Pittsburgh Gazette.

FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 21.

CITY AFFAIRS.

☞ OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the *Gazette*, by G. R. Shaw, Optician, 55 Fifth street,—corrected daily:

	IN SUN	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	00	45
12 " M.	00	54
6 " P. M.	00	44
Barometer,		29 1-10

FOR SALE.—Two good counting room desks, in this office.

Consecration of the Jewish Synagogue--Interesting Ceremonies.

The new Jewish Synagogue, recently erected in this city, was consecrated on Thursday afternoon, to the rites of the Jewish church, in the presence of an immense audience, many of whom were not adherents of that faith, but present by invitation. The exercises were exceedingly solemn and imposing, and were conducted in the following order:

The congregation assembled between two and three o'clock, at which hour the doors were closed.

The ceremonies opened with an introductory symphony by the orchestra, and chorus by the choir—Psalm XXIV:7.

The Minister and Trustees of the congregation then took the Sacred Laws from the vestry room, proceeded to the vestibule, when the Minister knocked at the Synagogue doors and ejaculated:

"Open unto us the gates of righteousness, that we may enter through them, and offer our grateful homage to God."

The Choir from within responded:

"This is the gate to the Lord, the righteous enter therein; enter ye his gates with thanksgiving; his courts with praise; give thanks unto him; bless his name!"

A flourish of trumpets then followed.

The Minister and gentlemen appointed then entered, and the Choir chanted:

"How beautiful are thy tents, O Jacob! thy tabernacles, O Israel! O Lord! I love the resting place, thy residence of thy glory! We will enter thy tabernacle; we will worship at thy footstool!"

The procession then commenced to move, during which time the Choir sang the following:

"Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord."

By this time the procession had reached the front of the ark, when the Minister and Choir alternately chanted the following:

"I thank thee, for though thou hast afflicted me, yet thou art my salvation! The stone which the builders rejected is become the corner head stone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad therein. I pray thee, O Lord! save us! I pray thee, O Lord! prosper us!"

The procession then moved round the Synagogue, during which time the following Psalms were sung:

PSALM CXXI. (Music composed expressly for the occasion by the leader, Mr. J. Dingeldein.)

PSALM XXX. *Solo*, sung by Mr. S. Apfelbaum.

After which the gentleman appointed opened the ark, when the Minister sang:

Minister—"And it came to pass when the ark removed, Moses said: Arise, O Lord! let thine enemies be scattered, and cause those who hate thee to flee from thy presence."

Choir—"For out of Zion the law will go forth, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem."

Minister—"Blessed is He who in His holiness gave the law to the children of Israel. Blessed art thou, O Eternal, our God! King of the universe, who hath preserved us alive, sustained us, and brought us to enjoy this season."

Minister responded to by the Choir:

"Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one God!"

"One is our God, great is our Lord. Holy and awful is his name."

These exercises were followed with a lecture, delivered in English, by Dr. Raphall, of New York.

Rev. W. Armhold, Minister of the Congregation, then delivered a lecture in German, followed by a hymn from the choir.

Mr. Josiah Cohen, Teacher of the Congregation, next delivered an appropriate discourse.

An intermission followed, during which handsome donations were received in aid of the Synagogue.

Prayers were then offered for the Government, for the congregation, and for all those who had subscribed towards building the Synagogue.

The "Hallelujah," grand chorus, was then performed, during which the Sacred Law was deposited in the ark.

The exercises concluded with an appropriate Ode, after which the assemblage was dismissed.

The Synagogue is a fine, substantial building, located on Hancock street, in the Fourth Ward, and is arranged in the style peculiar to the Jewish faith. It was built under the architectural supervision of Mr. Bartberger, and is capable of seating about seven hundred persons. Its cost will be about $35,000.

The Synagogue is called Rodef Stulom, and according to the Jewish mode of reckoning the consecration, will date from the 17th day of the month Adar, 5622.

The Canal and the Oil Trade.

The amount of freight pressing on the Pennsylvania railroad at this point, has, in some measure, directed public attention to the canal as a means of transportation between here and Philadelphia, and it is urged that with proper facilities the greater part of the oil sent east from the oil districts might be forwarded by this route. The Philadelphia *North American*, in an article on the subject, urges that additional means of transportation be provided on the Allegheny river, and suggests that as the oil reaches Pittsburgh it be shipped east by the canal. It says:

"Canal transportation being less costly than that by railway, the oil could be made a steady and reliable business for the old canal from Pittsburgh east, if the company now owning it would give encouragement for that purpose. This is the more desirable in view of the fact that the Pennsylvania railroad has been so crowded with business as to be compelled to decline receiving any more freight at times. Products like oil, which do not necessarily demand rapid transit, could be shipped by the canal lines, and thus materially relieve the railroad. Philadelphia has canal transportation via the Schuylkill, Union, Susquehanna, Juniata and West Branch lines, to Hollidaysburg and Lock Haven. The latter is of no avail for oil transportation, in consequence of the unfinished state of the Erie railroad. But the canal route to Hollidaysburg, though belonging to two different corporations, ought to be made available, since it is evident that the Pennsylvania railroad is unable to do all the business on its cars. We trust that these companies will see the necessity of doing something to accommodate this great and growing trade, and not let it slip from their grasp and find its way to New York via the Erie railroad."

A Card from the Vigilant.

In reporting the late fire in Duquesne borough, we alluded to certain charges which had been preferred against some of the firemen present—the parties complaining not being able to give the name of the company to which they belonged. The following card, received from a member of the "Vigilant," relieves that company from any suspicions in the premises:

Eds. Gazette: Will you be so kind as to state that the Steamer "Vigilant" was unable to reach the fire in Duquesne borough, on the night of Tuesday last, owing to the breaking of a spring while passing through Allegheny. Not being at the fire, the company is in no way responsible for the misconduct alleged to have been exhibited by some of the firemen on that occasion. I make this statement in justice to the company, and with a desire that the blame (if any there be) may rest where it belongs. I.

We publish the above cheerfully, and are satisfied that other respectable companies can present an equally clear conscience.

THEATRE.—The trained horse "Sir Henry" performs to-night, at the theatre, for Prof. Hamilter's benefit. A huge programme is offered.

Mr. Phillips' Lecture To-Night.

Notwithstanding the shortness of the notice given, we find that there has been quite an excitement about the securing of seats for the lecture to-night. Indeed, we know that the city of Pittsburgh could almost *improvise* an audience equal to the capacity of the largest Hall she has—with even half a day's notice, that the pure-minded and noble-hearted WENDELL PHILLIPS would be there, to speak those words of burning eloquence, which have so often made the conspirators against liberty tremble, from the banks of the Potomac to the coasts of the Southern Gulf. Though the demand for reserved seats was about as pressing as could be met, during the afternoon, at the rooms of the Mercantile Library, still we believe that eligible seats may be secured this morning—of course by early application. But even the remotest part of Concert Hall will not be as far removed from the speaker as we have been, when, yet, we missed not a syllable—so clear, so distinct is the enunciation of this greatest of living orators.

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLIES.—Mr. John P. Hunt, Masonic Hall, Fifth street, Pittsburgh, and N. E. corner of South Common and Federal street, Allegheny, regularly receives the New York Illustrated Weeklies in advance of the day of publication. He has just received *Frank Leslie's Newspaper* and the N. Y. *Illustrated News*, for March 29th, and *Vanity Fair*, for March 22nd—all of which deserve a hearty word of commendation to the patronage of the public.

BENEFIT OF MRS. NICHOLS.—This charming songstress takes a benefit this evening, at Masonic Hall, when the Continental Old Folks will present an excellent programme. "Granny Slocum" and "Aunt Rachel" will put on their best faces, while "Cousin Reuben" will be "movin' around" in his best suit. An afternoon entertainment will be given on Saturday, and their stay here will positively terminate Saturday evening.

PHILLIPS' LECTURE.—In looking over the plan of Concert Hall, last evening, we discovered that many eligible seats were still for sale. All who desire reserved seats for Phillips' lecture on "The Times" can procure them at the Library Rooms, St. Clair street, during the day.

FROM YESTERDAY'S EVENING GAZETTE.

The Allegheny Letter List.

The *Dispatch*, of Thursday, says:

POSTMASTER BLAIR has visited the *Dispatch* with his vengeance, for its defence of John C. Fremont, by directing Samuel Riddle, Esq., Postmaster of Allegheny city, to write and post up a list of the uncalled for letters remaining in the Allegheny postoffice, and not publish them in the *Dispatch*.

Our neighbor of the *Dispatch* scarcely states the case fairly, and, therefore, the Postmaster-General would seem to have been guilty of some very small persecution.

There was no competitor to the *Dispatch* for the publication of the Allegheny City list of uncalled for letters, and the Postmaster awarded to it the advertisement of the list, according to custom. Subsequently, however, an advertising sheet, published occasionally in that city, appealed to the Postmaster General, claiming the advertisement of the list under the law requiring that the newspaper advertising the lists of uncalled for letters must "be printed in the city, town or village in which the postoffice is located." Under this appeal, it was very properly decided that the sheet making this demand *was not a newspaper*, and therefore not entitled to the advertisement. But it was also decided that, there being no newspaper printed in Allegheny city, according to the Act of Congress above quoted, no contract for advertising the lists could be legally made with any newspaper *outside* the city.

This, we believe, is the whole truth in regard to this matter; and we would not have alluded to it at all, but to correct a statement which would be doing injustice to the Postmaster General.

Appeal from the Western Sanitary Commission.

The Western Sanitary Commission are under the necessity of renewing their appeal to the loyal citizens of the loyal states.

The important movements and battles in the Department of the West are increasing the hospital demands beyond all expectation. Kansas is calling for aid, and the large army now occupying Southeast Missouri and Arkansas looks to St. Louis for all its supplies.

The Commission has sent away to different points since the 1st of March, 10,879 articles of various kinds for hospital use, besides the local demand for 2,500 sick.

This week a "Floating Hospital" will be fitted up and furnished by them as a free will offering of humanity, for the benefit of our sick and wounded soldiers.

A large and safe steamboat has been purchased for this purpose by Gen. Halleck, and intrusted to the "Commission."

It will be thoroughly fitted up with two hundred and fifty beds, and provided with surgeons, nurses, attendants, &c., under directions to follow the army, keeping as near as practicable, to receive the wounded in event of battle.

Friend and foe will be treated, in this respect, alike.

It will be readily seen that large and continued supplies are needed for the above named uses. Flannel shirts, Canton flannel shirts and drawers, heavy brown domestics, in the piece, carefully rolled bandages (one and a half to two inches wide,) are especially needed.

Also, linen rags, and all the smaller hospital supplies.

But, where practicable, the "Commission" venture to suggest that *contributions in money* are the most acceptable of all. They can, with this, buy material as it is needed, and hundreds of loyal women in St. Louis are ready to do the work, exactly as may be required.

It may not be improper to add that the whole amount of money contributed goes to the direct relief of the suffering.

The office expenses, &c., of the "Commission" are very small, their own services being gratuitously given, and the whole amount of salaries paid for seven months does not exceed two hundred and fifty dollars.

In a common work of humanity and loyalty they venture to use all plainness of speech.

For the Western Sanitary Commission.

JAMES E. YEATMAN,
WILLIAM G. ELIOT.

Contributions for the above can be left at Messrs. Weyman & Son, on Smithfield street, or Geo. Albree, Son & Co., and they will be forwarded immediately by the Subsistence Committee.

Hospital Supplies and Contributions.

The Subsistence Committee beg leave to acknowledge contributions of clothing and eatables from the following persons, for the Hospitals of our armies in Missouri, Kentucky and Western Virginia:

Mrs. Walingford, Miss Kerr, Miss White, A Friend; Mrs. George Weyman, Mrs. W. J. Howard, Mrs. W. Jones; Ladies of the First English Lutheran church, Sewing Society of Christ's M. E. Church, 2 boxes sundries from Miss A. S. Morgan, of Washington, 1 box of sundries from Ladies of Brownsville, Pa. Also contributions of cash—from Miss L. Wilson $2, Miss E. Myers $1, Ladies Relief Society of Hopewell township, Beaver county, $5,73, collections in 1st U. P. church, Allegheny, $28,60, 1st U. P. church, Pittsburgh, $15, 1st Presbyterian church, East Liberty, $43,53, 2nd U. P. church, Pittsburgh, $20, 2nd P. M. church, Pittsburgh, $17, 5th U. P. church, Pitts., $6,39, Union Baptist church, Pitts., $10,05, 1st Presbyterian church, Pitts., $91,34 and 1 box of hospital supplies valued at $49. A Friend (from Brownsville) $5.

Dead Body Found.

Coroner McCling held an inquest to-day upon the body of Thomas Torp, who was drowned from the steamer John T. McCombs, some seven weeks ago. The deceased was a deck-hand on the boat, and was accidentally drowned while stepping from one boat to another, at the landing. The body was found near where the accident happened, having been raised by the action of the wheel of a boat. Torp was about twenty-five years of age, and resided in Temperanceville, where he leaves a wife and two children. The jury found a verdict in accordance with the facts.

Gallantry of Capt. Chaplin.

We have all read, with pride, the account of the gunner Davis, who, to save the gunboat Valley City from being blown up, covered a barrel of powder with his own body to keep the sparks off, and how the brave fellow was rewarded by promotion from a position worth thirty-five dollars per month, to an office which will bring him $1000 per annum. But our readers have not yet heard of the bravery of Capt. James Crossan Chaplin one of our citizens, who was in command of the gunboat, and whose gallant conduct is thus recorded by a correspondent writing from Elizabeth City:

During the engagement the gunboat Valley City was fighting two rebel boats at once, working her guns at both sides, when a shell entered her port bow, passed into her magazine, knocked the head off a half-barrel of powder, and exploded in a locker which was filled with blue-lights, rockets, and Coston signal-lights. The fire works were ignited at the instant, and, in the close box, burnt with fury, filling the magazine with sulphurous fumes. The Quarter gunner, instead of leaving his post, as most men would have done at such a terrible juncture, immediately sat upon the open barrel, to keep the sparks from falling into the powder. Capt. J. C. Chaplin, Commander of the vessel, called all hands to fire quarters, but seeing that this would take too many from the guns said he would go into the magazine himself and extinguish the fire.

Without a moment's hesitation he jumped into the perilous place, and giving orders to keep up the fight, he passed up powder with one hand and buckets of water down with the other, until the fire was quenched. On entering the magazine and seeing the gunner sitting so quietly on the powder barrel, he thought he was either shirking his duty or bewildered by fear, and asked him sternly what he was doing there. "Ah! sir," said the splendid fellow, "this 'ere shell has stove off the head of the barrel, and if I get up a little spark might fall in and blow us all to smithereens in a minute." Courage like this of Capt. Capt. Chaplin and his quarter gunner has seldom been shown in any navy, and their conduct should be noted among the brightest incidents of this war.

Arrest of Pickpockets.

Three professional pickpockets, hailing from Philadelphia, who have been in this city several days, spending most of their time about the hotels and railroad depot, were taken from their beds at an early hour this morning by officers Hague, Moon and Fredericks, and placed in the lock-up. It is said that several pockets have been picked here during the past few days, and if there are any parties who can identify these gentry they should call at once at the Mayor's office. The Chief of Police has been on their track for several days, and is not mistaken as to their character and calling.

It is to be regretted that the law relating to professional thieves, passed at the present session, does not apply to this city, as well as Philadelphia. Under it, these men could be committed to jail for ninety days, at the end of which time they would be glad to leave. As it is, they will have to be discharged, unless identified by some party who has suffered from their depredations—a thing always difficult, owing to the shrewdness of the thieves. The effect will be, that all the "knucks" will leave that city, and we will doubtless get our proportion of them. Cannot some of our representatives have the provisions of said act extended to Pittsburgh and Allegheny?

Pittsburgh Annual Conference.

The Pittsburgh Annual Conference of the M. E. Church began its thirty-eighth annual session, in Christ Church, Penn street, on Wednesday—Bishop Ames presiding. Rev. I. C. Pershing was elected Secretary, and Revs. W. P. Watkins, H. Sinsabaugh and George Crook Assistant Secretaries.

About two hundred ministers have already arrived, and are in attendance at the session.

The Conference has thus far been occupied in religious exercises, the appointment of Standing Committees and the transaction of other preliminary business. We shall hereafter give our readers, from day to day, all matters of interest which may come before this body during the session.

DOCTOR C. BEALS, Water Cure and Homœpathic Physician; also agent for Rainbow's celebrated Truss for Ruptures. Corner of Penn and Wayne streets.

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURG, March 18, 1862.

Monday afternoon the business of neither House was important. Several petitions were presented by your members—among others, by both Bigham and Shannon, from Sharpsburg and that city, asking that the Citizens' Passenger Railroad be allowed to run freight cars and carry freight. Mr. Bigham also introduced a bill to allow this. The bill which passed the House early in the session, regulating the matter of obstructing passenger railroads in Allegheny county by allowing the unloading of coal, &c., was returned from the Senate, finally passed, and is now before the Governor.

To-day the Senate did not do much. Nothing of local interest to your readers—both your Senators being absent—Mr. Irish on the Committee to escort Col. Cameron's remains to Lewisburg, and Mr. Penny being confined to his room. His illness, however, is not serious enough to alarm his friends.

In the House, passing private bill day, the following local bills passed: No. 451, House files, authorising the Councils of Pittsburgh to compromise with the holders of her railroad bonds. This bill was prepared by the City Councils, just in the form it now stands, and was, I believe, published in you city papers.

In the Senate, a bill has also been matured to give the same authority to the Allegheny City Councils. This bill is in the shape asked for by her City Councils. Nothing has been done by the county authorities. Should not something be forthwith prepared authorising the Commissioners and Controller to compromise with the County Railroad Bondholders, the terms to be first submitted to a County Convention.

The House also passed bill No. 488, making some changes in the East Liberty Passenger Railroad charter. The authority asked for, to run steam cars, is given, though the original prohibition is repealed, leaving them outside of the city, without any legislation on the subject. The Company is also authorized to change their route from East Pittsburgh to the Minesville Road to East Liberty, thence to Wilkinsburg by the Turnpike; or, if they prefer it, by the present route of the Fourth Street Road to Wilkinsburg.

Senate bill No. 291 was an act to confirm the title of John Patterson, of Elizabeth township, to his farm. This act was hardly made our and can do no harm.

House bill No. 511, relative to the publication of the Allegheny city ordinances, was objected off the calendar by Mr. Kane, of Fayette, because of the section repealing the D. L. Smith bill about publishing notices north of the Allegheny river. No. 512 was passed, it defines more clearly the mode of proceeding in collecting the grading and paving tax in Allegheny city.

House bill No. 430, incorporating the Bullock Printing Press Company, was to-day finally passed. Some amendments were yielded but not material to this bill.

A Joint Committee of three from each branch of the Legislature, accompanied the remains of Colonel Cameron, who was killed at Bull Run last July, but whose body has not been found until within a few days. He was buried at his late residence up the Susquehanna, in Snyder county.

FORT PITT.

MARRIED:

MOODY—SELLERS—On Thursday, March 20th, at Christ's Church, by the Rev. C. A. Holmes, Mr. ROBERT MOODY to Miss LIZZIE B. SELLERS, eldest daughter of Frank Sellers, Esq.

DIED:

DOYLE—On Wednesday evening, SARAH ANN DOYLE, aged 22 years.

The friends of the family are invited to attend her funeral on FRIDAY MORNING, at 10 o'clock, from her father's residence, No. 52 Locust street, 5th ward, to proceed to St. Mary's Cemetery.

BISSELL.—On Wednesday, at 12 o'clock M., Mrs MARTHA H., wife of F. S. Bissell, in the 29th year of her age.

The funeral will take place from the residence of her husband, on the hill, above the Cemetery, on FRIDAY, the 21st, at 2 o'clock P. M. Carriage will leave the corner of Hand and Penn streets at 1½ o'clock P. M.

BROWN—Wednesday evening, March the 19th, ARTLISSA, only daughter of Patterson and N. I. Brown, aged 10 months and 14 days.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral on FRIDAY MORNING, at 10 o'clock, from the residence of her parents, Second street, just above the Birmingham Bridge.

THE LATEST NEWS
BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

DISPATCH FROM COM. FOOTE.

ISLAND NO. 10 HARD TO CONQUER.

Post Office Affairs in Tennessee.

EVACUATION OF AQUIA CREEK CONFIRMED

The Death of Charles C. Hammond.

&c., &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—An official dispatch from Commodore Foote, received at 12 o'clock midnight yesterday at Cairo, and telegraphed hither to-day, says: Island No. 10 is harder to conquer than Columbus, and the Island shores are lined with forts, each fort commanding the one above it.

We are gradually approaching it, but still did not hope for much until the occurrence of certain events which promise success. We are firing day and night on the rebels, and are gaining on them. We are having some of the most beautiful rifle practice ever witnessed. The mortar shells have done fine execution; one shell was fairly landed on their floating battery, and cleared the concern in short metre.

WASHINGTON, March, 20.—The citizens of Gallatin, Tenn., a town which had been decidedly disloyal, met in a town meeting recently and were addressed by Baylie Peyton Esq., a loyal man, and voted to petition for a Post Office there, expressing a willingness to return to their allegiance. A Post Office will be established there in a few days, according to their petition.

John Sellyrt has been appointed Postmaster at Nashville. He wrote some of the best articles against secession, during the agitation of that subject in Tennessee. He was one of the refugees from that State, but now returns in that official capacity.

A special agent of the Post Office Department, acting on the Tennessee and Kentucky borders, reports as follows: It is gratifying, that wherever I have been, to find there is a strong desire for the re-establishment of the mails, and a willingness among the people to return to their allegiance.

Three deserters brought up by the steamer Leslie, this morning, confirm the report of the evacuation of Aequia Creek. They say that the rebel forces had been 2,000. Before they left they tore up a large part of the railroad, set fire to the station, wharves, &c., and burnt a large schooner.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The U. S. supply steamer Rhode Island, with mail and dispatches from the Gulf, arrived at Hampton Roads on the 18th inst. During her trip she supplied ninety-eight vessels with fresh provisions. The following items are taken from dispatches brought by her, received at the Navy Department:

Chas. C. Hammond, of Pennsylvania, Assistant Paymaster in the U. S. ship Sciota, accidentally shot himself on Feb. 27th. Wishing to look at the condition of his revolver, which was placed under his berth, he leaned over, and was drawing it out by the muzzle, when the hammer struck something and the pistol went off, the ball striking him just below the heart, passing down and coming out of his back a little above the hip. He lived about forty-eight hours after the accident, and his remains were brought home in the Rhode Island.

Movements of the Army in New Mexico.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—A correspondent of the *Republican*, writing from a camp near Bent's old fort, New Mexico, March 6th, says it is supposed that the rebels, after their victory near Fort Craig, will march directly upon Santa Fe and Fort Union. All the valuable property in the department is being concentrated at the latter point, and all the available force is being rapidly forwarded there to defend the property, amounting, it is said, to several million dollars worth. Col. Stough's First regiment of Colorado Volunteers left this camp yesterday, and will reach Fort Union by the 12th of March, in advance of the rebels. Fort Union is a strong fort and 1,000 men can hold it against the combined strength of the rebels. Col. Canby is still supposed to be at Fort Craig with 1,200 regulars, and a body of New Mexico volunteers, who, however, are not relied on.

The Santa Fe *Gazette* says that Capt. McRae's battery was captured in a battle near Fort Craig, in consequence of its support, consisting of two companies of regulars and two companies of volunteers, running away when the Texans charged on it, resisting all the efforts of Col. Canby himself to rally them. Also, that Capt. Lord's dragoons refused to obey the command to charge on the enemy. The charge of the Texans on the battery is described as very brilliant and terrible. They were armed principally with Colt's six shooters, and though scores were killed by McRae's cannister, they marched steadily on, killing every gunner but one or two.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 19.—Returns from nearly all the precincts of Accomac and Northampton counties, show Watson to be ahead of Segar nearly 100 votes. The result in Hampton precinct, however, changes the result, and Joseph Segar is elected to Congress by 130 or 140 majority.

A flag of truce was sent out to-day, but no news was received from the South. By order of General Wool, the boat's crew were not permitted to receive the Southern papers, and consequently the press is cut off from the supply heretofore drawn upon.

The steamer Rhode Island arrived from Key West, with the mails, yesterday evening, and sailed immediately for New York. Commissioner Yancey was captured a few days since, on board a schooner, which was trying to run the blockade. He was dressed in sailor's clothes, and was recognized by one of the newspaper correspondents.

St. Marys and Jacksonville, Florida, have been occupied by our forces.

The U. S. bark Young Rover, from the mouth of the Rappahannock, arrived last night, but brings no news.

It has been discovered that the telegraph cable was cut about ten miles from the Eastern Shore. A man has been arrested who is supposed to be the culprit, and has been sent to Gen. Lockwood. An example will probably be made of him.

The wind is east and the weather unpleasant.

From Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—General Halleck has issued the following general order:

So much of the recent department of Ohio as is included in the present department of the Mississippi, will be designated the district of Ohio, and will continue to be commanded by Maj. Gen. Buell. The depots of prisoners of war at Columbus, Indianapolis, and such others as may hereafter be established, will be excepted from this arrangement, and commanding officers of these depots will report directly to these headquarters. All other officers, of whatever rank or corps, will report to Gen. Buell as heretofore.

Brig. Gen. Denver will be assigned to the command of the district of Kansas, to include what was heretofore known as the department of Kansas, except the Kansas troops now in the field under Col. Deitzler near the Southwestern frontier of Missouri. These troops will report for duty to Maj. Gen. Curtis in Arkansas. All officers of the district of Kansas will report by letter to Brig. Gen. Denver, at Fort Leavenworth.

From Gen. Banks' Division.

WINCHESTER, March 19.—Messengers from Strasburg report that the rear guard of Jackson disputed Gen. Shields' approach foot by foot, with infantry and artillery. It is reported that our cavalry occupied the town after moonrise. One of our soldiers was severely wounded.

The official report says Shields encountered the rear guard of Jackson, just beyond Middletown, with four field pieces and a small body of infantry and cavalry. They disputed Shield's progress, stopping at all the strongest points, and then retiring. They crossed Cedar creek, and destroyed the bridge.

Gen. Shields this morning built a temporary bridge, and, after a skirmish, entered the town, and threw out his pickets for two miles beyond.

The loss of the enemy is not stated.

The cavalry man wounded in yesterday's skirmish suffered amputation of his leg to-day.

Heavy firing was heard in the direction of Strasburg since the above information was prepared.

XXXVIIITH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, March 20, 1862.

SENATE.—A communication was received from the Secretary of the Navy, in answer to the resolution asking why the Naval Academy had been removed from Annapolis.

Mr. Sumner, of Mass., presented a petition from citizens of New York, asking the passage of a law for the protection and improvement of Indians.

The joint resolution in relation to the claim of Marshal O. Roberts, for the loss of the steamer Star of the West, was passed.

On motion of Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., the bill for the relief of District Attorneys was taken up.

The bill authorizes the Attorney General and Secretary of the Interior to fix the salaries of District Attorneys, which in no case shall exceed $6,000. After some discussion the bill was laid over.

Mr. Trumbull, from the Judiciary Committee, reported back the joint resolution for the co-operation with the States for emancipation, in accordance with the President's Message, with the recommendation that it do pass.

On motion of Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, the bill for the reorganization of the Navy Department was taken up.

Pending the consideration of the bill the Senate went into executive session and afterwards adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Wilson, of Ind., made a report in relation to the censorship of the press. The consideration was postponed till the first Monday of April.

Mr. Hickman, of Pa., from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back the several bills and resolutions referred to them on the subject of the confiscation of rebel property, with a recommendation adverse to their passage or adoption.

Mr. Richardson desired also to submit a minority report on the same subject.

Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, wished to submit a substitute for one of the bills, against which an advance report had been made.

Mr. Pendleton, of Ohio, wished to have the bills and resolutions laid on the table.

Mr. Hutchins, of Ohio, desired a vote on this motion.

Mr. Bingham said he was disposed to demand the previous question on the immediate acceptance of his proposed substitute. He had also a substitute for another of the bills reported against.

Mr. Wickliffe, of Ky., denied that Mr. Bingham had a right at this time to offer a substitute, inasmuch as the bill has not been taken up for consideration.

The reports made by Mr. Hickman were received, but not acted upon. The consideration of the subject was postponed.

The House took up the tax bill.

During a debate on the section regarding distillers' licenses, Mr. Hutchins said that the noise here was so great that it appeared that the contents of the distilleries were let out upon the House.

Mr. Wickliffe expressed the opinion that some men were better judges of how liquor should be drank than how it was made.

Mr. Mallory ineffectually moved an amendment to exempt stills from tax when their capacity was less than forty dollars a day. He mentioned that private gentlemen distilled for their own use not for profit.

Mr. Stevens objected, saying a pure and ethereal article, in small quantities, was manufactured in Lancaster county, called J. B. (Laughter.) It was not for the neighborhood, and he did not see why it should be exempt from tax.

Mr. Mallory said the liquor they make in Kentucky is of a fine quality, and they are more liberal in its dispensation than the gentleman's friend J. B. [Laughter.] He knew a man who followed J. B.'s tracks all day, and at last succeeded in getting a drink, declaring it was the best he ever had, but the hardest to get at. [Renewed laughter.]

Mr. Stevens replied that the most valuable things were the hardest to obtain. It would not be hard, however, to put on the small tax proposed. Men who indulge should not object to a few cents on their drinks.

Various remarks were made by other gentlemen on the whisky question. The most important amendment made was that all distilled spirits now in warehouse or which may be manufactured from this date in the United States, shall pay the same amount per gallon, when sold, as provided by this act, upon those manufactured from and after the first day of May, 1862.

Mr. Steele, of New York, wanted to reduce the proposed tax on lager beer to twenty-five cents a barrel. It was the weakest fermented liquor. One of the largest manufacturers had informed him that a tax of one dollar on the barrel would amount to prohibition.

Mr. Johnson, in support of the amendment, quoted from the report of the Sanitary Commission, to show lager to be beneficial to the health of soldiers, and is prescribed by physicians as a fine tonic. Lager has taken the place of the old strong beer, which is equally exhilarating, and not so expensive.

Mr. Fessenden was in favor of a dollar on the barrel, because it would amount to prohibition. Our young men take their first lesson in lager and porter, then pass progress to whisky, and graduate to brandy.

Mr. Morrill, of Vt., opposed the amendment, saying that while lager beer is manufactured very much cheaper than porter, it sells for the same price, hence it should not be exempt from taxation.

Mr. Pendleton pronounced lager good and influential in bringing out a man's humanitarian feelings.

Mr. Blair, of Mo., said lager elected President Lincoln, more than anything else. (Laughter.)

Mr. Pendleton rejoiced that the article had thus been perverted from its original application. It had been stolen from the Democrats. (Laughter.)

Mr. Stevens made a humorous speech on lager. He himself once drank two glasses and felt a little better and higher.

Mr. Steele's amendment was rejected—ayes 24, nays not counted.

After some further proceedings the House adjourned.

Another Attempt to Escape.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—The following is a copy of a telegram sent by Gen. Halleck to the Secretary of War:

The enemy's flotilla, hemmed in between Com. Foote and Gen. Pope, made another attempt to escape down the river. The gunboats cannonaded Pope's batteries on the 18th for half an hour, but were driven back with severe loss. One gunboat was sunk, and several badly damaged. They are completely hemmed in, and can escape only by fighting their way out.

Ship Island Advices--Arrival of Gen. Butler.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The steamship Fulton, with Ship Island dates to the 13th inst., has arrived. The health of the troops was excellent.

The steamship Constitution, with General Butler and staff, and troops, arrived at Ship Island on the 12th inst.

The Battle at Pea Ridge, Ark.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—A telegram from General Curtis states that his loss in killed and wounded at the battle of Pea Ridge is about 1,400. The enemy retreated entirely south of Boston Mountains. There is no rebel troops in Northern Arkansas, except marauders and Pike's Indians, who kill and plunder friends and foes indiscriminately.

Rebel Transport, with Cannon, Sunk.

CHICAGO, March 19.—A special dispatch to the *Tribune*, dated Cairo, 11 o'clock p. m., says: A gentlemen just arrived from New Madrid, via Sikeston, reports the sinking of a rebel transport, armed with heavy cannon, by the gunboat fleet, at Island No. 25.

Markets by Telegraph.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.—Noon.—Flour dull; sales 5,000 bbls. at $5 75@6 for extra family. Wheat firm at $1 23@1 35 for Penna. red. Rye flour firm at $3 25 and corn meal at $2 75. Rye is taken at 70@71c. Corn dull; sales 5,000 bush. at 53½@54c. Oats dull at 33@34c. Coffee firm at 18½@21c. for Rio and 21½@22c. for Laguyra. Sugars are steady. Provisions steady; sales mess pork at $13 00@13 50. Lard firm at 8½c. Sales 200 bbls. Ohio whisky at 26c.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Flour firm; sales 7,500 bbls. Wheat quiet; sales 3,000 bush. red wheat at $1 41. Corn heavy; sales 20,000 bush. mixed at 58½@60c. Pork quiet. Lard steady. Whisky dull at 24@25c.

Stocks are easier. Cumberland Coal Company 8¼; Illinois Central Bonds 94½; Illinois Central Railroad 65¾; N. Y. Central 81¼; Chicago and Rock Island Railroad 56¾; Michigan Southern 47¾; Missouri 6s 52¾; Erie, 6s 59½; Treasury 7s 100; Gold 1¼ per cent. premium.

FRUIT TREES.—INDUCEMENTS TO PURCHASERS.—A very large stock of choice TREES, of selected varieties to choose from, with every possible care taken to have every variety true to name.

Of Apple alone we have 175,000—50,000 of which are three year olds, 10,000 four year olds. Pear, 100,000 two to three years old. Peach, Plum, &c., a fine stock.

EVERGREENS from 1 to 8 feet, by the hundred, cheap; also, SHADE TREES AND SHRUBBERY, wholesale and retail.

Address PITTSBURGH AND OAKLAND NURSERIES, Pittsburgh, Pa.

mh8:d6m JOHN MURDOCH, Jr.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Prof. Anderson and Second Sight.

Among the many phases which the magic art assumes in these days, its developement in the way of "second-sight," or magical clairvoyance, is the most remarkable. Among those who have studied this latter developement of the art, Professor Anderson is he, who, by common repute, has carried it to the highest style of perfection. Assisted by Miss Anderson, he renders "second-sight" the most marvellous portion of his entertainment. We perceive, on reference to our exchanges, that he does not do as some conjurors do—take the article in his hand and ask the young lady to describe what it is; but, that he commands her to see articles belonging to the audience which he himself has never seen nor even touched, but which she sees at a distance and describes with the minutest accuracy. He appears to have the same influence over her which Margrave is made to have over the heroine of Bulwer's recent romance—"*A Strange Story.*" Concert Hall will certainly be crowded on Monday evening to see this embodiment of the marvellous in his extraordinary exemplifications of the mystic and the astonishing.

ROBERT HELLER COMING.—It would appear that we are to have spirited opposition in the way of necromancy, legerdemain, etc., during the present week. Mr. Heller, whose reputation has preceded him, opens at the theatre on Monday night, while Anderson takes Concert Hall. In addition to his necromancy, Mr. Heller is famous as a pianist, and his "second sight" illusions are said to be baffling and amazing. The particular features of his entertainments will be announced by advertisement and in handbills.

AN ELEGANT CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT.—One of the best places within the range of our knowledge to purchase clothing, or furnishing goods, is the establishment of Messrs. W. McDee & Co., corner of Federal street and the Diamond, Allegheny. They never fail to render satisfaction to those who favor them with a call, and will sell at very reasonable prices. Remember the locality, corner of Federal street and the Diamond, Allegheny.

SAMUEL GRAHAM, Merchant Tailor, would respectfully inform his friends and the public generally, that he has removed to No. 54, Market street, one door from 3d street, where he is now opening a large and well selected stock of spring and summer goods, direct from New York. Having purchased for cash, is prepared to offer inducements to both prices and quality to all who may favor him with their patronage.

WM. FORREST, Carpenter and Joiner, Jobbing Shop Virgin alley, between Smithfield street and Cherry alley. All kinds of House Repairing done on short notice and in workmanlike manner. Charges moderate. Leave your orders. All orders promptly attended to.

SEWING MACHINES AT AUCTION.—Friday afternoon, at 2½ p. m., will be sold at McClelland's Auction, one Singer's Sewing Machine, one Grover & Baker's Sewing Machine and three Sloat's Sewing Machines. The machines are almost new, and in perfect running order, and will be operated on at the time of the sale.

WE would call the attention of our readers to the dissolution of partnership of the firm of Messrs. McKibbin & Henry, Mr. John H. Slentz purchasing the interest of Mr. McKibbin. The new firm will continue the business of delivering goods from any of the depots, as heretofore.

THE GREAT TEN DAYS SALE of dry goods, at Barker & Co.'s, 59 Market street, ought to attract the attention of all our readers who are in pursuit of dry goods. No purchases should be made before visiting this house.

OMNIBUS CALLS will be taken at Hunt's Book Store, Masonic Hall, Fifth street, and at the Omnibus office, No. 456, Liberty street. Day or night, all orders left in