The Pittsburgh Gazette.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

But One Left.

We have but one more room to let in the "GAZETTE Building." It is a very desirable room on the second floor, fronting on Smithfield street. Terms very low for the location. Call at the Counting Room, first floor.

Montgomery avenue, Allegheny, is being paved.

Call to-day at Hare's Hotel and see Buchanan's Patent Grate Fender.

We are indebted to Wm. Bingham, Jr., Esq., the popular agent of the Liverpool line of steamships, for London papers of the 8th ult.

Harper's Magazine for May comes to us from N. H. Gildenfenney, No. 45 Fifth avenue. The present number contains a great deal of interesting matter.

The citizens living on Townsend street are laughing all over their faces on account of having gas laid on their street. We congratulate them in their new light.

Wanted—A number of Rollers, Puddlers, Catchers, Hookups, &c. Apply to-day (Friday), April 22, to D. S. Walker, No. 1 Sixth street, first door from Suspension Bridge, Pittsburgh.

Valuable Real Estate.—Lots in some parts of the Allegheny Cemetery, twenty feet square, are selling at from three to seven thousand dollars. Who would not be buried in such valuable ground?

Lost her Gaiters.—Yesterday morning a pair of glazed leather ladies' gaiters, valued at $2," and owned by Miss Ellen Horan, attracted the admiration and cupidity of Delia Dean, who resolved to possess herself of them. She did so, it is alleged by Ellen, and Alderman Taylor has consequently issued a warrant for her arrest for larceny.

Sudden Death—Coroner's Inquest.—About four o'clock yesterday morning Mrs. Mary Wolfrum, wife of John Wolfrum, residing in West Pittsburgh, died suddenly and Coroner Clawson was requested to hold an inquest on the body. After hearing the testimony of the husband of deceased and Dr. Roberts, the jury found that she died of consumption.

A Row.—John Little, James Peterson and William Smith were having a free fight on First avenue yesterday, and officer Hazen interfered. One of the party knocked the officer down, but he got up again. At that moment another officer arrived, when the three roughs were knocked down. They were then taken before the Mayor, who imposed a fine of $25 and costs on each of them.

Liberal Donation.—Alexander Nimick, Esq., the worthy President of the Pittsburgh Barge Club, has just presented that organization an eight oared barge of the finest make. This is quite a liberal present on the part of Mr. Nimick, who is still as great a boatman in spirit as he was in his younger years, although does not take an active part. With Mr. N. at the head of the Barge Club, we are sure of its success.

Bonds Approved.—At a meeting of the Finance Committee of Councils held Wednesday evening, the bonds of the banks elected city depositaries, the Iron City and Allegheny National Banks and National Trust Company were presented and approved. The bonds were for the sum of $100,000 each, and are severally stamped with a $50 revenue stamp. Some other business was transacted but it was of no general interest.

Iron Ore Lands.—Our readers should not overlook the advertisement in this paper of an administrator's sale of 1240 acres iron ore lands on the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad, in Alabama. The land is well watered and coal abounds in the neighborhood. The site is said to be a capital one for a foundry or rolling mill, and as Southern real estates are selling extremely low, some of our citizens might find this public sale of this land, to come off on the 20th June, an opportunity for a very profitable investment.

Amusements.

OPERA HOUSE.—Chanfrau will take a benefit at the Opera House this evening. "Sam" will constitute the entertainment, and as the prevailing question now is "Have you seen Sam?" we would advise all to go, so that they can hereafter answer the question affirmatively.

Official Meetings.

There will be a regular meeting of Councils Monday afternoon at two o'clock.

The street Committee will meet Saturday evening at seven o'clock.

The Committee on Claims and Accounts will meet Saturday afternoon at three o'clock.

Resolution members of Councils are requested to meet in caucus in Common Council chamber on Saturday at two o'clock P. M., to designate Fire Commissioner to be voted for on the following Monday.

Held for Trial.

The name of the man who was caught by officer Fowler, Wednesday, while attempting to relieve a drunken man of his coat, in the vicinity of Frank Wellgan's saloon on Water street, was Chas. Hood, instead of John Jones, as we published yesterday. Chief Hagans made information before the Mayor yesterday charging Hood with the larceny of eight hundred and fifty dollars from the person of Nathan Davis, and after a hearing, Hood was committed to jail in default of bail for his appearance at Court.

A Bad Bargain.

Borrowers generally get into trouble. That may be set down as an axiom of which Patrick McCarroll is about to experience the truth. Thomas McGinnis yesterday made information before Alderman Taylor, charging Patrick with obtaining from him $50 by false pretences. It is said Patrick procured the funds by stating that he had a bargain in view, which would be secured by the payment of a $50 bonus. He borrowed to go home to get it, but would pay it back to the lender as soon as he could go home. All of which, it is alleged, proved to be false. Warrant issued.

Body Found.

Yesterday morning a dead body was found floating in the Ohio river opposite Cumberland, West Virginia, ten miles above Steubenville. It was that of a man, and evidently had been in the water several months. The only clothing upon it was a night shirt and drawers. The head was partly bald, the body about medium size. From the description it is supposed to be that of Samuel Lickman, of California, Pa., who was missed, while on a visit to Pittsburgh, in December last. The Coroner held an inquest at Cumberland, but nothing was elicited. The remains were interred at that place. The friends of the missing man, Lickman, have been notified, and will have the matter investigated.

Assistant Marshals.

Following are the appointments of Assistant Marshals for taking the census in Armstrong county:

First District—Leedburgh, Apollo, Elderton, Manorville and Aladdin boroughs, and Kirkimintin, Allegheny, Burrell, South Bend, Plum Creek, Kittanning and Manor townships. J. P. Klengensmith, Kelly's Station.

Second District—Kittanning borough, Madison, Mahoning, Redbank, Pine, Wayne, Valley and Cowanshannock townships. D. P. Marshall, Kittanning.

Third District—Queenstown borough, Perry, Brady's Bend, Sugar Creek and Washington townships. J. J. Hellebaugh, Brady's Bend.

Fourth District—Worthington borough, Freeport borough, East Franklin, West Franklin, North Buffalo and South Buffalo townships. Joseph Earhart, Worthington.

To Participate.

The Republican Executive Committee for Allegheny county having been invited by the Committee having charge of the arrangements for the celebration on Tuesday, 26th instant, of the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, to participate in the celebration, and having unanimously accepted the invitation, W. S. Farmance, chairman, has designated from its members the following gentlemen as a Special Committee to represent the County Committee on that occasion: J. E. McKelvey, chairman; Col. T. M. Bayne, John Heath, H. P. Reed, George Wilson, James McBrier, Thomas Scandrett, Wm. O. Moreland, John Paul, Col. E. J. Allen, Josiah Cohen, Esq., Capt. John H. Stewart, Charles Jeremy, R. F. Smythe, Robert Clugston, Jas. W. Murray, W. B. Hays, M. Q. E. Millken, Chas. Goehring, J. S. Liddle, H. C. Mackrell.

There will be a meeting of the above Special Committee at the office of J. E. McKelvey, 91 grant street, this afternoon at four o'clock.

INVENTORS AND THEIR INVENTIONS.

Masonic Hall Last Night—Lecture by the Hon. S. S. Fisher—The Mysteries, Romance and Reality of a Patent—Inventors and All About Them—A Large Audience Entertained.

Probably every man sometime in his life has thought himself to be an inventor. There seems to be a principle in men, especially Americans, which at one time or another attracts them more or less into this field; and whether successes or not, inventions and inventors, with their toils and successes, their defeats, discouragements and glory, form a study ever fresh and always instructive and fascinating.

It is not strange, then, that last evening, notwithstanding the cheerless and unfavorable weather, Masonic Hall should be crowded with an audience from among our best citizens to hear a lecture on "Inventors and their Inventions," by the Hon. Samuel S. Fisher, United States Commissioner of Patents. Mr. Fisher came to Pittsburgh under the auspices of a few gentlemen who knew the man and thought what he had to say on the subject would prove of especial interest in our practical, working, inventive community. It was a high compliment to the lecturer that although the announcement of his entertainment was very brief, there could be gathered so soon, an audience so large and so conspicuous for intelligence and discrimination—that from the ranks of preachers, and physicians, and lawyers, and mechanics, and tradesmen, and students, all classes and professions, representatives, extended him a cordial greeting.

They who attended were exceedingly fortunate. In a long course of lectures going we do not remember to have ever heard a more entertaining, instructive and spicy discourse, or one which could more truthfully be styled an intellectual treat. As a literary production, abounding in eloquence, wit and pathos, and as a grand collation of useful information, it was finished and perfect, while the charm of a graceful and very pleasing oratory lent additional fascination and interest to the words which were spoken and the thoughts evolved.

About eight o'clock the the lecturer was introduced by General Moorhead, who in a few felicitous remarks, referred to an incident in his own life when he discovered that he was not an inventor, and that inventors like poets were "born not made."

Mr. Fisher upon coming forward was greeted with applause. After a few introductory sentences explanatory of his visit to Pittsburgh, he commenced with a description of

THE PATENT OFFICE,

Which he said was a marble building in Washington, with lofty porticoes and vaulted halls, which no visitor to the capital omits to enter. Fair and dainty brides and proud bridegrooms, little children, stately matrons, bustling men and ancient dames trip up the long flight of stairs in ceaseless flow throughout the official day. When they left their country homes, it was one of the dreams they traveled friends that they should by no means forget the Patent Office. When they shall return to tell their own story, they will not fail to name it among the wonders which they have seen.

If you should follow one of these groups into the great halls of the building, you might perchance expect to find them pouring over great inventions. This reasonable expectation will not, however, be realized. The gentle creatures who enter, pass by the wilderness of models; they walk with steps that never halt through the long lines of cases containing the inventions in every class from agriculture to wood working; they do not even stop at patented bonnets, patent hoop skirts, patented cradles or rejected baby jumpers. They but only to be weighed, or to gaze with curious eyes upon the old clothes and pewter plates of Washington, or the broken china and moth-eaten blankets of his wife.

THE INVENTOR.

But there is another class who also second these steps, for whom the great building has a charm of a different kind. Sometimes you may see some thoughtful face and head of unkempt hair surmounting a bowed form and plain garb, that slowly passes from the street to the great door of entrance. Under the breast of a well worn coat is hidden a package carefully wrapped in some village newspaper—only a few bits of wood and brass deftly put together, yet representing a decade of thought, a long series of tantalizing experiments, and the whole of the little savings of a lifetime. This is an inventor. He carries his invention under his arm. His breast alternately beats high with hope, as he thinks of possible fame and fortune, or sinks with dispair as he anticipates rejection and baggary. I think that it was Theodore Parker who said that the saddest sight he ever saw was an inventor going down the steps of the Patent Office with his rejected model in his hands. There was written in his face so much that told of dead hopes and a lost life. It is a pity to spoil a good story by the suggestion that as the office keeps the rejected models as well as those that are patented, this precise incident does not have occurred. It is not necessary to spoil it, for, with or without models in their hands, many sadly disappointed men have come back from the world of imagination to the world of reality.

THE REJECTED MODEL.

No one can wander through the long hall, which contains the rejected models, without bestowing a full meed of sympathy upon the wrecked hopes that lie prostrated all around him. If all the sighs and tears that are represented there were gathered together, they would unite in a wail of woe that would remind us of a chamber of horrors in Dante's Inferno.

But, there are lights as well as shadows in the picture. Many a modest and almost hopeless toiler has left these strong walls to find himself first famous and then rich. Look well at these stooping shoulders. They may yet find themselves taxed to bear the weight of the honor that shall be heaped upon them. Despise not this little model, for, in this humble guise, into this sad hall of fame, have come, for the first time, all the great inventions that have blessed mankind, and made the age a marvel. (Applause.)

HIS INVENTION.

But what is this inventor seeking, with his model and his longing face. His invention is made. It may be the result of some sudden and happy inspiration, or perhaps it is the fruit of years of patient thought and labor; yet, however born, it is a living child. It is not a mere idea, floating vaguely through his brain, now taking this shape and now that. It is embodied in wood and iron. It has a form, has been reduced to practice, has been proved to a demonstration. Surely fame and wealth are secured. No officer that sits in his marble hall saw receive the invention back into a mere ideal, and that ideal into the first faint gleams of thought, and these again into the blackness of the early darkness. This is a life which, having begun, must go on forever. No one can pronounce upon it the doom of annihilation.

What can the inventor want further? Much, every way. He is seeking protection and compensation. He has made an invention that is to benefit mankind. From his teeming brain, by his skill, his ingenuity, his creative power, he has brought this thing into being. It is his secret, and while secret it is his property. While its principles remain shut in behind his furrowed brows; while its embodiment remains hidden beneath his coat, no one can take it from him. If he publish it, any one may rob him of it.

"PROPERTY IN IDEAS."

Invention is, doubtless, the highest form of property. It is pre-eminently that which a man has made for himself. Shall we say that he who turns the soil and plants the seed, and trusts to the unvarying laws of nature, that his crop may come to fruitage, has acquired a right to the ground; that he who frames wood and iron into well known shapes has acquired a property in his labor; that he who transfers merchandise from hand to hand, has in the rapid barter acquired a right in it which he may call his own; and then deny the rights of an owner to the man who has invented the very implement with which the soil is tilled or the crop harvested, who has given new shapes to the artificer, new facilities of transportation and manufacture to the merchant who, in short, has created a new thing and reduced it to useful form and practice, so that the world has a new and indestructible thought prepared for its service, which, but for him, it might have lacked forever! Men may sneer at "property in ideas" as they will, but they can never successfully or honestly deny property in *embodied* ideas, caught, harnessed and trained for labor.

Our inventor, then, has this property, and he seeks protection for it. He comes to the nation to propose a compact. "Here," he says, "is a new invention, ready to perform for you useful labor. Pay me for it in money, or protect me in the exclusive right to use it for a limited time, and I will pay myself. If you will do this I will immediately proceed to practice my invention, and I will make a full disclosure of it. Here is my model. Here is a drawing of my invention. Here is a full description; put them in your archives; publish them to your people, and tell them that, when the brief years of my exclusive privilege are over, this invention shall be as free to them as the air and the sun."

This is the whole theory of the patent system here or elsewhere.

THE INVENTOR'S MUSE.

In referring to the character of the specifications received, the lecturer gave a number of illustrations, closing with an example of one which had been received a short time since, the opening lines of which read as follows:

Let all those whom it may concern,
Remember that I, Timothy Ivern
Have made invention of a plan,
Both new and useful, of a trap,
For catching roaches while you nap.
In setting forth my new invention,
At first, and only for a moment mention,
My trap may be an extract cup,
Outside of which the roach can sups up,
And jumping in to eat molasses,
The evil glazed mouth he ne'er repasses.
[Laughter.]

The muse of this poet is quite equal to the mechanical details of his invention. He says:

"The smaller part has open door,
At D, close to the bottom floor;
An inclined way to top of cup
Where Mr. Roach with rare whim sips up
Nor needs his wife or child his hand
Upon the topmost brink to stand."

I regret to be obliged to add that the invention was not as novel as the specification. [Renewed merriment.]

DEMANDS UPON INVENTORS.

Our inventor, with his model under his arm, was left in his search of protection. We demand of him a *real* invention in exchange. He must have something to dispose of. Like the magician in the story of Aladdin, he must give us "new lamps for old ones." He must not have filched his ideas from other men. He must be an original inventor. Then, too, he must also be the first; for, if not unfrequently happens, that while there can be but one first inventor there are many who are original.

Some ideas are the fruit of a lucky suggestion, and have been stumbled over almost without seeking—others, on the other hand, have been the keystones in arches, slowly and painfully erected by patient toil and long experiment.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

In the days when steamships were almost unknown, a party of gentlemen in the cabin of a packet crossing from Europe to America were discussing the new discovery of electro-magnetism. Among them was one, a painter by profession, who was greatly interested in the subject, and a suggestion being made that the new force might in some way be employed in the transmission of signals, he became so absorbed in it that he gave up his profession, and commenced the thorough investigation of the subject, with the view to the invention of a plan for telegraphing. On this ship in mid ocean, from the brain of Morse, came forth the electro-magnetic telegraph. Now this nursling which the ocean rocked has become its conqueror. By the genius of this man messages of life and death, of love, of ambition, of hope gain and sale, of friendly greeting, or fierce defiance, the tidings of the battle, the proclamation of peace, the vagaries of the gold corner, the words of statesmen and the voice of the people, are borne across the wings of the lightning to the uttermost parts of the earth. (Applause.)

THE EXAMINERS.

The lecturer now described at length the rigid ordeal to which every invention is subjected, and said the character of this examination indicates what should be the character of the examiners who are to make it. The highest scientific acquirements, the most acute legal discrimination, the clearest logic, the best powers of comparison and analysis, may find abundant employment in such an office.

It has, therefore, seemed to me so self evident that skilled labor only, and that of a high order, should be received into the examiners'rooms of the Patent Office, that I have felt myself justified in insisting upon two propositions: 1. That no man should be placed in charge of a class as a principal examiner who has not previously served in the lower grade of assistant examiner; 2. That, to the position of assistant, appointments should be made only on the basis of merit, to be ascertained by a competitive examination.

Two of such examiners I have already been held. I need scarcely say that the result did not, in all cases, accord with the recommendation on file, for was it always in proportion to the previous "pressure" of the candidate or his friends.

AN ERROR CORRECTED.

The Patent Office, contrary, to the popular impression, make no rigid examination into the utility of inventions. If the alleged improvement is new, and will work at all, and is not immoral or obscene, a patent is granted. It is assumed that if the invention is good for nothing nobody will want it, and that use, and not speculation, is the best test of utility.

IMPROVEMENTS AND ORIGINALS.

In the present state of invention, of course, the vast majority of patents are for improvements upon forms of machines already in extensive use.

It seems hardly necessary to say to an intelligent audience that the inventor of the improvement cannot use the original machine without consent of its inventor, nor can the patentee of the original use the improvement without the consent of the patentee of the improvement; nor can either manufacture without the consent of the patentee of the latter; and yet from ignorance or neglect of this obvious law the greater part of the litigation and trouble arising under patents has its origin.

This point may be worth illustration. The first man who discovered that a force could be exerted by the movement of a piston caused by the expansion of steam, was entitled to put under tribute every steam engine, whether vertical, horizontal or rotary. Nevertheless, if some one after him invented some new form of valve, the former could not take possession of it by virtue of his invention of the engine, nor could the patentee of the valve take the engine by virtue of his invention of the valve.

THE INVENTIVE "GIRL OF THE PERIOD."

Any sketch of American inventions would be imperfect that failed to do justice to the parts taken by women. A lady was in the Patent Office last week who has already obtained six patents. In the class of clothing apparel, their names stand high upon the roll. They have invented something of everything in that department, mentionable and unmentionable. Her fellow-laborers in the Wards are also respectable, and pianos, sewing machines, stoves, chairs, and the like, have been made better at their suggestion. In the last number of the Patent Office report it will be seen that, among many other inventions they have made, one of the sex claims to have made a new flat iron, another a new step-ladder, another a flying machine, another a mosquito and fly net, another a child's toy, another a corset clasp, another a wash stand and clothes dryer, another a stick for trundling hoops, and another a toilet powder. No doubt, when the "girl of the period" gets her "rights" we shall find her as fertile in conceptions with the latest improvement in harvesters, steam engines and planing machines. (Applause.)

That she knows how to value her invention when she makes it, may be inferred from the specification of a late patent granted to one of the sisterhood. The invention is called "an improvement in crimping pins," but the fair patentee says of it that "it can be converted, with a very slight modification, into a letter-holder, ticket-holder, book-mark, tweezers, a pin for securing ornaments to the person, a file for bills and circulars, a tassel-holder for window curtains, an implement for a shoe ripper, nail cleaner, ear pick, lamp chimney cleaner, and, last but not least, an ornamental head band for securing the hair of children." Our obligations are due to this lady that she did not go on with her list until nothing was left for the fairer sex to invent or patent. [Laughter.]

VALUE OF INVENTIONS.

The question is oftened asked "How many inventions prove valuable?" or, "how many are good for anything?"

If by this is meant "how many become profitable to their owners?" I suppose that one in ten would be a fair average, but this would be a very unfair estimate of the number possessing actual utility.

In the first place, I do not refer at all to any order of merit in the patents. I suppose that by far the great majority of all patents issued are good and valid. They cover inventions, improvements, combinations that are now patentable and of some degree of utility.

Of those inventions which possess actual or comparative utility, many never come into use because of the poverty of the inventor. It is every day's practice to find an application coming from some part of the country where it has awakened much enthusiasm, and where a man of sufficient means and energy is prepared to push it forward: but which, when examined is rejected upon some previous patent for the same thing, that has for a dozen years been sleeping upon the shelves of the model room, not because it was useless, but because a good invention and adequate means to prosecute it were not then as now united in the same person.

A HINT TO CAPITALISTS.

I have no doubt but that to-day inventions of great utility are thus awaiting capital to develop them, and that many fortunes might be made by men, who, without genious to invent, should shrewdly examine the inventions which are already made and patented. Again, a large number of inventions are useful and ingenious—a great advance upon former mechanism—but yet are not the best or cheapest of their kind. Another form of the machine has caught the public eye and ear, and has borne away the prize. The prize of the profitable patent has proved a stimulus to invention. Travel is more safe, and the country is the gainer, while the inventors learn that here, as elsewhere, in all departments of the lottery of life, the banks outnumber the prizes.

GROWTH OF INVENTIONS.

Some idea of the growth of inventions under the fostering care of our patent system may be formed by a comparison of former years with the present.

In 1839, thirty years ago, and three years after the adoption of our present patent law, 425 patents were issued, and the receipts of the Patent Office were but $37,000. In 1849, ten years later, 1,000 patents were issued, and the receipts were $80 000. After another decade, in 1859, the patents were 4,500, and the cash $245,000. Ten years more have gone by, and, in the year just passed, 14,000 patents have been granted, while the receipts have reached the very respectable sum of $700,000.

THE PAST.

People often talk of the "good old times," but I confess that it is with a sort of pity for our ancestors that I look back just seventy years to the beginning of the century, and attempt to compare their condition with our own. The coach then lumbered slowly up the hillsides; the ark and flatboat floated lazily adown our Western waters; the post boy or carrier pigeon was the most rapid medium of communication; the farmer turned the soil with a rude plow and reaped the crop by swinging the scythe or cradle. Steam engines, by sea and far between, had not then begun to build great cities and to redeem barren lands—the sun had not become a portrait painter, or the lightning a penny postman. No sewing or knitting or embroidering or button holing machine relieved our grandmothers of a moment of their everlasting "stitch, stitch, stitch," nor did gas or kerosene enlighten their eyes, worn out by the dim light of a smoking lamp or a farthing candle.

AND THE PRESENT.

Now all this is changed. The land is vocal with the hum of myriads of looms and spindles—the mountains have fallen and the valleys have arisen to make a highway from ocean to ocean for the rushing car—the rivers, lakes and oceans are stirred by the wheels of a mighty fleet of swift going steamers—the messages of commerce or of affection outstrip the eagle in their flight over the continent, and plunging beneath the sea, presently declare their story in far off lands. Every house is the manufactory where the whirr of machinery is heard; and, last of all, to the poor man's home have come the luxuries that a few years were hidden to the palaces of nobles and kings.

ALL HONOR TO THE INVENTOR.

Who has wrought this mighty change? It is this modest man whom we met on the steps of the Patent Office less than an hour ago. He and his fellows have, as with a magician's wand, reorganized society, raised the lowly, given dignity to labor, and made little streams tumbling in their rocky beds washing out fortunes of millions of gold. He is the modern miracle worker. He stands upon the shores of the great sea and lifts his rod, and the waters divide to make a highway for the nations. He smites the solid rock, and streams of fertility and rivers of oil gush forth. He bids the iron and steel stiff in his flight to sketch the sunny face of childhood, or to preserve for his descendants the features of the old man passing away. He gathers the dense cloud of smoke that overhangs some great city, and re-forms from it the gem and agrafts of the great Solomon, and bids them again become the willing slaves of the lamp. He catches the lightning ere its flash has faded from the cloud, tames its demon nature, and transforms it into a recording angel. All this, and more! (Great applause.)

Bring forth the laurel wreath that crowned the stalwart victor in Olympian games, and place it upon the brow of this man of feeble form and stooping shoulders; for in the greater strife in which mind and matter have contended for the supremacy of the world, he has stood forth the champion of mind, and has won the victor's palm. (Long continued applause.)

Such is but an outline of the masterly address which, for over an hour, captivated the audience, and which we regret cannot be here reproduced in full. At the conclusion Mr. Jas. Park, Jr., moved that the thanks of the audience be tendered the distinguished speaker for the very instructive and very entertaining manner in which he had entertained them for the evening. The motion was carried with enthusiastic unanimity, after which the audience slowly dispersed.

OUR WORKING CLASSES.

How and in What Manner They are to be Benefitted.

It often has been the occasion of remark that notwithstanding the high wages and steady employment afforded our working men, they do not enjoy life, but seem, in the great majority of cases, to be continually struggling to maintain themselves and families in the humblest manner. They are not surrounded with those comforts and little luxuries so essential to happiness, and yet their income are sufficiently large to warrant a comfortable competence. A want of properly directed economy, exorbitant rents for inferior homesteads, and a needless squandering of earnings in the absence of encouragement to garner them away, are a few of the leading causes which tend to keep down the laboring and mechanical elements of society beneath the plane of comfort, happiness and contentment which they should occupy. They have not been to blame, for up till within a short time back, the attention of financiers and capitalists was directed to railroads and enterprises looking towards the interests of the wealthy, and entirely ignoring the claims of those who most needed pecuniary help and encouragement. Building Associations were established and the avidity with which their protecting features were embraced was ample evidence that the masses, the lower and middle classes were ripe for any measure looking toward their own social and financial advancement. To combine the features of a savings bank where their earnings may be safely kept and steadily increased with compound interest, with all that is good and praiseworthy in the building association plan of operation, was designed and admirably carried out in a charter recently obtained from the State Legislature, and under which the Franklin Banking and Building Association is now operating at No. 193 Fourth avenue, securing all deposits with a first lien on the realty and mortgages executed by the corporation, making such *positively safe* from the remotest danger of loss, and affording a security as broad and substantial as it is unusual, for no other bank in the State is endowed with such extraordinary privileges. Prudent people who do not want to embrace the secondary advantages afforded in the building association principle, will seek out this bank for safety, while those who desire to secure homesteads will not be slow in learning the superior attractions and the great encouragement afforded in the system of the new bank.

It is intended by the Company to accumulate a fund from earnings which will be devoted to the erection of uniform dwellings for such parties as may be entirely built and supplied with all the modern conveniences, such as gas, water baths, etc., in short to build neat, desirable and comfortable homes for mechanics. In building many houses together in uniform style and appointments, the work can be accomplished at much less cost than if operating in less than parties would have to pay in most cases. When the Association contracts with builders there will be a plan at the banking house, showing the size of the lot, the number of rooms, &c., and after the Directors have determined the price of each room, the following rules will govern applications: First, Depositors will be supplied; second, shareholders; and third, in case all are not disposed of, outsiders will have a chance. Parties desirous of securing a home will make money by depositing their funds, which will be earning interest instead of paying interest and taxes on unimproved ground, and when they have a sufficient sum to justify an invitation, they can deal with the Association or take their money and buy elsewhere.

The officers of the company number our most responsible business men, gentlemen who have had large practical financial experience and we are sure that no more worthy hands could be confined the interests of our numerous working population. We invite our friends to consider carefully the features of the new institution and to weigh well the advantages it presents over the ordinary bank or building Association.

Russian Braces.

Many will ask whose likeness heads the advertisement of the above mentioned goods which appears in our columns. It is a correct portrait of "His Majesty Alexander II., Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias," who, perhaps, more than any foreign monarch, has shown regard and expressed sympathy for this country. He is, one would think, a highly favored ruler, having immense power, vast dominions, an income of $45,000 (forty-eight thousand dollars) in gold *per day*, and yet, like Alexander the Great, the Czar Alexander II. has his days of depression of spirits. The cut is becoming so familiar, from extensive advertising by Messrs. Fisk, Clark & Flagg, No 58 White street, New York, that already their goods are a household word, and "Russian Braces," which are patented here and in France and Great Britain, are likely to outrival the famous Gwyot braces of former celebrity.

For fashionable hair-dressing, plain or by curling, and a frizzle, for a luxurious shave or bath, and for skillful cupping or leeching, call at Williamson's elegant saloon at No. 190 Federal street, Allegheny.

ABANDONMENT.

A Woman Comes from Baltimore in Search of Her Husband—She Finds Him and Returns.

Yesterday afternoon Mrs. Mary A. Straney, accompanied by two children, a boy about ten years of age and a little girl aged four years, called at the Mayor's office and stated that she came from Baltimore, and was in search of her husband, who had abandoned her and her children. His name was Ed. F. Straney, and she had been married to him about twelve years. They had three children, the two above mentioned and a little girl six years of age, who had taken sick on the way from Baltimore to this city and had been left at Cumberland. She had ascertained that her husband was working in this city and wanted him to support his children. She made information charging him with abandonment and a warrant was issued for his arrest. The officers found Edward at work at the Round House of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company and brought him before the Mayor. He at first refused to do anything for his wife or children, saying that he had no money. Mr. Fortune was sent for and agreed to take charge of the children, if the mother would agree to give them up. The father appeared to have no objections to this arrangement, but the mother was not altogether willing to part with her children. She said it was her only alternative, she supposed, and she would have to consent to it. The father by this time thought that he could get some money from his employers, and accompanied by an officer he went to see them. In a short time afterwards he returned with $19 50, which was given to the mother of the children, who concluded to return to Baltimore and place her children in an asylum. She says her husband was formerly a kind and affectionate man to his wife and children, but a year or two since he took to drink, and since then he has been brute.

The Amendment Jubilee.

A very large and enthusiastic meeting of the colored citizens of Allegheny was held under the auspices of the Jubilee Committee of Arrangements, Thursday evening, in the Colored Baptist church. B. F. Pulpress occupied the chair, and Geo. D. Ware acted as Secretary. S. A. Neale read a letter from R. M. Green, Esq., of City, giving the intelligence of a large crowd of Templars, numbering fifty, and a large representation of colored citizens, would be here and participate in the jubilee celebration next Tuesday.

Upon motion a Committee on Reception committee to arrange with the officers of the A. V. R. R. and other railroad officials, for excursion tickets, were appointed. Arrangements were also made to furnish carriages for his Honor, Mayor Callaway, the President of the Common and Select Council, the Committee on Colored Public Schools, and other distinguished citizens.

Delegates were also elected to the Reconstruction Convention of the E. R. League, which will assemble in Harrisburg, the 1st Tuesday in May. Their names are as follows: B. F. Pulpress, S. A. Neale, Thos. H. Spies, Paul F. Cliperton, Philip Peterson.

W. D. Forten, of Philadelphia, and Hanson Herron, Esq., of Pittsburgh, were invited to address the meeting next Tuesday.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned to meet in joint session with the Colored Baptist Church on Friday evening with the Division Committees of Birmingham and Pittsburgh.

Before adjourning it was resolved to have carriages in waiting at City Hall, Allegheny, for invited guests.

Paris by Sunlight and Gaslight.

This is the title of a most interesting and attractive work from the pen of James D. McCabe, Jr., just issued by the National Publishing Company, and profusely illustrated. It is written in an easy, flowing and fascinating style. There are few who will take up the volume that will be able to lay it down again until they have read it throughout. At a very trifling expense any one may trace the simple corridors of the magnificent palaces, survey the public buildings, saunter along the streets and Boulevards, gaze on the gorgeously appointed Grand and Louvre hotels, and examine the cuisine of the cafes and restaurants, in fact, see everything that is to be seen in Paris, the most splendid of all European cities, and learn more about it than he could by residing in it for six months. Those who have visited it will recognize in this volume a faithful and minute portraiture of every scene that they have witnessed, from the most stately display of wealth to the most hideous depths of poverty, whilst they will find nothing that will offend the most fastidious taste. Among the most interesting chapters are those which describe the imperial family. The work, which is gotten up in that beautiful style for which the Company has become celebrated, is sold only by subscription, and is now ready for every town and county. Address National Publishing Company, 28 South Seventh street, Philadelphia.

How Often Do We Feel

Great uneasiness at leaving our fires, for fear that burning coals may roll from the top of the grates and set fire to our carpets or floors and burn our houses. A complete protection has recently been patented by George Buchanan, Esq., of Washington, Washington county, which is called a Grate Fender, and is a simple, cheap and effective remedy, and really is an ornament to the grate on which it is placed. Mr. B. was one of the few that gave a correct solution of the problem found in our paper last week. He is a long been identified with the educational interests, particularly of his own county, and we have often learned from the Washington county papers. We wish him the same success as patentee that attended his labors as teacher, and a great deal more money. The invention is just the thing needed in every household and office. Inspection strongly commend itself to every house owner and housekeeper. A model is on exhibition at Hare's Hotel, foot of Fifth avenue, on Liberty street.

April Fashions.

The grotesque appearances presented by some of our would-be fashionables in regard to criniline suggests a very natural inquiry, has the crinoline been discarded? We are happy to say it has not, nor is there any prospect of its disappearing. The comfort of the hoop skirt is far to great to be given up. We can hardly remember a time when something was not worn as a substitute for the hoop skirt, and with far less comfort than is now experienced. The very great weight of the number of skirts before to go into the milling and coal business, is severely borne by the fair sex. Paymants easy. App y to

McMILLEN & CO.,
106 Fourth avenue.

DESIRABLE ALLEGHENY CITY RESIDENCE FOR SALE. In good location, corner of River and Cedar avenues and near Head street, has two parlors, sitting room and kitchen, bath room and five chambers, large gas and water fixtures, all well arranged and in complete order. Immediate possession will be given.

B. CUTHBERT & SON,
38 Sixth avenue.

JOHN M. COOPER & CO.
Bell and Brass Founders,
ENGINE, LOCOMOTIVE & ROLLING MILL
BRASSES
Made Promptly to Order.
BABBIT'S METAL
Made and Kept on Hand.
Proprietors and Manufacturers of
J. M. Cooper's Improved Balance Wheel
STEAM PUMP.
Office, 882 PENN STREET.
Foundry, Cor. 12th and Railroad Streets,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

DISSOLUTION.—The Co-partnership heretofore existing between PARKINSON & HUMPHREYS, in the Carpenter business has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. The business will be continued by J. T. PARKINSON, and he will settle all accounts.

J. T. PARKINSON,
W. B. HUMPHREYS.

PROPOSALS.—Proposals for the ERECTION OF THE NEW SIXTH WARD PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING will be received until SATURDAY EVENING, April 23d, at the office of Ralph A. Fessler, Architect, No. 115 Federal street, Allegheny, where plans and specifications can be seen. The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

By order of Board of Directors.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.—Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the W. Y. R. House up to the 25th of May, 1870, for the stone work on the foundation of the main wall round the Depot building at Glenwood; also for the brick laying on said walls and line walls in the wing in accordance with the plans in Barr & Mosey's office.

THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF the 8TH WARD, city of Pittsburgh, will meet at the usual time and place for Select Elections, on TUESDAY, April 26th, 1870, to ELECT ONE PERSON to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Daniel McMillan, Select Councilman, resigned.

JAMES HOLLIS, Mayor.
PITTSBURGH, April 20, 1870.

BUTTER.
15 boxes Fresh Roll Butter;
15 half barrels
For sale by
J. R. CANFIELD,
141 First Avenue.

CONFLAGRATION.

Fire at the Keystone Oil Works—The Result of Carelessness—Loss About $4,000.

About half past eight o'clock last evening a fire occurred at the Keystone Oil Works, on the bank of the Allegheny river, near the foot of Thirty-second street, by which a portion of the works were destroyed, involving a loss of about $4,000.

The fire, so far as we could ascertain, was the result of carelessness on the part of Peter Warner, watchman at the works. It appears that men were engaged in pumping oil from the river to the works and Warner went into the pumping house with a lighted lantern, from which the gas ignited and the explosion ensued. The pumping house was destroyed, and the fire communicated to the receiving tank, which was partly filled with crude oil, and the tank and the oil were both burned. A large bleaching tank stood near the receiving tank, but through the vigilance of the firemen, who responded promptly to the alarm from box 57, it was saved.

The steel smelting furnace of Reese, Graff & Dall, which stood near the burning tank, caught fire and was injured to the extent of about $1,000, which is fully covered by insurance. We were unable to learn whether the oil refinery, which was owned by Messrs. P. Weisenberger & Co., was insured or not.

Lightning.

Every summer disasters by lightning are numerous, and as the season for storms is at hand, every person in need of protection should call on or send to Lockhart & Co., 234 Penn street, for the "Munson Copper Tabular Lightning Rod, with Spiral Flanges." This firm has been long established in this city, and has the reputation of manufacturing the best lightning rod in use, and also for putting up work in the most substantial manner. They have a great many experienced workmen constantly engaged in attaching rods to buildings.

Children's Carriages, wholesale and retail, at Jas. Loughridge's, 171 Smithfield.

Turtle Soup Lunch Saturday and evening at 186 Smithfield, st. ADAM WEIGOND.

Additional Markets by Telegraph.

NEW ORLEANS, April 21.—Cotton active at all price advances; middling, 20c; sales 8,000, receipts 1,972, exports 1,412. Sugar: prime 11¼@11¾c. Molasses: prime plantation rebolled 68@75c. Whiskey 90c. Pork firm, prime 27¼@28c. Lard 16¼@16½c, prime 17¼@18c.

BUFFALO, April 21.—Cattle: total receipts 800 cars; much dull and dragging, at the decline. Sheep: receipts; shipping cattle sold at $7,25@8,25, and lots of fancy at $8,75; milch cows in good demand, at $40@$50 and upwards $75. Sheep; receipts fair; nothing doing and stock principally shipped in first hands. Hog market dull at $9@9,50; receipts moderate.