Pittsburgh Gazette.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB. 13, 1861.

CITY AFFAIRS.

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

	IN DOOR.	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	66	46
12 " M.	73	48
6 " P. M.		47
Barometer	29 6-20	

The County Auditors as a Licensee Board.

MESSRS. EDITORS: The editor of the *Journal*, in his issue of the 9th inst., in discussing the merits of a bill recently read in the Senate of Pennsylvania, in reference to the proposed reform in the administration and financial interests of the county, makes an insidious attack on the Auditors as a Board of Licensers. He says there must be some change in the matter of granting license; some other persons must be hunted up to perform that duty, than the "Auditors," whether that office be abolished or not. Now, he does not tell us exactly why this must be the case, why *some change must* be made; but insinuates that there are a great many improper houses who get license, or are at least selling liquor. Now, there may be some houses selling under license that should not have license, and I doubt not but there are some selling that never applied for license, but it must be understood that the Board are sworn to grant or refuse according to the evidence. It was my duty to keep the minutes of the Board, and I wrote down all the evidence relavent in every case, nearly verbatim, and if the editor of the *Journal*, or any one else, will come to the office, they will be shown the minutes, and if they will read the evidence and the law, they can see if there has been any improprieties practiced in the administration of the law. I am no advocate of the present liquor law, but if the Auditors administer the law fairly and impartially, in accordance with the law and on the evidence, and assert without fear of contradiction such has been the case in every instance. I do not see that any immediate change under the present law must be made. But the editor of the *Journal* will not come and examine. It don't suit him to investigate and present facts; whims and fancies, appear rather to be his stock in trade, and ominous inuendoes, the pabulum which he serves up to his readers. DAVID CORNELIUS.

Railroad Accident—Man Killed.

On Thursday morning last, before daybreak, an accident of a fatal character happened at Conemaugh station, on the Pennsylvania Railroad. A young man named Samuel West, brakesman of a freight train between Cassemagh and Altoona, had just prepared for taking his train, which was then being made up. While crossing the track, in company with a fellow workman, an engine was heard coming upon them, when West's companion cried out to him to leave the track. He must have heard the warning, but he did not seem to mind it, and in an instant the engine hit him. Both legs were taken off, or rather the body was cut in two at the joints. He was conveyed to his lodging place, and although he survived several hours, apparently suffering but little pain. A short time before he died, he took his watch from his pocket, and looking at it remarked that he had half an hour yet to live! The engine was backing at the time, and was in charge of a brother-in-law of the deceased, who is a "dispatcher" on the road, and had taken the place of the regular engineer, who was late coming on duty that morning. The deceased was unmarried, and resided near Lockport.

Court of Common Pleas.

Before Judges Mellon, Adams and Parke.

Bates & Johnson vs. John Morrison; action on a book account for roofing. Verdict for plaintiff for $16.

Thomas Briggs vs. William H. Wightman. Action for damages in laying out a road. Jury out.

Jonathan Jones vs. Stinson Bulford; action on a book account for coal delivered. Verdict for defendant.

John D. Miller vs. Wm. Hamilton; action to recover money loaned. Jury out.

Thomas Kiddoo vs. John Wening; action for rent. On trial.

The following cases will probably be reached to-day:

No. 59 Daniel Collins vs. Basil Luker.
" 63 John Connolly vs. John Leiterly.
" 65 Hamilton and Porter vs. Aiken & Logan.
" 66 Tarr & Kimberland vs. " "
" 67 John Irwin vs. " "
" 69 D. Brown, jr., vs. " "
" 70 George Coe & Co., vs. " "
" 71 C. Myers vs. " "
" 71-1 Marshall vs. a Woodbourne's Adm'rs.
" 72 John Pearce vs. Duquesne Borough.
" 73 E. Swan & Co., vs. O. S. Palmer.
" 74-1 Cunningham vs. Wm. McCully & Co.

A Freight Car on a Spree—Singular Collision.

On Friday morning an accident of an unusual character happened to a freight train on the Pennsylvania Railroad, while ascending the western slope of the Allegheny mountains. At Lilly's station the coupling of the rear car in the train gave way, and being heavily laden with coal, it began to descend the slope, the speed gradually increasing with the distance. The car continued in flight without interruption to Wilmore station, a distance of seven miles. At this point an engine was standing on the track, heading eastwardly. Two railroad men were quietly seated upon the cow-catcher, discussing the news of the day, when their attention was attracted by the rapid approach of the car. They hardly knew what to make of this singular visitor, but it did not take them long to make up their minds about leaving their comfortable seats. When they got out of harm's way, they quietly watched the collition, which was described as one of the hardest bumps they ever heard. The car was making at least forty miles an hour, and both the car and the front of the engine were badly damaged.

Probable Murder at Zanesville.

The citizens of Zanesville, Ohio, have been somewhat excited by the discovery of circumstances leading to the belief that a horrible murder has been perpetrated in that place. On Saturday morning traces of blood were discovered in Fountain alley, between Second and Third streets, and continued down the alley to the east end of the Central Ohio Railroad bridge, where it crosses the Muskingum river. At this point a felt hat (somewhat worn) was found, and numerous blotches of blood on the rock beneath the bridge, indicating that foul play has been used, and that some person has been thrown into the river. A man named Wesley Sherman, a citizen of Zanesville, is missing, nothing having been seen of him since early Friday evening. Hand bills were charged regarding the river in the vicinity of the bridge, but owing to the depth of the water and swiftness of the current, much difficulty was experienced in the work.

THE Central Board of Education met and organized Tuesday evening, Feb. 12th:

President—Pitt.
Secretary—John A. Sargeant.
Treasurer—John H. McCune.

The following additional appropriations were made to the High Schools, etc.:

1st Ward	$40 00
2d "	20 00
3d "	20 00
4th "	20 00
5th "	20 00
6th "	20 00
7th "	20 00
8th "	33 33

The President announced the Standing Committees as follows, viz:

Finance—McAuley, Hunter and Brush.
High school—Snively, Marshall and Duncan.
Teachers and Salaries—Varnum, McAuley and Sargeant.
Text Books and Grades—Marshall, Varnum and Brush.
Rules and Regulations—Hunter, Sargeant and Marshall.
Colored Schools—Duncan, Brush and Snively.

On motion Secretary's salary was fixed at $500—the Treasurer to serve without compensation.

An Aged Lady Burned to Death.

On Monday morning, Mrs. Mary Yankirk, widow of Moses Yankirk, aged sixty years, died at her residence on the corner of Wilkins street and Mulberry alley, in the Ninth ward, from the effects of injuries sustained the previous day from her clothes taking fire. While in the act of reaching for a comb upon the mantel piece, her apron caught fire, which spreadily communicated with other parts of her clothing. There was no person in the room with her at the time, and before assistance could be rendered she was so horribly burned as to render her recovery impossible. She leaves a family of adult children.

THE KANSAS FUND.—The following additional sums have been received by Mayor Wilson, in aid of the Kansas fund:

W. S. Haven	$30 00
Thos. Stilwell, jr.,	25 00
J. M. Kiskadden	5 00
George Norris	5 00
D. McCallister	5 00
Other employees in Haven's office	24 50
Collected by two young men	121 00
Employees at Lippincot & Co.'s Axle Factory	70 00
Cash	2 00
Phillips & McKee's Barrel Factory	50 00

The following is the correct sum collected by a young man in the employ of the P. Ft. W. & C. R. Co., and one engaged on Market street, in a mercantile house, for the relief of the Kansas sufferers, $131—in connection with the young men of Liberty street, making it in all from these sources $347, and not, as it was inadvertently stated in a city paper yesterday, by the employees of the above railroad.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.—Last week, Nicholas Myres, a brakeman on the Cumberland Valley Railroad, was run over by a train of cars at Mechanicsburg, and injured in a shocking manner. Three cars passed over him at the rate of some twenty miles an hour, and the brakes of each in turn catching his limbs, crushed his right leg below the knee to a mass of jelly, and cut his left heel completely off. He was taken to Carlisle, and received prompt surgical attendance. It is supposed that amputation of one leg at least will be necessary to save his life.

CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.—On Saturday last, a child of Charles S. Brush, of Cavetteville, Westmoreland county, was so severely burned as to result in death a few hours after the occurrence. The child was parching corn on a stove, in a shop near the house, in company with some others of its own age, and in endeavoring to sweep the corn from the stove, the apron caught fire.

AN OLD COMPANY.—We have for sale a small lot of Cabinet Ware, which we will sell low for cash, about one year old. Any party desirous of purchasing cheap for cash will please call at the Warehouse, Liberty street, between Canal and Water streets, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Visit of the President Elect—Preparations for his Reception—Meeting of Citizens—Council proceedings, etc.

CITIZENS' MEETING.

Pursuant to call, published in the city papers, a large meeting of citizens was held yesterday, in the Board of Trade Rooms, Fourth street, for the purpose of making suitable arrangements for the reception of the President elect, on his way to the capital, on Thursday next.

On motion of Hon. B. A. Weaver, His Honor, Mayor Wilson, was called to preside, and on motion of Thomas Steel, Esq., James Sutherland, Esq., and Dr. A. G. McCandless were appointed Secretaries, and Hons. J. E. Brady, B. A. Weaver, and William Ehlebaum Vice Presidents.

The Chairman read the call, and stated that the meeting was open for business.

Mr. Howard moved the appointment of a Committee of Arrangements. Carried.

Dr. McCandless suggested, as Councils intended to make arrangements also, the Committee chosen now should be appointed to act in concert with them.

Mr. Brady thought the matter should be left as much as possible in the hands of the city government.

Mr. Brady moved that the Committee of Arrangements consist of seven, which was carried.

Mr. Steel thought there should be a large Committee of Reception.

Mr. Weaver moved that a committee of one hundred be appointed.

Mr. Howard suggested that it would be better to leave the appointment of the Reception Committee to the Committee of Arrangements. After some further discussion, Mr. Weaver withdrew his motion.

On motion it was decided that the committee appointed by the meeting shall act in conjunction with any other committees to be appointed of a similar character.

The Chairman announced the following gentlemen as composing the Committee: Messrs. Thos. Steel, Thomas Howard, H. A. Weaver, John M. Irwin, Charles H. Paulson, Wm M. Herah and Jasper E. Brady.

Mr. Steel moved that the military of the county be invited to participate in the ceremonies of reception.

T. J. Bigham, Esq., stated that, as there was a call for the companies to turn out on the 22d, there could not be a general turn out on Thursday.

Adjutant Chalfant stated that the understanding was that the Staff would participate in the reception.

It was announced that the joint committees appointed by Councils and this meeting will assemble at the Controller's office this morning at ten o'clock.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

MEETING OF CITY COUNCILS.

The Councils met last evening, to make arrangement for meeting the President elect.

In *Common Council*, resolutions were offered by Mr. Wilson and adopted, to receive the President elect as the guest of the city, and that the Mayor and Councils act as a Reception Committee; also, that a Committee of seven be appointed to act in conjunction with the Citizens' Committee, in making the necessary arrangements.

At this juncture, Capt. Ward, on behalf of Select Council, appeared and stated that the body of which he was a member did not deem it proper to concur with their resolutions, if it was intended that the city should pay the expenses, and that the Select Councils desired a Joint Session to consider this matter informally.

Both bodies then met in conjunction, when, by request, Thomas Steel, Esq., read the following propositions from the Committee of Citizens:

That in case the Councils make Mr. Lincoln the city's guest, he shall be received by the Mayor and Councils in their official capacity.

2. The President elect, the Mayor and Councils, shall be escorted to the Monongahela House, by the various military companies, and the Citizens' Committee.

3. The citizens will be introduced to Mr. Lincoln by a committee for that special purpose.

4. The route of procession, details, etc., shall be under the control of the committee appointed by the citizens' meeting.

That Councils shall appoint a committee to confer with the Citizens' Committee, and in company with them carry out the arrangements.

A spirited discussion ensued upon the motion to accept these propositions, but no vote was taken.

Mr. Wilson called for the reading of his resolution, and it was moved that the last only should be approved by the joint meeting.

Mr. Morrow offered a substitute for Mr. Wilson's resolutions, that Councils should meet on Thursday, for the purpose of receiving Mr. Lincoln as a body, and that a committee be appointed to make suitable arrangements. This substitute was adopted, and the joint session adjourned.

In Select Council, Mr. M'Auley offered the following, as a substitue for Mr. Morrow's substitute, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Select and Common Councils will assemble on Thursday next, at three o'clock, P. M., and in a body proceed to meet his Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, at the railroad depot in Allegheny, and escort him to the Monongahela House.

Resolved, That the President of each Council be requested to procure carriages for the members.

Resolved, That the Mayor of the city be requested to accompany the Councils on the occasion referred to.

The above resolutions were then transmitted to Common Councils, and were concurred in, after which both bodies adjourned.

ALLEGHENY COUNCILS.

The Select and Common Councils of Allegheny met in Joint Session last evening, to make arrangements for the reception of Hon. Abraham Lincoln, on his arrival at the Federal street Station, on Thursday evening.

The following resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That Councils meet as a body, on Thursday next, the 14th inst, at half-past 4 o'clock, afternoon, to receive Hon. Abraham Lincoln, President elect of the United States, on his arrival at the Federal street station of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, and to escort him from thence to his hotel.

2. *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, with the Presidents of Councils, to procure Steubenville, to act in concert with any other official committee which may be appointed to receive and escort the President elect to the city.

3. *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to carry out the foregoing resolutions, by making the necessary arrangements.

Under the second resolution, the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to visit Steubenville: Messrs. Bissell and Riddle of Select, and Messrs. Ball, Whiston and Brown of Common Council.

Under the third resolution, Messrs. Wright of Select, and Miller and Skiles of Common Councils, were appointed as a Committee of Arrangements, after which Councils adjourned.

ROBBERY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.—The Governor *Jeffersonian* is informed that an old farmer, named Lundy, residing near the line between Tuscarawas and Guernsey counties, was on Saturday, the 26th ult., robbed of one thousand dollars, and a valuable watch. The robber, after securing his booty, was making his exit by the window, when a son of Mr. Lundy's who was sleeping in the room, rushed to the window and seized him by the coat, whereupon the burglar fired a pistol shot, which took effect in the young man's shoulder. The burglar succeeded in making his escape.

ESCAPED.—Michael Doyle was arrested by Ald. Rogers on Friday, charged with snatching a pocket book from a woman in market, yesterday morning. After a hearing of the case the magistrate placed the offending individual in charge of officer Shore, with instructions to convey him to jail. It seems, however, that they had not been sufficiently near the office, when some of the prisoner's friends interfered, and succeeded in releasing him from the officer, and he made good his escape.

FROZEN TO DEATH.—A man named John Griffin, residing near Mt. Braddock, Fayette county, was frozen to death on Thursday night last. He went up on the evening train from Connellsville, and after getting off, being intoxicated, wandered about and finally laid down or fell into the ditch beside the railroad, where he was found in the morning.

SUDDEN DEATH.—William Innis died on Sunday morning, at his residence in Greensburg, after a short illness. He was in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and held the position of master mason on the road. He was interred on Monday with Masonic honors.

GODEY, for March, is laid on our table by Messrs. Hunt & Miner, Fifth street, near the Post office. Ladies who desire to examine the latest styles of bonnets, dresses, etc., will do well to procure a copy. It is the opening of Spring, as regards Fashion.

COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.—Paul Herbert, of the "International Saloon," Liberty street, was committed to jail yesterday, by Alderman Donaldson, to answer a charge of assault and battery preferred by his wife.

SEDUCTION.—A man named Jacob Barker was before Aldermen Taylor last evening, charged with seduction, on oath of Ann Rumburgh. In default of bail he was committed for trial.

PHYSICIAN TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH.—G. L. Duncan, M. D., of Penn street, has been chosen Physician to the Board of Health, a position held formerly years past by Dr. A. C. Murdoch.

CASE DECIDED.—Judge Thompson, of the Supreme Court, has decided the case of Woods vs. Wilson, error to the Common Pleas of Beaver court. The judgment was affirmed.

LENT.—The season of Lent will begin on Wednesday of the present week. The occasion is one of much solemnity in the Catholic and Episcopal churches.

THE citizens of Connellsville and vicinity have donated $150 for suffering Kansas, besides goods to the amount of $130.

DOCTOR C. BAELZ, Water Cure and Homœopathic Physician; also agent for Rainbow's celebrated Truss for Ruptures. No. 130 Smithfield St.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. C. Sill, No. 146 Penn street, attends to all branches of the Dental profession.

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

R. WOODSIDE. W. PARRY.

WOODSIDE & PARRY,

REFINERS AND DEALERS IN

COAL OIL,

NO. 6 STAR STREET, Between Canal and Water Wards, ALLEGHENY, PITTSBURGH, Pa.

FROM HARRISBURG.

[Special Correspondence of the Daily Gazette.]

HARRISBURG, Feb. 11, 1861.

EDS. GAZETTE: In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Penney read in place, a bill supplementary to an Act incorporating the Board of Guardians of the Poor in Pittsburgh. It prohibits the election of members of the Councils as Guardians, and authorizes the Board to vacate the seat of any one absent for six consecutive months.

Also, a supplement to the several acts relative to the Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital.

Mr. Meredith called up Senate bill to incorporate the Kittanning Water Co., which was passed.

Mr. Irish called up Senate bill to incorporate the Allegheny Oil Co., which was amended in Committee of the Whole, by adding the individual liability clause, and laid over on second reading.

Mr. Penney called up House bill to authorize the borough of Temperanceville to erect a lock-up, which passed and goes to the Governor.

In the House, on Friday evening, the bill to extend the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace to sums under $200, was passed, instead of negatived, as I wrote you. It will fare but poorly in the Senate, where there are 18 lawyers, and all opposed to it, as every man of experience in that line must be.

In the House, to day, Mr. Bartholomew offered a resolution recommending Congress to suspend the Postal system in the Seceding States, which passed; yeas 50, nays 19.

Mr. Williams introduced a bill to extend the powers of Court of Equity to mortgages.

Mr. Hosfius to erect a new township in the Oil region of Venango county, to be called Lincoln.

The resolution to arm the State came up, in order, on the motion to postpone indefinitely, which was lost, 31 to 38. A motion to postpone for the present, however, prevailed, 42 to 31. On all these motions to delay action, the democrats vote in a solid body with the weak kneed brethren from Philadelphia and the interior.

Mr. Irwin offered a resolution calling upon the Auditor General and Attorney General to inform the House how much Tonnage Tax is due from the Penn'a. R. R., and what steps have been taken to collect it. The resolution passed, 50 to 1.

Mr. Douglass introduced a bill, which passed, authorizing the qualified electors of Elizabeth Tp., to elect an additional Supervisor.

In the Senate, to day, Mr. Wharton read a bill in place to appropriate $30,000 for the relief of the suffering people of Kansas. It was referred to the Committee on Finance. An effort was made to discharge the Committee and proceed at once to its consideration, which gave rise to considerable debate; but the temper of the Senate was so decidedly against it that the effort was abandoned.

I enclose a copy of the bill relative to Allegheny county, now pending in the Senate, which I trust you will find room for.

E.

AN ACT RELATING TO ALLEGHENY COUNTY.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That within ten days after the passage of this act the Judges of the District Court and the law judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the county of Allegheny shall appoint a citizen of said county, who shall be a competent accountant, to serve as controller of said county for a term of three years from the first Monday of April next, and until his successor shall be appointed and qualified if he or he long behave himself well; and the judges aforesaid shall, in the month of January in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and in the same month in every third year thereafter, appoint one person, qualified as aforesaid, to serve as controller of said county for a term of three years from the first Monday of April next thereafter, and until his successor shall be qualified.

SEC. 2. No person holding office under the United States, or this State, the county of Allegheny, or any city, ward, borough or township therein, shall be eligible to the office of controller during his continuance in office as aforesaid, nor until one year thereafter, except that the said controller shall always be eligible for re-election or appointment, and the county treasurers and commissioners shall be ineligible to said office for two years.

SEC. 3 Before entering on the duties of his office, the controller shall give bond to the county, with at least two sureties, in the sum of fifty thousand dollars, to be approved by the Court of Common Pleas of said county, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties and those of his chief clerk hereinafter provided, and his chief clerk shall each take and subscribe an oath or affirmation, well and faithfully to perform their said duties—a wilful violation of which shall be perjury, said oaths and bonds to be recorded in the recorder's office in said county, and then filed and kept in the commissioners' office, and the records thereof, or certified copies of the same shall be used in evidence in all judicial proceedings, with the same effects as the originals.

SEC. 4. The salary of the controller shall be twenty five hundred dollars per annum, to be paid quarterly out of the treasury of said county, and the controller and his chief clerk are authorized to administer oaths and affirmations in the performance of the duties of their office, and a wilful violation of such oaths or affirmations (or false swearing before them) shall be perjury.

SEC 5 The said controller shall have a general supervision and control of the fiscal affairs of the county, and of the accounts and official acts of all officers or other persons who shall collect, receive or distribute the public moneys, or who shall be charged with the management or custody thereof, and he may at any time require from any of them, in writing, an account of all moneys or property of the county which may be in their hands, or under their control, and he shall, from time to time, on the discovery of any default or delinquency, report the same to the commissioners and to the Court of Common Pleas of said county, and shall make immediate measures to secure the public moneys or property, and to remove the delinquent party, if in office and not removed by the commissioners.

SEC. 6 He shall cause to be kept a full and regular set of books, in detail, by double entry, of all the fiscal operations of the county, embracing as many accounts, under appropriate titles, as may be necessary, to allow distinctly and separately all the property of the county, all its receipts and expenditures, and all debts and accounts due by or to the county by county officers or others; the amount raised from each source of revenue, and the expenditures in detail and separately by reference to the objects thereof; he shall prescribe the form and manner of keeping all books and papers used by any officer in connection with the fiscal affairs of the county; and he shall on or before the first day of February, annually communicate to the commissioners, in writing, a detailed estimate of the necessary and ordinary expenditures for the legitimate purposes of the county during the current year, and the commissioners shall, before the fifteenth day of February, thereafter, fix such rate of taxation upon the taxables within the county as will raise a sum sufficient to meet said estimated expenditures, and the commissioners shall not, by any contract or otherwise, increase the expenses of the county, in any year, to an amount beyond the taxes assessed, as aforesaid, for said year; nor shall they at any time borrow money for any purpose whatsoever, either by the issue of notes, bonds, certificate of loan, time warrants, or otherwise, on the credit of the county, without the approval of a grand jury of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

SEC. 7. That he shall, in the month of February in every year, or sooner, make a report, certified by oath or affirmation to the Court of Common Pleas of said county, of all the receipts and expenditures of the county for the preceding year, in detail, and classified as required in the ninth section of this act, together with a full statement of the financial operations and condition of the county, which report shall be published in such manner as the Court may direct—to be paid for out the county treasury. This publication to be in lieu of that required by the twenty-second section of the act of fifteenth April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four.

SEC 8 That the controller shall keep his office in a building or rooms, to be furnished at the expense of the county, and shall, after the first day of October next, furnish to the commissioners, whenever required by them, a detailed statement of the accounts of any officer, or other person, having in his possession or under his control, funds belonging to the county; and shall, at all times, between the hours of ten o'clock A. M., and two o'clock P. M., give information respecting any of said accounts to any tax-payer of the county demanding the same.

SEC. 9. That he shall scrutinize, audit and decide on all bills, claims and demands whatsoever against the county; and all persons having such claims shall first present the same to the controller, and if required, make oath or affirmation before him to the correctness thereof; he may, if he deems it necessary, require evidence by the oath or affirmation of the claimant, and otherwise, that the claim is legally due; that the supplies or services for which payment is claimed, have been furnished or performed under legal authority; he may inquire and ascertain whether any officer or agent of the county is interested in the contract under which any claim may arise, or has received, or is to receive, any commission, consideration or gratuity relating thereto; or whether there has been an evasion of the fifteenth section of this act, by any two or more contracts for small amounts, which should have been in one; and if he shall find that there has been any such evasion, or that any such officer or agent is so interested, he shall refuse to approve the claim; all claims which he shall find legally due he shall certify to the commissioners.

SEC. 10. That after the controller shall have examined the duties of his office under this act, the commissioners of said county shall draw no warrant on the treasury for any debt, claim or demand whatsoever not audited and approved by the controller, as provided for in the foregoing section, except for the fees of jurors, witnesses, criers and bailiffs, which shall be first paid out of the proceeds of any judicial sale of real property, but no such fees and salaries shall be allowed to any officer in the judicial service of the county, being first sworn to before the controller, and certified by him to the commissioners, the following form of oath, to be followed by the commissioners to the controller for preservation, as soon as the warrants are issued.

SEC. 11. That in all cases where no sufficient provision has been made by law or contract for the settlement of any claim presented to the controller, and he shall be satisfied that services or value to the amount thereof has been rendered to the county, and that justice requires the payment thereof, he shall report the facts to the commissioners, who, upon examination thereof, may draw a warrant therefor; but separate and distinct accounts of all payments made on account of such claims shall be kept in the accounts, and distinctly set forth in the books and reports provided for in the ninth and tenth sections of this act.

SEC. 12. That from and after the passage of this act all contracts made by the commissioners of said county shall be in writing and shall immediately after their execution be filed with the controller; but no contract shall be made, nor the payment thereof certified by the controller, for over one hundred dollars, unless when made with the lowest and best bidder, after due notice, to be published by the controller, when directed by the commissioners, for no longer time than the proposals invited; all bids to be received by the controller under seal and to be in his presence opened by the commissioners and the contracts awarded; of which awards the controller shall keep a record, and he shall certify no warrants for contracts not made agreeably thereto.

SEC. 13. That all warrants drawn on the county treasury by the commissioners on certificates, as provided for in the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth sections of this act, shall be countersigned by the controller, who shall keep a correct register thereof, noting the number, date and amount of each, the date of payment, and to whom, and for what issued; and shall report to the commissioners monthly, or oftener if required by them, the amount of outstanding warrants registered, and the amount of money in the treasury.

SEC. 14. The controller shall have the custody of all official bonds (except his own) given to the county, and of all title deeds to real estate owned by the county, and of all contracts entered into by, or on behalf of the county, and of all books, documents and papers relating to its financial affairs, and of all bonds or other obligations issued by said county when paid; which bonds and obligations when so paid shall be distinctly cancelled by him and carefully and regularly filed; a register of which cancellation shall be kept by him in a book, to be provided for that purpose.

SEC. 15 The treasurer of said county shall pay no money out of the county treasury, except on warrants drawn by a majority of the commissioners, and countersigned by the controller. His books shall at all times, during office hours, be open to the inspection of the co troller; and he shall, if required, report daily to the controller, all moneys received by him for the county, the person by whom, and on what account they were paid; he shall cancel all warrants, when paid, by distinctly spearing or cutting them; he shall also, if required, report daily, all moneys paid out by him, giving the number of the warrant, and the party to whom paid; and shall deliver the warrants to the controller, who shall receipt therefor, and cancel and file the same; and all outstanding warrants issued before the controller enters upon the duties of his office, shall be presented to him as the commissioners shall direct, within ten days after the passage of this act by the Legislature, and if not so presented, the treasurer shall also keep a separate account of the county poor tax received by him, and pay but the same upon warrants drawn by a majority of the directors of the poor of said county.

SEC. 16. The controller shall, if he deem it necessary, appoint a chief clerk, and for the first year one assistant clerk, whose salaries shall be ——. The chief clerk shall, during the necessary or temporary absence of the controller, perform all his duties, and also in case of a vacancy, until a successor is qualified; but in the latter case neither the controller nor his sureties shall be liable on his official bond or otherwise for acts done or neglected more than one month after the vacancy occurred, and the court may, if the public interest demand it, on the application of any taxpayer of the county, declare the said office vacant at any time when the duties of the controller shall under the provisions of this section have devolved on the chief clerk for a period exceeding three consecutive weeks, unless new securities be given or the sureties on the official bond of the controller shall agree to be held liable on said bond, notwithstanding the preceding provision in this section releasing them from liability, which agreement shall be made a record of said court and the jurisdiction conferred by the act of the twenty first April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, entitled "An Act in relation to certain public officers and their sureties" may in all cases be exercised by the court of common pleas of Allegheny county whenever the said court may deem the public interests so require it, either with or without the petition required by the first section of said act.

SEC. 17. Every county commissioner hereafter elected in said county shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, give bond to the county conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties, in the sum of ten thousand dollars, with two sureties, to be approved as required in the preceding section, and his chief clerk shall each take and subscribe an oath or affirmation, well and faithfully to perform their said duties—a wilful violation of which shall be perjury, said oaths and bonds to be recorded in the recorder's office in said county, and then filed and kept in the commissioners' office, and the records thereof, or certified copies of the same shall be used in evidence in all judicial proceedings, with the same effects as the originals.

SEC. 18. That the salaries of the controller and his clerks, and the commissioners and their clerk, appointed under the fourteenth section of the act of the fifteenth of April, one thousand eight hundred and thirty four, shall be paid quarterly out of the county treasury as therein provided for in the fourteenth section of the act; but all other writings or work done in or for either of said offices shall be done by contract, and the claims presented and audited as required by this act.

SEC. 19. That all duties devolved on the county auditors by the act of April fifteenth, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four, and the several supplements to and the report required by the tenth section of the act shall have the same effect as the report required by the fourteenth section of the act of fifteenth of April, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four; and the provisions of said act in reference to appeals from the auditor's report, are extended to the report of the controller under this act.

SEC. 20. The office of county auditor for the county of Allegheny is hereby abolished, and the duties now performed by them as a board of licensers in the county of ——, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, shall hereafter be discharged by the commissioners of said county.

SEC. 21. That the commissioners of said county, in the month of February in each year, shall make a fair duplicate of the assessment of taxes for State, county and military purposes, for each ward, borough and township; and the directors of the poor shall make a fair duplicate for poor taxes for each borough and township; according to the form prescribed by the controller, with the amount of taxes charged therein have been duly assessed according to law, and shall deliver the same to the controller, who shall examine and compare the several entries thereof in the books of his office, and shall keep the same to the county treasurer, who shall be liable on his official bond for the faithful performance of said duty; and the controller shall make the proper entries thereof in the books of his office, and deliver the same to the county treasurer, who shall be liable on his official bond for the faithful performance of said duty; and he shall on or before the first day of February, annually communicate to the commissioners, in writing, a detailed estimate of the necessary and ordinary expenditures for the legitimate purposes of the county during the current year, and the commissioners shall, before the fifteenth day of February, thereafter, fix such rate of taxation upon the taxables within the county as will raise a sum sufficient to meet said estimated expenditures, and the commissioners shall not, by any contract or otherwise, increase the expenses of the county, in any year, to an amount beyond the taxes assessed, as aforesaid, for said year; nor shall they at any time borrow money for any purpose whatsoever, either by the issue of notes, bonds, certificate of loan, time warrants, or otherwise, on the credit of the county, without the approval of a grand jury of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

SEC. 7. That he shall, in the month of February in every year, or sooner, make a report, certified by oath or affirmation to the Court of Common Pleas of said county, of all the receipts and expenditures of the county for the preceding year, in detail, and classified as required in the ninth section of this act, together with a full statement of the financial operations and condition of the county, which report shall be published in such manner as the Court may direct—to be paid for out the county treasury. This publication to be in lieu of that required by the twenty-second section of the act of fifteenth April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four.

SEC 8 That the controller shall keep his office in a building or rooms, to be furnished at the expense of the county, and shall, after the first day of October next, furnish to the commissioners, whenever required by them, a detailed statement of the accounts of any officer, or other person, having in his possession or under his control, funds belonging to the county; and shall, at all times, between the hours of ten o'clock A. M., and two o'clock P. M., give information respecting any of said accounts to any tax-payer of the county demanding the same.

SEC. 9. That he shall scrutinize, audit and decide on all bills, claims and demands whatsoever against the county; and all persons having such claims shall first present the same to the controller, and if required, make oath or affirmation before him to the correctness thereof; he may, if he deems it necessary, require evidence by the oath or affirmation of the claimant, and otherwise, that the claim is legally due; that the supplies or services for which payment is claimed, have been furnished or performed under legal authority; he may inquire and ascertain whether any officer or agent of the county is interested in the contract under which any claim may arise, or has received, or is to receive, any commission, consideration or gratuity relating thereto; or whether there has been an evasion of the fifteenth section of this act, by any two or more contracts for small amounts, which should have been in one; and if he shall find that there has been any such evasion, or that any such officer or agent is so interested, he shall refuse to approve the claim; all claims which he shall find legally due he shall certify to the commissioners.

SEC. 10. That after the controller shall have examined the duties of his office under this act, the commissioners of said county shall draw no warrant on the treasury for any debt, claim or demand whatsoever not audited and approved by the controller, as provided for in the foregoing section, except for the fees of jurors, witnesses, criers and bailiffs, which shall be first paid out of the proceeds of any judicial sale of real property, but no such fees and salaries shall be allowed to any officer in the judicial service of the county, being first sworn to before the controller, and certified by him to the commissioners, the following form of oath, to be followed by the commissioners to the controller for preservation, as soon as the warrants are issued.

SEC. 11. That in all cases where no sufficient provision has been made by law or contract for the settlement of any claim presented to the controller, and he shall be satisfied that services or value to the amount thereof has been rendered to the county, and that justice requires the payment thereof, he shall report the facts to the commissioners, who, upon examination thereof, may draw a warrant therefor; but separate and distinct accounts of all payments made on account of such claims shall be kept in the accounts, and distinctly set forth in the books and reports provided for in the ninth and tenth sections of this act.

SEC. 12. That from and after the passage of this act all contracts made by the commissioners of said county shall be in writing and shall immediately after their execution be filed with the controller; but no contract shall be made, nor the payment thereof certified by the controller, for over one hundred dollars, unless when made with the lowest and best bidder, after due notice, to be published by the controller, when directed by the commissioners, for no longer time than the proposals invited; all bids to be received by the controller under seal and to be in his presence opened by the commissioners and the contracts awarded; of which awards the controller shall keep a record, and he shall certify no warrants for contracts not made agreeably thereto.

SEC. 13. That all warrants drawn on the county treasury by the commissioners on certificates, as provided for in the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth sections of this act, shall be countersigned by the controller, who shall keep a correct register thereof, noting the number, date and amount of each, the date of payment, and to whom, and for what issued; and shall report to the commissioners monthly, or oftener if required by them, the amount of outstanding warrants registered, and the amount of money in the treasury.

SEC. 14. The controller shall have the custody of all official bonds (except his own) given to the county, and of all title deeds to real estate owned by the county, and of all contracts entered into by, or on behalf of the county, and of all books, documents and papers relating to its financial affairs, and of all bonds or other obligations issued by said county when paid; which bonds and obligations when so paid shall be distinctly cancelled by him and carefully and regularly filed; a register of which cancellation shall be kept by him in a book, to be provided for that purpose.

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