The Pittsburgh Gazette

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

THE COURTS.

District Court—Judge Hampton.

This Court was engaged yesterday, and will be for some days to come, in the trial of the ejectment cases from Armstrong county, taken up on Monday.

Common Pleas—Judge Stowe.

TUESDAY, Jan. 14.—Court met at the usual hour.

THE POLICE RAID CASES.

In the case of James McQuade vs. J. W. Nicholson, Peter Dressler, and Peter Perchment, action for damages for false arrest, the jury found a verdict in favor of plaintiff for one thousand dollars.

In the case of John Richmond vs. J. Warden Nicholson, Peter Perchment, Peter Dressler, A. J. Moon, Wm. Gordon, similar action, the jury found for the plaintiff and, against Perchment, Nicholson and Dressler the sum of seventy-five dollars.

CHARTER APPLICATION.

An application was filed for a charter for the Helvetia Building and Loan Association. The usual preliminary order was made.

STEAMBOAT CASE.

Hiram G. Clary vs. Thomas Fox. Plaintiff alleged that in November, 1866, he purchased one-fifth interest in the steamer "Hawkeye" from the defendant for $2,000, with the understanding that he should serve as Captain of the boat at $1,500 per annum, and further that at any time plaintiff should be dismissed from service the defendant would purchase his interest, which agreement defendant has not fulfilled. After a jury had been sworn the plaintiff took a nonsuit.

RAILROAD CASE.

Reuben Heister vs. The Western Transportation Company. Action to recover some two thousand dollars alleged to be due on a contract for work on the Panhandle Railroad. On trial.

Trial list for this day:

CERTAIN LIST.

18. Andrews vs. Western Transportation Co.

19. Smyth vs. Bryan.

10. Byram vs. Deknight.

NOVEMBER LIST.

16. Aull vs. Wain.

17. Marvin vs. Tarentum Oil, Salt and Coal Co. of N. Y.

18. Hare vs. Allegheny Valley R. R.

19. Means vs same.

21. Sconey vs. Pennsylvania R. R.

21. Shaw vs. Shaw.

22. Neely vs. Neeley.

23. Eaton, Macrum & Co. vs. J. A. Gibson.

27. Oxenhart & Wilds vs. Lucas.

27. Oakland Passenger Railway vs. Lucas.

30. Hileman vs. Magill.

31. Kenny et ux. vs. Schantagh.

Quarter-Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

This Court met at ten o'clock Tuesday morning.

ALLEGHENY BRIDGE SHOOTING CASE.

The case of the Commonwealth vs. Joseph McMullin, indicted with Thomas Hughes (not on trial) for felonious assault and battery, on oath of James Miller, was resumed. The prosecutor seems to be clear that on the night of the 10th of September last McMullin followed Miller on the Allegheny (St. Clair-street) bridge, had an altercation with him, and that after Miller returned to the toll-house McMullin fired two shots at him through the window, one taking effect in his left hand. The jury found a verdict of guilty as indicted.

McMullin was called up for sentence. Understanding that a postponement was desired, Judge Sterrett enquires of the prisoner what reason he had for such desire?

Prisoner.—In the first place I was not prepared for trial, but through my counsel consented, contrary to go to trial. I did not expect the prosecutor to be here, else I would have had a witness present to give a different face on the matter.

The Court—Who is that witness?

Prisoner.—John Goukler, saloon keeper at the corner of St. Clair and Liberty street. He is now in Cleveland.

The Court—Was he at the bridge that night?

Prisoner.—Yes; he passed there.

The Court—I would state very strong evidence, indeed, to overthrow that offered. The witnesses examined were respectable and their statements very positive. As to your not being prejudiced for trial, we observe the bill was found over a unanimous vote.

Prisoner.—I had no opportunity to get my witness; I have been in jail four months. Besides, I have been here only to screen another party. I expected that before this the prosecutor would have found out that it was that did the shooting.

The Court—If you are here to screen another party, that does not help your case. We see no reason for postponing your sentence.

Prisoner.—There are some circumstances which might be explained be your Honor, and cause you to look at the case in a different light.

The Court—What other circumstances could explain away the fact that you drew a pistol and fired twice deliberately at the prosecutor, one ball striking him? That you did so we have no doubt. This class of those cases in which prompt punishment is required. Persons who carry knives and pistols, and use them as you have done, should be made aware that the law does not smile on such transactions. It is requisite that we should place a heavy hand upon offenders of this class.

R. S. Morrison, Esq., one of the counsel, suggested the absence of A. G. Cochrane, Esq., the principal counsel in the case, and asked the Court to be as lenient as possible.

The prisoner, who was evidently taken aback by the court, justice about to be dealt out to him, seemed desirous of saying something more in his own behalf, but the Court was not disposed to hear anything further.

The prisoner was sentenced to pay a fine of one hundred dollars, and to undergo four years and six months imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

LARCENY AND ASSAULT AND BATTERY.

John and Mary Dignam were placed on trial on charges of larceny and assault and battery. The defendants are man and wife, and resided at Walker's Mills, on the south side of the county. A short time since, while passing along a road, they were hailed by the prosecutor, John Dinsmore, who observed in the wagon some grain and recognized it as having been taken from his barn. Dinsmore had compelled them to stop, and demanded the grain should be returned to the place whence it was taken. Dignam was seemingly about complying with the demand, but seizing a favorable opportunity dealt Dinsmore a powerful blow on the head with a whip, felling him to the ground, and then made off. He was captured, however, a short time afterwards. The jury convicted Dignam on both charges, and acquitted his wife. He was sentenced for the larceny to fifteen months imprisonment in the penitentiary, and for assault and battery to three months in the jail.

CROSS-SUITS.

Michael Donahue, indicted for felonious assault and battery on oath of Thomas Sullivan, and Thos. Sullivan, indicted for assault and battery, on oath of Michael Donahue, were placed on trial, the same jury being sworn in each case. The affair transpired in Manongahela borough, and arose out of bad blood between the parties. Donahue was cut with a razor by Sullivan, after which it seems he knocked Sullivan down. Jury out.

Grand Clearance Sale—Where to Purchase Cheap Carpets.

The large and well stocked carpet store of Oliver McClintock & Co., No. 23 Fifth street, will present unusual attractions to purchasers in the way of cheap carpets, rugs, oil cloths, mattings, &c., during the forthcoming thirty days. The firm have resolved to make a grand clearance sale of their entire stock, and will during the time specified offer unprecedented bargains. The selection of goods at this popular house is too generally known for us to speak at any length on the subject, but it will suffice to say that it is one of the largest and most complete stocks to be found at any similar house in the country. The carpets are all new and fashionable, and embrace all the styles prevailing, from the rich and elegant imported velvet and Brussels down to the more humble common carpet which is offered at twenty-five cents per yard. We commend wholesale and retail patrons to McClintock & Co. during the continuance of the remarkable clearance sale. The high standing of this firm is sufficient guarantee of their earnestness to dispose at great sacrifice the immense stock in their house. See the special advertisement in another column.

The Sunnyside Fraternity.

A number of young ladies and gentlemen of this city and Allegheny have lately organized an Association, bearing this name, and having for its object literary and social culture. They meet every Monday evening in their hall on St. Clair street, and, from present indications, the organization promises to become one of the best of the kind that we have ever had in this vicinity. We are glad to see such institutions springing up among our youth, and we therefore heartily wish the "The Sunnyside Friends" every success.

Coal Train Wrecked.—We heard incidentally that a coal train was wrecked on the Panhandle Railroad, at the tunnel, a few miles west of the city, and two miles slightly injured. The wreck is said to have been caused by obstructions having been placed on the track. We made diligent inquiry but failed to obtain any information in regard to the matter. The officers of the road know nothing of it, or if they do, refuse to give any information in regard to the matter.

Man Over by a Wagon.—Robert Jack, a lad, residing on James street, Third ward, Allegheny, was run over by a hay wagon, on Monday afternoon, the wheels passing both his legs, but fortunately doing the boys no serious injury.

YOUNG MEN'S MERCANTILE LIBRARY.

Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Association—Interesting reports of the Condition of the Library—Election of Officers for 1868.

The twentieth annual meeting of the members of the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association and Mechanics' Institute, of Pittsburgh, was held last evening in the Library Rooms, corner of Penn and St. Clair streets. The President, John R. McCune, Esq., presided, and A. H. Lane, Esq., officiated as Secretary.

The minutes of the last annual meeting of the Association were read and approved.

The annual report of the President was then read, as follows:

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

The year just closed has not been marked by any event of unusual importance, and your Board of Directors in rendering an account of their stewardship are unable to report a rapid growth in the number of members, or specify any other evidence of greatly increased prosperity. Yet there are many causes for encouragement. The Association is entirely exempt from debt; the number of active members is larger than at any previous period, and it is silently and unostentatiously accomplishing the purpose of its founders.

FINANCES.

The Treasurer's report, herewith submitted shows that the entire receipts for the year have been..... $4,427 37
Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1867.... 788 70

The expenditures for all purposes during the year have been..... $5,216 53

Leaving a balance in the treasury of..... $201 78

The receipts for the past year have been $668.73 less than those at the year 1866, owing to the less favorable exhibit made by the Lecture Committee.

The Librarian first furnishes the following statement of the transactions in his department for the year 1867:

MEMBERSHIP.

Present number of active members..750
Life members..... 29
Honorary members..... 6

Total membership..... 781
Number last year..... 756

Increase..... 25

LIBRARY.

Number of volumes in Library, January 1, 1867..... 7,754
Volumes bought during the year..... 289
Volumes added by binding periodicals..... 24
Volumes donated..... 140 453

Present number of volumes in Library..... 8,207

CIRCULATION.

	Volumes.
Circulation during the year 1867.....	21,360
Circulation during the year 1866.....	21,600
Showing a decrease of.....	240

This result has been owing entirely to the small number of new books added during the year compared with the additions during 1866. The expense of rebinding and repairing, the binding room, together with the cost of printing a new catalogue last but a small amount for the purchase of books. The circulation, however, has been much larger than during any year previous to 1866.

LECTURES.

The Lecture Committee report through J. R. Scott, Esq., that seventeen lectures and readings were given in the regular course for the winter of 1866-7, to which the holders of season tickets were admitted, and tickets having been sold at three dollars each, and one dollar each for single or transferable admission, the receipts for the season were $1,661.97. The Board of Directors take great pleasure in commending the efficiency and general good management of the Lecture Committee. The Association is much indebted to the gentlemen composing that Committee, actually for the most important financial aid which they may have furnished the Library, but likewise for many opportunities to have instructive and entertaining speakers.

The public lectures which, for many years, have been given in the course of one, have always been favorably received and appreciated by our citizens, and may now be regarded as a permanent feature of the Library Association. It is earnestly hoped that no change in the management of this department should continue to be intrusted to gentlemen who will not merely regard the pecuniary interests of the Association, but who will ignore the sensational style of declamation and the trifling with which it has been associated, and the following is the result:

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