Pittsburgh Gazette.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 8, 1861.

CITY AFFAIRS.

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

	IN SUN.	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	63	58
12 " M.	84	58
3 " P. M.		55
Barometer		29 6-10

Missouri and Virginia Money Taken AT PAR,

At CHARLES GIPNER'S,

No. 78 Market Street.

The Gipsies—Their Character and Habits.

There are now three bands of Gipsies encamped within a short distance of the city—two back of Allegheny, and one in the vicinity of Temperanceville. They attract considerable attention, as they go about the streets—the women presenting a very odd appearance in their flounced dresses, without the fashionable appendage of hoops. The proverbial dishonesty of these people causes them to be regarded with suspicion, and when the females go about from house to house, fortune telling, timid housewives keep a wary eye upon them. Its said, so far as we have been able to judge, do nothing but trade in horses, and drink whisky. We have never known one of them, however, to be arrested for larceny, or any serious crime, and they are perhaps slandered in this respect.

The new American Cyclopedia says—"It is questionable whether a band of genuine Gipsies has ever been in America?" This will account for the fact that the bands now located in our vicinity are not so dishonest and depraved as are the genuine Gipsies which roam through the countries of Europe. The American Gipsies never do any work, however, and have no fixed habitation. The only covering they have is the canvas over their wagon beds, and when they have no wagon to lie in they sleep upon the ground. They are necessarily filthy in their habits, and generally live from hand to mouth. Some of the men have money, and we have lately heard of wagons being made to their order, by one of our manufacturers, at a cost of one hundred dollars. This is an exceptional case, and as a general rule they are possessed of but little means.

The origin of this singular race is unknown, although they pretend to be descended from the Egyptians—the name "gypsy" being a corruption of the term "Egyptian?" Organized bands of Gipsies first appeared in Germany in 1417. They numbered about 14,000 in Italy, as early as 1422.

We quote from the Cyclopedia as follows:

"On April 14, 1427, arrived at Paris from Bohemia; (they said) a band of 120 strangers, claiming to be Christians of lower Egypt, who had been expelled by the Saracens. They said they had confessed to his holiness Martin V., who, as a penance for sins committed on the way, had ordered them to traverse the world for seven years without sleeping in beds. They had among them a duke, a count, ten lords, and a number of women. The women wore gold ear rings, and had black, curly hair. They professed the gifts of fortune telling and palmistry, and were great thieves. The authorities would not permit them within the city of Paris, but assigned them La Chapelle, near St. Denis, where they were consulted on the affairs of the citizens. Finally matters by great numbers of the citizens. Finally matters by great numbers of the citizens. Finally matters by great numbers