Pittsburgh Gazette.

VOLUME LXXXIII. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1868. NUMBER 310.

FIRST EDITION.

TWELVE O'CLOCK M.

NEWS BY CABLE.

The Conference on the Oriental Question—Greeks Fleeing from Turkey—Cortez Elections in Spain—Majority of Republicans Chosen—Reports from Paraguay. South America—Lopez Willing to Make Reparation to United States for Outrages Committed.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, December 28.—The *Times* and *Standard*, in editorials on the proposed conference to settle questions at issue between Turkey and Greece, condemn the conference as useless.

The *Independence Belge* says the prospects of a conference are re-assuring.

A dispatch from Athens, dated last Thursday, says the Foreign Minister of Greece has officially declared that his government is ready to make any sacrifice for the maintenance of her rights and independence.

The *Star* this morning condemns and the *Standard* approves the recent action of the British authorities at Nankin.

Sir Reid Maynes, who made himself notorious not long since by breaking up Sunday meetings in Hyde Park, died yesterday.

GREECE AND TURKEY.

VIENNA, December 28.—The Grecians are fleeing from Turkey on account of the threatened war. Several families of fugitives have been received by the people of Roumania. They have been warned, however, that they must preserve absolute neutrality in case of war, on pain of expulsion.

The *Constitutionnel*, semi-official organ, publishes a telegram from Vienna announcing that the Porte will decline to adhere to the proposed conference on the terms of his ultimatum to Greece in the matter of Crete, or international questions mooted.

The following dispatch, dated Constantinople 26th, is received: The provinces are tranquil. The Turkish Commander, Kiamil, has arrived before Syria.

PARAGUAY.

LONDON, December 28.—A letter from Montevideo says President Lopez, of Paraguay, is prepared to accord full satisfaction to the United States for the wrongs suffered by American citizens. It is also stated he was about to leave Villeta for Asuncion. The allies were surprised in an advance on Asuncion, and lost one hundred prisoners.

SPAIN.

MADRID, December 27.—*via London*, Dec. 28.—The Government is taking measures to reduce the Budget for the ensuing year. Emelie Castellar, the well known Republican, says the Republic has been morally formed already in Spain, as the Republican party carried all the great cities in the country, except Madrid, in the elections.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, December 28.—The Prussian Government received on Christmas day an invitation from Emperor Napoleon to the Paris Conference.

FRANCE.

PARIS, December 28.—The French Chambers will assemble on January 18th.

MARINE NEWS.

QUEENSTOWN, December 28.—The steamship Columbia, which has been reported missing, has arrived here under sail, having lost her propeller.

SOUTHAMPTON, December 28.—The steamer Rhein arrived yesterday.

QUEENSTOWN, December 28.—The steamer City of New York arrived yesterday.

QUEENSTOWN, December 28.—The steamship Nebraska, from New York, has arrived.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

LONDON, December 28.—Consols 92¼. Accounts 92⅝. Bonds quiet and steady at 74¼. Stocks quiet; Erie, 28⅝; Illinois, 95.

LIVERPOOL, December 28.—Cotton quiet. Sales 12,000 bush California wheat at 11s. 1d, and red western 9s. 6d. Flour, 26s a 26s. 6d. for common grades. Other articles unchanged.

CHICAGO.

Theatrical Change—Notorious Ruffian Killed—Muscatine, Iowa—Accident to a Sailor—Death on the Cars.

CHICAGO, 28th.—Frank E. Aiken, manager of Wood's Museum, has leased the new Dearborn Theatre, which was opened two weeks ago. The actors complain of being swindled out of their wages by the bankrupt managers.

Cornelius Brown, a notorious cut-throat and ruffian, was shot dead on Saturday, by Peter Doyle, in a saloon in Lemonti, in this county. The Coroner's jury partially exonerated Doyle, and heavy bail will not be exacted. The deceased has resided twice in the State prison.

According to Mayor Klen, the population of Muscatine, Iowa, is 1,900, and the assessed value of property $2,614,053.

About midnight a drunken sailor, named Charles Lawson, fell from a propellor lying at this port, and was rescued from the water insensible. He died within an hour afterwards.

Moses Stetson, fifty years of age, got aboard a train at Cordova this morning apparently well, but died from congestion of the brain before the train reached Port Byron, Illinois.

Confession of a Female Poisoner—Another Mrs. Grinder.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, December 28.—In Lafayette, Sussex county, New Jersey, a widow White made a confession just previous to her death, on Saturday, which horrified the town. Being a member of the Methodist church, she sent for some of her fellow members to attend her in her dying hour, and to them she confessed that about seven years ago she poisoned her infant child, and that it died, and a year afterwards she poisoned her husband's father, and he too died. Later still; on the return of her husband from the army, she dealt to him also a fatal poison. The woman had borne a good character. The only reason assigned for making this dying confession was her desire to rid her conscience of the load of crime prior to her death. She was perfectly sane up to the time of her decease.

NEW YORK CITY.

An Apology from Mr. Gladstone—French Cable Company—Panama Ship Canal—Court Cases—Dinner at Delmonico's.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, December 28, 1868.

A letter from Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, dated August 8th, 1867, to C. Edward Lestor, is published. He says: With respect to the opinion I publicly expressed at a period during the war, that the South had virtually succeeded in achieving its independence, I could not be surprised or offended if the expression of such an opinion at such a time had been treated in your work much less kindly than the notices I find at pages 529 and 533. I must confess I was wrong, that I took too much upon myself in expressing such an opinion. My sympathies were then where they had long before been, where they are now, with the whole American people.

It appears the French Cable Company has bought from Leigh & Howard, of this city, a charter granted by the Legislature of this State, conferring on them a valuable telegraph franchise. Part of the purchase money was conditioned upon the procurement of the opinion of Chief Justice Chase, to the effect that the charter confers the exclusive right to lay and work cables between the shores and islands of New York and France, so that no future act, either of the Legislature of the State or of the Congress of the United States, can limit that right or authorize any one else to interfere with its enjoyment. The Chief Justice declined to give such opinion, and recommended that B. R. Curtis be tried. From him and from Mr. Evarts unsatisfactory opinions were received. The Company next made a trial of Reverdy Johnson and procured his opinion in a banquet speech. In the course of his remarks our Minister said he would remind his friends belonging to the Empire of France of the aid which they rendered to America in the revolution. Their government did not differ much from England in the great principles upon which it was founded; they had made each State sovereign and each was left in undisturbed possession of their own territory. Therefore he could not understand how the doubt had risen. What the company wanted altogether, he did not precisely know, but he supposed they wanted as much as they could get; but if they wanted to carry their wires into Maryland, and get permission of the State, no one could hinder them from going there.

The *Evening Post* has a report that Mr. Cushing has been sent to Bogota to close the contract for a canal across the Isthmus towards which, it is said, our government is ready to promise a guarantee of a million dollars, probably a part of the sum needed for a survey. The *Post* says it is asserted Gen. Grant has been consulted about the Panama ship canal, and is warmly in favor of the scheme. It is said he thinks its speedy construction necessary to preserve our commercial and naval supremacy and our empire in the Pacific. It is rumored Mr. Cushing has been examining maps, to report upon the most feasible line of canal, and he is convinced the canal must be built at or very near the line of the present Panama railroad and that the Canal Company and the Railroad ought to be one.

Judge Nelson has vacated his order staying the proceedings in the Fuller case, but has directed the argument to quash indictment, or any similar proceedings, shall be had until after the trial, when a motion for arrest of judgment or any similar motion can be heard, if the defense desire.

In the U. S. District Court, before Judge Blatchford, the Stevenson cotton case, involving about one million dollars worth of cotton, was to have come on for trial, but the Government asked an adjournment until next month on account of the absence of important testimony. The case was finally set for January 5th, with the understanding that if the Government was not then ready the case was to be dismissed.

R. B. Roosewelt, of the New York *Citizen* gave an elegant dinner at Delmonico's this evening to Hon. Eugene Casserly, Senator elect from California. Other guests were present, including members of the New York press, who were invited with a view of making Mr. Casserly's acquaintance. A pleasant social evening was passed. Speeches were made by the host, by the chief guest, Mr. Casserly, and by Wm. Cullen Bryant, Horace Greeley, Chas. A. Dana, John Bigelow, Mayor elect Oakey Hall, Col. F. A. Conkling, Hon. Erastus Brooks, Hugh Hastings, J. W. Simonton, John Swinton, Messrs. Sedley, Herrick and others. Mr. Casserly, in the course of his remarks, alluded to the arrest of Samuel Bowles, and said that the man who committed such an outrage upon the liberties of the press would yet have reason to rue his temerity.

The Blaisdell and Eckel case is to come on for trial to-morrow.

Arrived, steamship Weser from Bremen.

ST. LOUIS.

Unknown Suicide—Resignation of a Pension Agent—Extravagant City Expenditures—Senatorial Question.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

ST. LOUIS, December 28.—A German, name unknown, was found dead, yesterday morning, hanging by the neck in the barn of Benjamin C. Clements, nine miles from this city.

General E. B. Brown, United States Pension Agent in this city, has sent in his resignation, to take effect February 1st.

A meeting of Germans residing in the lower wards of the city has been called to take action in connection with the extravagant expenditures of the city government, as set forth in the recent report of a councilman.

Senators Drake and Henderson and Gen. Loan, Representative from the Seventh district, arrived here on Saturday last from Washington. Gen. Loan passed directly through to his home in St. Joseph. A letter from Washington is published which asserts that these gentlemen have entered into a combination and have gone home to work against the election of Gen. Schurz for the U. S. Senate.

The weather continues very mild, and navigation South will probably be resumed to-morrow.

Affairs in Cuba.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HAVANA, December 28.—The following intelligence is published in the *Diaro*: On account of the scarcity of provisions in Santiago the people are emigrating to Kingston. The suffering of the poorer classes continues. Grinding sugar on plantations and gathering the coffee crop in the vicinity of Santiago are prevented by the presence of the insurrectionists.

Official reports of the battle near Holquin are confirmed. The *Diaro* says the insurrectionists confess their loss was five hundred and their only two cannon. Small bands of revolutionists have made their appearance in the vicinity of Gibara. Count Valmezada's column is advancing from Nuevitas to the interior. No reports of engagements have been received.

Intelligence from St. Domingo is received that the government troops had defeated the insurrectionists at Lasmatas. The election for Vice President and Senators is progressing.

SECOND EDITION.

FOUR O'CLOCK A. M.

THE CAPITAL.

General Grant—Army Officers to be Retired—Attempt to Assassinate—Specie Payment Resumption.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, December 28, 1868.

GEN. GRANT

Will leave this city Wednesday evening for Baltimore, where he will remain until Thursday, then leave for Philadelphia, spending New Year's day in the latter city. There Gen. Grant will be the guest of Mr. Albert.

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE.

From information received by a member of the Committee appointed by the late Convention at Jackson, Miss., to urge before Congress the admission of that State to the Union, it appears an attempt had been made to assassinate Gen. McKee, who was elected, as a Republican, to Congress from the Fourth District of Mississippi. The following is the dispatch:

"*Natchez, December 27.*—Bill Hewitt and others attempted last night to assassinate General McKee, on the steamer Lee. McKee was slightly wounded; Hewitt severely. General Dudley, military commander of the post, is investigating the matter.

[Signed.] MORGAN."

SPECIE PAYMENT RESUMPTION.

Senator Morton is preparing a reply to certain newspapers which have assailed his recent speech.

Congressmen are preparing speeches on the financial question, among them General Butler, who will oppose resumption of specie payment.

RETIRING ARMY OFFICERS.

A special states: President Johnson, it is understood, intends retiring all army officers over sixty-two years of age among whom are Adjutant Lorenzo Thomas, Paymaster General Brice and Brigadier General St. George Cooke.

MEMPHIS.

Murders by Negroes—Arrest of an Ex-Bank President.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

MEMPHIS, December 28.—A negro named Lewis Street shot another Cabric Cox, on Pigeon Roast road, yesterday, killing him instantly. Street was firing a pistol recklessly. Cox asked him to quit, when he turned and shot him through the head. He was arrested and lodged in jail.

On Christmas a negro named John Bull murdered and robbed another named George Beggs, near Bartlett, on the Memphis and Louisville Railroad, and then placed his body on the track where it was run over by a train. He then proceeded to the house of William Miller, set the gin house on fire and concealed himself behind a rosebush with an axe, as he afterwards confessed, for the purpose of killing Miller when he came out. He was discovered and traced in the snow by the citizens, black and white, and hung to a tree.

Geo. R. Rutter, President of the late Tennessee National Bank, was arrested yesterday by an officer from Nashville, on a charge of embezzling the school funds of the State to the amount of nearly three hundred thousand dollars. Some rich developments are expected in connection with the matter, involving officials of high authority. He was taken to Nashville last night for trial.

Proposed Extension of Cincinnati.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

CINCINNATI, December 28.—Legal counsel have prepared a bill to be presented to the State Legislature enabling this city to extend her boundaries. The proposed extension will add about thirty square miles to the corporation. Other bills giving city authority to use money for the projected improvements, also a petition to so change the State Constitution that the city may make appropriations for constructing railroads, are prepared. Council will act on them to-morrow and arrange for bringing the matter before the State Legislature.

Central America News.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, December 28.—The steamer Alaska, from Aspinwall on the 20th, brings $75,591 in treasure.

The gunboat Yantic had returned to Aspinwall from Carthage, where she landed Caleb Cushing, and reports the yellow fever prevailing at Santa Martha and Paranquil.

President Dumas, of Salvador, has been re-elected.

An attempt to overthrow the provisional government of Costa Rica was discovered, and the author, General Salazar, allowed to resign his office of commander-in-chief.

Mob Law in Tennessee Denounced.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NASHVILLE, December 28.—A mass meeting of citizens of Gales county was held at Pulaski, Thursday, and resolutions adopted condemning the late instances of mob law in that county and declaring that the law must and shall be enforced against all offenders. Leading men of all parties participated. It is believed that this meeting will prevent any further violation of law by mobs in Gales, as the people are determined to uphold the civil authority.

Great Billiard Match.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

NEW YORK, December 29.—The great billiard match for $1,000 a side, French carom game, three hundred points up, came off at the Academy of Music, last night, before a large and respectable audience. The game was close and exciting and was eventually won by Foster by four points. The game did not terminate until one o'clock this morning.

—It is stated that General Grant expressed himself opposed to turning men out of office merely for opinion's sake. The purpose of his administration will be the faithful performance of the duties of his great office; to see that the laws are carried out; that honesty and economy prevail in the public service, and that all the officers are capable and efficient men. If an officer in the public service has shown a peculiar fitness for his position and evidence of his ability to perform its functions in the highest degree of excellence and with honesty of purpose, no matter what his political opinions maybe, it would be improper to replace that officer with one who could, at least, perform the duties no better.

—Wm. Curtis, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, died suddenly at Philadelphia, on Saturday, of apoplexy. He was also a prominent Mason.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

—Patterson's woolen mills, at Durham, Canada, were destroyed by fire on Saturday night. Loss $20,000.

—A Cheyenne dispatch reports the Indians running off horses and mules from the neighborhood of Laporte.

—The testimony in the Twitchell-Hill homicide case, at Philadelphia, it was expected would be concluded last evening.

—Mary McDonald, a young woman, was suffocated with coal gas in her sleeping chamber, in Philadelphia, on Sunday night.

—Hon. John Mason Williams, formerly Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, died yesterday morning at New Bedford, Conn., aged eighty-eight.

—General Stoneman has ordered the Mayor of Richmond, Va., to hold in custody Sally Anderson, who was recently released by Judge Underwood.

—A Salt Lake dispatch states that the Central Pacific Railroad was completed to the four hundred and seventy-first mile post on Saturday last.

—The Kellogg House and contents, Post Office and news room building, at Bath, Steuben county, N. Y., were burned on Monday morning. Loss $50,000.

—It is stated the Danish government is disposed to insist on the United States acceding to the Danish West India Possessions, bargained for by Mr. Seward.

—Mr. Seward insists that he has labored hard to secure a settlement of the Alabama claims question, but that Reverdy Johnson has caused most of the trouble of late.

—Action has been taken in City Council of Buffalo looking to the building of an international bridge over Niagara river, connecting Buffalo with the Canada shore.

—A chemical analysis of the brandy and whisky sold at leading hotels in New York city shows that they are composed of two-thirds water, the other third being tannin, fusil oil and sugar.

—The City Council of Springfield, Mass., have instructed the Mayor to invite Gen. Grant to visit that city and inspect the United States Armory during his expected visit to New England.

—Train No. 12 on the Rochester division of the Erie Railway was thrown from the track yesterday evening near Blood's station. No damage was done, beyond the delay of the train and slaughter of two or three cattle.

—It is expected that the Washington street tunnel, connecting the southern and western portions of Chicago, will be open to the public on New Year's day. The last brick was laid on Monday. The total cost of the tunnel will be $330,000.

—Major William Taylor, one of the veterans of 1812, died at his residence in Franklin avenue, Brooklyn, of general debility, on Monday. He was a soldier in the war of 1812; also in the Mexican war. He was, at the time of his death, seventy-two years old, and leaves a wife and child, the latter one year old.

—The Supreme Court of Georgia has given a decision sustaining the decision of the lower court, which held that the consideration of a note given for borrowed Confederate money was a good and valid one. The plea was the failure of the Confederation, and that Confederate money was an illegal money, not money or any other thing of value.

Markets by Telegraph.

NEW ORLEANS, December 28.—Cotton stiffer; middlings, 23¼a23⅜c; sales, 9,000 bales; receipts, 7,811 bales; exports, 4,100 bales. Sugar active and firmer; common, 9a9¾c; prime, 12½a12⅝c; yellow clarified, 12½a12¾c. Molasses active and firm; common, 54a60c; prime, 64a66c; choice, 68a70c. Flour; low grades scarce and firm; superfine, $7,50; double extra, $7,62a7,75; treble extra, $8a8,50. Corn quiet at 78c. Oats; none on landing; quoted at 69a70c from store. Bran, $1,40. Hay easy; prime, $26a27. Pork dull at $28,50. Bacon scarce; shoulders, 14c; clear rib sides, 18½c; clear sides, 19a19½c; hams, 17a18c. Lard firm; tierce, 18¼a18½c; keg, 19a19½c. Whiskey quiet; western rectified, $1,17. Coffee firm; fair, 14½a14¾c; prime, 16½a17c.

ALBANY, December 28.—Cattle market opened with a small supply and limited inquiry, but at ½a½c per pound higher than last week, with sales to-day of about 700 head at 5a6 for State and Canada stock; 7a8 for ordinary to fair; 8½a9¾ for good to extra and 10½ for premium. Sheep in fair request at 5a6½. Dressed Hogs 12¼a13 for light and heavy.

CHICAGO, December 28.—*Evening*—At the open Board this afternoon the grain market was quiet, with sales No. 2 spring Wheat at $1,10½a1,11¼; closing with sellers at inside figures; other grains are neglected; in the evening one of two lots of wheat sold at $1,11, seller next week; nominally the cash price was $1,10¾. Provisions quiet.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 28.—Flour $4,75a5,75. Wheat quiet at $1,70a1,80; sales of good shipping at $1,77½. Legal Tenders 74¼.

Washington Gossip.

Democrats seem determined to repeat the story that General Grant is at variance with prominent Republicans until it receives credit. Few statements more sensationally false have been sent to the country in a long time. The very reverse of all these stories is true. Those Republicans who are in a position to converse freely with the President elect avow themselves perfectly satisfied with his views and thoroughly convinced that rigid economy will mark his administration, and that a complete reform will be immediately instituted in the civil service.

The President's amnesty proclamation is intended to reach such persons as are now under indictment, of whom there is a considerable number in different parts of the country. Most of these are old indictments, found immediately after the close of the war, which have been allowed to slip until the present time. It will be remembered that all persons not under indictment were pardoned by the President's amnesty proclamation of the 4th of July last.

A petition presented in the Senate, on Monday, from fifty citizens of Vermont, attracts attention. It asks eight things of Congress: 1st, to pass Jencke's Civil Service bill; 2d, to complete and pass a new tax bill, with reductions wherever possible; 3d, to reduce the expenses of all the departments; 4th, to put the Indian affairs under the war department and stop frauds; 5th, to stop the sale of Indian lands to large speculators; 6th, to grant no more bonds to railroads; 7th, to stop useless appropriations for custom houses and hospitals; 8th, to legislate for the speedy resumption of specie payments. A shrewd politician, who is familiar with General Grant, says these eight points will be supported by the government.

Attorney General Evarts has not yet considered what effect the new proclamation will have upon the motion now pending in the Supreme Court to quash the indictment in the case of Jefferson Davis. There seems to be some doubt whether it does or does not relieve the Court from the necessity of disposing of this motion.

CITY COUNCILS.

A regular monthly meeting of City Councils was held yesterday at two o'clock P. M.

Select Council.

Members present: Messrs. Brown, W. R., Brown, A. M., Cochrane, Coffin, Coyle, Dickson, Gallaher, Gross, Jones, Kehew, Laufman, Morrow, M'Ewen, M'Kibben, Ogden, Rafferty, Shipton, Wainwright, White and President McAuley.

The minutes of meetings held November 30th and December 17th, were read and approved.

CITY ASSESSOR.

The Chairman, in place, read a communication from the City Assessor regarding the report from the Finance Committee relative to the application of the City Assessors for an increase of pay, recommending $800.

On motion of Mr. McAuley, it was laid over.

CONTRACTOR'S CLAIM.

Mr. White presented a communication from the Auditors of the accounts of James McGinnis, contractor, accompanying which was a resolution recommending the payment of $40 to said McGinnis. The communication was received and the resolution adopted.

CITY PRINTING.

Mr. Morrow presented an ordinance providing that the Committee on City Printing be authorized to advertise for proposals for the city printing, and the same to be awarded to the lowest and best bidders, provided that not more than two English and one German papers be contracted with.

Mr. A. M. Brown objected to the passage of the ordinance, as it was a matter of great importance and should not be hurried through in so crude a manner as the ordinance was in.

Mr. Morrow said the ordinance had not been drawn by a lawyer, but he thought it expressed all that was necessary.

Mr. Brown said it was quite evident that it had not been drawn by a lawyer. It was not necessary for the gentleman to state so. He would from the appearance of it think it had been drawn by a French gentleman. It had no title, and if adopted in the shape it was presented, would not be worth anything.

After some further discussion, the ordinance passed to a third reading on a suspension of the rules and was adopted. C. C. non-concurred and laid the ordinance on the table.

WATER WORKS TRUSTEES.

Mr. W. R. Brown, in the chair, read the draft of an Act of Assembly providing for a Board of Trustees for the water works, setting forth the duties and requirement of the office.

The act provides that there shall be three Trustees, and on motion of Mr. Shipton the security to be given by the Trustees was $20,000 for the President of the Board and $10,000 each by the associates.

On motion of Mr. Gross, the salaries were fixed at $3,000 for the President and $1,500 each to the others.

Mr. McAuley, Mr. Ogden in the chair, moved that the matter of the amount of bail bonds and salaries to the Trustees be left to the discretion of Councils. The motion was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the matter was laid over for the present.

CONTROLLER'S REPORT.

Mr. Gross presented the report of the Controller, accompanied by sundry bills. The report was received, and a resolution for the payment of the bills was read and adopted.

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS.

A resolution providing for the transfer from Finance to Police Fund $1,231.31, and from the Water Extension to Water Fund $4,000.

Mr. Shipton moved to strike out the latter clause.

The amendment was lost, and, the vote recurring on the original resolution, it was adopted.

CONNELLSVILLE RAILROAD.

Mr. A. M. Brown presented the following communication from the President of the Connellsville Railroad:

GENTLEMEN: The Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company asks of your Honorable bodies the right to continue the present line down Water street. A number of the property holders on said street have signified not only their willingness but a strong desire that this should be done, and it is sincerely believed that the advantage of the city will be largely promoted thereby.

It is of special importance to the steamboat interest, procuring to it immediate and large development of business.

We also ask that such legislation may be enacted as will provide for the transit of our business through the city to Western connecting lines. To this end it is respectfully suggested and urged that the whole subject of railway approach and passage be considered by your bodies and that such *general* ordinances be passed as will give needed facilities to all companies alike. While other companies have been for years in the enjoyment of large and valuable grants from your Honorable bodies, we would call to your attention that this company has received no favor whatever, but has been subjected to and has complied with many rigid restrictions.

We claim that the bestowal of this favor upon railroads constitutes a real and valid claim for like privileges to be conferred upon us.

But independently of the *justice* of the claim, we beg you to note that the western connections desiring to meet us here, and on our lines, will, in all probability, open territory entirely new to the commerce of this city, and hence the vital importance of the results depending upon your present action.

A prompt and liberal concession will greatly facilitate the completion of the negotiations now in progress.

W. O. HUGHART.

The communication was received and referred to the Special Committee on Railroad Grants.

CITY SOLICITOR'S REPORT.

Mr. Slagle, City Solicitor, presented a report of the business transacted in his office during the past year.

The report was received and ordered to be filed.

WEIGH SCALES.

Mr. McAuley presented an ordinance relative to weigh scales and the appointment of City Weighmasters.

The ordinance was read three times and passed.

CONFERENCE REPORT.

Mr. Morrow presented a report of a Committee of Conference, raised at a previous meeting, relative to the claim of John Boyce, for removing stop-cocks and water passes. The Committee reported adversely to the claim.

STREET COMMITTEE.

Mr. Gallaher called for the reading of the annual report of the Street Committee, which was offered in Common Council, and after its reading offered a supplemental report, speaking in highly complimentary terms of the worth and efficiency of Mr. Weldon, Chairman of the Committee, who has fearlessly and impartially discharged the onerous duties of his office during the past year.

The report was received and filed.

Mr. Gross presented a plan of streets on Herron's Hill, which was adopted.

Council adjourned.

Common Council.

Council met at the usual hour. Present: Messrs. Barnhill, Barton, Batchelor, Berger, Boggs, Brush, Caskey, Carroll, Daub, Dravo, Fitzimmons, Friday, Gerner, Herron, Hillerman, House, Jeremy, Meyer, Moorhead, Palmer, Rebman, Reed, Reynolds, Robb, Rosewell, Scott, A., Scott, J. R., Sims, Weldon, Welsh, Zern, Tomlinson, President.

The minutes of the preceding regular and also special meeting were read and approved.

REPORT OF THE STREET COMMITTEE.

Mr. Weldon, Chairman of the Street Committee, presented a report covering ordinances for the opening of Kirkpatrick street, for the grading and paving of Foster's alley, for grading, paving and curbing Roberts street, for opening Roberts street, for board walk on Greensburg turnpike, and various streets in the Third District, and granting the Federal street and Pleasant Valley Passenger Railway Company the privilege of laying their tracks on various streets.

The report was accepted. The ordinances covered by the report, except that relating to the Pleasant Valley Passenger Railway, were finally adopted, the rules having been suspended.

On motion of Mr. Brush, the Railway ordinance was laid over temporarily.

OTHER ORDINANCES.

Mr. Weldon offered an ordinance granting Spencer, McKay & Co. the privilege of erecting weigh scales on Smallman street, opposite their works, the scales to be used by the city whenever required.

Rules suspended and ordinance finally adopted.

Mr. Weldon, an ordinance changing the grade of Cliff street, in accordance with plan submitted.

Rules suspended and ordinance passed.

REPORT OF VIEWERS.

Mr. Weldon, report of viewers for opening Aiken avenue, in the Twentieth ward, awarding damages and benefits, amounting to $1,174 50.

The report was accepted and adopted.

ANNUAL REPORTS.

Mr. Weldon presented the annual reports of the Street Commissioners and City Engineer. Referred to the City Controller, with instructions to print in official papers. Also annual report of Street Committee. Similarly referred.

Mr. Herron presented the annual report of the Committee on Surveys. Similarly referred.

REPORT OF ROAD COMMITTEE.

Mr. Batchelor presented the report of the Road Committee, covering ordinances for opening of Arch (late Fisk) street, and for opening of Washington street, (East Liberty.) In the matter of draining Canton and Congress streets, and also the improvement of Maderia street, the Committee ask for further time for examination. The report was accepted and the ordinances submitted by the Committee were adopted, the rules being suspended.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Mr. A. Scott called up the ordinance, (laid over at last meeting,) authorizing the grading and paving of Locust alley, from Fortieth to Forty-first street, Lawrenceville. Read and adopted.

Also, an ordinance for the grading and paving of Almond alley, from Butler street to Allegheny Valley Railroad. Read and adopted.

Mr. Weldon called up the ordinance, (laid over at last meeting,) for the construction of a sewer on Spring alley, from Eleventh to Twelfth street.

Mr. Zern objected to the passage of the ordinance, and on his motion it was laid on the table.

Mr. Weldon also called up an ordinance for the grading, paving and curbing of Center street, from Forty-fourth to Forty-fifth. Read and adopted.

PLEASANT VALLEY RAILWAY.

Mr. Jeremy called up the ordinance relative to granting the right of way to the Federal Street and Pleasant Valley Passenger Railway.

Mr. Weldon presented a remonstrance offered at a previous meeting.

The ordinance proposed to give the company the right of way from the Hand street bridge to Liberty street, along Liberty to Seventh avenue, along Seventh avenue to Smithfield, and along Smithfield to Fifth avenue, upon certain conditions, similar to those exacted from other passenger railways heretofore. The Company desired to take their tracks down Liberty to Wood street, and along Wood to Fifth avenue, but the Street Committee concluded that the best route would be that indicated in the ordinance.

Mr. Jeremy favored the ordinance, and Mr. Brush opposed it.

Mr Robb moved to refer the ordinance to the Ordinance Committee, with instructions to report at next meeting.

Mr. Daub said he was a resident on Smithfield street, and knew that all property holders along the line proposed on that thoroughfare were in favor of granting the company the privilege asked.

Mr. Batchelor thought the matter of too much importance to be rushed through in haste.

After some further discussion Mr. Weldon withdrew the ordinance.

CITY PRINTING.

The ordinance providing for a change in City Printing was reported from Select Council.

Mr. Brush took the floor and stated that he could see no good reason for a change in the ordinance under which the present Council had elected its officers to do the printing. No advantage could accrue to either the city or tax-payers by the proposed change, and he would therefore move that it be laid on the table.

The motion was put without any further discussion, and was declared passed on a division vote of 21 to 2.

DESKS FOR ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.

Mr. Batchelor offered a resolution providing that the President and Secretary be authorized and instructed to have the desks and seats of the Council Chamber re-arranged for the purpose of affording better accommodation for the incoming members. Adopted.

NON-CONCURRENCE.

S. C. non-concurred in the ordinance granting Messrs. Spencer, McKay & Co. privilege to erect a scale on Smallman street, and referred to the Finance Committee with power to act. C. C. receded and concurred in this action.

Mr. A. Scott offered a resolution for the erection of a gas lamp on the north-east corner of Butler and Covington streets. Read and referred to Committee on Gas with power to act.

On motion, adjourned.

—A train on the Shore Line Railroad, when near Clinton, Connecticut, Sunday noon, ran into a carriage containing E. E. Bowen, a prominent merchant of New Haven, his son and another man. Mr. Bowen was very severely injured, and his son had one of his feet cut off.