The Pittsburgh Gazette.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1864.

GENERAL NEWS.

EDUCATION IN ILLINOIS.—The State Educational Convention of Illinois, held at Joliet last week, on motion of the State Superintendent, adopted unanimously a resolution in favor of the Bureau of Education proposed by Mr. Donnelly, and called upon their Representatives in Congress to sustain such a measure, and appointed the President of the State Normal University to confer with the educational conventions of other States. Similar resolutions have been adopted unanimously in the educational conventions of Michigan and Indiana. The National Educational Convention to meet in Washington is talked of, to take action in reference to popular education in the Southern States.

THE Philadelphia *Inquirer* says that measures are in progress to obtain the remains of Sterling Price, formerly of Missouri, for interment in the lot where Bishop Fenwick is buried. The contributions are to take the form of a thank offering for the restoration of peace and the "great enlargement of civil liberty," and a building is to be erected having, in the language of Bishop Spalding, the pastoral letter to his clergy and laity, "as its central feature, a large chapel for the free preaching of the word of God; and connected with it, the needed school and offices for all diocesan purposes, and for the use of the various church societies, constituting in its unity, a noble diocesan house, worthy to be the memorial tribute of a great diocese to a great and beloved Bishop."

THE Knoxville *Whig* relates the following incident: A gentleman of that city had occasion a short time since to send a messenger to Atlanta on a matter of business. The man who went had served three years in the Federal army, and was of that hated class known as East Tennessee Unionists. He was at once met by some rebels who left their ship-yard account of their offensive course of conduct, and ordered that they allowed him one hour to leave in, and taking them at their word he returned to Tennessee.

LOSS BY FAILURE OF APPLE BUYERS.—The Rochester, N. Y. *Union* says: "It may appear to some people as though we had exaggerated the losses to farmers in this vicinity by the failure of heavy buyers of apples last fall. But we have not, and the sum total grows day by day as those who, at first said nothing about their losses, hoping to get their pay, make their returns. We are told on good authority that the farmers in the town of Greece, in this county, suffer to the amount of $100,000 and over."

A WRITER in the Chicago *Tribune* urges steam communication with the south from that city. He says grain can be loaded there in canal boats and be taken to Richmond, Va., without breaking bulk, by being towed down the Illinois and Mississippi, up the Ohio and Kanawha, and through the canal to Richmond, thus gaining a communication with the ocean, and escaping the high prices demanded by the Eastern shippers.

ILLINOIS has 2,250,000 inhabitants by her late census—an increase of 539,000 since 1850, though she must since have sent 250,000 men to the War. The *Chicago Tribune* thinks she will in 1870 be the third State in the Union, having passed Ohio, as Chicago (it is presumed) will then have passed Cincinnati. To fill this programme, Illinois must have in ten years' time, less than 3,000,000 inhabitants and Chicago at least 300,000.

THE wheat yield of Minnesota is said to be unprecedented. It averaging twenty-seven bushels to the acre, and the entire crop being estimated at twelve million bushels, which is forty-eight bushels to each inhabitant—man, woman and child—in the whole State. Wheat is the principal agricultural production of Minnesota; but extensive crops of corn, barley, roots and potatoes are also grown.

IT is proposed to extend the Illinois and Michigan Canal from La Salle to a point on the Mississippi opposite Davenport, Iowa, and the line has already been partially surveyed. This would not only bring to Chicago the products of Iowa, but the best route for grain shipped for Minnesota and Western Wisconsin can be carried cheaper than by any railroad route.

THE last anecdote of the late King of the Belgians is by no less a personage than William Cornell Jewett, who says that while he was in Europe on his "independent peace mission," as representing Lincoln to act as umpire between our government and the rebels, and that the astute monarch replied that "he would not put his fingers between the bark and the tree."

THE number of railroad accidents in this country during the past year was one hundred and eighty-three, against one hundred and forty the year previous. The fatality however, was in favor of 1863, the number of lives lost during the year being three hundred, and thirty-five against four hundred and four in 1864.

THE Fifth Avenue Hotel pays $80,000 rent; the St. Nicholas and Metropolitan $70,000 each; the Astor and New York $60,000 each; the Everett $40,000. A. T. Stewart owns the Metropolitan and the St. Nicholas, and William B. Astor owns the Astor House.

AN EXAMPLE FOR NEWSBOYS.—The Springfield *Republican* says in the winter of 1861 there were eight carrier boys employed to distribute that paper in Springfield. Three of these boys are now cashiers of banks in or near Springfield.

THE Assessor of Internal Revenue for the third district of Georgia has written to the Secretary of the Treasury saying that, in consequence of the tax cash, he has much trouble in finding competent assistants.

Both Delaware and Schylkill rivers are now locked in ice. That upon the latter stream is worth cutting even now, while in the Delaware the ice is thick and formidable.

DEATHS in Boston the past week numbered 97—males, 36; females, 61—of whom 23 were children under five years of age.

HON. GEORGE BANCROFT has been definitely selected to deliver the eulogy on President Lincoln in February next.

THE Tennessee and Alabama Railroad has been repaired, and re-opens for trade.

THE Andersonville prison-pen is now guarded by a garrison of twenty men.

IN Baltimore, during the past year, 710 permits for new buildings were issued.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

THE BOUNTY BILL.—Among the many bills and resolutions which were introduced to-day was a bill, by Charles O'Neill, referred to the committee on Invalid Pensions, to not granting bounty and additional bounty to soldiers, seamen and marines in the war of 1861, or their heirs, providing for those who entered the service on or after the 12th day of April, 1861, and previous to the 22nd day of April, 1862, for more than one year, a bounty of three hundred dollars, deducting any amount they may have heretofore received. Those who entered previous to the 8th day of April, 1861, three hundred dollars. Those who entered between the 12th day of April, 1861, and the 9th of April, 1862, for a period of less than one year, a bounty of one hundred dollars. Those who re-enlisted shall not have deducted from the bounty provided for by this act any bounty received on a prior enlistment. Those who entered as privates or non-commissioned officers, and were subsequently promoted to be commissioned officers, shall be entitled to bounty under this act.

THE LATEST FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.—The Washington correspondent of the Springfield *Republican* writes: "The very latest news I have from the Presidential mansion is that effect that Senator Foweden had an interview with the President yesterday, and that he is convinced that there will be no difficulty in managing the matter of restoration without any controversy with the President. The President has made the subjoined remarks recently to a prominent Senator. He said: 'I must look to the Republicans for support and not to the opposition. I am familiar with the history of John Tyler and Millard Fillmore, and do not intend to follow in their footsteps. We will wait for the report of the joint committee, and if it comes within the bounds of reason, I will be satisfied.' These remarks of on certain Mr. Johnson has made within two days. I could mention names but it doesn't seem proper."

THE ASSASSINATION CONSPIRATORS.—The awards for the capture of Booth and his confederate assassins has at length been determined in the War Department. The names of those adjudged to be entitled to portions of these awards will be made known in a few days.

GENERAL WALLACE AND MEXICO.—Reports are in circulation identifying General Lew Wallace with certain military plans and movements in favor of the liberal Mexican government. Some assert he will repair to Mexico and take an active command.

EXPURGATED REPORTS OF SECRETARY STANTON'S RESIGNATION.—All reports of Mr. Stanton's contemplated resignation would seem to be untrue, as Mrs. Stanton's arrangements for receptions and parties for the winter have been made as usual.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON expressed himself very decidedly to a member of Congress who called on him yesterday, says a Washington special, in favor of the immediate admission of the Tennessee members.

How to Clear Out Mexico.

The Paris correspondent of the London *News* has found out a new plan of settling the Mexican question, which he says he hears is ready is the only genuine method, and that all others are superficial. He says—First, that the French Emperor wants some pretext to withdraw honorably his troops from Mexico. Second, that he has found such excuse. Third, that Nap. knows that he will have to "unmask the batteries" shortly, that he is anxious to find a decent excuse for doing so. Fifth, that he has found such decent excuse. Sixth, that it will be publication in favor of Prince Hirbidic, who has been formally adopted as heir of the Emperor Maximilian, that he will abdicate in favor of that scion of the first Mexican Emperor. Eighth, that France will then withdraw her troops. Ninth, that the reign of Iturbide will then commence. Tenth, that it will not last long. Eleventh, that there will be a revolution, and the Republic will be established. Twelfth, that Louis Napoleon will be satisfied. Thirteenth, that Washington will be satisfied. Fourteenth, that Andrew Johnson will be satisfied. Lastly, Finally, that everybody will be satisfied. These things it got from Mexico, and is well invented, as the stalking fly.

THE READING RAILROAD.—The annual report of the managers of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad is a long and carefully prepared document, and shows, in a tabulated form, the immense business of the road. The receipts show an increase of twenty per cent. over those of last year, while the net profits are twenty-two per cent. greater than in 1863. New works have been prosecuted, and are fast being brought to completion, being commodious wharves and new branch and connecting railways, giving greater facility of access to the coal regions, and enabling the great products of those regions to be easily and quickly brought to this city. The statement of the condition of the road will repay the attentive perusal of all who are interested in the growth and prosperity of our State and of the city of Philadelphia.

ON the night of the 1st inst., at the house o Mike Burke, three miles South of Carbondale, Illinois, two railroad hands, named John Conly and William Burke, were boasting of their physical prowess, when a fight ensued. Conly and Burke were enclosed, when Burke managed to open a large pocket knife, and cut Conly severely on the back of the neck. Mike Burke pitched into the fight, and Bill Burke was knocked on the head with a heavy boot-jack, breaking it all, and injuring him so that he died during the night.

Perils of a Sleighing Party.

The Cedar Lake (Iowa) *Gazette* says: "On Wednesday morning, about half-past four, a load of passengers, consisting of eight or ten gentlemen and two ladies, attempted to cross the Missouri river at Dubuque, to take the early eastern train. The sleigh was the public conveyance running from Dubuque to Dunleith and the agent accompanying it carried a lantern, for it was yet dark. The sleigh had proceeded but a short distance when the ice gave a little to the north and the passengers were precipitated into the river. Colonel W. H. Sessions and his daughter Mary, of this city, were among the passengers. The Colonel went over head and shoulders, and passengers and trunks came on top of him. The agent had jumped from the sleigh as he saw it going down and in seeking to rescue those in the water had broken in and lost his light. It was so dark now that nothing could be distinguished, and the situation was terrible.

"The colonel was perfectly self-possessed, and repeatedly cautioned those around him not to be frightened and they would all get out. He knew his daughter was in the water, but where she was he could not tell. He got hold of a lady whom he supposed to be her, but soon discovered it was not. He held her up, however, and finally got her out. His daughter had gone entirely under, and came up without her bonnet. She was finally helped out by a stranger, who finally told the colonel that it didn't matter what his name was.

"A fadder was brought and thrown into the water. This the colonel grappled, and he says it seemed to him he could hold on to it forever. But his muscles relaxed in spite of him and he went down. He came up and ran his arm through the rounds of the ladder and held on by his fore-arm. He went under the water three times before he got out. Miss Sessions went under twice, and when taken out was almost insensible. Her clothes were soon frozen stiff, and she was in a terrible fix. Her father, who was the last of all out of the water, having forgotten his own safety in the peril of others, was still active, and carried her to the omnibus on shore."

THE Rev. Dr. Pusey, has written a letter to the Roman Catholic paper, *The Weekly Register*, which is likely to excite considerable attention. In his opinion there is little difference which need prevent a reunion between the Anglican, Greek, and Roman churches. He is quite willing to recognize the primacy of the Bishop of Rome, and fears only that it may lead to that quasi-authoritative system which is the cause and justification of the present separation on the part of England. He has long been convinced that there is nothing in the Council of Trent that could not be explained satisfactorily—that is, authoritatively by the Church of Rome, and not by individuals. As to such questions as the Immaculate Conception, he asks that they should be made authoritative doctrines, but that they should be held, if at all, only as pious private opinions.

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