The Pittsburgh Gazette.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

THE GAZETTE is furnished to the city for six days of the week for 15 cents per week; by mail, $8 per annum: 2 mos., $2.

Two drunks, and two vagrants at the Allegheny Mayor's office yesterday morning.

The Homœopathic Fair will close on Saturday evening. Dinner served on Saturday as usual.

The streets of East Birmingham are to be indexed and the houses numbered, an ordinance to that effect having passed Councils.

Messrs Seth Larkins and Peter Habermehl, have been elected to fill the vacancies in the East Birmingham Councils, occasioned by the resignations of Messrs. Walter and Foel.

Collided.—Tuesday evening, about six o'clock, a wagon on Federal street, Allegheny, collided with Dr. Reiter's buggy. The animal attached to the lighter vehicle ran away. The driver was thrown out. The buggy lost a wheel. Nobody seriously damaged.

Sixth Zouaves.—The members of the Sixth Zouaves and others wishing to join the Company, are requested to meet at the armory, corner of Sandusky street and West Penn, Railroad, Allegheny city, this (Thursday) evening, December 16th, at 7½ o'clock.

Combined Attack.—Yesterday John Schuler made information, charging A. Aronson, J. Aronson and James Bacon for assault and battery. Schuler alleges the accused were dissatisfied with a piece of work and had kicked him out of their clothing store on Liberty street. Warrant issued.

Arrested and Discharged.—Officer Long arrested a young man in this city yesterday on suspicion that he was connected with the Leatherwood, mind robbery. The accused was taken to the Mayor's office, but there being no evidence implicating him with the affair, he was discharged.

Library Lectures.—Bayard Taylor will lecture before the Young Men's Library Association, at the Academy of Music, Monday evening, the 20th inst., and of course the house will be full. There will be no reserved seats. Tickets for sale at the Library Rooms, corner of Penn and Sixth streets.

Butchers' Meeting.—Last evening another meeting of Pittsburgh butchers was held in the Allegheny House, Diamond, in reference to the re-leasing of the market stands. The business transacted amounted in substance to a resolution sustaining their former action, and agreeing to resist any "encroachment on their rights."

Why Is It?—The sidewalk on Webster avenue, opposite the head of Congress street, has been torn up for over a year, and pedestrians in wet weather are frequently compelled to walk in the street at that point. It is a great annoyance to persons living on the street, and the Street Commissioner should have the nuisance abated.

Runaway.—Last evening about eight o'clock a horse attached to a light barouche became frightened at the music from the Theatre band and ran away. The runaway collided with a pile of brick near the Bank Block, but continued on its way. At the corner of the avenue and Liberty streets, second collision, occurred with a post, which brought the animal to a stand still and wrecked the vehicle. The driver escaped without serious injury.

Personal.—Missing—Mr. Samuel Sickman, of California, Washington county, Pa. He left the National Hotel, Water street, last Saturday evening about five o'clock. He had on dark clothing, dark stiff hat; was about medium height, weighed about 190 pounds and was about sixty years old. It is feared he has been foully dealt with. Any information in regard to his whereabouts will be thankfully received if left at the National Hotel or at No. 145 Fourth avenue.

The patrons of Carder postoffice are much annoyed by much of their mail matter being detained at Bolgert, an office on the Pan Handle Railroad, one and one-fourth miles south of Carder, which latter office is directly on the Pittsburgh and Holliday's Cove mail route, over which there is a daily service each way. Postmasters and Route Agents not on the Pitt. and Hol. Cove route, are requested to send all matter destined for Carder, via Pittsburgh.

Forcible Entry.—Mary Pratt made information yesterday before Alderman Taylor charging David Hatch and officer Mullholland with forcible entry and detainer. She states they entered her house in Lawrenceville, a few days ago, during her absence, and took forcible possession of the same, locking the doors, nailing down the windows, and refusing to allow her to enter—claiming they were acting by virtue of a landlord's warrant for collection of rent. Warrant issued.

A Great Story.—In another part of our paper will be found the opening chapters of a charming story, bearing the attractive title of "Buffalo Bill, the King of the Border Men." It is one of the most thrillingly exciting and interesting romances which we have ever read; and the lovers of romance will miss a rich treat if they neglect to peruse it. One of its chief attractions is, that its hero is not a myth, but a real flesh and blood character, who is even now fighting the savages on the western plains.

A Matter of Regret.—The local reporters of the city have occasion to feel gravely perplexed and worried over the probable withdrawal from active life of the worthy "Enibbs" Arnold and Lieutenant Hartman. This pair of shoulder hitters and roughs have kept the reporters busy in chronicling their deeds of sin, shame and wickedness, and they afforded much material for items when items were very hard things to obtain. Alas! that the source of so much police news should be cut away inside of one dark eventful week.

Gent's Furnishing Goods.—The old and favorably known gent's furnishing establishment of Mr. J. D. Ramsley, 334 Liberty street, has changed hands. Mr. Samuel B. Voight becoming purchaser and possessor. The stock is large, fresh and inviting, and the new proprietor promises to continue the system of popular prices which has made this house so conspicuous. While urging our friends to bestow a fair share of their patronage on Mr. Voight, who is a clever and fair dealing gentleman, eminently worthy the confidence of the general community, we can assure them that at no place in the city can a better line of gent's furnishing goods be obtained.

Another Row.

A serious affair occured on Penn avenue in the Thirteenth ward last night, of which we were unable to gather full particulars. It appears officer Keefer, a substitute on duty in that locality, arrested a man at the corner of Penn avenue and Seventeenth street, and started with him to the Twelfth ward station house. He had proceeded as far as Twenty-third street when he was attacked by a crowd of roughs, friends of the prisoner, who attempted to rescue their companion. The officer resisted, and in order to secure the prisoner, who was giving him considerable annoyance by an occasional kick, he knocked him down with his club, and then turned his attention to the attacking party, three or four whom were made to feel the weighton of his mace. After the fight had progressed some minutes, another officer arrived and the "roughs" made their escape. Officer Keefer sustained considerable damage to his clothing, but so far as we could ascertain no one was seriously injured.

The Standard Measure of Fleeting Moments.

The record of time kept by Messrs. J. R. Reed & Co., practical watch and clock makers, and general jewelers, No. 68 Fifth avenue, has long been regarded by many thousands of our people as the standard measurement. This time is kept from daily astronomical observations made at their private and well appointed observatory. It is almost universally adopted by the railways centering in our city; it is the city time as proclaimed every three hours from the great alarm clock at the Court House, and, as most of the watches and clocks of the city are regulated thereby, the uniformality of Reed's time will be perceived and acknowledged.

In connection with our notice of the time, we might add that the general stock of ladies' and gents' gold and silver watches of home and foreign manufacture, fine jewelry, stationary, parlor clocks and ornaments, solid and plated silverware, diamonds, etc., is very large and complete and presents unusual inducements to visitors. Messrs. Reed & Co. have long enjoyed a leading position in their line of trade, and in consequence thereof secure a full share of patronage. We commend them to our friends and ask that a visit be paid their establishment during the holidays.

THEODORE THOMAS.

The Orchestral Concerts.

The wordless eloquence of music had never an interpretation more touching to the sympathies, or more powerful for the subjugation of every finer sense of the cultivated nature, than that with which the very large orchestra under the direction of Mr. Theodore Thomas last evening enchanted all the votaries of a science almost more than earthly, who braved the inclemencies of the weather, and were manifold repaid for their venture by the brilliant execution of an exceedingly well-chosen programme.

There are acoustic advantages at Masonic Hall which more than atone for the palpable inconveniences of its auditorium, to such a throng as attended the concert of last night. The benches are not comfortable, the door keepers were brusque and not seldom impertinent in their deportment toward the confused crowd of enquirers for seats, the two or three ushers seemed to know as near as possible to nothing about the numberings of the seats, and the arrangements generally, for the proper disposition of the people who had once got to the rear of the ticket-takers, was a more unsatisfactorily perfect example of how not to do it than we remember to have observed ever before in an extended experience with places of public entertainment in this city. But the audience became settled at last, and every impression of these vexatious annoyances melted away, vanishing like a summer morning's mist, with the first five minutes of the opening overture. From that moment nearly a thousand people were ears and hearts, nothing else, until the entire programme was completed.

Why attempt a criticism when the critique could only be, in the main and in particular, an unbroken eulogy? Had there been ought in this concert from which we could conscientiously withhold our praise, it would be more grateful to the writer to dwell upon the striking unity which could make us excuse more than one harsh deficiency. It is a question of artistic discretion, which we submit to the accomplished director, whether he would not illustrate a higher subtlety of art by avoiding such an embarrassment of riches. Is he not afraid that too many good things may fall upon the ear, as upon a gruesser appetite? Plain roast and boiled afford an agreeable variety to the palate which wearies of the *tonjours perdrix*. But we shall not quarrel with the elaborate taste, which, in an age by far too often and too universally material, errs on the more pardonable side, remitting the supply of an inferior sort of gratification to the swarming tribe of quacks who cater for the millions with "Dixie" and "Lucy Neal." These things we can have every day, *ad nauseam*, but Mr. Theodore Thomas and his four and forty accomplished artists are but rare visitors this way. Let us enjoy them to the very utmost!

In the Tannhauser overture, we are transported into the next century, and in the music of the future Wagner opens to us a vista of sensuous delight which has no element of worth except in the regrets which attend the awakening from a delicious dream to the tame and vulgar realities of to-day. Better no brain at all than an intellect which is so subjugated by the purely sensional nature, that even conscience is mute, under the sweet fascination which cares for no distinctions between the good and that which may be perilously evil, and delivers itself up recklessly to the most seducing intoxications of the sense. The music of Wagner touches chords in the mysterious composition of our humanity which thrill with strange power through the glowing frames, and lull all thought into an unquestioning repose. How different was that eighth sympathy of Beethoven, which followed Tannhauser, bringing us back to a truer perception of present things, and in a narrative which seemed like the faithful recital of the trials, the joys, the loves, the perils and the last happy and peaceful recompense of a virtuous and noble life! The wonderful success of Berlioz in his instrumentation upon Weber's theme found a charmingly correct exposition with the artists of Mr. Thomas. Beyond that, we find in it but little that is remarkable—nor did we look for any more. Let us thank Mr. Leetsch for the success with which he, in Stigelli's beautiful "Vear," as did Messrs. Weiner and Schmitz, in Till's charming serenade, convinced us that a perfect flute can be, with the trombone, the flute and the horn, to dispute with the violin the domain of musical instrumentation. In the "Fear," we heard a new and even more touching interpretation of what might have been taken for Saife's mournful but tranquilizing expression of "The heart bowed down," and this, from the *trombone* (!) was so nearly the gem of the evening that it was deservedly called for again, and repeated. In the "Tenomenon" of Schumann, came to us such sweet glimpses of dream-land, in the sevenis of the student-artist, that the appreciating listener could easily fancy himself soaring up, up, farther and farther from this dull earth until its tumultuous cries were all blended and ultimately lost in a faint thread of the most ravishing melody—a diminuendo so matchlessly beautiful sweet. Yet Schumann's music is as weird as that of Wagner is sensuous, and both are in many features of a hitherto dreamed of school. These reveries prepared the ear for the gayer witcheries of a fairy count by the mid summer moonlight, the elfin melodies of Oberon and Titania, with which Mendelssohn has artfully mingled the most natural glimpses of our own practical work-a-day world. The second part of the programme presented the most striking contrasts between the inspirations of Rossini, and the mere compositions of Strauss. By these terms, we desire to mark the broadest possible distinctions in the two types of musical art. It is difficult to conceive of a more conspicuous separation of extremes than is afforded by the respective works of these two writers—and last evening's audience could not have been insensible to that truth.

The overture to "William Tell" has never been so well rendered in this city. We say all that need be said, when we remark that it was justly dealt with. It was an idyl, a drama, a tragedy, a romance without fiction, historic truth married to enchanting sounds. The overture, like the opera of which it is but the synopsis, is throughout faithful to its theme, but with a wealth of *fioriture*, and with a movement always grace and maturing into grandeur at last, which convinces one that the author was but an agent for working out a true inspiration. The melody charms us, the expression is so eloquent as to be palpable to the dullest understanding, and the measures of the overture read to the ear like a thrilling chapter from the annals of Swiss liberty. On the other hand, in either of the contributions from Strauss to last night's programme, the cultivated auditor was never suffered to forget that he was hearing a labored composition, an ephemeral bazaar piece of patch-work, not without many marks of real genius, but quite as full of proofs that the composer wrote, not for the critical judgment of future generations, but simply to tickle the ears of the groundlings in the open-air gardens of the great German cities. In the "Fackeltanz" of Meyerbeer, with which the evening was closed, the audience recognized a rare fidelity of interpretation for music so grandly massive that one could not but think it written for an era of great popular convulsions, of barricades, revolutions, overturned empires and peoples who thank Heaven for their liberties redeemed.

Every one was much obliged to Mr. Thomas for a programme which was wholly undisfigured by anything of Verdi. We trust that those miserable days are gone by, at least for this generation.

We have written of this concert at greater length than we intended. If our readers make sure of attending the second and last concert this evening, they will be still better prepared to judge of the fidelity of these comments. We are, quite sure, too, that they will all agree with us, that the musical public of these cities have never before been favored with an exposition of such instrumental perfection.

THE COURTS:

District Court—Judge Kirkpatrick.

WEDNESDAY, December 15.—The case of Kounts vs. McKelvy is still on trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR THURSDAY.

50 Jacoby vs. Bell & McGraw.
52 Flanigan vs. Gibson.
54. Bigley et ux. vs. Buffum et al.
60 Mellon vs. Trunick et al.
61 Trunick vs. Joice et al.
63 Waring and King vs. O. B. Jones.
70 Irwin & Co. vs. O. B. Jones.
64 Reese vs. Morrow.

Common Pleas—Judge Sterrett.

WEDNESDAY, December 15.—In the case of Johns et ux vs. McAboy, previously report, the jury returned a verdict in the sum of $555,25.

In the case of Thompson & Co. vs. Kenyon, previously reported; verdict for plaintiff in the sum of $127,32.

Thoma vs. Lindenfelser; action to recover balance alleged to be due on a promissory note. On trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR THURSDAY.

278. Little et al vs. McAboy.
305. Waring vs. Thomas.
306. Waring vs. Laffler.
316. Elliott & Son vs. Neal.
317. Barnes vs. Lindsay et al.
318. Smith vs. McAboy.
319. Stewart vs. Clark & Sumner.
320. Hughes, et ux. vs. Franey.
310. Commonwealth for use, vs. Miller.
190¾. McCready vs. Pennsylvania Railroad Co.
325. Myer & Co vs. Allegheny Savings Bank.
724. Lynch vs. O'Riley.
227. P. & C. Railroad vs. Carling.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Collier.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 15.—In the case of the Commonwealth vs. Ella Oyler, indicted for the larceny of forty-seven dollars, previously reported, the jury returned a verdict of guilty and recommended the defendant to the mercy of the Court.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. John Vohr, indicted for felonious assault and battery, reported, yesterday, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty of the felonoy but guilty of misdemeanor in unlawfully cutting and wounding the prosecutor, James M. Metz

In the case of Andrew Showers, indicted for larceny by bailee, the jury were instructed to return a verdict of not guilty.

The next case taken up was that of the Commonwealth vs. Wm. C. Meridith, indicted for *forgery et cet.* Lizzie Lee Jones, the prosecutrix is the young mulatto girl who was arrested some months since on a charge of infanticide, and the defendant is a white man about twenty-two years of age. The jury rendered a verdict of guilty.

The next case taken up was that of the Commonwealth vs. William K. Kramer, indicted for adultery. Laura Allen, prosecutrix. The prosecutrix is a young girl about sixteen years of age and resided with her brother-in-law, at Coultersville. The defendant, she alleges, and her brother-in-law were partners in business, from October of 1868, to February, 1869, and during that time the defendant seduced her. The defendant is a young man about twenty-five years of age, and it appears was married in July, 1868, before the commission of the alleged offence. The prosecutrix was told her story in a plain straight forward manner, and a most severe cross-examination failed to confuse her or elicit a contradiction of her first statement.

TRIAL LIST FOR THURSDAY.

47. Com. vs. W. J. Robinson, 5 cases.
82. " Matthew McCracken.
84. " Thomas Rowen.
85. " Christian Stotfield.
92. " Thomas Davis
97. " Lawrence Bell, 4 cases.
89. " Charles Kerney.
90. " Edward Schultz.
102. " S. H. Hoyer.
104. " Daniel Jordon.
105. " Patrick Gallagher.
106. " Leonard.
109. " James Lang.

TRIAL LIST FOR FRIDAY.

120 Com. vs. Leonard Hartman, 3 cases.
123 " Wm. Arnold, "Slubbs" Arnold, 3 cases.

A CITY'S GROWTH.

How Allegheny Progresses—Buildings Erected during the Year—Interesting Statistics.

In a conversation with the efficient and popular Water Assessor of Allegheny, Captain David Cornelius, we gleaned the following statement of the buildings erected in the city during the year. In a few weeks the final report will be presented to Councils, containing in detail the exhibit of these improvements, which are always the surest indication of the growth of the city. The statement will be found important to all who take an interest in the extension and progress of the municipality:

Wards.	No. of buildings
First	21
Second	45
Third	23
Fourth	43
Fifth	56
Sixth	17
Seventh	12
Eighth	7
Total	253

This does not include additions to public buildings, of which there are a number. Nearly all the houses are large, varying from six to twelve rooms, a fact which seems peculiar in contrast with the great demand for houses of from four to five rooms. Nine-tenths of the buildings are of brick, a larger proportion than last year. The aggregate in number and valuation, as compared with 1868, shows a decrease of about one fourth. The majority are substantial and handsome buildings, exhibiting an increased attention to the matter of architecture, in regard to beauty and durability. Although the result is less than in 1868, yet the statement exhibits the growth of the city in a very favorable light, when it is remembered that in 1868 unusual activity prevailed in the line of improvement.

Arnold and Hartman.

Since Arnold and Hartman have fallen into the clutches of the law, with a fair prospect of serving a term in the Western Penitentiary, there is a disposition on the part of the public generally, to make the "calling and election sure" by multiplying charges against them Yesterday morning officer John Moore made information charging Hartman with felonious assault, for attempting to cut him with a knife, when in the home of Jenny Lieb. Hartman preferred a hearing and in default of $3,000 bail, a commitment was lodged against him.

Officer Anderson, who we neglected to mention in our report of the affray, received a severe stroke on the side of the face with a brick which was thrown at Hartman by one of the citizens after the officer had hold of him, made information before the Mayor yesterday morning, charging Arnold with felonious assault, alleging that after he had arrested Hartman, Arnold made an assault upon him with a knife.

Jenny Lieb, the proprietress of the house in which the affray began, made information charging both Arnold and Hartman with felonious assault, alleging that they made an attack upon her and threatened to cut her heart out with a large knife before she summoned the officers.

Hartman also waived a hearing in this case, and in default of $1,000 bail another commitment was lodged against him. "Slubbs" demanded a hearing and was brought out of jail and taken to the Mayor's office handcuffed, and after a hearing was returned to the jail and commitments lodged against him in both cases.

The informations were returned to Court immediately, and we learn that true bills were found by the Grand Jury in each case.

As will be seen by our Court reports Arnold and Hartman will be tried Friday, and it is possible that they may be sent to the Penitentiary on Saturday.

Groceries for Holidays and all Days.

Messrs. R. & A. Carson, wholesale and retail grocers, 82 Federal street, Allegheny, just opposite the depot of the P. P. W. & C. R. W., have a large stock of the choicest groceries, and, in fact, everything necessary for the culinary department of the household. They have, besides, some of the finest brands of Havana, and other segars. Mr. Robert Carson, the senior member of the firm, is a very clever gentleman of first rate business qualifications. Captain Alexander Carson, the junior member, conducts everything with military precision. They are both very popular in the mercantile community, and do a flourishing business. Their location is convenient, being right opposite the depot, where all trains stop. No more reliable gentlemen to deal with.

Dexter Washing Machine.

It has no equal. It is simple, cheap, durable and effective. Selling rapidly—75 machines per week.

Also, Wringers, Clothes-horses, &c.

This Machine is sold on monthly payment, at R. H. LOKO'S, Agent, No. 12 Federal street, Allegheny city. County Rights for sale. 3

EDUCATIONAL:

Upper St. Clair Institute.

Pursuant to adjournment, Upper St. Clair Township Teachers' Institute met at School No. 4, Miss Rebecca E. Tannehill, instructress. The forenoon session of the Institute was devoted as usual to the examination of the regular classes of the school. The excellent order and apparent interest exhibited by the scholars in their recitations gave good evidence of the teacher's ability to govern and instruct. At the forenoon exercises by the pupils, addresses were delivered by the different members of the Institute, which were appropriate and interesting to all present, and replete with numerous hints of special interest alike to teachers and pupils, and not a few hits slyly poured on the heads of the inoffending patrons, for their carelessness and indifference with regard to the education of their children. The audience then enjoyed an interval of an hour, during which time they heartily regaled themselves on a sumptuous repast furnished by the ladies of the district. The hour of adjournment having expired, the Association was again convened at the call of the President.

The afternoon programme opened with an essay from the pen of Miss Hattie Kerr, subject, "The Teacher's Duty." The performance was well written, delivered in a pleasing manner and contained numerous useful and valuable ideas.

Prof. W. A. Maloney drilled a class in mental arithmetic, in which not only the township text book part, but also those of adjoining districts invited with the class, making the exercises quite interesting to all.

This was followed by a discussion on the best methods of teaching Notation and Numeration. The question was opened by Miss Rose, after which the discussion became general. There were numerous methods of teaching this difficult subject given, many of which were practical and good, while others were equally erroneous and hurtful.

This was followed by select reading by Miss Rebecca Tannehill. The last performance of the programme was a class drill in elocution. This exercise was conducted by Miss B. Leestrickl, who spared no effort to make the exercise interesting and instructive.

This was the first opportunity we have ever had of visiting this association of teachers. We must say that we were well pleased with the manner in which they conducted the institute, and we have no doubt if they continue their efforts, that they will bring Upper St. Clair up to the proper standard of education, and render her schools second to none in the country.

The next meeting of this association will be held at school-room No. 5, (known as Phillip's school house), December 18.h, at which time a large audience and interesting exercises are anticipated.

WATER.

The Water Supply.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE GAZETTE:

Believing that I can give some information on this much agitated subject, I beg your attention for a few moments.

At the period last summer when the Allegheny river was at its lowest stage, I was one of a Pleasure Party of Pittsburgh Bank Clerks who proceeded to Franklin in an open rowing boat, drinking river water nearly the whole way. For these reasons we think we know whereof we speak.

As the result of observation, I say that the Allegheny river, to within eight miles of the point, is as pure and good as over it was.

There is no trace of oil until below the refineries, which are continually pouring out their filthy refuse. I believe if our water supply was procured at a point ten miles above the city, and care was taken that no refineries were located above that point of supply, most of present difficulties would be entirely removed. AQUA.

The Water Question.

MESSRS. EDITORS: Your correspondent "Asterisk," who dislikes personalities, says in your issue of Monday, "It is well known that agitation is one means of purifying water," and that "according to some the city disinfecting office, it seems, keeps a loose string on the public purse."

The first statement is not a fact, and the second is a personality.

Or is "Asterisk" trying playfully to befog the people in stating as facts these two fictions?

Fayette Literary Society.

The Fayette Literary Society met according to adjournment at the Fayette School House, on Friday evening, December 10th. The house was crowded to overflowing, and many were unable to secure even comfortable standing room. The meeting was a very interesting one. Amongst the performances was a keen essay by Miss Kate Dickinson on the subject of "Intemperance." The lady administered a cutting rebuke to those young men who could not attend a party or a meeting of any kind without carrying along a bottle or two of "California Bitters," or, in other words, a bottle or two of whisky or "distilled damnation." We certainly agree with the young lady that such young men are on the descending scale and going to ruin at a galloping pace, and that "the times are sadly out of joint" when such things are winked at and encouraged. Mr. Geo. Y. McKee read Bryant's poem of "The Vagabond" This is an excellent poem, depicting the downward course of a poor fiddler and his dog. Mr. McKee read it in an admirable manner, and was loudly applauded. "The Tea Party," a very amusing dialogue, was performed by Misses Sallie A. Dickson, Maggie McCandless, Maggie Stonesipher and Mary Smith. The young ladies looked the go, acting old women to perfection, and by their excellent acting received much applause. Mr. David W. Wilson delivered an oration on "Cuvetiousness and Intemperance," which was well prepared and well spoken. Mr. Wilson is well known as an excellent writer and a fine speaker, and the Fayette Society may congratulate itself on having secured him as a member. A number of other performances were given, which we unnecessarily enumerate and particularize. The Society has decided to meet weekly instead of semi monthly, as heretofore. O. PRIDDLE STYX.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following deeds were admitted o record in the office of Thos. H. Hunter, Recorder for Allegheny county, Wednesday, December 15th, 1869:

Thomas S. Crawford to Oliver Anderson Nov. 1, 1869; lot on Monter st st. Allegh. by 20 by 100 ft.....$1,000
Grace Permsecker to Mary A. Anderson, Oct. 1, 1869; lot on Monter st st. Allegh. by 20 by 100 ft.....$900
Jacob Gaus, Assignee of Gaus, May 10, 1869; P. H. Allen, Washington alley 1, 15th ward, Pittsburgh, 25 by 100.....$1,000
J. M. Johnston to Jacob H. Schwarzberg, Aug 24, 1869; 1 lot on Jackson st, Lawrenceville, 20 by 100 ft.....$1,000
Jacob Schwarzberg to Jacob Lechner, Nov. 1, 1869; 1 lot on Jackson st, Lawrenceville, 20 by 100 ft.....$1,000
C. H. Jones to Mary A. Jones, Nov. 1, 1869; 1 lot on Jackson st, Lawrenceville, 20 by 100 ft.....$1,000
Herman Miller to John Link, Sept. 18, 1865, 54 acres of land in Ross township.....$2,000
Anna H. Irwin to Jas. Gosa's plan, North Fayette township.....$250
Herman Miller to Jacob Link, Sept. 18, 1865, 54 acres of land in Ross township.....$2,000
Thomas Sale to John Kubler, July 24, 1867; 1 lot on Jackson st, in A. Bope's plan, Lower St. Clair township.....$400
Norman Mantz to Gerhard Gilbert, Oct. 1, 1869; lot No. 2 P. Harper's plan, 15th ward, Pittsburgh.....$1,100

Grand Opening of Holiday Goods by Thos. McFadden, Jr., 96 Federal Street, Allegheny.

We have never seen such a fine display of beautiful goods as Mr. Thomas McFadden has just received, and opened, perfectly fresh, to the public on Tuesday morning, December 14th, comprising the latest importations of Bohemian Vases, Toilette Sets, &c., Bronze and Parian Groups, Figures and Busts of celebrities, classical, antique and modern, in the greatest variety, to suit all tastes, especially when offered at such very low prices. Mr. Thomas McFadden, Jr. purchased his stock at *the lowest gold rates last week*. Besides this, comparatively small rent and expenses enable him to offer great inducements to purchasers which many cannot do. He is determined to sell at a smaller per centage than ever, so the whole public of the two cities will positively find it to their interest to give him a call at 96 Federal street, Allegheny. See his card.

A Word to Buyers of Presents.

What present for Christmas or New Year will give such happiness and joy to your family or a friend as a good and sweet toned musical instrument. Its influence will be felt not only now, but throughout life, and its tones will carry joy and peace to many hearts. This reminds us that the best place to buy such a present is Mellor & Hoene's mammoth music store, No. 53 Fifth avenue. They have just received their superb stock, selected for the holidays, consisting of pianos or 2 organs of every style of finish, to suit all tastes and purses. Mellor & Hoene do not confine themselves to keeping a particular make of pianos or organs, but have a variety of celebrated makes, so that persons of all tastes and prejudices may be accommodated at their rooms. Give a call, ye buyers, at Mellor & Hoene's, 53 Fifth avenue.

Old Tim Linkinwater's Christmas Troubles.

"The holiday season is coming—holiday season! yes, holiday season!!" thought I, repeating to myself the words with all the sarcasm that I could command, for it is anything but a time of festivity for me. Presents to be purchased for five conceited young fellows, who think that they are fast getting to be young men; and worse than that, for their seven sisters, interesting girls, very interesting, if I do say it myself, but very nice in their views on the subject of Christmas gifts: and Betsey, the dear old girl, she can't be forgot; but confound it, she is worse than all of 'em put together—harder to please—I mean; last year I made a terrible mistake; we'd had the spout broken off our coffeepot, so I bought her a beautiful pewter one—may be she was pleased; maybe, whew. Well I'll bet you I don't buy her any more coffeepots for a Christmas gift! To be sure I'd be right this time, I said to her, "Betsey, I don't want to recall any unpleasantnesses that are past, but I want to get you a Christmas gift that will be agreeable—what shall I get you?" "Now Timothy, you know anything you select will please me." I thought of the coffee pot, but said nothing. "Well, my dear, I wish to be sure; how would a barrel of flour do?" "A barrel of flour," repeated she, with a look of queenly scorn; that was enough. "Oh! well! well!" says I, "a pair of shoes? maybe you'd like that better?" "A pair of shoes!" said she, bitterly turning up her nose until that lovely feature assumed the appearance of a meat hook. "By heaven, she echoes me," said I quoting from Othello, and seizing my hat I rushed frantically from the house, resolved to drown my sorrows in the flowing bowl, when as I hurried along Smithfield street my eyes were arrested by a sight that made me think of the treasure chamber of that poor, unfortunate old Inca who fell into the hands of that butler of three centuries ago,—Pizzaro. It was the beautiful store of Torbeyden, the famous jeweller. Angels and ministers of grace! I thought I'll just look in here before I spend my money on Miss Rebecca Tannehill. The last performance of the programme was a class drill in elocution. This exercise was conducted by Miss B. Leestrickl, who spared no effort to make the exercise interesting and instructive.

This was the first opportunity we have ever had of visiting this association of teachers. We must say that we were well pleased with the manner in which they conducted the institute, and we have no doubt if they continue their efforts, that they will bring Upper St. Clair up to the proper standard of education, and render her schools second to none in the country.

The next meeting of this association will be held at school-room No. 5, (known as Philip's school house), December 18.h, at which time a large audience and interesting exercises are anticipated.

WATER.

The Water Supply.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE GAZETTE:

Believing that I can give some information on this much agitated subject, I beg your attention for a few moments.

At the period last summer when the Allegheny river was at its lowest stage, I was one of a Pleasure Party of Pittsburgh Bank Clerks who proceeded to Franklin in an open rowing boat, drinking river water nearly the whole way. For these reasons we think we know whereof we speak.

As the result of observation, I say that the Allegheny river, to within eight miles of the point, is as pure and good as over it was.

There is no trace of oil until below the refineries, which are continually pouring out their filthy refuse. I believe if our water supply was procured at a point ten miles above the city, and care was taken that no refineries were located above that point of supply, most of present difficulties would be entirely removed. AQUA.

The Water Question.

MESSRS. EDITORS: Your correspondent "Asterisk," who dislikes personalities, says in your issue of Monday, "It is well known that agitation is one means of purifying water," and that "according to some the city disinfecting office, it seems, keeps a loose string on the public purse."

The first statement is not a fact, and the second is a personality.

Or is "Asterisk" trying playfully to befog the people in stating as facts these two fictions?

Fayette Literary Society.

The Fayette Literary Society met according to adjournment at the Fayette School House, on Friday evening, December 10th. The house was crowded to overflowing, and many were unable to secure even comfortable standing room. The meeting was a very interesting one. Amongst the performances was a keen essay by Miss Kate Dickinson on the subject of "Intemperance" The lady administered a cutting rebuke to those young men who could not attend a party or a meeting of any kind without carrying along a bottle or two of "California Bitters," or, in other words, a bottle or two of whisky or "distilled damnation." We certainly agree with the young lady that such young men are on the descending scale and going to ruin at a galloping pace, and that "the times are sadly out of joint" when such things are winked at and encouraged. Mr. Geo. Y. McKee read Bryant's poem of "The Vagabond" This is an excellent poem, depicting the downward course of a poor fiddler and his dog. Mr. McKee read it in an admirable manner, and was loudly applauded. "The Tea Party," a very amusing dialogue, was performed by Misses Sallie A. Dickson, Maggie McCandless, Maggie Stonesipher and Mary Smith. The young ladies looked the go, acting old women to perfection, and by their excellent acting received much applause. Mr. David W. Wilson delivered an oration on "Cuvetiousness and Intemperance," which was well prepared and well spoken. Mr. Wilson is well known as an excellent writer and a fine speaker, and the Fayette Society may congratulate itself on having secured him as a member. A number of other performances were given, which we unnecessarily enumerate and particularize. The Society has decided to meet weekly instead of semi monthly, as heretofore. O. PRIDDLE STYX.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following deeds were admitted o record in the office of Thos. H. Hunter, Recorder for Allegheny county, Wednesday, December 15th, 1869:

Thomas S. Crawford to Oliver Anderson Nov. 1, 1869; lot on Monter st st. Allegh. by 20 by 100 ft.....$1,000
Grace Permsecker to Mary A. Anderson, Oct. 1, 1869; lot on Monter st st. Allegh. by 20 by 100 ft.....$900
Jacob Gaus, Assignee of Gaus, May 10, 1869; P. H. Allen, Washington alley 1, 15th ward, Pittsburgh, 25 by 100.....$1,000
J. M. Johnston to Jacob H. Schwarzberg, Aug 24, 1869; 1 lot on Jackson st, Lawrenceville, 20 by 100 ft.....$1,000
Jacob Schwarzberg to Jacob Lechner, Nov. 1, 1869; 1 lot on Jackson st, Lawrenceville, 20 by 100 ft.....$1,000
C. H. Jones to Mary A. Jones, Nov. 1, 1869; 1 lot on Jackson st, Lawrenceville, 20 by 100 ft.....$1,000
Herman Miller to John Link, Sept. 18, 1865, 54 acres of land in Ross township.....$2,000
Anna H. Irwin to Jas. Gosa's plan, North Fayette township.....$250
Herman Miller to Jacob Link, Sept. 18, 1865, 54 acres of land in Ross township.....$2,000
Thomas Sale to John Kubler, July 24, 1867; 1 lot on Jackson st, in A. Bope's plan, Lower St. Clair township.....$400
Norman Mantz to Gerhard Gilbert, Oct. 1, 1869; lot No. 2 P. Harper's plan, 15th ward, Pittsburgh.....$1,100

Grand Opening of Holiday Goods by Thos. McFadden, Jr., 96 Federal Street, Allegheny.

We have never seen such a fine display of beautiful goods as Mr. Thomas McFadden has just received, and opened, perfectly fresh, to the public on Tuesday morning, December 14th, comprising the latest importations of Bohemian Vases, Toilette Sets, &c., Bronze and Parian Groups, Figures and Busts of celebrities, classical, antique and modern, in the greatest variety, to suit all tastes, especially when offered at such very low prices. Mr. Thomas McFadden, Jr purchased his stock at *the lowest gold rates last week*. Besides this, comparatively small rent and expenses enable him to offer great inducements to purchasers which many cannot do. He is determined to sell at a smaller per centage than ever, so the whole public of the two cities will positively find it to their interest to give him a call at 96 Federal street, Allegheny. See his card.

A Word to Buyers of Presents.

What present for Christmas or New Year will give such happiness and joy to your family or a friend as a good and sweet toned musical instrument. Its influence will be felt not only now, but throughout life, and its tones will carry joy and peace to many hearts. This reminds us that the best place to buy such a present is Mellor & Hoene's mammoth music store, No. 53 Fifth avenue. They have just received their superb stock, selected for the holidays, consisting of pianos or 2 organs of every style of finish, to suit all tastes and purses. Mellor & Hoene do not confine themselves to keeping a particular make of pianos or organs, but have a variety of celebrated makes, so that persons of all tastes and prejudices may be accommodated at their rooms. Give a call, ye buyers, at Mellor & Hoene's, 53 Fifth avenue.

Colors in Dress.

George Cooper has a sensible article on the application of color in the December number of *The American Builder*. There are but three fundamental colors—red, blue and yellow—and from these all harmony in painting arises. By the combination of any two of these primary colors, a secondary color, distinct in kind, is produced. After explaining that there can be no truly fashionable color—that people differ widely on the subject—that in the selection of color we must be guided by complexion and form—Mr. Cooper offers this advice to the ladies:

"Persons would do well, as a rule, not to permit any article to be thrust upon them, because it is fashionable. In the majority of cases, it will be in bad taste, and utterly unsuited to their requirements. It will be the choice of the store clerk because it is the most profitable or the least troublesome to sell, and not because his advice is based upon any fixed principle of art. Make your readers acquainted with the simple laws on which all correct selection of colors depends. Be enabled to go to a store with a clear knowledge of what you want, why you want it, and have it. The desire for colored ornamentation is common to the human race; all nations that have ever existed on the face of the earth have exhibited this common art impulse. There are no people, in however an early stage of civilization, with whom this desire of color is not a strong instinct."

The law of simultaneous contrast in color is too generally overlooked, consequently we have homes furnished at great expense, but devoid of beauty. When contrasted, the dark color appears darker and the light color lighter, and each color becomes tinted with the complimentary color of the other. In view of these facts, Mr. Cooper adds: "This law of simultaneous contrast will explain to ladies why it is that a dress which has been some time in use appears quite new when worn with one colored shawl, while with another it is almost unfit to wear, and will show that, by observing it is easy to be understood, they may effect a considerble saving in the year."

Beauty need not be costly. It simply depends upon refined taste, an educated eye, and a knowledge of the principles of color. When, as a people, we shall come to understand these facts, possibly we will be able to demonstrate that civilization is progressive.

Have Mercy on the Slandered.

Many a heart has bled secretly because of a cold look or frown from one who had been accustomed to meet them with smiles. Unkind expressions have blackened the character of many an innocent person. How careful we should be to spare the feelings of one, even who has erred, or perhaps who has erred almost unconsciously, has spoken imprudently in a fit of passion.