 inches. Weather cold.

COMMERCIAL.

COMMITTEE OF ARBITRATION, FOR *MARCH*—W. B. BROWN, V. E.—FRS. SELLERS, JOSHUA RHODES, JNO. MCDEVITT, JNO. SCOTT.

REVIEW OF THE PITTSBURGH MARKET.

For the Week ending March 27, 1855.

We have had a week of cold and winter weather—sufficiently cold to form new ice in the Rivers—with occasional falls of snow. Under this renewal of severe weather the Rivers have been going down steadily, and the stage of water is now (Tuesday) barely sufficient for good-sized boats. The weather on Monday moderated somewhat, and there was a tendency to rain; but on Tuesday it was again cold. The very Spring is very tardy in its advent. The snow and ice are yet unbroken in the North, at the head of the Allegheny and away off on the upper Lakes; and until we have a thaw reaching into those hyperborean regions we shall have no Spring weather.

Business on the River has been tolerably active, and a fair amount of freight has come forward; but there is no pressure in this department. There is not the same activity apparent in the Iron and Nail trade which mark, at this year, as last: probably because there have been fewer Eastern buyers than usual, so far, and because holders have been confident of an advance. We learn from the Cincinnati and other Western papers that purchasers on eastern account are becoming more numerous.

The general tendency of the Bacon market is to more firmness. A very active *retail* demand is observable in all the Western cities. The Cincinnati papers say that it is 75 ₱ cent. stronger than last year, in that city; and here we learn from one dealer that he has sold since the opening of the season, over five times as much as last year. This, too, in the face of a bright stock, the difficulty of getting Bulk Meat preventing smoking; had the supply been better the sales whould have been larger.

Prices of Produce remain firm, with a generally good demand. Breadstuffs especially retain their firmness, and confidence in the future is manifested by large purchases in prospect at last year's prices. Provisions are very low, ranging even up to next harvest. The country will be so well drained of her supplies by that time that the harvest would need to be an extraordinarily good one.

The accounts from all parts of the country unite in testifying to the abundant promise of the Winter Grain in the ground. The lateness of the opening of the Spring season will, however, interfere somewhat with getting in the Spring crops.

The unwarranted cold weather of the past week has interfered somewhat with transportation on the Canal; but navigation has been steadily kept up, and further obstruction is not anticipated.

The rise in the Allegheny brought down but little Lumber and Iron. Many of the tributaries of that stream did not rise at all, and in others the rise was so sudden and subsided so soon that it was impossible to improve the opportunity offered.

The Grain trade, we understand, signed the bill chartering the Mechanics' Bank of Pittsburgh. Its capital is fixed at $500,000, and it is expected to go into operation on or about the first of July.

The news from the Money markets East and West continues the same as heretofore, a general tendency to ease in rates, plenty of Money for good borrowers, and a steady improvement in the better class of Stocks.

The value of imports at New York during the week is less for Dry Goods, but greater for General Merchandize, as compared with the corresponding week last year. Annexed are the comparative figures, as given by the Journal of Commerce:

For the Week	1854.	1855.
Dry Goods	$1,303,823	$ 944,253
General Merchandize	1,810,077	1,996,554
Total	$3,175,900	$2,940,807
Previous 11 weeks	40,615,794	50,312,064
Total for 12 weeks	$43,791,694	$53,252,873

The aggregate exports since January 1st, have been $12,552,519, against $17,144,887. The exports of the week were $1,031,206.

The export of Specie for the week was $775,805; for the year $4,515,067. The steamer to-day is expected to take over a million.

By the steamer Georgs Law, at New York, we have California dates to the 1st inst. Messrs. Wells, Fargo & Co. had resumed business, and it was expected that Messrs. Page, Bacon & Co. would resume payment on the 2d inst. and there was a tendency to rain; but on Tuesday it was again cold. The very Spring is very tardy in its advent. The snow and ice are yet unbroken in the North, at the head of the Allegheny and away off on the upper Lakes; and until we have a thaw reaching into those hyperborean regions we shall have no Spring weather.

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