THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

PUBLISHED BY WHITE & CO

PITTSBURGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 30, 1849.

☞ THE PITTSBURGH DAILY GAZETTE is published Daily, Tri-Weekly, and Weekly.—The Daily is Seven Dollars per annum; the Tri-Weekly is Five Dollars per annum; the Weekly is Two Dollars per annum, *strictly in advance.*

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See next page for Telegraphic News.
For Local Matters see next page.

The severe thunder storms, during yesterday afternoon, and up to a late hour last evening, will account for the meagerness of our telegraphic reports this morning.

A WORK OF BENEVOLENCE.—This afternoon, at three o'clock, the inhabitants of Pittsburgh, Allegheny, and the surrounding country, are invited to meet at the Court House, for the purpose of expressing their sympathy for the sufferers by the St. Louis fire. If any city ought to be prompt in this good work, Pittsburgh ought to be, as in her calamity she shared largely in the sympathy and benevolence of the whole country. We hope, therefore, that the meeting will be large, and that it will devise liberal things.

WOOL.—We refer Wool Growers and country dealers to the Card of Houston & Robinson, of Philadelphia, which they will find in another column. This is an old and respectable house, and will give entire satisfaction to all who do business with them.

THE NEXT CENSUS.—The enumeration of the inhabitants of any country is always an interesting matter, but the census of a great and growing country, like this, extending from the icy North to the sunny South, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, comprehending almost every variety of climate, territory of soil, and agricultural and mineral productions—a country settled by an enterprising, hardy, and intelligent people, enjoying free institutions, and receiving vast accessions every year by immigration—a country wonderful for its progress in commerce, manufactures, and the useful arts, and comprehending such a difference of social organization in the different sections as to make it a very prominent and interesting feature—the census of such a country, comprehending its mines its agriculture, its commerce, its manufactures, its means of education, as well as its people, must be a subject of the greatest interest to every citizen, and to the inquiring minds of the whole civilized world.

In order to assist them to do justice to this important interest, the able and intelligent Census Board, at Washington, have issued the following Circular Letter, the object of which will be seen on its perusal.

WASHINGTON, May 16, 1849.

Sir—By the act of Congress, entitled "An Act to make arrangements for taking the Seventh Census," it is provided that the Census Board "shall prepare and cause to be printed such forms and schedules as may be necessary for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States; and also proper forms and schedules for collecting statistical tables, under proper heads, such information as to Mines, Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures, Education, and other topics, as will exhibit a full view of the pursuits, industry, education, and resources of the country, it being provided that the number of said inquiries, exclusive of the enumeration, shall not exceed one hundred."

The principal aim of the Board at this time, is to acquire such information as will enable it to arrive at the most proper enumeration of subjects to be embraced in the next Census.

The communications of all persons, who may feel disposed to make suggestions or contribute information on the subject, will be respectfully considered.

Address "Department of State—Census," Washington.

JOHN M. CLAYTON,
REVERDY JOHNSON,
JACOB COLLAMER.

Jos. C. G. KENNEDY, *Secy.*

We hope every citizen, who has any thing of importance to suggest, will consider himself addressed by the above Circular, and will hasten to convey his knowledge to the Board. We have some peculiar interests in Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania, which ought to be attended to in preparing the list of questions. Let our Board of Trade, or some other citizens attend to it.

Mr. Ritchie, of the Washington Union, appears to be quite delighted with his unenviable position. He takes great credit to himself for "rousing up the Whig press," and asks with quite a school boy air, "and who cares *for that?*" The answer to the question depends much on the provocation which the Union has given. If the Whig press has been aroused by the superior powers, and arguments, and lawful political weapons used by the Union, then may Mr. Ritchie ask with an air of triumph, "Who cares for that?" But the reverse of this is the case. He has commenced and carried on a most unjustifiable, vituperative, and disgraceful warfare upon Gen. Taylor and his administration, founded on nothing but the simple fact that it was not a Locofoco government. This is sufficient, in the eyes of the Union, to justify any assault, however inexcusable and disgraceful. To help the prostrate Democracy he has poured reproach and contumely upon an aged and upright citizen, a veteran soldier, a President of the United States, and has labored with the most untiring industry, to render him contemptible in the eyes of the world—and this, too, before he had developed in action any particular governmental policy, scarcely having time to acquaint himself with the daily routine of his important duties. Add to this, the most scandalous and contemptible whining which the Union has kept up, in one incessant wail, at the removal of Locofoco office holders, who had been appointed for their partizan services, and who were notoriously opposed to the administration, and whose minds were embittered with most violent prejudices against every member composing it. If for such causes the whig press has been aroused, one not wholly bewitted with political hatred, and encased in a hard shell of self-complacent egotism, would *care*, and repent of his injustice and folly without delay. But we have no hope of the editor of the Union.

THE ST. LOUIS FIRE.—We welcome with pleasure to our table some of the St. Louis papers which were temporarily suspended by the great fire.—The Republican and Organ have again made their appearance, and in a few weeks will be in as fair condition as ever. Mr. Chambers, of the Republican, passed through here a short time before the fire, for the eastern cities, and will therefore be able promptly to supply the destroyed materials of that extensive establishment. We are glad to hear that he was fully insured. We select, from the various papers, such items as we considered of most interest to our readers. The Republican and Union both publish engraved diagrams of the burnt district, which, while it presents a picture sufficiently gloomy, shows that it falls far short in extent to the great Pittsburgh fire. In only one place, between Myrtle and Spruce streets, does the fire cross Second Street. The number of squares entirely destroyed are six. Four other squares are more than half burnt, and four others are partially burnt.

From the Republican, of May 26, we take the following items:

"INSURANCE OFFICES.—It seems to be well understood that the Citizens, the St. Louis, and the Union offices, will not be able to meet their liabilities.—How much they will pay, is a matter of more difficulty to determine. The Perpetual, the Marine, the Floating Dock and the Home Mutual will pay—and so will all the offices having Agencies located in this city, of which there are six or eight.—In addition, there is a very large amount of insurance effected directly in eastern offices."

"THE LOSS.—We have not yet received sufficient data to determine, with accuracy, the loss sustained by our citizens from the great fire. Our impression is, that it will not exceed three millions, and it may fall below it. We shall not be surprised if the insurance goes above two millions."

MONTAUK.—Unfortunately for this fine upper river packet, she arrived from Galena but an hour before the alarm, and scarcely had her cables been made fast, before the devouring element came and consigned her, with twenty others, to the deep.—She arrived at 9 P. M. on the 17th, with the following cargo, all of which was lost. 2625 pigs lead, Farwell & Co. 150 barrels flour, Smith, Brothers, & Co.; 79 sacks barley, Rasco, Cabeanne & Co. & Co.; 328 sacks wheat 103 barrels flour, Berthold & Ewing; 49 sacks oats, 29 sacks corn, Humphreys & Thatcher; 63 barrels whiskey, five sacks wool Edgell, Peasely & Co.

THE STEAMBOATS.—Among the boats destroyed it will be remembered that there were but three or four of a very large class. The Sarah, Mamaluke, and Eudora, were the largest; the loss on the first named amount to over $50,000. The Mamaluke and Eudora were both lying up, and therefore had no cargo on board. The steamer Martha is the second on the list of losses; the boat was valued at $10,000, and the cargo, consisting principally of goods for the American Fur Company, at $30,000—making the entire loss $10,000, which is said to be fully insured. The next in the order of amount, are the Tuglioni, Timour, Prairie State, Montauk, Edward Bates, Alice, Kit Carson, Alex. Hamilon, American Eagle, St. Peters, &c. The books, papers and money of several were lost, and many of the officers were burned from the burning graft with nothing but their clothes.

There was $13,000 lost from the Kit Carson, and various smaller amounts from others, making in the aggregate over $5,000. Captain Cossen, of the American Eagle, had a narrow escape, reaching shore with nothing but his clothes, his entire wardrobe, books, papers and money were burned, and his line steamer went to the bottom with only $3,500 insurance. Captain Barger of the Red Wing, had no insurance; his boat was valued at $6,000, the whole loss of which will fall upon himself and the clerk.

In our estimate of the value, insurance, &c., we have taken the trouble to call on all the captains, (with one or two exceptions,) and have obtained the amount from them, and it will be seen that, according to this statement, the entire amount lost on steamers amounts to $339,000. On this there is insurance to the amount of $225,500, leaving $113,500 uncovered. The loss of cargoes, we estimate from the most reliable information, at $97,000, a large proportion, if not the whole of which was covered by insurance. The largest cargoes were those of the Sarah and Martha, both valued at $30,000 each. Next to these in amount, was that of the Tuglioni, valued at $12,000.

The Montauk, which had arrived but an hour previous to the alarm, at $8,000. Next in order was the Timour, valued at $6,000, and five others, valued at $11,000, making in the aggregate $97,000.

There were three barges and one canal boat consumed, besides a number of wood boats and other small craft, the total loss of which may be estimated in round numbers at $5,000. From this, we make the total of water craft by including all the steamers, and their cargoes, money, &c., $446,000.

The following is extracted from the St Louis Union of May 21.

WHO WERE THE KILLED?—Although it is known that several persons perished during the calamity of Thursday night, the name of one only—that of T. B. Targee, Esq.—has been ascertained.—The friends of missing persons should make public the names of such as are supposed to have been killed.

THE DEAD.—Up to two o'clock, Saturday, the remains of but four persons had been taken from the ruins. Many days, perhaps weeks will elapse before the exact loss of life can be ascertained.

NUMBER OF BUILDINGS DESTROYED.—So far as we have been able to learn, the following is nearly a correct statement of the number of buildings destroyed by the late conflagration, on the different streets named, and the adjacent alleys

Levee, forty six, Main st., one hundred and one, North Second st., twenty three; Olive st., thirty one; Pine st., thirty seven; Chesnut st., twenty five, Market st., forty four, above Walnut st. in all, three hundred and seven; below Walnut street on all, one hundred and seven. Total, four hundred and eighty-four. This list does not include back premises of little value.

"THE LAWRENCE JOURNAL" is the title very good looking paper, of respectable dimensions, and Democratic politics, just started in the prosperous borough on New Castle, the county seat of the new county of Lawrence. It is published by J. M. KEUSTER, a very respectable and excellent man, who held the situation of Foreman in this office for several years back. Mr. KEUSTER possesses the knowledge and industry to make an excellent paper, and he has our best wishes for his personal and pecuniary prosperity. All we regret is, that, his long association with this Whig press has not effected his conversion, but we feel assured that he is at least a conservative Democrat, and that he will ever be found a courteous opponent.

The London Quarterly Review, for April has been received, and we have looked over its table of contents with much interest. It is indeed a most excellent number, every article amply repaying a perusal. Among them is Croker's slashing Review of Macauley's History of England. Morse on 4th street, is agent.

RICHARD PHILLIPS, Esq formerly of the Manufacturer of this city, has become role proprietor of the St. Louis Daily Union, the Democratic organ in that city, Mr. Pickering withdrawing. Thos Phillips, Esq., formerly of the Post, in this city, is to act as assistant editor.

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church—Old School.

MORNING SESSION—ELEVENTH DAY.

Tuesday Morning, May 29.

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, and opened with prayer, by the Rev. Mr Dunlap.

The Clerk read the minutes of the previous afternoon.

A motion was made, by Dr. Spring, and carried to alter the minutes by inserting the words, "and he is hereby restored" to the resolution requesting the Presbytery of Concord to restore Mr. Davis to his pastoral charge. A motion was made by the same gentleman to add, to the resolutions on that subject, "and he is hereby requested not to resume his labors at the school house, until allowed by his Presbytery." The motion was carried by a very small majority.

Dr. McGill, Chairman of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, reported, in favor of establishing a Presbytery in California, the Presbytery to be attached to the Synod of New York, and several ministers were named to take charge of the Presbytery. The report was adopted.

Several other reports from the same Committee were read, and adopted.

One was also presented, censuring the conduct of all persons who send their children to Roman Catholic boarding Schools, and providing, that "the Sessions be authorized to administer discipline, according to the necessities of the case." Dr. Plummer thought that parents would persist in sending their children to whatever school they pleased. Several other gentlemen made remarks on this motion, to the effect that they regarded the report on this subject, as one of the most important which had been yet brought before the Assembly. They did not regard the Roman Catholic Church as a Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, any more than the Brahmins of Hindostan.

Several amendments were proposed, but the main question was finally carried.

Another overture was read, asking whether, when a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church, had severed his connexion from the Church in which he had been ordained, it was necessary to be reinstalled if he wished to resume his communication with the same Church, or any other. It was decided in the affirmative.

An overture was read from a venerable father in the Church, stating that in consequence of the desecration of the Sabbath day by our National Legislature, as well as the terrible scourge of Asiatic Cholera, and the dreadful fires, and destruction of steam boats on our Western Waters, this Committee recognize the necessity of a day of fasting and prayer, and that they recommend that the last Thursday of June next, be the day appointed for this purpose, unless the President of the United States shall appoint a day, in which case the Church shall co-operate with him. Amendments were made, fixing the time at the fourth day of July, the last Thursday of July, the fourth day of August, and the third Thursday of August.—The time fixed by the report, was, however, adopted.

Dr. Spring moved, as an amendment, "that the melancholy decrease of Divine Fervor in the Church," be added as an additional reason for appointing a day of fasting and prayer.

The whole report, as amended by Dr. Spring, was adopted.

The same Committee reported on the subject of administering baptism to adults, establishing a formula therefor.

Mr. Manford moved to lay it on the table, which was carried, yeas 92, nays 32.

A memorial was read, from the members of Mr. Le Roy Davis' church, asking whether they were to consider themselves as members of the Prospect or Concord church.

The committee reported, that while not approving of the haste with which the members had been dismissed, they yet reported that they were members of the Prospect Church, of which the Rev. Mr. Le Roy Davis is pastor.

It was moved and lost, that when the General Assembly adjourns this afternoon, at half past five o'clock, it adjourns finally until the next session.

The order of the day, an overture from the Presbyteries of Steubenville and Elizabethtown, suggesting that a fund should be raised for the purpose of maintaining the indigent brethren who had labored in the cause of the church until their strength was exhausted, as well as their widows and orphans.

The resolutions introduced by the committee appointed for that purpose, suggested that a half dime be annually contributed by each member of the Presbyterian Church, which would amount to about ten thousand dollars a year.

It was proposed to amend the motion by fixing the amount at a dime.

Another proposition was made, that the amount be not fixed, but that each one give as much as he sees fit.

Several members related stories of the poverty of disabled clergymen of the Presbyterian Church, some of whom it was stated, were struggling from day to day with poverty, and one whose name was mentioned, had died in the poor house.

During the discussion which arose, o. point, it was stated, that many clergymen of the Presbyterian Church resorted to the Odd Fellows, the Sons of Temperance, and other bodies of a similar character, for the purpose of being relieved when in distress.

A motion was made to refer the whole subject to a special committee, with instructions to report to the next General Assembly; and the Rev. E. H. Nevin made a most eloquent and thrilling speech against doing so, detailing in all the glowing colors of reality, the hardships experienced by clergymen and their families when old age and infirmities had overtaken them.

The motion on the reference to a special committee was lost.

The amendment to strike out a half a dime was carried.

The amendment to insert a dime was lost.

The question then came on the proposition to have the amount unfixed, and it was carried.

It was moved, that the Trustees of the General Assembly hold the funds collected for this purpose, instead of the Board of Publication. The resolution was amended by making the Board of Publication the distributing committee.

Another resolution on this head was offered, as follows:

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be and it is hereby instructed to contribute $2000 a year towards this fund.

This motion was lost by a vote of 50 to 84.

During the discussion of these resolutions, a great deal of discussion took place, and many of the members did not seem to understand the question.

The Moderator declared that he could not give the gentlemen understanding, he could only state the question in plain terms. The whole report as amended was adopted.

Dr. McGill read a preamble and series of resolutions to the effect, that in view of the increasing territory of the United States, renewed exertions were necessary to disseminate the gospel through the vast territory obtained recently by the United States.

Dr. Plummer made a most interesting speech on the subject of the rapid growth of the Western country.

He had been, since his arrival in Pittsburgh, down to the Point to see the spot where Fort Duquesne stood. Both his grandfathers had been in that fort when it was besieged by that indomitable Indian warrior, Killbuck. He himself recollected Cincinnati forty years ago, when you could have purchased all the houses in it for less than what had been expended in building that church in which the General Assembly were sitting.

The clerk then read a letter from the delegate to the German Reformed Church, and on motion, it was ordered to be printed in the appendix to the minutes.

A letter from the Allegheny County Temperance League was read tendering to the Assembly the thanks of that body. It was ordered to be entered in the minutes.

A motion was made and carried to meet at half past two, instead of three o'clock.

The Assembly was closed with prayer by Dr Plummer

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Assembly was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr Harvey.

The Clerk read the minutes of the morning session.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave of absence to several persons.

Dr. Plummer moved a reconsideration of the decision in the case of the Overture No 1, which was agreed to.

The decision in that case was then ordered to be cancelled.

The Committee appointed to examine the annual report of the Board of Education, reported, recommending the careful perusal of all members of the Church

A paper was read protesting against the recent transfer of the Presbytery of Indianapolis to the Northern Synod, which passed the General Assembly during the present session

On motion, it was placed on record.

Dr. Plummer moved that the words without answer be appended to the minutes on the above subject.

The election for members of the Board of Education was called up, and the following gentlemen were elected

Ministers—N Murray, S Miller, Jashua Moore, G W Musgrave, T F Janneway, W C Mathews, J W McKennan, J Morrison, J W Alexander, H A Boardman, J C Backus, John Hall, A T McGill Mr Gretter.

Lay Men—S B Molyneaux J E Martin, R McEwen, A McNair, M Newark F Lloyd, J W Platt G Douglass, James Russell, Charles Collins, D N Dickens, W Duffz, H C Blair.

The Secretary of the Board of Domestic Missions reported.

Dr. Steele moved a resolution, appointing a new assistant Secretary, on account of the age and infirmities of Mr. McDowell, the present Secretary, whose voice is very weak, and who is wholly deaf.)

Dr. McGill thought that the age of the venerable father required that he should have an assistant.

The motion to strike out was lost and the resolution was adopted

The resolution for dissolving the Agency at Louisville was carried

After some debate, the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Dr Metlin, the agents of the different Boards connected with the Assembly, were directed hereafter to furnish to the General Assembly the accurate balance sheets of their accounts.

Dr. Plummer saw his name announced as elected to be one of the Directors of Princeton Theological Seminary, and as two venerable fathers had been left out, he begged leave most respectfully to decline.

Dr. Phillips moved that the resignation be laid on the table, which was carried.

On motion, the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh were affirmed

A communication from the Synod of South Carolina, recommending that a Presbyterian College be established in Liberia, was read and referred to the Board of Foreign Missions.

After the transaction of some unimportant business, the resolution to which we alluded a few days ago, deprecating the use of manuscript sermons, was called up and several speeches for and against it were made.

The Rev. Mr. Dunlap thought that sermons should be extemporaneous. The use of written ones reminded him of a preacher's wife. She one day became very angry with one of her servants, and running up stairs to her husband, she said, my dear, I wish you would come down and give Polly a scolding. My love, he replied, I am now writing a sermon, and do not like to be disturbed, but I will write a scolding for you, and you can read it to her, which will answer the purpose equally well. The wife took the paper, and going down stairs commenced reading the lecture to Polly, but finding that that lady did nothing but laugh at her, she dropped the paper, and flying into a passion gave her a good extemporaneous scolding, which answered the purpose most effectually; and so it is with sermons.

The resolution was passed.

The thanks of the General Assembly were tendered to the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church for their kind loan of the building, and attention to the wants of the General Assembly, as well as to the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, for their courtesy and hospitality towards the members of the Assembly.

Thanks were also given to all the churches who had kindly lent their pulpits to the Assembly.

On motion, the thanks of the meeting were given to their chairman, Dr. Murray, for the able, faithful, and impartial manner in which he had fulfilled his duties.

The Rev. Dr. Murray, D D, rose and said, that his brethren would permit him to say, that when he was chosen by them to act as Moderator of the General Assembly, and chosen unanimously, his feelings were such as he had never before experienced in his life, and such as he could not express. He had sought, with the assistance of a Divine Providence, to fulfil the important duties devolving on him, and from day to day the Lord had enabled him to proceed with those duties. The present session of the General Assembly had been characterized by an unusual degree of unanimity; and the best possible feeling had prevailed among the brethern attending it. There had been, it is true, a difference of opinion among them on various points, but the minority had always yielded to the will of the majority; and for his part, he can truly say that it was by the courtesy of the members that his failings in his office had been overlooked. He knew that his decisions had sometimes been erroneous, and that it had been owing to the kindness of the members that they had not been overruled. He had sought to do his duty, and he could safely say that not one minister or elder had been overlooked. All had been at one time or another appointed to act on various committees. He had been a member of three or four Assemblies, such as the present one, and never had he seen one the proceedings of which had been more harmonious.

The Assembly then adjourned, to meet at the usual time next year, in the Central Presbyterian Church of Cincinnati.

The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator.

FROM NEW YORK.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

NEW YORK, May 23

From some unexplained cause, the city, at this early period, has assumed almost its summer dullness, and wears an appearance not at all gratifying to the commercial part of the community.—The sales of goods have fallen off very materially, and the aggregate sales of the season are full twenty-five per cent under those of the Spring of 1848. The stocks of goods are large, and in the face of gradually receding prices, importers and jobbers are unable to make sales. Capital has accumulated to a large extent, and accommodation paper of fair houses only has sold at nine per cent. per annum. Bank directors gather round the desks of the note brokers, and are glad to employ their money in this one sided way.

Philadelphia people are debating where the summer season shall be passed, and some of the earlier ones are settled at their summer houses along the Hudson and upon Long Island. Saratoga and Newport have been repainted and white washed ready to receive the unquiet sports who so unhesitatingly chase the phantom of fashion to the incidental benefit of their health.

The Crescent City sailed to day for Charleston, with forty passengers, and left with little bustle.—The sober second thought now prompts people to wait the arrival of more specimens. In about twenty-five days she will land her mail at New Orleans, with dates from Panama down to the 10th of June, and from California down into May. The Falcon sails for Chagres at the close of the week, with a party of U. S. officers on board, bound for the Stations of the Pacific.

Nineteen boats have been taken from the Empire, and the last not raised as yet. Two pilots have been arrested, and the affair taken in hand by the U. S. Marshal, who will spare no pains to make an example of the rascals, whose conduct on this occasion was of human life.

Our military spirit is developing itself in the most decided manner in the Mexican war spirit, under the present old Gen. is a very popular leader. The Sixth Regiment quite the rage and [illegible] to the mile not even at the summit, wade towards the Atlantic, the grade is but 15 feet to the mile. Two years it is thought, will be ample time to build the road, and give an unimpeded steam navigation or transportation from New York to San Francisco, round Cape Horn.

The Cholera has gone by the present and has ceased to cause any alarm among citizens. The city is comparatively clean, and the pestilence in consequence, rendered almost powerless. The Sanitary Committee have issued a bulletin, giving directions for the treatment of the disease, which may be thus briefly given. The temperate living, and above all, keeping the bowels in healthy everything. Cholera. A very simple prescription, but rather difficult to the great mass of Irish and poor.

On Change, there is a rather more active Cotton is quite active with offers of sales for export. Low grades of inferior cotton are now to be spoiled at 5½ cents, and 5¾ cents for good strict ordinary cotton. Sales of 500 bales at 5¾ cents. Flour and Meal. Sales at 5¾ cents for good strict ordinary cotton. Sales of 500 bales at 5¾ cents. Flour and Meal. Sales at 5¾ cents for good strict ordinary cotton. Sales of 500 bales at 5¾ cents. Whiskey dull. Pork has advanced. Sales at 5¾ cents for good strict ordinary cotton. Sales of 500 bales at 5¾ cents. Lard is quiet. Sugar and Molasses. Lard is quiet. Sugar and Molasses. Lard is quiet. Sugar and Molasses