Pittsburgh Gazette.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 9, 1860.

CITY AFFAIRS.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations for the *Gazette*, by G. E. Shaw, Optician, 58 Fifth St.—corrected daily:

	IN SUN.	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock A. M.	69	67
12 " M.	00	80
6 " P. M.		70
Barometer		29 7-20

Republican Headquarters for 1860,
CORNER WOOD AND FOURTH STS.
☞ *Entrance on Wood street.* ☜

FREE READING ROOM open every day, (Sundays excepted,) from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. English, German and Welch Newspapers from all parts of the Union on file, and Republican Campaign Documents for distribution. The public generally and strangers visiting Pittsburgh are cordially invited to call.

☞ The Executive Committee of the Club meet EVERY WEDNESDAY at the Rooms at 1½ o'clock, P. M.
m9:1d-wtsr

FOR RENT.—A large and commodious room in the third story of the *Gazette* Building; is well lighted; easy of access, and will be rented cheap to a good tenant. Apply at the counting room of this office.

U. S. COURT.—Two of the Commissioners of Lawrence county, Messrs. Fullerton & Cowden, appeared before Judge McCandless, yesterday, and answered the rule filed against them to show cause why an attachment should not issue for contempt, in refusing to satisfy a judgment obtained by David Pollock against the county. Their reply was that there was not sufficient money in the treasury to pay the claim. This was considered as raising an issue between the parties, and B. Kunz, of New Castle, was appointed a commissioner to take testimony. He shall report the decision when the case is heard upon the evidence.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—Before Judge Mellon.

Tuesday, May 8th—Maloney vs. Maloney. This case was brought to a conclusion on Monday evening, by the jury finding for the plaintiff, Nancy Maloney, the sum of $465.83—being the amount of arrearages due her from Oct. 14, 1856, until the present time, at the rate of $130 a year. The jury go on to say: We further find that Robert Maloney pay to Miss Nancy Maloney, hereafter, the sum of $3 per week, weekly, for her maintenance, at which sum we have executed it.

Sam'l Gormly and John Wilack, administrators of George Sedlie, dec'd vs. Swan & Co. This action was brought by the plaintiffs to recover the value of some 13 perches of limestone that was taken by the defendants off of the land of George Sedlie, in 1855, when they were contractors for the McAdamizing of the Noblestown road. The plaintiffs claim about $162, and the defendants claim that Sedlie, as he was most benefitted by the road, was to give them the stone, and if he had lived he would have carried out his resolution.

Miss M. McGreivor vs. C. Wilson. Mr. Wilson, a New York merchant, in 1857, sold to Miss McGreiner, a milliner in this city, a bill of goods amounting to $60. Afterwards, finding he could obtain no money from her, he took some bonnets as collateral security. The plaintiff brings this suit to recover the value of the bonnets, which, she alleges, is about $120, while he stands at his claim. The defendant's counsel, Mr. Miller, replied that the goods had not been sold yet, and that when the goods were taken it was Mr. Wilson's intention to pay himself only the amount of debt due from Miss McGreiner out of the proceeds of the sale of the goods and refund the surplus to her.

THE WEATHER.—The weather has been almost insufferably warm during the last three or four days. Black clothing of every description is being rejected, and apparel of a lighter character assumed. Straw hats are also coming into market, and if the weather remains sultry we presume gaiters and pumps will be much sought after. The influence upon vegetation is remarkable. Forest trees which three days ago gave no indications of returning vitality are now exhibiting the livery of summer, and will in as many more days form delightful shades under their boughs. Many, if not most of the fruit trees, have shed their blossoms and the fruit is formed, so that the critical period has passed by safely, and it will require another June frost to blast the agriculturist's hopes for the coming season. The strawberries are covered with blossoms, and promise a most abundant yield. The currants and gooseberries are formed and the bushes are ladened down. Raspberries, too, exhibit a similar appearance, and we do not hesitate to intend the belief that we shall have ordinary plenty is before us. The wheat, rye and oats fields are making great growth, but the former two are dotted over with many bare spots. The meadows are like a velvet carpet, and it would well repay a ride in the country to see the rich emerald tints which the genial heat and recent showers have given them.

A SCENE transpired yesterday at an Alderman's office in Allegheny. A suit was brought by plaintiff against defendant, and at the hour of the hearing plaintiff did not appear. The defendant being present, a nonsuit was applied for and refused by the Magistrate. The defendant considering the magistrate anything but impartial, proceeded to comment in rather severe terms upon the alleged denial of justice, whereupon the other, determined to make up for the imbecility of the law, which did not permit him to commit for contempt, promptly ejected the offending defendant from his premises. A friend of the latter taking fire at the slight of his monde's wrongs, caught hold of the Alderman and served him in like manner. In this extremity, however, when things were ripe for a battle, the parties abandoned their angry intentions and no damage was done, except to the magistrate's temper, who exclaimed with great heat that he was determined to uphold the dignity of his office. We cannot but regard it as unseemly on the part of a gentleman of the commission and conservator of the peace to be the ringleader in committing a breach of the peace.

POLICE ITEMS.—There were 17 commitments to the jail, yesterday; of these, 12 were for drunkenness, 2 for disorderly conduct, 2 for vagrancy, and 1 for assault and battery.

Geo. W. Biggs, the boy who was arrested some time since, for the larceny of $20 from officer Richardson's house, had another hearing on Monday, before Mayor Wilson, and was released on small bail. We understand that he has been in the House of Refuge, and was released only a short time since.

George Hillman was brought before Alderman Stout, in Allegheny, charged by Louis Reich with assault and battery. He was held in $200 bail to stand his trial.

A man named Charles Casbdollar had an information lodged against him by John Hartman, charging him with passing a $5 counterfeit bill. The case was withdrawn by Casbdollar paying the costs and redeeming the bill.

Ann Knowland made information before Alderman Jones, charging Ellen Gribben with threatening to whip her. She was held to bail.

SALE OF H. H. RYAN'S PROPERTY.—We call attention to the sale of valuable city and country property of H. H. Ryan, dec'd, advertised in this day's *Gazette*. The city property is well known. The farm in Ohio township containing 177 *acres*, is one of the most desirable in Allegheny county, being on the Ohio river, P., F. W. & C. R. R., and New Brighton road, and well stocked with excellent fruit. The property in Reserve township being within a short distance of Allegheny city is certainly a very choice piece of property—the vines alone in a favorable season yielding a large profit. In regard to the Pennsylvania avenue property, the Wood street, Virgin alley and Ferry street property, we need only to refer to the advertisement and the knowledge of our readers. Call on the administrators and get a handbill.

A GOOD INVENTION.—No one—of any age, sex or condition—likes to be entirely destitute of hair "on the top of the head, in the place where the hair ought to grow." But age, or disease, or both will sometimes deprive those who value it very highly of that useful ornament.—Any medicine or preparation, then, that will restore to the bald head a luxurious growth of hair, of youthful beauty and color, may truly be reckoned "a great invention."

Such a preparation is PROF. O. J. WOOD'S HAIR RESTORATIVE, which is advertised in another part of this paper.

HEMPFIELD RAILROAD.—Operations were resumed on this road on Saturday, the first train since the flood having arrived at Wheeling on that day. It seems that the Wheeling tunnel was pretty nearly filled up with slides, and it required all the time that has elapsed since the flood to remove the dirt. This road seems to have been more damaged by the rains and freshets than any other railroad in our vicinity. The cars will, however, start and return regularly hereafter.

CONVICTS FROM BLAIR COUNTY.—Sheriff Funk, says the Blair County *Whig*, was to leave on Tuesday morning for Pittsburgh, taking with him Ephraim Musselman and Querian Gazer, convicted of larceny at the late Blair county sessions. One county, adds the *Whig*, now stands second to Allegheny in the number of convicts confined within the walls of the Western Penitentiary.

SUSPENSION BRIDGE.—We observed, yesterday, in crossing the new bridge, that an announcement is made on a sign board at the Allegheny end that horses are not to go out of a walk under penalty of $5. We notice the fact for the benefit of any who may have heard the report lately in circulation that driving at any ordinary gait would be allowed.

BAUMGITZ.—Officer Bordon yesterday arrested a Dutchman in the Diamond, Allegheny City, for cruelty to his horses. They attempted to run off, and the countryman, becoming enraged, struck a pitch-fork into them in a most brutal and heartless manner.

CATHOLIC MEETING.—A very large number of people, we should judge, that there were at least 2,800 assembled last evening in the Cathedral, to express their sympathy with the Pope in his present difficulties. The Right Rev. Bishop O'Connor was elected Chairman, with some four Secretaries and twenty four Vice Presidents. We regret that we were so crowded that we could not give the whole proceedings, as they were of the most interesting kind we ever witnessed. A number of gentlemen spoke, among these Gen. Will. A. Stokes, Col. Leopold Sahl, and James P. Barr, Esq. We give some of the remarks made by Bishop O'Connor.

His Reverence said—In announcing the object of the meeting, regretted that it devolved on him to commence the proceedings, for owing to his ill health he was totally unprepared. He commenced by saying that all who were present, were doubtless aware of the difficulties surrounding the Head of the Church, and the sympathy that had been expressed, and shown for him in all parts of the world.

The person, with whom they had met to sympathise, was regarded by all good Catholics, to be the vicegerent of God on earth, occupying the most important position therein. He was the great instrument by which the truth which will bring salvation to all are made known to the world.

Above everything else is liberty and independence, and we should endeavor to remove from him all appearance of constraint, so that what he says and does may be but the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him. The Popes of former times discharged their important trust, even in bondage, sealing it with their blood on the scaffold. It is not to be expected that all men should be endowed with that fortitude which enables them to defy the scaffold, in the discharge of their duties, and God has spared the necessity of this exhibition of heroic fortitude, by whole races of men, how by ordinary fortitude these duties can be discharged. The exemption from the superiority of other sovereigns seemed to be the means employed for this purpose.

In the few centuries which succeeded the conversion of the Emperors, we find a conflict between the secular and religious powers of the world, and many a Pope suffered through the nominally Christian Emperors, who had embraced various heresies. Some were put to death and suffered extremely in endeavoring to maintain their spiritual authority. By these representations, not only the opposition of the Popes was aroused, but the indignation of the Italian people, who would not be corrupted by the secular powers. And this iniquitous power so operated against religion that it seemed to exert itself only to plunder and oppress the people and stigmatize their faith. But finally the Emperors of Byzantium found themselves unable to brave the storm of indignation, and the Popes obtained the temporal sovereignty, which has now lasted for a thousand years.

The Rev. Bishop spoke to a considerable length of time, and in the course of his remarks defended the temporal sovereignty, which had been much opposed, remembering that the Popes would gladly resign it, could they exercise their spiritual authority freely. He likened this authority to the smoke of our city, saying that no one would destroy the sinews of our wealth to rid themselves of the smoke nuisance.

If we suppose for a moment that they had not this authority, we must enquire what would be their position.

It would necessarily be that of subjects, of the governments of those countries. If we glance over the map of continental Europe, we will see that it is impossible for any government to allow the Pope free exercise of his ecclesiastical authority. This is true even of those countries, nominally Catholic, for instance Austria, which insisted on exercising its influence in the choosing of bishops and priests. The latter must procure permission to preach. The archbishop must be tried, and bishops cannot be ordained without consent of the government. In France, similar authority was sought to be exercised, and even in democratic Switzerland the church is held in chains.

The Rev. Bishop continued his discourse much longer, and we are sorry we have not the space to put it in, as it was one of the most interesting things we ever heard. He concluded by saying the attacks made upon the Pope have aroused the sympathies of the whole Catholic world, and against the attempts to destroy his authority we are here to let those who assail him know they are assailing the Catholic world. It is necessary that he should fulfil the high mission with which he has been entrusted. We may be few, but we are an integral part of a great body of Catholics, and our voice will have its weight. Napoleon has acknowledged it, and we should not be ashamed to be expressing our sentiments and giving in our adherence to the Holy See.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Birmingham, East Birmingham and South Pittsburgh Gas Company held at Alfred P. Pears, the President, submitted the following annual report:

Gentlemen: I am glad to be able to report that since our last annual meeting we have become a dividend paying company, [illegible] year ending [illegible] 1859, we have gone on [illegible] the expiration of nine months, we refrained to do so, as we believed it important for the sake of pastoral influence, that at least one minister should belong to the faculty of each literary institution of a high grade. But no doubt, when the faculties are composed wholly, or mainly, of men professing to be moved by the Holy Ghost to preach the gospel, whether the members of such faculties are fulfilling their sacred calling in the most efficient manner.

This it seems inharmonious with the itinerant character of our ministry, and incompatible with the designs of our Conference associations, for men, who never intend to enter the pastoral work, but to make teaching a profession for life, to be admitted to membership in the Conferences. In our opinion a larger proportion of laymen might be advantageously employed in the useful and honorable work of education, and consequently an equal number of educated and gifted ministers be spared to world the more potent influences of preachers and pastors.

In the Sunday School department, according to the minutes of 1859, there were 10,469 Sunday Schools; 113,159 officers and teachers, and 879,126 scholars. In the minutes of 1859, there were 11,755 schools, 122,229 officers and teachers; 732,592 scholars. The Publishing Interest were not named. The Book Concern was established in 1789, with a borrowed capital of six hundred dollars. Notwithstanding the capital has been divided with the M. E. Church, South, and paid large sums in dividends to Annual Conferences and other purposes, ordered by the General Conference, from time to time, the net capital of the New York and Western Book Concerns, as reported by the Agents, is $762,933. The Missions of the Church have prospered greatly during the past four years. The number of Missionaries and helpers in the foreign work has increased from 54 to 125, and converts from 2,165 to 3,565. Four years ago there were 721 ministers and 1,961 assistants and probationers in the domestic mission work, and at this time 22,033 probationers and members, and 705 ministers.

The main feature in the address was in reference to the Pastoral work, from which we learn that the number of probationers and members in 1855, was 799,431; and the number of itinerant ministers 5,408. In 1859, 974,215 members and probationers, and 6,877 ministers, showing an increase of 174,914 members and probationers, and 1,469 itinerant ministers in four years. Agreeable to the action of the General Conference in 1856, in taking the statistics of the church, a report of church property was required. In 1856 the returns show the number of churches to be 9,305; probable value, $18,822,640; number of parsonages, 2,540; probable value $2,427,165; estimated aggregate value, $21,249,805. After alluding briefly to the remarkable harmony in doctrinal views and calling attention to the peculiar views of some on the doctrines of sanctification and infant regeneration, dealt some heavy blows upon those who interfere with the itinerant plan by arranging appointments.

In stationing the preachers, we have been embarrassed in a few Conferences, where there are large cities, by a practice which has obtained to a limited extent, of Churches and Preachers negotiating their appointments, both in and out of their Conferences, and doing this without any consultation with the appointing authorities, and without due regard to the state of their own Conferences, or to what may be their disadvantages to other Conferences, or Churches, or Ministers.

These negotiations are in some instances several months in advance. In those denominations where this practice is the authorized method of establishing pastoral relations, it is consistent. But in a Church whose ministry is itinerant and whose economy provides a rule and authority by which pastoral interchanges are to be effected, we ask whether it is unanimous or proper, either in a church or minister, to engage in such negotiations and pre-arrangements. If this practice is to prevail, we shall have all the disadvantages of a settled ministry, without its advantages—the embarrassments of two systems and the full benefits of neither. No philosophic mind will pretend that the two systems can be blended. We must adhere to the one or adopt the other. We believe our ministers and people are ardently attached to the itinerancy and that these local embarrassments will disappear as soon as their unmethodistic character and unhappy consequences are perceived.

The subject of special transfers receives attention in the following language: The General Conference of 1844 resolved, that "the change of our ministers to different sections of the work is highly important to the common interests of our beloved Methodists." In attempting to act in accordance with the views thus expressed, occasional opposition has arisen in Annual Conferences. Some of these bodies have requested the Bishops not to transfer any ministers within their bounds; while others have desired that each case of transfer should be submitted to their vote. Such opposition is a counterpart to the negotiations already alluded to, and, like them, tends to embarrass the work of stationing preachers.

Lay representation, with its advantages and difficulties, is presented briefly: The question of lay representation in the Conferences is not a new one. It has been often and ably discussed. Heretofore the decisions reached have been adverse to it. In the organization of the Church this question was yielded to that of efficiency under the peculiarity of our system.

It was believed to be fully compensated by the other grants to the laity—such as a lay ministry in the office of local preachers, now numbering about 8,000; the sub-pastorate, in the office of class-leader, an office peculiar to Methodism, and exercising the gifts and graces of a still larger number of our most excellent laymen; the authority to license men to preach, and to recommend them to the traveling connexion or pastoral office, and in the ministry consisting to depend upon the voluntary contributions of the people for their support.

No church so fully employs her laity or more highly honors them than does the M. E. Church. In no church have they more influence and control.

The matter is one of expediency, and rests itself into these two questions: Is it practicable? and will it be useful? In our judgment, there are great if not insuperable difficulties in the way of introducing lay delegates into the Annual Conferences as co-ordinate members of those bodies. We do not consider it appropriate to specify these embarrassments in this address.

We are of opinion that lay delegation might be introduced, in one form, into the General Conference, with safety and perhaps advantage—that form being a separate house—the General Conference being composed of a house of clerical and a house of lay delegates, deliberating together but voting as separate houses, and no action being valid without a majority of each separately obtained. We believe this would be fully satisfactory to our intelligent laity, who appreciate the value of our peculiar ecclesiastical polity, and we judge would not be unsatisfactory to the ministry of the church.

The necessity for this change does not appear to us to be so great, nor the call for it so general, as to induce us to recommend its adoption. But the subject is before the church, it being discussed in our church papers, and will be brought to your attention by the journals of the several Annual Conferences, and we deem it suitable and proper for us to intimate our judgment as to the extent to which it may be allowed, without destroying the peculiarities of our economy, or impairing our efficiency as an aggressive church.

At the close of the reading of the address, the Conference ordered the publication of two thousand copies in pamphlet form for distribution. The different subjects treated in the address were referred to the appropriate Standing Committee.

Bishop Simpson was requested to give a report of his visit to England and the Continent. The Bishop thought it would be courteous to wait a few days on Dr. McClintock (Co. Delegate) who was detained on account of sickness.

The order of the day was then taken up to receive memorials, petitions, &c., and Baltimore, Black River, California, Cincinnati, Delaware, Detroit, East Baltimore, East Genesee, East Maine, Erie Conferences responded. Nearly ninety of the petitions where on the subject of slavery, half of which was from the Black River Conference, besides those on Lay Delegation, Boundaries, &c.

Just before adjournment, a resolution was offered, requiring all reference of the journals of Conferences, be ordered by one motion, without naming it to open Conference hereafter. Dr. Cox, a wide-awake member of the Pittsburgh delegation, objected, and a number of others, as it prevented the proper notice of their matter in the *Advocate*, and also from preventing them from knowing what was going on. While the matter was pending, the Bishop adjourned the Conference on time.

Conference closed with singing the Doxology and Benediction by Rev. Robinson Scott, of Ireland.

WILL.

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 5, 1860.

FIFTH DAY.—Bishop Morris called the Conference together at the regular hour—after which the Doxology was devotedly led by Rev. J. M. Trimble, D. D., of the Ohio Conference.

After the journal of yesterday was read and approved, the resolution of Dr. Kingsley, pending at the time of adjournment, asking a reference of so much of the journals of the Annual Conferences as relate to the several subjects which Standing Committees are constituted, respectively to those committees. Rev D. P. Mitchell opposed the resolution in some well chosen remarks, but the motion prevailed. The call of Conference for memorials, &c., was made, but was been arrested with a motion to reconsider. Agreed to—Quite an animated discussion arose, in which Revs. F. G. Holliday, J. Ash, Dr. Kingsley and R. Nelson participated. The resolution was withdrawn, and the call of the Conference was resumed.

The greater part of the session was occupied in receiving memorials, petitions, &c., on a variety of subjects, viz., Slavery, Lay Delegation, Extension of the term of Pastorate, Presiding Elder Question, New Book Depository, Appeals to the people for a term of three years, Division of Conference, &c. One Quarterly Conference petitioned, asking a recession to the Baltimore Conference, which prompted by Mr. Wesley to the reception of travelling preachers into full connection. "Do you take no stuff, I believe that these memorial petitions were prepared—in the subject of slavery, in most of them asking a change whereby Slavery may be extirpated from the Church.

Hon. Thos. Ewing, of Ohio, addressed the Conference, Rev. Moses Hill called up the appeal case of Mr. Wright, and moved that a committee of fifteen be appointed to try and appeal. This led to a long and spirited discussion. The question has long troubled the church, and many of the members were disposed to have it settled on a better basis than heretofore. Years ago the General Conference tried the appeals which came up from the Annual Conferences, but it was found that so much time was taken that most one were unduly prolonged. At the General Conference (1852 (supposed one) the plan was altered to the appointment of a committee, of not less than fifteen, one of the Bishops presiding, to try each case. Objections to this plan were made, and various propositions were offered to dispose of the question.

The most popular mode seemed to be the election of one member from each Conference, or a given number from each part of the work to be elected by the respective delegations, to be called a Court of Appeals. Bishop Simpson, at the close of the Bishops, stated that he and his colleagues would prefer that the Conference would elect the members of the Committee to lay Appeals, or establish a court of appeals, as that they would be relieved from the duty of appointing the Committees and attending over their deliberations. The question lingered up to a late hour, when it was at the discussion proceeded, so that the members were disposed to vote cautiously, as their action would be regarded as a precedent, especially as several appeals will come before the body. Without coming to a decision in regard to the establishment of a Court of Appeals, a resolution was adopted, providing the Conference shall elect by ballot, a committee of fifteen to try the appeal of Alpha Wright, such nomination being subject to confirmation by the Conference, and to be so adopted.

After this the session, the order of the day—call on Committees for petitions, &c., was suspended to receive reports of the Book Agents of New York and Cincinnati. Reports received and referred to the Book Committee.

Rev. Dr. Kingsley, presented memorials and petitions, all referred with a resolution by Peter Cartright.

The committee on Finds, Worship announced a long list of appointments for preaching in the different city church, as well as quite a number of cities and towns in Western New York. The Bishops of the Pittsburgh Delegation—Rev. G. A. Helfenstein and Rev. Robert Scott—have spoken for the Pittsburgh pulpits.

The weather is charming, and quite a number of strangers are here.

WILL.

TRENT.—The last report of the State House Commissioners shows that the total cost of the Ohio State House at Columbus will be about $1,750,000. The building is to be completed by the first day of October next. It is 304 feet long, 184 feet wide, and its height to the top of the cupola is 166 feet. Its corner stone was laid on the 4 b of July, 1839, and over 20 years have been occupied in its construction. A great deal of the stone work was done by convict labor. The skeleton of an infant was found in the cellar of Jacob Weyandt, of Claysburg, Blair county, one day last week. Mr. W. was searching his cellar for rats, when he came upon a bundle of bones, which, when opened, which was found, on removing the lid, to contain the remains of an infant. It is supposed to have been placed there several years ago; and suspicion rests upon a girl who at one time resided in Holidaysburg as having been the mother and designer of the child.

RUN OVER BY THE CARS.—Coroner Bostwick held an inquest yesterday afternoon on the body of a man about 35 years of age, named Joseph Bailey, who was run over by the express train coming west, at 12:45, yesterday noon. The engineer of the train saw him lying on the track, and immediately whistled "down brakes," but was unable to stop the train before the man was run over.

The jury brought in the following verdict—That Joseph Borland came to his death, on Tuesday, May 8th, 1860, by being accidentally run over by the Express train of the Pennsylvania Railroad while lying on the track at the second curve above Mrs. Denny's residence.

LECTURE.—Dr. Stevens, of this city, delivered a lecture on the subject of "Electropathy," in the Town Hall, Birmingham, last evening. Although unable to be present, we are gratified to learn that the Doctor, notwithstanding the unpromising condition of the weather, had a very large and intelligent audience; that the lecture was eloquent, interesting, and instructive—was delivered in his usual forcible manner, and gave very general satisfaction to all present.

Electropathy, with such faithful and talented advocates as Drs. Stevens and Gregory, will, without doubt, attract attention as a successful and popular system of treating some of the worst and most profracted diseases to which the human race is heir.

PERSONAL.—We yesterday met our good-look ing "old friend," Chit. C. Moore, Esq., the gentlemanly business manager of Mrs Matt. Peel's Campbell Minstrels. He has just returned from Cincinnati, where the company have been playing to crowded houses, and looks as jolly as ever, "only more so." The Theatre was crowded from pit to door, both on Monday and Tuesday evenings, to hear the Minstrels, and as each crowd came in, Moore seemed to expand into an attitude of general benediction, and say, in the language of the immortal Pecksniff, "Bless you, my children, bless you."

DR. M'MASTERS.—Our talented young townsman, Dr. M'Masters, received a dispatch from the steamship *Niagara*, at New York, of which vessel he is Surgeon, requesting his presence immediately, as she sails for Japan on the 20th of the present month. In accordance with the orders, he left for the above named place last evening. The *Niagara* will take on the Japanese Embassy on the Pacific side of the Isthmus.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW, for April, Scott & Co's reprint, has been received and is for sale by Hunt & Miner, Fifth street, next door to Post Office. It is full of able articles and sustains its high literary reputation.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—A group of little boys were at the house of E Paige, Esq., playing and amusing themselves, when they got hold of a shot gun, which was loaded, and by some unaccountable mistake, the gun was discharged. The contents took effect on one of the boys, Charley Tucker, a lad of six or seven years of age, striking him above and behind the left eye, and tearing off a portion of the skull some three inches in diameter, and baring the brain, the shot appeared to strike him on the side of the head and run forward. He was so close to the gun that his face was considerably burned with the powder. A more heart-rendering sight we have never witnessed. The poor little fellow was attended by Dr. Anderson, and his wound dressed, but it is of so fearful a character that it does not seem possible that he could recover. He however strange as it may seem, lived about twenty-four hours, when death relieved him from his suffering.—*Indiana (Pa) Amer.*

ROOFING—CHEAPEST AND BEST.—

FIRE AND WATER-PROOF.

Gum, Cement and Canvas Roofing;
Gum, Cement and Canvas Roofing;

Felt, Asphaltum and Gravel Roofing;
Felt, Asphaltum and Gravel Roofing;

☞ Roofs of all kinds Repaired.
☞ All work warranted.
m9:1d WM. JOHNSON, 18 Smithfield st.

General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

[Special Correspondence of the Daily Pittsburgh Gazette.]

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 4, 1860.

Fourth Day.—The Conference was called to order by Bishop Ames, and opened with the usual religious exercises by Rev. J. S. Porter, D. D., of Newark Conference.

Dr. Harris, the Secretary, read the journal of yesterday, which, after some unimportant corrections, the minutes were approved.

The Bishop announced the following committees, ordered yesterday.

On Correspondence with Sister Churches, and on the Subject of Christian Union—Revs. H. J. Clark, H. P. Torney, J. Lanahan, C. B. Davidson, and L. Hitchcock.

Committee on Divorce and Re-Marriage—Drs. J. H. Power, J. Dempster, J. Floy and Revs. W. Cooper, J. Van Cleve.

Committee to try the appeal of George C. Creer—Revs. J. Porter, H. Whiteman, D. P. Mitchell, B. F. Crary, J. S. Smart, G. W. Clark, R. Davitt, J. Collender, H. R. Smith, J. K. Tuttle, F. H. Stanton, P. R. Brown, A. Prince, J. A. Robinson, B. Day. Bishop Simpson will preside.

Committee on the Centenary of Methodism and Methodist Historical Society—Revs. N. J. B. Morgan, E. O. Haven, J. L. Crane, F. C. Holliday, M. D. C. Crawford.

Committee on Colored Membership—Revs. S. Y. Monroe, A. Witherspoon, N. Wilson, W. H. Olin, T. C. Murphy.

The credentials of Rev. Thomas Webster, delegate of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada to this Conference, was presented. Bishop Richardson, of that Church, and Rev. Thos. Webster, were then introduced by Bishop Morris to the Conference, and the Address of that body was read by the Secretary. Bishop Richardson then delivered a brief but interesting address. On motion, the Committee on Correspondence with Sister Churches was directed to prepare a suitable reply.

Bishop Ames stated that Rev. Robinson Scott, delegate from the Irish Wesleyan Conference, and bearer of a communication from that body, was present. Bishop Morris introduced Mr. Scott to the Conference, who, after his credentials and the Address to the Conference were read, delivered an interesting and soul-stirring address. After alluding to his visit to the General Conference at Indianapolis in 1856, and the privilege to be at Buffalo, and greeting familiar faces, he said the Irish Conference express their hearty sympathy with you, and their belief in the essential oneness of our common Methodism, and their high appreciation of your delegation to them. That deputation made just such an impression, not only upon the Conference, but also upon the mind of the public in general, as you would wish them to make. In that deputation Irish Methodism has a special interest. Though she cannot claim them as her own immediate sons, she retcems it an honor to be able to number as her own the fathers of such men as Bishop Simpson and Dr. McClintock. We thank God for that delegation, and pray that you may always have such men to represent you. I assure you that when you send another deputation to Ireland they will receive a *hundred thousand welcomes*—such welcomes as come from warm Irish hearts. [Cheers.] An ex President of the Conference said to me: "All that go to America get their heads Papistized." This is true, and we believe the affection so strong that nothing can destroy the bond of union.

He then spoke of the difficulties Irish Methodism had to contend with, and the timely aid received from American Methodism and the friends of Ireland, and closed by stating that a brighter day had dawned upon Erin's Isle. The prayers of two hemispheres for Ireland are being answered. There is a glorious prospect before us. The present success is but the precursor of a coming day of greater power leading to the conversion of all Ireland, affecting all Christendom—yes, the *whole world!* God has come down among us and blessed us, and said to us, "*take the land!*" and I believe he will enable us to do so. I hardly know where to stop; my heart longs to pour itself out to you in a flood of love.

Dr. Durbin asked and obtained leave to present the following memorial: From the Mission Conference of the M. E. Church in Germany to receive their Biblical Institute, books at lower prices, a grant of books and exit from one of the Bishops; also from Publishing Committee, for printing forty thousand dollars, and instructing book agents to furnish cash at the expense of casting and metal, also, a fiscal report of the various interests in Germany, also, a memorial from the India Mission, to be created an Annual Conference.

Dr. George Peck, Chairman of the committee on contested election case from Wisconsin Conference, reported that that Conference had acted honorably and in good faith therefore,

Resolved, That the brother objected to be seated in this General Conference.

The report was adopted.

The special order of the day was then taken up, and Bishop James read the Pastoral Address of the Bishops. The document was quite lengthy and comprehensive, and was listened to with almost breathless attention. The address opened with a salutation to the chosen representatives of the M. E. Church, convened for the Quadrennial examination of its condition and interests. Allusion was made to Bishop Waugh, who died Feb. 9th, 1858, in touching language, and also to the death of twelve members of the General Conference of 1856, ending the list with the lamented Dr. Parker, of Allegheny College. During the past four years the Bishops were permitted to preside over at the sessions of Conferences in Europe, Asia, Africa, and South America. The Bishops annually visited the Pacific Coast. Reference was made to the ordination of a Missionary Bishop, Rev. Francis Burns, formerly of Pittsburgh, Gal. Dedicated to Africa. The subject of Education received considerable attention in the address, recommending the general Conference to constitute a General Education Board. The practice of [illegible] Conferences in the forms of instruction, was refuted to as follows: "We regard it very important for the sake of pastoral influence, that at least one minister should belong to the faculty of each literary institution of a high grade. But no doubt, when the faculties are composed wholly, or mainly, of men professing to be moved by the Holy Ghost to preach the gospel, whether the members of such faculties are fulfilling their sacred calling in the most efficient manner.

This it seems inharmonious with the itinerant character of our ministry, and incompatible with the designs of our Conference associations, for men, who never intend to enter the pastoral work, but to make teaching a profession for life, to be admitted to membership in the Conferences. In our opinion a larger proportion of laymen might be advantageously employed in the useful and honorable work of education, and consequently an equal number of educated and gifted ministers be spared to world the more potent influences of preachers and pastors.

In the Sunday School department, according to the minutes of 1859, there were 10,469 Sunday Schools; 113,159 officers and teachers, and 879,126 scholars. In the minutes of 1859, there were 11,755 schools, 122,229 officers and teachers; 732,592 scholars. The Publishing Interest were not named. The Book Concern was established in 1789, with a borrowed capital of six hundred dollars. Notwithstanding the capital has been divided with the M. E. Church, South, and paid large sums in dividends to Annual Conferences and other purposes, ordered by the General Conference, from time to time, the net capital of the New York and Western Book Concerns, as reported by the Agents, is $762,933. The Missions of the Church have prospered greatly during the past four years. The number of Missionaries and helpers in the foreign work has increased from 54 to 125, and converts from 2,165 to 3,565. Four years ago there were 721 ministers and 1,961 assistants and probationers in the domestic mission work, and at this time 22,033 probationers and members, and 705 ministers.

The main feature in the address was in reference to the Pastoral work, from which we learn that the number of probationers and members in 1855, was 799,431; and the number of itinerant ministers 5,408. In 1859, 974,215 members and probationers, and 6,877 ministers, showing an increase of 174,914 members and probationers, and 1,469 itinerant ministers in four years. Agreeable to the action of the General Conference in 1856, in taking the statistics of the church, a report of church property was required. In 1856 the returns show the number of churches to be 9,305; probable value, $18,822,640; number of parsonages, 2,540; probable value $2,427,165; estimated aggregate value, $21,249,805. After alluding briefly to the remarkable harmony in doctrinal views and calling attention to the peculiar views of some on the doctrines of sanctification and infant regeneration, dealt some heavy blows upon those who interfere with the itinerant plan by arranging appointments.

In stationing the preachers, we have been embarrassed in a few Conferences, where there are large cities, by a practice which has obtained to a limited extent, of Churches and Preachers negotiating their appointments, both in and out of their Conferences, and doing this without any consultation with the appointing authorities, and without due regard to the state of their own Conferences, or to what may be their disadvantages to other Conferences, or Churches, or Ministers.

These negotiations are in some instances several months in advance. In those denominations where this practice is the authorized method of establishing pastoral relations, it is consistent. But in a Church whose ministry is itinerant and whose economy provides a rule and authority by which pastoral interchanges are to be effected, we ask whether it is unanimous or proper, either in a church or minister, to engage in such negotiations and pre-arrangements. If this practice is to prevail, we shall have all the disadvantages of a settled ministry, without its advantages—the embarrassments of two systems and the full benefits of neither. No philosophic mind will pretend that the two systems can be blended. We must adhere to the one or adopt the other. We believe our ministers and people are ardently attached to the itinerancy and that these local embarrassments will disappear as soon as their unmethodistic character and unhappy consequences are perceived.

The subject of special transfers receives attention in the following language: The General Conference of 1844 resolved, that "the change of our ministers to different sections of the work is highly important to the common interests of our beloved Methodists." In attempting to act in accordance with the views thus expressed, occasional opposition has arisen in Annual Conferences. Some of these bodies have requested the Bishops not to transfer any ministers within their bounds; while others have desired that each case of transfer should be submitted to their vote. Such opposition is a counterpart to the negotiations already alluded to, and, like them, tends to embarrass the work of stationing preachers.

Lay representation, with its advantages and difficulties, is presented briefly: The question of lay representation in the Conferences is not a new one. It has been often and ably discussed. Heretofore the decisions reached have been adverse to it. In the organization of the Church this question was yielded to that of efficiency under the peculiarity of our system.

It was believed to be fully compensated by the other grants to the laity—such as a lay ministry in the office of local preachers, now numbering about 8,000; the sub-pastorate, in the office of class-leader, an office peculiar to Methodism, and exercising the gifts and graces of a still larger number of our most excellent laymen; the authority to license men to preach, and to recommend them to the traveling connexion or pastoral office, and in the ministry consisting to depend upon the voluntary contributions of the people for their support.

No church so fully employs her laity or more highly honors them than does the M. E. Church. In no church have they more influence and control.

The matter is one of expediency, and rests itself into these two questions: Is it practicable? and will it be useful? In our judgment, there are great if not insuperable difficulties in the way of introducing lay delegates into the Annual Conferences as co-ordinate members of those bodies. We do not consider it appropriate to specify these embarrassments in this address.

We are of opinion that lay delegation might be introduced, in one form, into the General Conference, with safety and perhaps advantage—that form being a separate house—the General Conference being composed of a house of clerical and a house of lay delegates, deliberating together but voting as separate houses, and no action being valid without a majority of each separately obtained. We believe this would be fully satisfactory to our intelligent laity, who appreciate the value of our peculiar ecclesiastical polity, and we judge would not be unsatisfactory to the ministry of the church.

The necessity for this change does not appear to us to be so great, nor the call for it so general, as to induce us to recommend its adoption. But the subject is before the church, it being discussed in our church papers, and will be brought to your attention by the journals of the several Annual Conferences, and we deem it suitable and proper for us to intimate our judgment as to the extent to which it may be allowed, without destroying the peculiarities of our economy, or impairing our efficiency as an aggressive church.

At the close of the reading of the address, the Conference ordered the publication of two thousand copies in pamphlet form for distribution. The different subjects treated in the address were referred to the appropriate Standing Committee.

Bishop Simpson was requested to give a report of his visit to England and the Continent. The Bishop thought it would be courteous to wait a few days on Dr. McClintock (Co. Delegate) who was detained on account of sickness.

The order of the day was then taken up to receive memorials, petitions, &c., and Baltimore, Black River, California, Cincinnati, Delaware, Detroit, East Baltimore, East Genesee, East Maine, Erie Conferences responded. Nearly ninety of the petitions where on the subject of slavery, half of which was from the Black River Conference, besides those on Lay Delegation, Boundaries, &c.

Just before adjournment, a resolution was offered, requiring all reference of the journals of Conferences, be ordered by one motion, without naming it to open Conference hereafter. Dr. Cox, a wide-awake member of the Pittsburgh delegation, objected, and a number of others, as it prevented the proper notice of their matter in the *Advocate*, and also from preventing them from knowing what was going on. While the