GAZETTE CITY DEPARTMENT.

PITTSBURGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 5, 1855.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF COMMON COUNCIL.—An adjourned meeting of Common Council was held on Monday evening.

The President, Mr. S. A. Long, in the chair.

In the absence of the Clerk, Alderman Masters was called upon to act as Clerk, pro tem.

Roll called. Members present—Messrs. Barr, Caldwell, Duncan, Edgar, Evans, Felix, Getty, Gratzy, Griffin, Hamilton, Irwin, Kirkpatrick, King, Little, Moorhead, M'Adams, M'Masters, Poor, Reath, Tucker, Wilson, Selden, President.

A communication was read from the Board of School Directors of the Third Ward, refusing to allow the school building to be used for election purposes.

The President presented a communication from the Gas Company, requesting Councils to authorize an extension of the capital stock of the Company, to the amount of one thousand shares, for the purpose of enlarging the capacity of the works. This communication was accompanied by an ordinance, authorizing the proposed extension. Read and referred to Gas Committee.

Mr. Irwin presented a bill from John C. Devitt, City Treasurer, for $25. Referred to Finance Committee.

On motion of Mr. Edgar, the communication from the School Directors of the Third Ward, relative to holding elections in that Ward, was referred to a special committee. The following gentlemen were appointed the committee: Messrs. Edgar, Kirkpatrick, Lewis, Herdman, Kennedy.

Gen. Moorhead read an ordinance in place, granting the Allegheny Valley Railroad the right of way to enter the city by way of Butler and Pike streets, and the canal, under certain restrictions. It also gives the Company authority to lay rails along the bed of the canal, from Liberty street to the Monongahela river, in case the canal is vacated by the Legislature.

Mr. Scott presented a remonstrance from the School Directors of the Fifth Ward, against granting Isabella street for the purpose mentioned above. Also, a remonstrance from numerous property holders of the same Ward.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Barr, of the Sixth Ward, presented another ordinance relative to the matter, as a substitute, with a motion to postpone the ordinance first read.

This elicited further discussion, when, on motion of Mr. Scaler, the whole matter was laid on the table. After which, Council adjourned.

IMPORTANT ARREST IN ALLEGHENY.—LARGE AMOUNT OF ALTERED BANK BILLS FOUND.—The Mayor's Police, of Allegheny, on Monday evening arrested a citizen who is very generally known in this community and who is connected with several respectable families, on an information charging him with altering bank notes.—His name is Robert F. Waddell. He resides on Lecock street in the Fourth Ward, and was formerly a tin worker and real estate agent on Fifth street in this city.

By his own imprudence, it was discovered that he was engaged in some very suspicious business at his residence. The matter coming to the ears of the police, they made an examination which convinced them of the truth of their suspicions. An information was accordingly made before Mayor Adams who issued a warrant.

On Monday evening, the officers were stationed near Mr. Waddell's residence, and as he came out, they arrested him. On searching his house, they discovered on a table in one of the rooms, a number of one dollar notes altered to fives. There was also on the table a cup containing a peculiar kind of paste, and other articles employed in the process of altering. In his possession was also found a large wallet containing a number of genuine bank bills, threes, fives, tens, and twenties, with the words and figures expressing the denomination thereof torn out for the purpose of being pasted on the $1 bills. Also, a roll of $1 bills prepared to receive the alterations. The ten dollar altered bills were thirteen in number, on the following banks:—Seneca County Bank, Tiffin, O.; City Bank of Columbus, O.; Western Reserve Bank, Warren, O.; City Bank of Cleveland, O.; Canal Bank, Cleveland, O.; Bank of Geauga, Cleveland, O.; State Bank of Ohio, Mt. Pleasant Branch, and Lorain (at Elyria) Branch. The bills from which letters and figures had been cut amounted to $160, and were mostly on Ohio banks, though some Pittsburgh notes and a few from other States. The altered notes amounted to $130. The altering was exceedingly well executed and would bear the closest scrutiny.—Some of them had not been completed, and only a portion of the distinguishing marks of the small notes had been covered.

Waddell was placed in the Watch House, and on Tuesday morning was brought before Mayor Adams and held to bail for trial.

THE CENTRAL BOARD AND THE HIGH SCHOOL.—The recent discussions with regard to the operations of the consolidated school system of this city, has created a general inquiry in the public mind. There is of course great diversity of opinion in regard to the matter, and the opponents of the Central Board have already prepared and are busily engaged in circulating petitions to be presented to the next legislature, praying the repeal of the Act of Consolidation. The petitions set forth,

That at the last session of the Legislature, an Act was passed consolidating the several Wards of said City for *Educational* purposes, and providing for the establishment of two High Schools therein. That this new and complex system was entirely unsalted for by any expression of the popular will; and that in its practical working it has become onerous and unpopular, in consequence of the enormous increase it has caused in the amount of taxes necessary to be levied for School purposes; and that its tendency is to bring into disrepute in this community the whole Common School System. That the establishment of High Schools, as provided for in said Act, was entirely uncalled for; that the benefits derived from them must of necessity be unequal and partial; that they give too much selfish and invidious selections of scholars, while the additional burden necessary for their support will fall upon all the tax payers alike. And that the question of establishing such High Schools had been previously submitted to the consideration of the people of said City, and rejected by a decisive popular vote.

LOOK OUT FOR COUNTERFEITS.—The police report a perfect raid of counterfeiters upon our city this week. On Monday, bogus $10s on the Merchants' Bank of New Haven, Connecticut, were passed in a dozen or twenty different places throughout the city. Several brokers report having them offered for deposit by persons on whom they had been passed. In only one instance was there an arrest. A man who gave his name as Dodds, passed one of the notes on a store keeper named Gallagher, on Penn street. Shortly after, Dodds went into another story at the same street kept by Mrs. Kaufman and offered one of the notes. Mrs. K thought it was bad, and went out to make inquiries. She accidentally met Mr. Gallagher to whom she showed the note. He recognized it as similar to one he had received, and immediately applied to Ald. Wilson for a warrant. Dodds was arrested, and taken before the Alderman. He offered to redeem the notes if Gallagher would decline to prosecute. Gallagher accepted the proposition and Dodds was allowed to go free. Whether or not this was a proper course to pursue we leave the reader to judge.

We also learn that several women passed bills of the same description at different places in the city. The notes are pretty well executed, and are calculated to deceive those who are not adepts.

A BEAUTIFUL drawing of Kendall's Shingle Machine has just been executed by that celebrated artist, E. E. Weidner, of this city, which is a perfect representation of the "Forest Dragon," as seen in a state of rest at Ryan's Buildings, Fifth street. The engraving of this draft will be completed in a few days, so that those who have not seen the living reality can make themselves acquainted with its structure by procuring an engraved representation.—This ingenious machine has no doubt attracted more attention among practical mechanics and business men than any invention ever exhibited in Pittsburgh; and the perfect manner in which it performs its labor convinces every one of its great utility. Among the hundreds of shingle dealers and makers who have examined its workings under various circumstances, the most sceptical readily acknowledge that it works the timber to better advantage and makes a far better shingle than can be made by hand; and a number of up-river shingle men have recently purchased rights and are making preparation for manufacturing, which cannot fail to realize a great profit on all outlays, besides increasing the value of shingles some twenty per cent. by the superiority of the article.

A BLACK RUFFIAN.—A negro named Biddie Moore was committed to jail yesterday by Ald. Major on three different charges. The first was preferred by Sarah Frederick, a colored woman, who testified that Moore ran after her with a razor and threatened to kill her, on the twenty second of November. The second charge, for disorderly conduct on Sunday last, was also made by Mrs. Fredericks. The third was made by Catherine Randall, also a colored woman, who deposed that Moore threatened to cut her throat with a razor and ran after her cutting at her with the said razor. The parties all reside in the Sixth Ward.

Moore was committed for trial on the two charges of the peace. He is said to be a jail bird, he having been confined in the Penitentiary for the term of seven years.

ARREST OF A SUPPOSED BURGLAR.—Our readers will remember that at the last term of the Court of Quarter Sessions two colored men, George Johnston and James Gordon, were tried for burglariously entering the house of John Kohlmas at Braddock's Fields, and stealing therefrom some $24 in money, a pistol, and a certificate of deposit on the Bank of Pittsburgh for $190. Johnston was convicted and Gordon acquitted. At the request of the District Attorney the Court deferred sentencing Johnston, having reason to believe that a third colored individual, named Rutherford, was the real burglar, and had disposed of the certificate of deposite to Johnston. Efforts were put forth to secure the capture of Rutherford, which we learn from the Mayor's police have proved successful, he having been captured at Owensville Kentucky, a short distance below Louisville. A requisition from Governor Pollock will be immediately procured and the prisoner brought back to this city for trial.—*Chronicle.*

DISTRICT COURT.—Before Judges Hampton, TUESDAY, Dec. 4.

In the case of Gilmore vs. Hunt, the jury rendered a verdict for defendant and certified a balance due him of $450.

McCaslin et al. vs. Gen. John Neal. Action of ejectment for four hundred acres of land. Verdict for defendant.

John Sills, Jr., vs. James Gilchrist. Action on a promissory note. Verdict for plaintiff for $420.

Court adjourned till this morning at nine o'clock.

A RICH BEGGAR.—We take the following from the *Post*:

A professional beggar, named Mrs. Shaw, who is well known to our citizens for her pertinacity in soliciting charity, has accumulated property in this city by begging for which she has recently been offered ten thousand dollars. She came to this city about ten years ago from Mercer, Pa., and since that time has industriously pursued her professions, in all kinds of weather.—Her perseverance has been well rewarded.

WORKING ON THE SABBATH.—Mrs. Bridget Erley, who keeps a liquor shop in the Fifth Ward was informed against yesterday before Ald. Wilson, on three charges, viz. following her worldly employment and occupation on Sunday, the 18th of November; Sunday the 25th of November; and Sunday, the 2nd of December. The fine for each offence is $25, and these prosecutions were entered in lieu of a prosecution for selling liquor on Sunday, as the law upon that subject has been declared repealed. The case will be decided to-day.

THE ALLEGHENY LARCENY.—Yesterday another commitment was lodged against John Brown, alias John Baldwin alias John Lewis, the negro who stabbed Mr. John Martin, charging him with larceny on oath of John McKnight, Jr. This prosecution is based on goods belonging to Mr. McKnight which were discovered in possession of persons who identified Brown as being the person of whom they purchased them, he alleging that he was a pedler and wanted to sell out.

A YOUNG MAN named Matthew Green, a helpless cripple, was discharged from jail yesterday after a confinement of fifteen days, on a charge of drunkenness preferred by his father, William Green. Jailor Phillips informed us that he was no more intoxicated when he was committed than when discharged. The young man was on his way to school when he was arrested at noon of his own father and sent to jail for an offence of which he was not guilty. Can these things be?

THE OPERA last night was as largely attended as on Monday evening, and the "Bohemian Girl" was magnificently performed. The audience was enthusiastic and more so than Pittsburgh audiences usually are. The first citizens were attending this course, and we are happy to learn the engagement is a most lucrative one to the manager and the company. There will be a rush for seats to-day, as the Daughter of the Regiment is to be presented to-night.

THE attention of house-keepers, and others who may wish to lay in a supply of China, and Queensware, all new and perfect and of the latest styles, will have their wants supplied by attending the sale, by P. M. Davis, at No. 114, Smithfield street, as the stock must be closed out this day.

GEORGE PROUDLEY, of the Station Hotel, Allegheny, was prosecuted yesterday before Ald. Steel for selling liquor to an Indian and also for selling liquor contrary to the Restraining Act. The liquor was sold on the 24th ult.

JOHN HUNT, of the Fifth Ward, has been returned for selling liquor contrary to the law.

THE Democracy of Allegheny nominate their candidate for Mayor to-day.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Further particulars of the Mosquito Quarantine.

CAIRO, Dec. 4.—The fire originated on board the steamer Collier; then communicated to the stern of the Mayflower. The Mayflower is valued at $100,000 and was insured for $50,000. The Collier is valued at $35,000 and was insured for $15,000. The Wharf boat was burned containing $20,000 worth of goods which are a total loss. Fifteen persons are missing, supposed to be lost.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—A letter from Antigua received here states that the brig Losago, of Philadelphia, was boarded in the harbor of St. Johns by the English authorities and a colored clerk, named Ross, was forcibly taken as negro under pretence of being a slave restrained of his freedom. Ross protested that he was a freeman, and all the last accounts he was in the hands of the police, awaiting an investigation.

A meeting of delegates from the different Irish organizations in the United States and the Canadas is now in session at the Astor House. About 150 members are in attendance, but more are expected. The object of the meeting is supposed to have reference to a movement on foot for securing the redemption of Ireland by an invasion from this country. The reporters are not admitted, the proceedings being strictly private.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 3.—The despatches received by the Atlantic, represent our affairs with England unchanged since the departure of the Canada. Mr. Buchanan says that Lord Clarendon and the British Cabinet are endeavoring to patch up a reply to our government's communication with reference to a violation of our neutrality laws by British agents in order if possible, not to wound our sensitiveness and at the same time to shield Mr. Crampton.

Our government has finally acted on the memorial of Denmark, proposing capitalization or a tax according to the value of the cargo in lieu of the present Sound Dues, and have rejected the proposition.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 1.—There was no election for Speaker on the first ballot.

HOUSE.—The Senate was called to order at noon. Messrs. Hale, Durkee, Yulee and Pearce were sworn in. The Rev. H. C. Dean was elected Chaplain, when the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—On motion the balloting for Speaker was resumed and on the first ballot resulted as follows:—Richardson 74; Campbell 58; Banks 28; Fuller 20; Humphrey Marshall 19; scattering 26. There was no election, 111 being necessary to a choice.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 4.—The ballotings still continue. On the 6th trial Richardson had 75; Campbell, 57; Banks, 25; Fuller, 22; Marshall, 18. 7th; Richardson, 74; Campbell, 54; Banks, 28; Fuller, 20; Marshall, 20. 8th; Richardson, 75; Campbell, 51; Banks, 32; Fuller, 20; Marshall, 18. 9th; Richardson, 75; Campbell, 51; Banks, 31; Fuller, 21; Marshall, 16. There being still no choice, the House on motion adjourned.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 4.—Despatches received from all along the line of canal, state that boats are crowding along in immense fleets, and there is no doubt that all would reach tide water before the closing of the canal.

The house of Mrs. Spelman, on Palmer Hill, in Essex Co., was destroyed by fire on Sunday morning, and three small children perished in the flames.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The National Intelligencer confirms the reports received from Kansas. The despatch received from Gov. Shannon making a demand for troops was received by President Pierce yesterday. It is stated that civil war was threatened, and requested prompt assistance. The immediate transfer of troops from all the nearest ports was transmitted by telegraph by the President.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The stock market is firm; sterling exchange active. Cotton drooping, sales 1200 bales. Flour quiet, sales 13,000 bbls. Wheat languid, sales 16,000 bush. at $2,25 for Southern white, and $2,12½ for red. Corn drooping; sales 26,000 bush. Pork languid, sales 550 bbls. Beef firm; sales 300 bbls. Lard active, sales 3000 bbls. Whiskey declined; sales 100 bbls at 29. Coffee advanced, sales 500 bags Rio at 12c. Sugar firm, sales 4500 hhds Muscovado at 7¾. Molasses advanced, sales 400 bbls at 45. Linseed oil active, sales 20,000 galls, at 92½.—Lard oil steady. Iron firmer, sales 150 tons Scotch pig. Tobacco firm with sales 50 hhds.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 4.—Flour dull this morning; held at $5, but there were no buyers. Wheat dull; nearly 40,000 bush offered, small sales effected at $2,06@2,16 for white, and $2,05@2,10 for red; declined about 5c. Corn dull at a decline of 2 to 3c; new white 85@88; yellow 86@89. Provisions; sales have been made of beef amounting to 20,000 lbs., new bulk sides 11¼, and to arrive at 10¾. Hogs sell at $8,75@9 per cwt.; hams 12½ for new shoulders, and 14½ for new hams.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—Cotton inactive; prices rather favor buyers. Breadstuffs of all descriptions are dull with no export demand for Flour and Shipping brands are freely offered on 'change at $9,50 ₱ bbl. without buyers. Penna. Corn Meal $4 ₱ bbl. No sales of Rye Flour have been reported. There is but little Wheat offering and the supply fully equals the demand and prices are 2c lower, sales 2500 bush. Southern and Penna red, part at $2,17@$2,18 ₱ bush. and part on private terms. Corn in fair demand, supplies come forward very slowly; sales new yellow at 70@75 and old at $1,02. Rice in limited demand at 5¼@5½ ₱ lb. on time. Cloverseed scarce worth $7,75@$8 ₱ 64 lbs. Whiskey dull, sales in bbls at 40c and in hhds at 39c.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 3.—Cotton declined ¼; sales 6000 bales; middling 9@9¼.

It is reported that several lives were lost at Memphis.

COMMERCIAL.

COMMITTEE OF ARBITRATION, FOR DECEMBER.
Geo. W. Cass, V. P.—John Chaffe, Henry Lannery, John S. Conrave, James O'Hara.

REVIEW OF THE PITTSBURGH MARKET.

For the Week ending December 5, 1855.

Money is in steady demand; and the banks find their funds pretty fully employed; but they take nearly all the first class paper offering. Considerable scrutiny is exercised as to the character of paper, both indorsers and outs. On the street, first class notes go at 1 ₱ cent. a month; and other qualities at 1½@2. Eastern Sight Exchange rules at par, and 30 day bills at ½ discount and interest off.

The Banking House of W. W. Copes & Co., of Cincinnati, suspended on Friday last. As Mr. Copes was Cashier of the Kanawha (Va.) Bank, his failure involves that of the bank also. The Trust Co. of Cincinnati has thrown out its notes, and the Brokers do not take them at less than 25 ₱ cent discount. The bank may be considered as used up. Its present circulation is said to be about $150,000, and Mr. Copes alleges that it is able to redeem it all—over-issues of $100,000 is said to have been discovered, but the assets are sufficient to satisfy note holders in full.

The other eastern banks that were last week in discredit have put themselves right again, and are going on as usual.

Business in this city continues brisk and all departments of trade seem well employed. The river is going down, however; and although it has been in fine condition all week, the present prevalence of cold weather will soon operate to check the activity of navigation. The stage of water is steadily going down, and yesterday evening measured but little over 4 feet.

The receipts of breadstuffs last week were 26,144 bbls flour, 60,864 bus wheat, and 11,154 bus rye; since September 1st, 249,197 bbls flour, 622,248 bus wheat and 141,062 bus rye; to same time last year, 21,416 bbls flour, 126,858 bus wheat and 1259 bus rye.

Owing to an alleged scarcity of cars on the Pennsylvania road, there has been some delay in making shipments east, and complaints were rather loud and numerous; but this has now been remedied, and no further delay or hindrance is anticipated. The shipments east last week were 22,963 bbls flour, 15,838 sks wheat, and 1298 sks rye; since Sept. 1, 254,839 bbls flour, 126,886 sks wheat, 10,178 do rye; to same time last year, 11,710 bbls flour, and no wheat or rye.

The arrivals of boats yesterday and Monday indicate no falling off in the tide of produce setting east. Over 10,000 bbls flour and a proportionate amount of produce were unloaded on Monday and Tuesday, and large amounts are still on the way.

The cool weather has been favorable to hog-killing, and our packers have been busy. Over 40 head are reported to ₱ cwt. and best. The receipts of hogs by railroad to date are 18,851 against 11,283 to same time last year. Packers are offering 6¾@6¾ net for hogs for immediate delivery.

The Board of Trade at Cincinnati and Louisville is rather active, prices ranging at 6¾@6¾ net; but the amount slaughtered is behind that of last year.

The foreign news by the Pacific showed an excited market, and a slight advance in breadstuffs; but the latter has been without effect on this side. The large amounts pressing into market seems to depress our markets and check speculative movements for an advance.

The financial news by the Atlantic was considered as unfavorable in New York. The general demand for money in London, the fall in Consols, the rise in breadstuffs, and the apprehensions of a coming advance in the rates of interest by the Bank, all tended to excite apprehensions of a time of bad news by the next steamer. The demand for money in London is consequent upon the great activity and speculative movement in sugars and other produce, and their purchase of breadstuffs. Business was at the highest pressure and generally prosperous.

The Money market at Philadelphia is rather stringent. Money continues in active demand, with very little paper coming to market, and the Brokers do not take them at less than 2