Pittsburgh Gazette.

PITTSBURGH:

TUESDAY MORNING, FEB. 2, 1858.

☞ OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY. ☜

News of the City and Neighborhood.

THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY JAIL.—We have taken occasion, as we believed duty called us, to make some remarks in relation to our jail and its management; and have thereby called down upon us a most strenuous and dirty defence of everything connected with the establishment. It has been charged upon us that we acted from spite, or because we were denied "privileges in jail," a place, by the way, where we have been so fortunate as not to require any privileges. We have neither personal spite nor dislike to any one about the jail. We do, however, dislike any one of any party who has been elected to office and neglects to do his duty in that office. We think the jail a most perfect "abortion," from beginning to end, and that it is a school of vice and corruption; that the county would do well to tear out its inside arrangements and build it on some other and better plan. We have heretofore taken occasion to intimate, and we now say this: Allegheny County jail is a disgrace to the builders and planners of it, and in the very teeth of any thing like reformatory punishment. We anner a short article from the pen of a visitor at the jail, which a friend has sent to us. It was written before the present Jailor took his place:

"This jail combines all the faults and abuses of the worst county prisons in this State, or in the United States. Hoping to find something redeeming in its earlier discipline and government, I deliberately and patiently entered upon investigation, but the nature of the revelations these inquiries brought to light, obliged me to relinquish the work to those whose more immediate duty it is to bring about a reformation. The prison was built in view of the separate imprisonment, classification, and employment of offenders; instead of which I found transgressors of all ages, colors, sexes and degrees, promiscuously associated; little boys listening greedily to gray-headed, time and crime-hardened convicts; the youthful transgressor learning new lessons of iniquity, from those whose vices only kept pace with their crimes; here the sick were unattended, the ignorant untaught, the repentant (if any) unencouraged, and the insane forgotten. The area, stairs, and passages were unscrubbed and unswept; the cells and beds yet worse, uncleaned; and some of them perfectly intolerable through foul air and negligence. If it had been the deliberate purpose of the citizens of Allegheny county to establish a school for the inculcation of vice, and obliteration of every virtue, I cannot conceive that any means they could have devised would more certainly have secured these results than those I found in full operation in the jail. On my second visit things were a little better outwardly, so far as the use of the broom, sound clean blankets, and some what decently arranged apparel, were considered. This, the work of an hour, was to last but a day: the visit was prepared for. The ample leisure of the prisoners afforded opportunity for various little works of skill and ingenuity for facilitating oral communication, when by night all, or by day a part, should be locked into the cells. The pastime particularly referred to, was cutting the doors in pieces, or rather cutting such apertures through them, as in default of clairvoyance assisted vision and promoted a social feeling, by increasing facilities for conversation. I was somewhat struck with the remark of one of the prisoners, a forger, and a man of some education, though he had failed in the use of its advantages—'a man who comes here will lose all respect for the law, and for those who administer it; and all respect for the officers and those who appoint them; and he will go out indifferent to duty and to God.'

"It is a chance if he does not believe himself as good as those who are instrumental in bringing him here. 'You may learn here,' said another, 'every thing that people outside call bad; and you may look long enough for the good, and not find it at last.' At one time, there had been religious teaching by preaching on the Sabbath; but a very respectable pious clergyman told me he had relinquished the work from the conviction that where evil conduct, through want of a good system of discipline so prevailed, it was wholly unavailing to offer occasional instruction. I know some of the most intelligent of the citizens of Pittsburgh are earnest to carry out a change, which, if it be not fruitful of great good, shall at least not permit such an increase of positive evil. Attention once directed to these monstrous abuses, reformation will be certain to follow in Allegheny County Jail."

QUARTER SESSIONS.—Patrick Coyle, indicted for rape of a girl in Duquesne borough, Patrick was acquitted.

Mary Schwambley, of the 6th ward, indicted for keeping a brothel, and also for selling liquor without a license, was found guilty and sentenced to pay a fine of $10. This woman is a notorious creature. She is loathsome to behold, being covered, as to her face, with sores, and to all appearance lost to every virtuous emotion. It is not a long time since a locomotive run off the track in her neighborhood, and went straight through her house, disclosing all its secrets; but it did not stop Mary from her former course of life, and so she is regularly before the Court for some misdemeanor.

Henry Mungle and Amanda Stewart, indicted for assault and battery with intent to kill. The same men were tried for highway robbery and assault and battery was a constituent element of the robbery. Mungle was convicted and Stewart was acquitted of the robbery. As the assault and battery was charged in the felony counts they were acquitted. They both stand convicted of grand larceny. Mungle for stealing a cost Knight's jewelry, Hamilton's store, and Stewart for receiving some of the goods.

George Broom, a sailor boy, who has been in jail for some time, was brought up yesterday and discharged from custody, the District Attorney having entered up a *nol. pros.* in his case.

LAKE SUPERIOR NEWS.—We have received the Ontonagon *Miner* for Jan. 9th. It contains full accounts of the positions and prospects of the mines in that district, from which we learn that they are generally in a good condition, though mostly working with reduced forces.

A mass of copper was lately sent away from the Cliff mine weighing 10,400 pounds. The Miner says this is much the largest piece of native metal ever yet sent away from any mine.

The weather still continues delightful, interspersed with an agreeable variety of sunshine and snow, with medium temperature. The snow is but little over a foot in depth, so that the Minnesota road, over which the copper from that and the National and Rockland mines are brought forward for shipment, is not yet first rate, hence the small amount received last month from those mines.

THE AMERICAN CYCLOPEDIA.—The first volume of this great work, now being published by the Appletons, has been laid upon our table. We use this occasion merely to say that the agents authorized to receive subscriptions—in this way only will this work be delivered—Mr. Duffey, has his headquarters at the store of Messrs. Hunt & Miner, who are the agents for the Appletons in this city. Mr. Duffey will call upon our citizens, soliciting subscriptions, and will be found a man so well acquainted with his business as that he can present the claims of the work he offers, in the most modest and unobtrusive manner. We reserve further notice of the book until we have given it such examination as its pretensions demand. See advertisement.

FESTIVAL FOR THE INFIRMARY.—This pleasant entertainment commences in the City Hall this afternoon, and will be continued on the afternoons and evenings of Wednesday and Thursday. In a community like ours, which, for so many years has witnessed the beneficial working of this Institution among the suffering, we think any amusement that the Hospital is in a greatly crippled condition for the want of funds. We are gratified to find that in this emergency Mrs. Black, Sr., and a number of other noble women have come to the aid. We hope that their benevolent efforts may be crowned with large success. Admittance to the Hall 10 cents. Dinner is served up daily at 1 o'clock.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The Fourth Anniversary of this association returns to-day and will be duly celebrated at the Third Church this evening. Rev. C. P. Krauth, Rev. Prof. Barrows, Rev. Dr. Jacobus, Revds. Mr. Kendall and Mr. Bytlesby, will be present and participate in the exercises of this most interesting occasion. The great amount of good which this association has done, should and does command it to the kind regards and to the support of all the friends of virtue and religion. This winter it entered the rugged paths of daily charity and sought out and supplied the poor and needy. It will only ask the sympathy and aid of the people that it may act under its efficient organization as an almoner of the Lord.

THE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT this evening at Lafayette Hall we know will be a rich affair. Judging from the programme and the talent of the performers selected for the occasion we can assure something unusually entertaining.

John Wright, Esq. of the 1st Presbyterian Church choir, is conductor for the occasion, whose attainments as a musical scholar we cannot over rate. We hear of Messrs. Everson, Pope, McCargo, together with a host of lady performers whose talents warrant us in promising our readers something grand in the way of music.

THE case of the Com. vs. J. Richards, indicted for the murder of old Mr. Weisman, will probably be on to-day for trial before Judges McClure, Park and Adams.

THE GROUND HOG.—There is every prospect at the time of this writing, that the ground-hog will search in vain for his shadow this morning, and having come out of his nest will find nothing, whatever, not even a shadow, to predicate a cold winter upon. Our readers will bear in mind that this is the day on which the bear in mind that this is the day on which the ground-hog comes out; if the "creetur" finds the Sun shining he turns tail to that convenient luminary; thereupon his own shadow is projected in front of him, which, when he sees he immediately takes to his hole and stirs not forth again for six weeks, during all which time the reign of winter and of cold weather continues unbroken. This time, we think, the animal will see no shadow.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A young man named Jas. Gibson, employed on the farm of Mr. J. Clever, in Robinson township, came to his death yesterday morning, under the following circumstances: He was on his way to the city, on horseback, for the purpose of procuring medicine for an invalid in the family, and while descending a slight declivity a short distance from the city, his horse slipped and fell, and, as is supposed, crushed him to death. He was a sober, industrious young man, about nineteen years of age. Coroner Alexander held an inquest, and a verdict was rendered in accordance with the above facts.

THE EVENING REPORTER.—Mr. Evans, in a short paragraph in the *Evening Reporter* of yesterday, announced the fact of his withdrawal from that paper, and Messrs. Sweeny and Moody also the fact that they have assumed the conduct of it. We most heartily wish them success. There is ample room in this city for an evening paper that can be enterprising without being externally boastful and be spicy without being smutty. Success to the *Evening Reporter*.

SOCIAL SOIREE.—B. Trimble's "New Hotel" is fast gaining notoriety; another social soiree will be given on Wednesday evening, the 10th inst. This beautiful structure is so well adapted and arranged for dancing parties, that the day is near at hand when it will be *the* place for all soirees that are to be conducted on a tip-top scale. Gentlemen desiring to secure tickets in time would do well to call upon the managers who are gentlemen of the right stamp.

As will be observed by a card in our advertising columns, Messrs. Charles Rea and J. Newton Jones have associated themselves together for the purpose of conducting a general Steamboat Agency. Their office, for the present, is at No. 76 Water street. Both gentlemen are best in mind that this is the day on which the well posted in river matters, and well known in this community, and will, therefore, doubtless receive a fair share of the business offering.

THE promised Medical Lecture to Ladies by Mrs. Mansfield, is exciting considerable interest. Numbers who have already called upon her at the Monongahela House, speak strongly of her keenness of perception as manifested in examining and tracing the causes of disease, and learning the conditions of the system; and it is likely that her lecture will afford much valuable information. Admission, however, is free.

A MAN named John S. Lentz was arrested in Philadelphia last Friday, charged with fraud upon Brice, Richards & Co., of this city. He gave out that he was a glass factor in that city, whereas it is alleged that having obtained glass to the amount of $4,000 he appropriated the sum as if he were principal. Alderman Enos, before whom the proceedings were brought, held the accused to bail in $5,000, to answer at Court.

THE following appointments were made yesterday by the Commissioners of Allegheny Co.:

Solicitor—John R. Large.
First Clerk—Thomas Perkins.
Second Clerk—Henry Snively.
Transcribing Clerk—Z. Tomar.
Janitor of Courts House—H. H. Phillips.
Engineer of Jail—Andrew Mitchell.
Watchmen—Abijah Ferguson, Pierce Brennen.

FANCY FUR LIP AND SLEIGH BOBS.—A special sale of these articles will take place this morning at 11 o'clock, on the second floor of Davis' new auction building, Fifth street. It is particularly worthy of attention. Among the elegant varieties is one superb robe made from the white fur of the Arctic ocean.

THE parties whom we noticed as having attempted to open a Peter Funk establishment in this city, last week, have left. Several others have been developed against them, and they have been implicated in a Baltimore robbery of some $2000 from a man named Kelly. There is a reward still pending for their capture.

A GIFT.—Miss Emma Seasife, of this city, has painted a sketch of the house and its surroundings, at Oakland, where her childhood was passed, as an appropriate gift for a young lady with whom she grew up, and a very appropriate gift it is. The picture is now in the jewelry store of Mr. McFadden, in Market street.

THE *Dispatch* has shifted its quarters, and made itself a "local habitation and a name," on the street of the city. Its business is now puffing and blowing in the new buildings just now erected on the lot on 6th street, just below the Post Office. Success to our new neighbor and our old friends.

M. M'CONNS, D. Elder, James Gormley and Wm. M'Clure are dropped from the night police. It is alleged that they stretched their authority a little, and confined some of our respectable citizens a few nights since. A charge is laid also against Capt. Reed of a similar character.

On the first page of the *Gazette* may be found a poem from the *Atlantic Monthly*. It is from one recognized as being from the pen of Longfellow, who, perhaps of all our countrymen, has the truest appreciation of the subjects of his beautiful poem.

YESTERDAY morning Coroner Alexander held an inquest on the body of an old man named John Trentbill, who died in jail. He had been there for one month. A verdict of "Died from Natural Causes," was rendered.

WE learn that Mr. Foster has really secured a lease for the second story of Odd Fellows' Hall, which he intends to fit up for a Theatre, and the Hall is being finished with an eye to that use.

DISTRICT COURT.—The case before Judge Williams yesterday was that of James Linn vs. William S. Brown; action to recover $700, the value of a boat loaded with coke. On trial.

THE regulations for the new night police have been published on conspicuous and convenient posters by the Mayor.

A LIST of desirable Stocks, for investment, are to be sold this evening, by Mr. Davis, at his new auction building, No. 54 Fifth st.

SEWED RIM RIGHT.—Simonds, of St. Louis, who has created a counterfeit of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and sold a counterfeit of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, has been placed within the narrow limits of jail, should catch all scoundrels. Imprisonment, though should catch all scoundrels. Imprisonment, though should catch all scoundrels. Imprisonment, though