Pittsburgh Gazette.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

THURSDAY MORNING, JAN. 17, 1861.

CITY AFFAIRS.

METEOROLOGICAL Observations for the *Gazette*, by O. E. Shaw, Optician, 55 Fifth St.—corrected daily:

	IN SHADE.	IN SUN.
9 o'clock, A. M.	00	45
12 " M.	00	44
6 " P. M.		38
Barometer	29 5 20	

The Board of Trade and the Currency Question—important Recommendations.

The Board of Trade has had under discussion at several meetings lately, the subject of the depreciated currency with which the country is flooded, and the following report yesterday by a committee appointed to devise some mode of remedy for the existing evils.

The report was warmly discussed and final action put off till a future meeting.

PITTSBURGH, Jan'y 14, 1861.

To the President, and Managers of the Board of Trade, Pittsburgh:

The committee appointed to consult with the merchants, manufacturers and bankers of the city, with a view to devising and recommending some expedient to obviate the loss and inconvenience resulting from the depreciated currency which now comprises the entire circulating medium, respectfully report that we have endeavored to fulfil the purpose of our appointment so far as the very limited time allowed would permit. The only plan suggested is, that, by unanimous consent, the merchants and manufacturers shall refuse to receive the depreciated paper in payment for goods or accounts, except at its current rate of discount. The competition for trade between the different commercial centers makes it seem probable to your committee that this plan would have the effect of driving purchasers to other cities, where their funds could more readily be used in payment,—thus resulting in a serious loss of trade. Even if this objection were waived, the competition between individuals in our own city would render the plan impracticable. In 1857 the leading manufacturers of the city entered into a written agreement, binding themselves to "require current rates of exchange to be paid on all bills payable out of the city, and par funds when paid in Pittsburgh." Circulars to that effect were issued and extensively distributed, but, in a few weeks the obligation assumed therein was, by mutual, tacit understanding, entirely abandoned. A measure which failed under the most favorable possible circumstances certainly cannot be more successful when—as now—it would require the assent and absolute good faith of all the many and varied business interests of the city to render it so. Your committee have therefore nothing to propose as an *immediate* remedy for the existing difficulty.

We recommend that measures be taken by the Board of Trade to procure the enactment of a law authorizing the banks of the city to receive on deposit the bank notes of other States at such rates of discount as will enable them to return the same to the place of issue, requiring that the notes received shall be so returned, and prohibiting their re-issue or sale. Such a law would, we believe, have the effect to send home a large proportion of the foreign bank paper which makes up our circulation, leaving its place to be supplied by the notes of our own banks. It would enable our merchants and manufacturers to keep their accounts with the chartered banks—a privilege which many are now deprived of, for the reason that these institutions cannot afford to receive the depreciated currency at "par," and are not permitted to take it at a discount. It would make it the interest of the banks, in order to increase their deposits, to reduce the rate of discount on currency to the exact cost of sending it home, and the community would be benefited by the salutary competition in this respect between the banks and the brokers. It would cause the worst class of currency to be sent home as freely as the best, and thus greatly improve on the existing system of the brokers, which is to keep on the counter or send home for redemption the best, and pay out that which is the least valuable, and, consequently, most likely to result in loss to the community.

We also recommend that an effort be made to procure the repeal of so much of Section 22, of Article XV, of the Act regulating Banks, as prevents the issue by Banks of this Commonwealth of "notes of a denomination less than five dollars."

This restriction, in its intention to substitute gold and silver for paper, as a circulating medium in the minor operations of trade, was theoretically correct. But even with an auxiliary law to prevent the circulation of small notes from other States, it has not effected the object intended. Its theory was to give to Pennsylvania a better circulating medium than that prevailing in her sister States, where small notes are issued. Its result has been, for ten years during which the experiment has lasted, to deprive us of a currency based on specie, which we might have, and substitute therefor the "Wild Cat" notes of other States. It is also practically a law to deprive the Banks of Pennsylvania of a large and valuable home circulation, for the benefit of the banks of Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky and others which enjoy it. It inflicts upon our citizens losses which are necessarily incident to an inferior circulating medium, issued on a basis of credits instead of bullion. In the face of an existing statute imposing a heavy fine and making it a criminal offence to issue, pay out, pass, circulate, exchange or transfer "a note of any Bank not located in Pennsylvania of a less denomination than five dollars," our Commonwealth is flooded with the prohibited notes, and scarcely an individual can be found who is not in this particular a transgressor of the law. This fact proves conclusively that the small notes are an absolute necessity. The people must and will have them, and it seems to your committee that legislation on the subject should be directed towards providing for us the best and safest currency which can be obtained. It is evident that to the citizens of Pennsylvania the notes of our own Banks, issued on a specie basis, are better for circulation than those of any other State, and subject us to fewer losses. Small notes of the same Banks would be safer and better, relatively, to those of other States in a still greater ratio, and we see no good reason why they should be longer denied.

WM. MCCREERY,
J. J. GILLESPIE,
ROBERT ORR,
S. HAZARDS,
F. R. BRUNOT.

Burglary and Incendiarism—Maxurie's Tobacco Factory Destroyed.

Wednesday morning, between 12 and 1 o'clock, the tobacco factory of Mr. J. A. Maxurie, located on Hand street, between Liberty and Penn, was almost entirely destroyed by fire, together with a valuable stock of goods. We learn the following particulars:

Mr. Maxurie left the store at seven o'clock Tuesday evening, two hands being in charge until nine o'clock, when they left everything secure—the front door being locked on the outside, and the key taken away. About half-past ten or eleven o'clock two men were observed about the store, by a watchman, who supposed that they belonged to the establishment. At midnight the cry of fire was raised, and the store was found to be in flames. A smart rain was falling, which, coupled with the exertions of the firemen, served to keep the flames from spreading to the adjoining property. The building, a three story brick, was badly damaged, and will require an outlay of $1,000 to make it tenantable. Mr. Maxurie also loses a large stock of tobacco, segars, etc. The value of the stock on hand, January 1st, was $3,354 19. Of this amount, at least $2,500 worth were destroyed, among which were 160,000 cigars. The building was insured for $1,000 in the "Delaware Mutual," and the stock for $1,500 in the "Citizens." Mr. Maxurie's loss, over his insurance, will be about $1,000.

There seems to be no doubt whatever that the store was first entered and robbed, and afterwards fired by the thieves. A key which did not belong to the shop was found in the lock of the front door, on the inside, and the back door had been unbolted. The money drawer had been carried into an adjoining alley, where it was left after having been rifled of twelve dollars in money. The hook of the safe (which was one of Burke & Barnes' manufacture,) had been broken off, in an unsuccessful effort to force it open. It was evident that the fire had been communicated to the end of the counter, after which the thieves closed the back door after them and decamped.

This case calls for a prompt and thorough investigation, in hope that the incendiaries may be apprehended and brought to justice. Let the whole police force throw all their energy to the work; and it will be a difficult matter for the miscreants to escape.

United Presbyterian Intelligence.

At a meeting of Chartiers Presbytery held at Cross Roads, on the 3d inst., a call was sustained from the congregations of Chartiers for Mr. D. H. French.

Also, a call was received from the congregations of Martinsburg and Utica, in the Presbytery of Mansfield, for the same individual. Both these calls were presented to him, and the former accepted. He will likely be ordained and installed soon after the meeting of Presbytery in April. A call was also sustained from the congregation of Catoctebbig for Rev. D. Paul, and transmitted to the Presbytery of Mansfield for presentation.....

Conemaugh Presbytery held an adjourned meeting at Taylorville, Jan. 1st and 2d, for the purpose of the ordination and installation of T. J. Wilson. The following persons took part in the exercises: Rev. S. Anderson preached a sermon, Rev. S. Browne proposed the questions, and presided, Rev. J. C. Greer addressed the pastor, and Rev. J. C. Telford addressed the people. A call was received by Presbytery for Rev. J. C. Truesdale, but as Mr. Truesdale was not present, further action was suspended for the present.

R. D. Harper, Secretary of the Home Mission Society, calls the attention of the Church to the financial condition of the Home Mission fund. The indebtedness of this fund at the end of the half year, terminating with 31st December, is $2,563 49. Several churches have not yet been sent in, which would increase the amount to about $3,000. To meet this indebtedness there are $63 in the treasury.....

The scale of supplies for the vacant pulpits in this vicinity is as follows: First church, Pittsburgh—January, 3d Sabbath, Calhoun; 4th, Lusk: February, 1st, Houston; 2d, Hutchison; 3d, Boyd; 4th, Bryson. Fourth church, Allegheny—January 3d, Steele: February 1st, Jamison; 2d, Steele; March 1st, Dr. Clarke; 2d, Steele; 5th, preaching. Manchester—January 3d, Wallace; 4th, Jamison; February 1st, Dr. Elder; 2d, 3d and 4th, Jamison; March 1st, Little; 2d, Tuscar; 3d, Hutchison; 4th, Jamison; 5th, Lawrence.

Taken to the Jail.—The name of the man who stole Mr. Hobs's mare and Mr. Hoffman's sleigh, near Harrisburg, is Samuel Washington Minnie, belonging to Lima, Ashtabula county. He is a tinsmith, and had arrived in Pittsburgh, by which place he has been tinkering—the tinsmith of course being responsible for any crime.

District Court.

Wednesday, Jan. 17.—The ejectment case of Samuel A. Woods vs. James Hays, taken up by Judge Hampton on Monday, is still on trial.

Before Judge Williams.—In the case of Hamilton Stewart vs. Abraham Patterson—action to recover $1,000 damages sustained by injuries received from the falling of a board from a scaffold erected by defendant—the jury found a verdict for plaintiff in sum of five dollars.

McFarland vs. Brown. No. 351. Referred.

Gordon vs. Gray's Administrators. Action upon sundry notes, amounting to $26,000. Verdict for plaintiff.

Allison vs. Bratt. No. 355. Continued.

Allison vs. Mills. No. 356. Continued.

Forbes vs. Morgan. No. 357. Referred.

Washington Building and Loan Association vs. R. Franklin. No. 358. Judgment confessed by defendant for $550.

Same vs. J. S. Franklin. No. 359. Judgment confessed by defendant for $550.

Same vs. J. M. Porter. No. 360. Continued.

Logan vs. Staymate. No. 263. Judgment confessed.

Sondheimer vs. Meyer and Hanauer. No. 367. Plaintiff takes a non suit.

Wallace vs. Wilkins. No. 370. Continued.

Frasier vs. Park. No. 371. Continued.

Barker vs. Miller. No. 373. Verdict for plaintiff, $440,95.

Chess vs. Jones. No. 374. Satisfied.

Neff vs. Stewart. No. 382. Continued.

Gallagher, Exr. vs. Crawford. Continued by consent.

Court adjourned until Wednesday morning at nine o'clock.

Court of Quarter Sessions

Before Judges Mellon, Parke and Adams.

Com. vs. John W. Williams, indicted for forgery, on oath of Adam Appel. Collier and Hamilition for prosecution, Shannon and Stewart for defense.

This case is about as follows: Williams, the defendant, in 1858, was a justice of the peace for the borough of West Pittsburgh, and was also collector of the borough tax. It is alleged that he forged the name of Adam Appel, a citizen of that borough, to a bond to the borough as surety for the collection of the tax. It appears that Mr. Appel signed two bonds of the same kind before for the defendant, but denies signing this third one.

W. J. Richardson testified that the bond was handed to him, as Burgess, by the defendant.

Adam Appel, Sr., testified that he did not sign the bond in question, and never authorized it. He identified the bonds he did sign and lifted when Williams was a defaulter; also, his signature to other papers. (The signatures to all these papers are in German—that to the bond in question, a sort of mongrel chirography.)

On cross-examination, witness stated he was previously on very good terms with defendant. He never acknowledged to anybody his liability for this bond, before the borough Councils; did not propose to settle the matter of the bond, and was not advised to do so, for the purpose of escaping liability. At a meeting of Councils late last summer, he said he would be responsable if his name was on the bond. Went morning, when shown this bond by his son, pushed it aside, said he was glad he hadn't paid any money on this, and that it was not his signature. Never wrote his signature in English. Did not get the duplicate to collect taxes on this bond, when Williams was ill; never authorized any one to collect on this bond. Know Henry Brown, who resided in West Pittsburgh.

Henry Snively testified he had seen Mr. Appel write his name. (Identified a bond which he signed as subscribing witness, while clerk of the County Commissioners, and to which Appel's name is also signed, and which the witness also identified.) Can not tell whether the signature on the bond in controversy is Mr. Appel's; did not see him sign it, and would not like to give an opinion.

Mr. Collier offered in evidence certain papers to which Mr. Appel's name is signed, and which he acknowledged on the stand, for the purpose of comparison. Mr. Shannon objected, and the question was argued at length, the authorities being extensively quoted on both sides.

The Commonwealth offered in evidence the record of the District Court, showing that suit has been brought on the bond, by the Borough, against Mr. Appel for the amount of Williams' deficit. (The deficit is $310, and the bond for $1500.)

John M. Scott, constable of South Pittsburgh, testified that he had frequently seen Mr. Appel sign his name, and that the signature to this bond was not Mr. Appel's. Was not present when the bond was signed.

The Commonwealth here rested, and the defence was opened by Mr. Stewart.

J. P. Rose, Burgess of West Pittsburgh, testified that at a meeting of the borough Council, in the early part of last summer, to which Mr. Appel was cited, for the purpose of adjusting a deficit in the borough taxes, an agreement was made by Appel to pay the balance of his liability in notes, which Council instructed witness to have signed. Next day, went to Appel's store, in pursuance thereof, when Appel and his son, upon being shown this bond, denied the signature. At a by meeting, which was held for the purpose of making some arrangement, Mr. Appel made no objection as to his liability for the bond. The reputation of Williams for honesty previous to this affair was good.

(Defense offered in evidence the minutes of Council for the meeting referred to, which were identified by witness as correct.)

John Asth, one of the borough Councilmen, testified that, at the meeting referred to, Mr. Appel and his son were present, and that the son had in his possession the documents on which the settlement and calculations were made on this bond; these were, a book and some papers. Mr. Williams' previous reputation for honesty was good.

George Dryden, who was also present, corroborated the above in part. After defendant left the borough, Mr. Appel held the duplicate to collect the back tax.

Henry Brown, roller in Sheffield iron works, resided in West Pittsburgh in 1858. (Identified his signature to the bond as contrary as subscribing witness.) The bond was executed at Appel's store.

Cross-examined—Did not see the defendant nor Mr. Appel write their signatures. Told Mr. Rose, when asked about this matter afterwards, that I could not remember signing the bond, but it was my signature.

Several witnesses were examined and testified to previous good character of the defendant for honesty.

The defense here closed, and the commonwealth produced the following rebutting testimony:

Philip Stevens, S. B. Cooper, and Edward Sprung testified that defendant's character for honesty was not good for some time.

Adam Appel, jr., testified that the defendant gave him the tax duplicate to collect back taxes, to save his father, about the time the county accounts were settled with Williams; never received any of the money; nothing was said about this bond; was under the impression father had only signed two bonds, and was surprised when informed that he had signed the borough bond; took the word of Messrs. Rose and Dryden that father had signed it.

After some further unimportant testimony the case was referred to the jury.

Union Meeting in Armstrong County.

Pursuant to call, the citizens of South Buffalo township, Armstrong county, met at school house No. 9, for the purpose of inquiring into the right of the secession of our sister State of South Carolina. The meeting was called to order by appointing A. M. shields, President; James Hill and John Step, Vice Presidents; Samuel Ferguson, Secretary; John F. Kittanning and John C. Luff, committee to draft resolutions. The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Our sister State of South Carolina has seceded and declared herself an independent nation.

Resolved, That we deeply regret the action of our sister State.

Resolved, That we think it unconstitutional.

Resolved, That we think South Carolina has no right to secede from the Union.

Resolved, That we are willing to redress any wrongs that we have really done to our sister State, if we have done any at all.

Resolved, That we will support the Constitution of the United States to the last.

Resolved, That we uphold our President elect, the Governor and the Congressmen of our district, as long as they support the Constitution—as soon as they cease to do that, we cease to uphold them.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in county papers, the *Free Press* and *Democrat*; also in the Pittsburgh *Gazette*.....

Alleged False Pretenses.—A countryman named J. P. Ewing made information yesterday, before Mayor Wilson, charging Wm. Adams with having obtained $250, cash, by false pretenses.—Mr. Ewing had sold a lot of hogs to Mr. Adams, on Tuesday, the latter paying $250 for the lot. Alleging that the weight of the hogs did not hold out he went to Ewing and asked to see the money which he had paid, alleging that he had made a mistake. Ewing handed all the money to Adams, which the latter stuck in his pocket, at the same time telling Ewing that he could take his hogs. The case was compromised by Adams paying $225 to Ewing, and thus the matter ended.

Burglary in Lawrenceville. On Monday night, the residence of Mr. Luke Hoyle, Allen street, Lawrenceville, was entered by burglars and robbed of a lot of household goods, together with bread, preserves, etc. Several daguerreotypes were taken, among which were likenesses of some deceased members of the family, four of whom died of consumption within the past few years. It is to be hoped that the thief will either return the pictures, or leave them where they can be obtained by some one who will not be afraid to return them.

Assistant Pastor.—At a congregational meeting held in Dr. Swift's church, Allegheny, on Monday evening, Rev. Elliott E. Swift, son of the venerable doctor, was chosen assistant pastor, at a salary of $2,000 per annum. This action was taken by the congregation on account of the age and impaired health of their beloved and faithful minister. The son has been located at New Castle, Lawrence county, for some time past.

Timely Notice.—Thomas Bakewell, President of the Gas Company, has given notice that the gas stock levied upon as belonging to the city, was given up to the stockholders some time ago, and that the city has new no title to it whatever, either in whole or in part. It has been divided *pro rata* among the stockholders, and any person purchasing it must do so at their peril.

Pennsylvania Common Schools.—The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools for the last year has just been issued. The whole number of Common Schools in the State is 11,577; number of teachers, including Philadelphia, 14,065; number of pupils, 647,414. The total cost of the system for the entire State during the year was $3,619,577.

Nearer and Nearer.—It is said that two or three oil wells are about to be sunk in the borough of Lawrenceville. If they should succeed in getting a "small" one, we may then soon expect to see numerous "derricks" raised in both cities. Nothing like *die!*

The Presbyterian Convention.

The Convention for prayer, called recently by the Presbyterian ministers of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, and the Professors in the Theological Seminary, met on Tuesday evening in Dr. Paxton's church, on Wood street. After devotional exercises, led by Dr. Comings, of Steubenville, the opening sermon was delivered by Rev. James I. Brownson, D. D., of Washington, Pa., from Daniel ix: 20—23. The sermon is highly spoken of by those who were present.

At the close of the sermon, prayer was offered by the Rev. B. C. Critchlow, of New Brighton, Pa.

The Convention was then called to order by the Rev. Dr. Elliott, who nominated the Rev. C. C. Beatty, D. D., of Steubenville, Ohio, for permanent Chairman, and he was unanimously elected.

The Rev. J. Hughes, of the Presbytery of Redstone, and the Rev. I. N. Hays, of the Presbetery of Carlisle, were elected Secretaries.

A Business Committee was appointed, consisting of Rev. Samuel Wilson, D. D., of the Presbytery of Redstone, Rev. Loyal Young, D. D., of the Presbytery of Allegheny, Rev. John M. Lowrie, of the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, Dr. Hugh Campbell, of Uniontown, Hon. Jacob Slagle, of Washington, Rev. W. D. Howard, D. D., of the Presbytery of Ohio, and Rev. W. Morris Grimes, of the Synod of Ohio.

On Wednesday the convention re-assembled, and after the usual devotional exercises the Business Committee reported, with the following recommendations:

1. That one hour be spent in devotional exercises, and in special prayer for the presence of God's holy spirit upon the convention, and the divine blessing on its labors.

2. Some addresses on the duty of humiliation before God, and confession of sins which have grieved his Spirit.

3. Special prayer for the blessing of God upon our beloved land, especially in the present exigencies of the nation, that he may overrule for good the existing evil, save us from the dangers that seem to threaten us, and be our God as he has been the God of our fathers.

Under the recommendations of the committee, short addresses were delivered by Revs. Elliott, Mitchell, Gillett, Swift, and other distinguished ministers.

About two hundred delegates are in attendance, and much interest is manifested in the proceedings.

Presbyterian Intelligence.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Allegheny, held last week, at Bridgewater, Mr. Monod, son of the Rev. Dr. Monod, of Paris, was licensed to preach the Gospel. He goes at once to labor in Mr. Chainey's colony where he spent last summer.....Rev. David H. Barron, of Mt. Pleasant, Pa., has been elected Professor of Latin in Jefferson College, in place of Rev. I. N. M'Kinney, who resigned on account of ill health. This is an excellent appointment, and it is hoped that Mr. Barron will respond favorably.....At a meeting of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, held on the 15th, it was resolved that the installation of Dr. Paxton, in the Chair of Pastoral Theology, shall take place at the close of the present term. Dr. Paxton is performing the duties of the office with great acceptance.....

Rev. Zebulon Butler, D. D., died at his residence in Port Gibson, Miss., on the 23d of December.

OUR BOOK TABLE.

The Romance of an Irish Girl; or Life in Two Worlds. An Autobiography, with an Introduction by a Lady of New York. New York: Derby & Jackson; Pittsburgh, Hunt & Miner.

It is claimed for this book that it is founded on facts—and that it is made a kind of recommendation of it. As we cannot undertake to prove or argue, even if the call were more important, we shall content ourselves with repeating the Frenchman's well-known saying: "Nothing more false than facts, except figures!". We cannot accept this autobiography as a true life-story, for we know it is not true to life, nor true to nature, which is the fountain of life, and which alone is the reflection of both. And therefore we think it is not true in point of fact.

The Dutch Domine of the Catskills; or the Times of the "Bloody Beaks." By Rev. Dr. Mabie. Mardock, D. D. New York: Derby & Jackson—1861. Pittsburgh: Hunt & Miner.

The region in which the scene of this story is laid is one of both historic and romantic interest. Genius has already made it classic ground.—Whether Dr. Mardock will add any new interest to it which already attracts the tourist to the beautiful region by the adventures which he recounts in the volume before us, we know not; but we do know that he has had scope enough to do so in the scene and which his plot is laid and where its characters are supposed to live and move; in the men and events of the times he has chosen to illustrate; and in the 470 well-filled pages bound and lettered which he offers to the omnivorous modern reader of fiction.

Taxes to the Pennsylvanian.—Nine convicts were yesterday conveyed by jailor Small from the county jail to the state's prison in Allegheny. Their names are Patrick Dunn, Alex. McWhirton, Enos Jackson, Thomas McCaskey, John Carroll, David Knight, A. C. Craig, Wm. Fabian, George Smith. They have all been convicted during the present term of court, and were sentenced on Monday last. This is the largest number ever sent over from our jail in one day.

Child Scalded.—Yesterday afternoon an infant son of Mr. Roberts, residing off Smithfield street, near Virgin alley, was accidentally scalded to scalding. The mother had gone up stairs, leaving the children about the table, when one of them took up the coffee-pot and poured some hot coffee over the neck and shoulders of the infant. Its injuries are not of a dangerous character.

Aid for Kansas.—Rev. J. K. Carothers, on behalf of the Presbyterian and Lutheran churches, in Leechburg, has forwarded to Mayor Wilson $25,—60, in aid of the Kansas fund. Dr. Woods, of Birmingham, contributes $5 to the same object.

Child Burnt.—On Tuesday, a little child of John Murphy, laborer, residing on Rebecca street, Allegheny, was shockingly burned by its clothes taking fire. It was only four years old, and its recovery is doubtful.

Disappeared.—Mary Hoffman, aged thirteen years, left the house of her step father, John Lattner, in Birmingham borough, on the 20th of December, and has not since been heard from.

The Removal of the Guns.

[Correspondence of the Daily Gazette.]

Messrs. Editors—As there is a considerable excitement in your community with regard to the removal of cannon from Allegheny Arsenal, and various rumors as to the condition of the forts at Ship Island and Galveston, I deem it proper to close to you the following papers for publication, believing that this official statement will be interesting to your readers: Respectfully yours,

Washington, Jan. 12, '61. J. K. MOORHEAD.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Jan. 11th, 1861.

Gentlemen: In reply to the inquiry contained in your note of the 3d inst., I have the honor to state that the order directing the shipment of cannon from the Allegheny Arsenal to certain Forts in the South, was countermanded on the same day. On investigation, it was satisfactorily ascertained that the fortifications in question were not in a condition to receive their armament; nor will they probably be for several years to come. This will more fully appear from the letter of General Totten, in charge of the Engineer Department, a copy of which is this communication. The heavy guns referred to, amounting to one hundred and twenty-four in number, were not manufactured for the forts to which they had been ordered to be shipped, but have been purchased by any special appropriation for the erecting or arming of these forts. As they would have been entirely useless at the points for which, under the order of shipment they were destined, and as their transportation through the country could not have failed to increase the feverish agitation and apprehension already so unhappily prevalent, I did not hesitate, when the matter was brought to my notice, to direct their return to the Arsenal.

Very respectfully, your ob't servant,

J. HOLT, Secretary of War, *ad interim*.

Hon. SIMON CAMERON, Senate; and Hon. J. K. MOORHEAD, House of Representatives.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, January 8, 1861.

Hon. Joseph Holt, Secretary of War, Washington.

SIR:—I have the honor to state, in answer to your inquiries as to the state of preparation for the armament of the fortifications at Galveston, (Texas) and Ship Island, (Mississippi:)

First, The fort at Galveston, for which an appropriation of $80,000 has been made, has no further been begun than by the erection of temporary buildings or quarters for mechanics and laborers—of store houses, wharf, etc; and the making of other indespensable preparations.

So far as we know here, the ground has, as yet, hardly been broken for the foundations of the fort itself. We may, at any rate, say confidently, that even the foundations of the walls have not been begun.

The estimate for the work is $413,000,—and, according to the rate of appropriation of late years for similar works, we cannot expect full readiness for its armament in less than five years.

Second, At the fort on Ship Island, the working force is now engaged in the construction of the embrasures of the lower tier, of which the officer in charge hoped to have four covered in by the 1st instant, the others being in various states of forwardness.

Not a platform has been laid; and some months will be required to mount the first tier of guns even on temporary platforms; and another appropriation, of at least $85,000 must be made and applied before the work can be got ready for its entire armament. At present not a gun could be mounted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. G. TOTTEN, B. B. Genl.,
and Colonel of Engineers.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. C. Sill, No. 245 Penn street, attends to all branches of the Dental profession.

DOCTOR C. BAELZ, Water Cure and Homeopathic Physician, also agent for Salisbury's celebrated Truss for Ruptures. No. 139 Smithfield St.

ALL should not fail to read the advertisement of Prof. Wood, in today's paper.

TO LET.—THE FOURTH STORY of the GAZETTE BUILDING, for a term of five years or less, on reasonable terms. Apply to E. EVERETT & CO., Gazette Counting Room.

BLOOD FOOD.—Attention is called to this wonderful remedy and nutritive preparation, advertised in another column. It is an entirely new discovery, and must not be confounded with any of the numerous patent medicines of the day. It is a certain remedy for all the diseases specified, and especially those of a chronic nature of long standing—of weeks, months, and years. Enough said, try it.

BROWN'S CHINESE & DUPOY, of New York, are the sole agents for it, and also proprietors of the world-renowned Dr. BROWN'S INFANTILE COMFORT, an article which every Mother should have in her medicine closet in case of need and cautioning, as it does away the paregoric, opiate of any kind, it can be fed upon with the utmost confidence, and will be found an invaluable specific in all cases of infantile complaints. Sold by all Druggists, Grocers, etc.

See advertisement. For sale by GEO. R. REYNER Agent, 166 Wood st., Pittsburgh, Pa. (oct2ly&tuf)

MIDNIGHT EDITION.

BY TELEGRAPH.

RECEIVED AT THE DAILY GAZETTE OFFICE.

XXXVIth Congress—Second Session.

WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 16.

HOUSE.—Mr. Cox, of Ohio, presented the resolutions passed by the Legislature of Ohio, expressive of attachment to the Union, against the right of secession, declaratory that the laws should be maintained and against one State intermeddling with the laws of another. He said that although the Legislature had not unanimously passed these resolutions, but the State has already begun the work of conciliation, by giving a vital stab to the personal liberty bills; and he had been assured that the work will go on till every obnoxious act of legislature shall be removed from her statute books, and full justice done to all sections.

The resolutions were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Briggs, of N. Y., presented memorial numerously signed by citizens of New York, in favor of the propositions made by the Border State Committee.

The House, on motion, went into committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and took up the army appropriation bill.

Mr. Garnet, of New York, thought the time had come when they should consider the impending dangers calmly and without passion. The cause of the present crisis is not the mere election of Lincoln, but the domination of one section over another; differing in character, institutions and race. The Republican party has steadily advanced till it has gained possession of nearly all the northern states. In course of time the Republicans will have the necessary two thirds to change the Constitution to the deterriment of the South and the destruction of her prosperity. Mr. Calhoun, years ago, predicted the results of the vicious organization of Northern society.

It controls the House now, and cannot be long before it will be in the entire possession of the Legislature and Executive departments, unless there is some great change, which is not likely to occur. The Republican party is an anti-slavery party; without opposition to slavery, it never could have come into being, and without this it would dissolve the party; it is emphatically sectional because no Southern State could approve of it or unite with it. The party is made up of Abolitionists, with Americans and deserters from the democratic party.

The corruption of the State and city of New York was mentioned by Mr. Garnett, to show that the national workings of the Government were based on unsound principles.

Mr. Garnett, of Va., recommended a truce, and peaceful refutastion.

Mr. Curley, of Ohio, said that if the Union is broken up there will be war, and the last will be as to who is the strongest. Did Southern people expect the people of the northwest to fold their hands with indifference and see their steamboats fired into and their merchants seut home? How long were the people of the northwest to continue peaceful under these circumstances? If a bill be passed giving the President authority to accept the services of volunteers to sustain the national government, you could have one hundred thousand men from the West alone, and then let the worst come. The people of Ohio have, through their legislature, recently unanimously passed resolutions in favor of maintaining the government.

Mr. Morris, Ill., said that the treason is against the constitution. It has grown to large proportion; its heavy footsteps are heard all around us, even if the call were more important, we shall content ourselves with repeating the Frenchman's well-known saying: "Nothing more false than facts, except figures!". We cannot accept this autobiography as a true life-story, for we know it is not true to life, nor true to nature, which is the fountain of life, and which alone is the reflection of both. And therefore we think it is not true in point of fact.

The Dutch Domine of the Catskills; or the Times of the "Bloody Beaks." By Rev. Dr. Mabie Mardock, D. D. New York: Derby & Jackson—1861. Pittsburgh: Hunt & Miner.

The region in which the scene of this story is laid is one of both historic and romantic interest. Genius has already made it classic ground.—Whether Dr. Mardock will add any new interest to it which already attracts the tourist to the beautiful region by the adventures which he recounts in the volume before us, we know not; but we do know that he has had scope enough to do so in the scene and which his plot is laid and where its characters are supposed to live and move; in the men and events of the times he has chosen to illustrate; and in the 470 well-filled pages bound and lettered which he offers to the omnivorous modern reader of fiction.

Taxes to the Pennsylvanian.—Nine convicts were yesterday conveyed by jailor Small from the county jail to the state's prison in Allegheny. Their names are Patrick Dunn, Alex. McWhirton, Enos Jackson, Thomas McCaskey, John Carroll, David Knight, A. C. Craig, Wm. Fabian, George Smith. They have all been convicted during the present term of court, and were sentenced on Monday last. This is the largest number ever sent over from our jail in one day.

Child Scalded.—Yesterday afternoon an infant son of Mr. Roberts, residing off Smithfield street, near Virgin alley, was accidentally scalded to scalding. The mother had gone up stairs, leaving the children about the table, when one of them took up the coffee-pot and poured some hot coffee over the neck and shoulders of the infant. Its injuries are not of a dangerous character.

Aid for Kansas.—Rev. J. K. Carothers, on behalf of the Presbyterian and Lutheran churches, in Leechburg, has forwarded to Mayor Wilson $25,—60, in aid of the Kansas fund. Dr. Woods, of Birmingham, contributes $5 to the same object.

Child Burnt.—On Tuesday, a little child of John Murphy, laborer, residing on Rebecca street, Allegheny, was shockingly burned by its clothes taking fire. It was only four years old, and its recovery is doubtful.

Disappeared.—Mary Hoffman, aged thirteen years, left the house of her step father, John Lattner, in Birmingham borough, on the 20th of December, and has not since been heard from.

The Removal of the Guns.

[Correspondence of the Daily Gazette.]

Messrs. Editors—As there is a considerable excitement in your community with regard to the removal of cannon from Allegheny Arsenal, and various rumors as to the condition of the forts at Ship Island and Galveston, I deem it proper to close to you the following papers for publication, believing that this official statement will be interesting to your readers: Respectfully yours,

Washington, Jan. 12, '61. J. K. MOORHEAD.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Jan. 11th, 1861.

Gentlemen: In reply to the inquiry contained in your note of the 3d inst., I have the honor to state that the order directing the shipment of cannon from the Allegheny Arsenal to certain Forts in the South, was countermanded on the same day. On investigation, it was satisfactorily ascertained that the fortifications in question were not in a condition to receive their armament; nor will they probably be for several years to come. This will more fully appear from the letter of General Totten, in charge of the Engineer Department, a copy of which is this communication. The heavy guns referred to, amounting to one hundred and twenty-four in number, were not manufactured for the forts to which they had been ordered to be shipped, but have been purchased by any special appropriation for the erecting or arming of these forts. As they would have been entirely useless at the points for which, under the order of shipment they were destined, and as their transportation through the country could not have failed to increase the feverish agitation and apprehension already so unhappily prevalent, I did not hesitate, when the matter was brought to my notice, to direct their return to the Arsenal.

Very respectfully, your ob't servant,

J. HOLT, Secretary of War, *ad interim*.

Hon. SIMON CAMERON, Senate; and Hon. J. K. MOORHEAD, House of Representatives.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, January 8, 1861.

Hon. Joseph Holt, Secretary of War, Washington.

SIR:—I have the honor to state, in answer to your inquiries as to the state of preparation for the armament of the fortifications at Galveston, (Texas) and Ship Island, (Mississippi:)

First, The fort at Galveston, for which an appropriation of $80,000 has been made, has no further been begun than by the erection of temporary buildings or quarters for mechanics and laborers—of store houses, wharf, etc; and the making of other indespensable preparations.

So far as we know here, the ground has, as yet, hardly been broken for the foundations of the fort itself. We may, at any rate, say confidently, that even the foundations of the walls have not been begun.

The estimate for the work is $413,000,—and, according to the rate of appropriation of late years for similar works, we cannot expect full readiness for its armament in less than five years.

Second, At the fort on Ship Island, the working force is now engaged in the construction of the embrasures of the lower tier, of which the officer in charge hoped to have four covered in by the 1st instant, the others being in various states of forwardness.

Not a platform has been laid; and some months will be required to mount the first tier of guns even on temporary platforms; and another appropriation, of at least $85,000 must be made and applied before the work can be got ready for its entire armament. At present not a gun could be mounted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. G. TOTTEN, B. B. Genl.,
and Colonel of Engineers.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. C. Sill, No. 245 Penn street, attends to all branches of the Dental profession.

DOCTOR C. BAELZ, Water Cure and Homeopathic Physician, also agent for Salisbury's celebrated Truss for Ruptures. No. 139 Smithfield St.

ALL should not fail to read the advertisement of Prof. Wood, in today's paper.

TO LET.—THE FOURTH STORY of the GAZETTE BUILDING, for a term of five years or less, on reasonable terms. Apply to E. EVERETT & CO., Gazette Counting Room.

BLOOD FOOD.—Attention is called to this wonderful remedy and nutritive preparation, advertised in another column. It is an entirely new discovery, and must not be confounded with any of the numerous patent medicines of the day. It is a certain remedy for all the diseases specified, and especially those of a chronic nature of long standing—of weeks, months, and years. Enough said, try it.

BROWN'S CHINESE & DUPOY, of New York, are the sole agents for it, and also proprietors of the world-renowned Dr. BROWN'S INFANTILE COMFORT, an article which every Mother should have in her medicine closet in case of need and cautioning, as it does away the paregoric, opiate of any kind, it can be fed upon with the utmost confidence, and will be found an invaluable specific in all cases of infantile complaints. Sold by all Druggists, Grocers, etc.

See advertisement. For sale by GEO. R. REYNER Agent, 166 Wood st., Pittsburgh, Pa. (oct2ly&tuf)

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

COMMITTEE OF ARBITRATION FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.
JOSEPH DILWORTH, V. P.
JAMES PARK, JR., J. J. GILLESPIE,
C. H. PAULSON, JOSHUA RHODES.

PITTSBURGH MARKETS.

[*Reported especially for the Pittsburgh Gazette.*]

PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY, Jan 16, 1861.

The general aspect of business to-day was quiet, the transactions in the produce market being restricted to the city trade. There was a slight improvement however, over the preceding day, and the general opinion is that from this time hence, things will begin to brighten and improve.

FLOUR—continues to meet with a light inquiry, the demand generally being of a local nature. Prices are firm but unchanged. We note as follows:

	Super.	Extra.	Ex. Fam.	Fancy
100 bbls from store