Pittsburgh Gazette.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 21, 1861.

CITY AFFAIRS.

Meteorological Observations for the Gazette, by G. H. Shaw, Optician, 55 Fifth St., corrected daily:

	IN SUN.	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	109	73
12 " M.	119	80
6 " P. M.		75
Barometer		29 9-30

Trial of Capt. Thomas Rodgers for the Murder of Thompson Vandegrift.

Before Judges McClure, Mellon, Adams and Parke.

SECOND DAY.

At the opening of Court, the testimony for the prosecution was resumed, as follows:

Joseph Sewell, colored, sworn—Immediately after the pistol was fired, I saw defendant on the street, stepping upon the pavement towards me.

Cross-examined—Did not see defendant when the pistol was fired; the first I saw of him, he was holding his hand on his cheek after the pistol was fired.

Defendant's counsel asked the witness as to what the defendant was doing at the time.

Prosecution objected; for the reason that they had not asked the witness in chief as to what the prisoner was doing. Objection overruled, and witness continued:

When I first turned round, and saw Capt. Rodgers, I did not see Mr. Vandegrift; saw the defendant afterwards.

Samuel J. Reno, sworn—Lives in Allegheny; am second clerk on the river; knew Vandegrift; know Capt. Rodgers; think Capt. Rodgers was the tallest. On the 29th of April, was on the lower corner of Wood and Water streets, sitting on a post; my cousin, Wm. Reno, was with me; Tom Davis and Thompson Vandegrift were also on the corner; Vandegrift was sitting on the hydrant; Davis was standing in front of me; Wm. Reno was alongside of me, leaning against the post; it was between 1 one and two o'clock; Capt. Rodgers came up along the Water street pavement and turned up Wood street; when I first saw Rodgers he was just turning around into Wood street; he went two or three steps along Wood street, when he turned around and took a step back towards the river; he nodded his head, and (as I thought) spoke; he nodded at all of us, sitting there; Vandegrift jumped up and went right up to Rodgers, who was then a little above the corner of the house on Wood street; the steamer Sallie Lee was coming at about this time, and I turned my head to see her; heard no conversation between Vandegrift and Rodgers; my head was turned a minute or two; heard a scuffle while looking at the boat; looked up at the men, and saw Vandegrift and Davis with their backs to me, and saw Capt. Rodgers' hat; saw Vandegrift and Davis both striking; I was seated on the fire plug up to this time, and rested up; I then saw Rodgers with both hands up, like way; [witness raised his hands, opened, to a line with his face;] saw Rodgers face was stained, about the size of a half a dollar; saw the three part from each other; did not see where Davis went; Vandegrift ran around the corner up to the saloon on Water street—saw Vandegrift and Davis draw back to strike, but could not see whether they hit Rodgers or not; when Vandegrift ran around the corner, Rodgers put his hand in his coat pocket behind, and took out a pistol; Vandegrift, after he ran to the saloon, ran back past Rodgers; he ran along the Water street pavement, outside the hydrant; while Rodgers was taking the pistol out, he took a step or two towards the corner; Vandegrift ran up to the door of the saloon, turned round and ran back; when Vandegrift ran back, outside the hydrant, Rodgers was on the middle of the Water street pavement, even with the line of the house; Davis was not there, that I saw; Rodgers had his pistol in his hand; I moved out of the way of Rodgers, but still kept on the pavement, as Vandegrift went over the pavement, to the street, he either stooped or stumbled; Rodgers then came into the fire-face.

Officer A. J. Haas, sworn—Saw Capt. Rodgers on the corner of Third and Wood streets; we got word that a man had been shot on the wharf, and when I went down I met Capt. Rodgers and others, and came up to the Mayor's office with him; my attention was called to the wound on his cheek; it was a little cut, but a broken—flow skin being pushed up, could not tell what the wound was made, why it might have been made with a man's hand or a little stick.

Cross-examined—Did not notice blood on defendant's shirt bosom. Did not treat the defendant, but went with him to the Mayor's office.

Wm. Barnhill, sworn—Am Mayor's Clerk; saw Capt. Rodgers in the office; he had a mark on his left cheek; the skin was knocked off, but blood not coming out. Did not think the wound serious; it might have been made with a man's fist, or something else.

Mr. Williams, undertaker, testified that he aided in washing the deceased; examined the pockets and found nothing but a key and half a dollar.

Cross-examined—Made the examination about four o'clock in the afternoon. Deceased would weigh 175 or 180 pounds.

James McFerran, sworn—Deceased was thick about the chest, but light in the limbs; don't think he would weigh over 150 pounds.

Wm. Hawkins, sworn—Deceased would not weigh over 155 pounds.

Wm. Barnhill, recalled—Deceased would weigh in the neighborhood of 160 pounds.

Officer Moon, recalled by defence—Vandegrift was a very stout man; took him to be a larger man than I am; think he would weigh 170 pounds.

The prosecution here rested their case.

THE DEFENCE.

Mr. Marshall opened the case for the defence, foreshadowing the grounds upon which they hoped to justify the defendant in the shooting of Thompson Vandegrift. The struggle was not denied, but the jury was asked to presume the defendant innocent until he was proven guilty. Capt. Rodgers was now on the shady side of life, and up to this time he had always borne a good character—was a good citizen and good neighbor. The deceased, Vandegrift, was a "roughish manner," or passenger agent, a class of men whose services had of late been dispensed with by steamboat owners. Vandegrift, some time previous to the unfortunate affair, was running as a "runner" for a hotel. During the winter, Vandegrift, being somewhat in need, had applied to Rodgers for pecuniary assistance, who kindly loaned him a sum of money. In April, 1861; after reaching the city with his family, Capt. Rodgers met Vandegrift, and asked him to return the borrowed money. This was in the forenoon. Vandegrift, instead of returning the money, drew his coat and wanted to fight Rodgers. He picked up a boulder to strike him, called him a "coward," and a "son of a ——," and abused him as man had scarcely ever been abused before. After some little time (NOT separation), Captain Rodgers telling Vandegrift that there was no use in them fighting and making fools of themselves. In the meantime, Vandegrift had threatened in the hearing of respectable men, to kill Rodgers; saying he would "eat his heart out." They would also prove that Vandegrift, weeks before, had threatened to kill Vandegrift in Cincinnati. To sum the matter up, Capt. Rodgers had every reason to believe that his life was in danger, and that at the time Vandegrift met Davis near Ainsley on the corner, they were plotting how they might waylay and murder the defendant. They would show that at the time Vandegrift was shot, he was in the act of picking up a boulder to strike Rodgers; and this being the case, they would contend that Rodgers had a right to shoot him. And further, that if Rodgers believed his life in danger, whether it was or not, he was justified in the act of shooting. He did not think that, at most, the Commonwealth would contend that the defendant was guilty of a higher grade of offense than manslaughter, but he hoped to present such evidence as would warrant the jury in rendering a verdict of not guilty.

Court adjourned until nine o'clock this morning.

The Riot at Camp Wilkins.

The volunteers charged with the riot at Camp Wilkins on Monday evening last, during which several German Home Guard companies were assaulted with stones, had a hearing before Mayor Wilson yesterday afternoon. Capt. Over, of the Venango Greys, and four privates of different companies were the only parties charged with the offense. The hearing resulted in the discharge of Captain Over and the holding of the other parties for a further hearing.

The following is the substance of the testimony elicited before the Mayor:

Capt. J. T. Kirk, sworn—Capt. Warner and I were engaged in conversation at the gate; heard some two or three groans for the Dutch; requested the parties to be quiet; the Home Guards were making demonstrations with their muskets; there were a number of shots fired; don't know how many; did not see any of the parties on the fence; saw some of them throw stones, but am not positive as to who they were; did not see Chambers and Caldwell on the fence; seen others throw, but did not know the parties; Chambers and Caldwell were outside of the fence; did not hear Mr. Caldwell make use of any violent expressions; saw Capt. Over there; he done all in his power to protect the Home Guards; did not see stones in the hands of Caldwell and Chambers; the difficulty occurred between five and six o'clock; when the soldiers were armed; a number of shots were fired; saw one of the Home Guard run with a bayonet in his hand; [I almost faint;] before the Home Guards came opposite, had all my company in camps; there might have been members of other companies outside; some of my own got out afterwards; the Home Guards I think intended to charge at the soldiers on the fence; do not know that any of the soldiers had arms; did not know that any of the fence; saw Chambers and Caldwell on the street; did not see any of the soldiers pick up stones before the Home Guards came along.

Lieut. McDaniels, sworn—Went up to the Park on hearing of the difficulty there, in company with Capt. Over, for the purpose of arresting some of the men; heard some one in camp give groans for the Dutch; saw one of the Home Guards run at one of the soldiers with his bayonet, but missed the man and run his bayonet in the fence; there was great excitement in the camp; saw one of the Home Guards run at one of the soldiers with his musket, and was in the act of shooting when he was struck with a stone; saw a man named Wallace throw stones; he did not throw until he was at the heels of the Home Guard; could not say that Wallace was on the fence; it was but one man threw that I can identify; there were no stones collected at the camp that I know of; could not say that the parties on the fence had stones in their hands; the stones were thrown from the inside of the fence; saw Wallace throw stones while standing on the railroad track; Chambers was the man at whom the Home Guard ran with his bayonet; did not see Chambers throw any stones previous to this; after this Chambers ran towards the river; the difficulty occurred before Wallace threw any stones; the first outbreak was when the Home Guards ran at the soldiers on the fence.

Francis Felix, sworn—Started with several companies for the Park; while passing Camp Wilkins soldiers on the fence applied harsh language to me; called me out; told my man to keep quiet, and preserve order; some of the soldiers from Camp Wilkins were at the Park; they behaved very badly; had some of them arrested; when my company came down to the camp they were quiet and did not speak; rank and file were all unarmed; did not see the men on the fence with stones in their hands; my company did not have their guns loaded; did not see any of my men rush at the soldiers on the fence.

Lieut. Dahl, sworn—Was out at the Park on the day of the difficulty; belong to the Home Guards; witnessed the difficulty between the Home Guards and the soldiers; when opposite the Camp the soldiers applied hard names towards us; there were a great many stones thrown; men were throwing stones; identified Chambers as one of the men who threw stones; was not knocked down by a stone; was struck by one; This we do not wish to do, and hope that the practice will be stopped without an exposure. Three men were Wednesday taken from the Allegheny Rangers, and enlisted in a company forming for Wheeling. Two of them were uniformed. Two others are also in the State troops, 2000 strong, commanded by Col. Little, late of the U. S. Army, who were concealed in the thick undergrowth and wheat fields. After a sharp fight the State troops were driven back, and the camp which was at Bacon's Farm, three miles from Boonsville on the river bluff, with provisions, equipage and a number of horses, taken. The State troops restreated west through Booneville in great disorder. They were poorly armed and disciplined. The loss of the Federals was four killed and wounded; four of the State troops are known to be killed and fifteen or twenty wounded. The Federal troops say that many of the State forces were wounded.

They speak of walking over a large number of dead bodies. Gen. Lyon and Col. Blair were in the thickest of the fight. None of the officers were hurt. Capts. Burke, of St. Louis, had his sword broken by a shot. Dr. Quarters, of the State troops and a prominent citizen of Boonsville, was killed. The Federal troops say that only 500 of their men were in the battle. Gen. Lyon took some 60 or 70 prisoners, but returned them all this morning. A large number of the State troops, who were from Booneville, are returning under the terms of Gen. Lyon's proclamation. Several houses were searched for contraband articles. Several accession flags were captured also, several pro-secession secessionists. Many persons who have heretofore been secessionists are now Union men, with but few exceptions. Gen. Lyon and his men have made favorable impressions upon the people. On the morning of the fight, Gov. Jackson was going to the camp with Capt. Kelly's company, but when the battle began they immediately retreated.

Kelly and his company embarked on the steamer H. D. Bacon, and went up the river. Jackson and his staff left for the West on horseback. It is supposed they will make another stand somewhere near Lexington. The fugitive State troops took the Arrow Rock and Lexington road, and some went towards Georgetown. A part of the Federal troops are quartered in Hespin Hall, in this city, and the balance with the steamers at the fair grounds, about half a mile below, where Generals Lyon and his headquarters. It is supposed that when the reinforcements, which are expected on the steamer D. A. January, arrives Gen. Lyon will proceed westward.

Col. Blair has become popular. A man offered five hundred dollars to any one who would shoot him. The man was arrested, but Blair immediately released him.

A company of Home Guards, numbering eighty seven men, was raised on Tuesday night.

Col. Little was in the United States Army, but resigned. He was brevet Captain for service in the Mexican war.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, June 20.—The following notice emanated from the State Department: It is expected that hereafter any passport which may be issued by a diplomatic agent, accredited to this government or by any Consular authority whatever, either to a person about to proceed beyond the United States Frontier, or to a foreign country, will be countersigned by the Secretary of State. [Signed] WM. H. SEWARD.

The Navy Department, to-day, received dispatches from Capt. Rowan, of the steamer Pawnee, enclosing letter from Lieut. Chapman, from which it appears the latter, with the 1st cutter, assisted by the brig Bellonge, has been profitably cruising opposite to, and in the neighborhood of Acquia creek, on the Maryland side, where he seized large amounts of contraband provisions consigned to a secessionist, who is now in the Confederate army. They were loaded on a wood schooner that happened to be near, and towed to the Washington Navy Yard. Lieut. Chaplin reconnoitered at other points, when his small party drove off some Secession mounted pickets. When they were returning muskets were fired at them, and the compliment was returned by discharge of canister from the gun of the Reliance. Lieut. Chaplin captured nine boats, which, especially adapted for the transportation of Secessionists over the Potomac, five of which he destroyed.

The Mount Vernon has returned from Pohonkey creek, Md., where she seized a sloop which had been engaged in transporting Secession troops from that point to Virginia. This sloop has been