# THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE,

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PITTSBURGH.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 23, 1850.


☞ ADVERTISERS are earnestly requested to hand in their favors before 5 P. M., and as early in the day as practicable. Advertisements not inserted for a specified time will invariably be charged until ordered out.

CINCINNATI:—C. W. James, No. 1 Harrison street, Cincinnati, is our agent for the city. Advertisements and subscriptions handed to him will receive prompt attention.

PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN.—Advertisements and subscriptions to the North American and United States Gazette, Philadelphia, received and forwarded from this office.

☞ SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LOCAL MATTERS TELEGRAPHIC NEWS, &c.

The article of our correspondent, "Truth," is received, but is unavoidably laid over until our next.

MR. ROBERTS' ADDRESS.—Our readers will not regret the space occupied this morning by this excellent production. It is one of those practical appeals which comes home to the interests, the pride, and the civic attachments, of every resident, and, especially, of every native and lover of Pittsburgh. We have, hitherto, as a people, taken too little pains in beautifying, improving, and rendering attractive, the city of our *home*, where all our interests are concentrated—where we expect to live, to die, and be buried. We trust Mr. Roberts' Address will have its desired and legitimate effect, in promoting a greater amount of civic patriotism.

We understand that HON. HARMAR DENNY has given the Pennsylvania Railroad Company a free right of way through his Springfield farm, about a mile or less from the city. This is a very liberal action, on the part of that gentleman, as the property is very valuable; but we do not doubt that he will finally receive, in the increased value given to all the property in the city and neighborhood, by our eastern and western rail roads, full remuneration for the sacrifice.

**Our Western Rail Road—The Connection with Erie.**

Below, we give an extract of a letter from a gentleman of Erie, largely engaged in the Pittsburgh and Erie Rail Road, to a gentleman of this city, which brings us the gratifying intelligence that the rail road from Erie to Enon Valley, Beaver County, *will be completed by the time our western road is finished from this city to that point.* This news is so unexpected and gratifying, that we should be slow to believe it, did we not know the high authority from which it comes, which gives to it a semi-official character. Our readers will thus see that by the time our road is completed from this city to the western border of Columbiana county, Ohio, that we shall have two rail road connections with Lake Erie—at Erie and at Cleveland—and when it is extended to Massillon, which it will be about the same time, we shall have, in addition, as a feeder, the Ohio Canal, in its whole extent of three hundred miles. Less than *one year* will accomplish all these vast results—vast, not so much in the magnitude of their construction, as in their effects upon the interests of this city. Who can estimate the value of these improvements to Pittsburgh, in promoting all its interests, and developing its incomparable advantages. Those cheering prospects should have the effect of stimulating our citizens to make every necessary exertion and sacrifice to press our road on to its final completion as fast as the nature of the work will permit. The following is the extract—

"DEAR SIR—I am gratified to have it in my power to inform you there is not a doubt remaining that our company will be able to build the rail road from this place to connect with the Ohio and Pennsylvania Rail Road at Enon Valley, to be completed as soon as that portion of the Ohio and Pennsylvania road is in operation from the Valley to Pittsburgh. This connection I consider one of great importance, both to Pittsburgh and Erie, and to make the connection perfect, we propose making the same width of track you use, so that passage and burthen cars may meet with no detention or delay from transhipping. My impression is, that the connection of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Rail Road, with the connection of ours to Erie, will render the continuation of the road to Wellsville wholly unnecessary, as there can be little or no business on the south end of the Cleveland road to the river."

MADAME BORNSTEIN ROUTH, an accomplished singer and musician, recently from Paris, has arrived in our city, and intends to make a permanent location here, providing she receives a proper share of patronage. Madame Routh brings the very highest testimonials, as to her abilities, and we cordially recommend her to the patronage of the community. We understand that it is Madame R.'s intention to give a public Concert, in the course of the coming week. She is stopping at the Exchange Hotel.

PITTSBURGH MUSEUM.—We are much pleased to learn that Dr. B. W. Morris, one of our enterprising citizens, is about to establish a Museum in our city. Such a source of amusement is much needed, and cannot fail—if at all deserving of support—to prove highly successful. Our city looks, exceedingly, those more healthful and proper sources of amusement, which render other cities so attractive, such as galleries of Pictures, Museums, Public Institutes, and Libraries, &c., and a good and well selected Museum, one that will instruct the mind as well as gratify and amuse the eye, will prove a great desideratum.

This we understand the proprietor intends it to be, and from his well known energy and taste, we are led to expect that he will give us something that will command the entire satisfaction of the community.

Apollo Hall is to be the present *Locale* of the Museum, which will probably be open to the public in the course of a fortnight.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK MARKET.—The Philadelphia Ledger, of Tuesday last, says:—"Since this day week, there has been a steady rise in the stock market, and, with a very larger business, several stocks have advanced almost beyond precedent. The more substantial securities have not moved much, but the "fancies," and those stocks that, from their very low price, offer a large margin for a rise, are very buoyant. Money is comparatively easy, and we have rarely witnessed a week of more excitement on the stock exchange. Every body seems to be rushing in, as though they thought if purchases are not made to day, before to morrow the bargains will be all brought out of the market.

## FROM HARRISBURGH.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURGH, Feb. 19th, 1850.

This being private bill day, nothing of general interest was done in either House. There was an effort made in the House of Representatives to get up the new county of Redstone, but at the suggestion of Mr. Walker, it was laid over for the present.

Several private bills were passed in the House; but none of them, I believe, particularly interesting to your section.

In the Senate, Mr. Lawrence, of Washington concluded his remarks, commenced yesterday, in favor of the new county of Monongahela. He was very severe upon the editor of the Washington *Examiner*, whom he represented as having slandered, abused, and villified every honest man in the county, and as a sort of drab, who was as notorious for his slang and abuse as the fishwomen of Billingsgate themselves. He certainly made this worthy gentlemen, whoever he may be, sink in the nostrils of the Senate for some minutes. From his description of him, though a Locofoco, I should consider him rather *flaky*.

He was very ably replied to, by Mr. Darsie, who stated that the great mass of the people of all the counties interested, were opposed to the proposed dismemberment of their territories.

Upon the question of transcribing the bill for a third reading, it resulted in the negative—yeas 5, nays 18 so the bill was lost.

There is a bill of like character, still pending in the House, but I do not think it will pass. These projects for new counties are generally looked upon with disfavor, unless the applicant can demonstrate that her creation will add strength to the Locofoco party, she has no chance whatever of even a fair consideration at the hands of the present House of Representatives.

I noticed the Allegheny members, generally, in the Senate, during the pendency of this question, manifesting a deep interest in opposition to the bill; and they expressed great gratification at the signal majority with which the bill was voted down.

To morrow, the important divorce case of Middleton against Middleton, has been made the special order in the Senate; and from the distinguished social position of the parties, and the character of the testimony, a portion of which has been already published, will do doubt attract a considerable throng of persons to hear the discussion upon the subject.

Mr. Middleton is a Lieut. in the U. S. Navy; and is a member of a distinguished family in South Carolina, where the name has a historical celebrity. The lady is an Italian, a Neapolitan, I believe, who had the good fortune to inspire the son of Neptune with the fervor peculiar to her skies and climate while on a cruise in the waters of the Mediterranean, and thus obtained his hand and heart. It seems, however, that his absence, while called away by his country to the post of duty, was so distressing that she consoled herself with stolen interviews and caresses, of rather an indiscriminate and forbidden character. It is in proof, I understand, that she was in the habit of receiving visits from gentlemen as late as 2 o'clock in the morning; but she persisted, however, that it was only from the promptings of a cousinly and brotherly attachment. All this may have been owing to the peculiar influence of a Neapolitan sky, and not to any inate turpitude of character after all. I am inclined to think with Byron, that,

"'Tis all the fault of that mysterious sun,
That will keep boiling, broiling, melting on."

But as the grave Senators of the State have the matter under consideration, I will not attempt to anticipate their decision, or prejudge the case, by any remarks or reflections of mine, arising from facts which may not be embraced with in the record, notwithstanding they have found their way to the public journals. COBDEN.

## FROM NEW YORK.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.

Our democratic fellow citizens have, within a few days, been very seriously exercised, and are not now upon the best of terms with each other. The point of difference, just now, is upon what they call the proper course to preserve the Union. The Old Hunkers thought the safest way would be to call a meeting at Tammany Hall, and, after a mountain of professions, pass resolutions that would leave the question of slavery to be settled by the South. The Barnburners, or Free Soilers, were not to be duped in this way, and, accordingly, rallied at the old Wigwam, before the hour of meeting, took possession of the hall and committee rooms, and, at a late hour in the evening, rather roughly handled the Hunkers, who were obliged to slink off without the privilege of degrading themselves, and the State, by cringing to the slave power, before the proper time, which has not yet come. The beautiful mess known as New York Democracy is now well stirred up, but one thing is certain no expression can be elicited from the party to encourage the slaveholders.

A new patent is soon to be taken out, in Europe and the United States, for India Rubber goods. A firm here, after a costly series of experiments, has succeeded in producing an article from rubber, in the shape of canes, snuff boxes, and all sorts of fancy articles, as hard as ebony, and as brilliantly polished. Ebony can be cut with a pocket knife, but this cannot, while it is so plastic that it will supercede gutta percha. The same parties have also succeeded in bleaching rubber white, and we shall soon see goods in all the varied grades of color, an excellence not before attained, owing to the want of a white basis.

The committee for the relief of the Hague Street sufferers have collected nearly eighteen thousand dollars, and have not closed their labors. The wants of the unfortunate friends of those who were so suddenly hurried out of the world have been relieved, promptly, and it is very gratifying to know that no physical want remains unsatisfied.

A very interesting religious meeting was held last night, at the Tabernacle, in behalf of the Western Missionary operations of the American Sunday School Union. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Dr. Babcock, and the Rev. Messrs. Chidlaw and Magoon. Reports were presented from the Missionaries of the Western States, showing that they have visited 1,313 Sunday Schools, embracing 9,310 teachers, and 59,451 scholars. The reports speak encouragingly of the state of the schools at the West. It was stated that during the year 1849, the Sunday Schools of New York contributed $7000 towards their support, and, at the close of the meeting, $2000 more were contributed for the same object.

The *Message Bird*, a very able semi monthly musical paper, states that the bargain between Jenny Lind and Mr. Barnum, is not yet positively concluded—time having been granted the agent of Mr. Barnum—to confer with his principal, in consequence of the unexpected amount of money (300,000) which Jenny required to be deposited in the hands of Baring & Brothers, as security for the infactitude of the engagement. The *Message Bird* says that Mr. Barnum is in a quandary, not knowing whether to go on or recede. So it is not certain that we shall hear the Nightingale warble, after all. However, we depend on Mr. Barnum's liberality—and $300,000 is, after all, a mere trifle.

Prosper M. Wetmore has concluded that he will not hazard a criminal prosecution, and has expressed his determination to pay what he owes the government.

He has already paid a little over $92,000, and proposes to send in all his accounts and vouchers to the department for final audit, giving security that the balance shall be forthcoming when the account is presented. Of course this cannot be otherwise than satisfactory. This is rather throwing himself upon the generosity of the Government, hoping that his claims will be admitted to some extent.

It now appears that Mr. Wetmore has placed the public funds in the steam ship speculation with Croswell Law, and the rest of the Loco Focos who had the Chagres mail contract thrown to them, by way of a sop, by the retiring administration of Mr. Polk.

The "Native Americans" are to have a grand parade on Washington's Birthday. This party is now known as the "Order of United Americans," nor can any enter its mysteries, unless born on the soil. In the strong political excitement of the part it acted as a political body, but at present it is simply a beneficial association.

An attempt is to be made to get Mr. Clay to New York, and a meeting is to be held without respect to party, to sustain his resolutions of compromise.

Other friends of Mr. Clay propose to honor his name with a Grand Ball, to be given at Niblo's, at an early day. Even where the plan of compromise urged by Mr. Clay is not wholly approved, his motives, and his efforts to bring about an honorable conciliation, receive the highest praise from all good citizens.

Professor Anderson, of Waterville College, Me., will assume the editorship of the New York Recorder, on the 1st of May. Its present editor, the Rev. S. S. Cutting, will then devote himself entirely to the editorship of the Christian Review. Mr. Cutting has now been the Editor of the Recorder some three years, and has made that paper one of the first religious journals in the country. His retirement will be a source of regret to its numerous readers.

Ashes—Sales of Pearls at $6 00 a 6-06, and Pots at $6 62½.

Flour is very firm, with sales of 1300 bbls. at $4 75 for Canadian, with Michigan at $5 12 @ 5 31; pure Genesee $5 50 @ 5 62½, and extra Genesee at $5 72 @ 6 12½. Southern Flour, $5 18 @ 5 31, for Brandywine, Baltimore and Georgetown. Rye Flour is $3 06 @ 3 12½. Corn Meal is inactive, with sales of Jersey at $2 87 @ 3.

Grain—Wheat 2,400 bu. Michigan at 103c. Oats are dull at 42 @ 45 for River and Canal. Barley is not plenty and held at 70c for prime.

Pork—New Mess is nominal at $10 50 @ 10 56; with Prime at $7. Beef is steady, at $10 for City Mess, and $6 50 for Prime do. Beef Hams are held at $14. Cut Meats are quite nominal, at 5½c. for Hams, and 3½c. for Shoulders. Lard is in moderate request, at 7 @ 12c. for Ohio, and 10 a 13c. for State. Cheese is saleable at 6 @ 8c.

EARLY RISING.—The Rev. Mr. Strachan, who used to rise every morning at five, said that he could not, by practice, convert the habit into a pleasant one. The honest divine would find few dissenters on this head. Eels may get used to being skinned; but unless a man has a natural gift for the exercise, he can never take delight in kicking off the bed-clothes of a cold, morning, two hours before daylight.

A LATE Missouri paper contains a poetic description of a bowie knife fight, that lately took place in that interesting neighborhood. The third stanza ran as follows:—

"The wretch then drew a shining knife;
Just like the maniac man,
And he he plunged it to the hilt,
When out the gravy ran."

Missouri will be "some" on poetry yet.

## The Destiny of Pittsburgh, and the Duty of her Young Men.

*An Address delivered before "The Young Men's Mercantile Library and Mechanics' Institute of Pittsburgh," by Solomon W. Roberts, Civil Engineer, February 18th, 1850.*

Correspondence.

ROOMS OF THE MERCANTILE LIBRARY AND MECHANICS' INSTITUTE,
PITTSBURGH, Feb. 20th, 1850.

SOLOMON W. ROBERTS, Esq.

*Dear Sir*—We take great pleasure in complying with the duty enjoined upon us in the following resolution, adopted by the large and respectable audience, assembled on the evening of the 18th inst., to hear your address.

"Resolved—That the thanks of the Mercantile Library and Mechanics' Institute, be tendered to Solomon W. Roberts, Esq., for his able and interesting Address, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication."

We trust that you will grant the request, and furnish at your earliest convenience a copy for publication.

Yours, very respectfully,
R. E. SELLERS,
ALEX. GORDON,
JAS. ROBINSON,
} Committee.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 21st, 1850.

MESSRS. R. E. SELLERS,
ALEX. GORDON,
JAMES ROBINSON,
} Committee.

*Gentlemen*—In compliance with your request, I willingly place the manuscript of my Address in your hands. It may be that some persons in this city will not like the plain speaking of a part of it, but the pointing out of deficiencies is the first step towards removing them. The more we improve the natural advantages of our position, the stronger our local attachments will become, and by this this the whole community will be benefitted.

If I have done any thing to draw public attention to your excellent institution I have not spoken in vain.

Very respectfully
Yours,
SOLOMON W. ROBERTS.

### ADDRESS.

*Gentlemen of the Mercantile Library and Mechanics' Institute:*

The subject of the Address, which I am about at your request, to deliver, is—THE DESTINY OF PITTSBURGH, AND THE DUTY OF HER YOUNG MEN.

In the beginning of what I am about to say to you, perhaps it may remark, that the invitation with which I have been honored by "The Young Men's Mercantile Library and Mechanics' Institute of Pittsburgh," to deliver an Address before them, was unexpected by me, and that since I received it, my time has been much occupied by professional duties; and in travelling to promote the construction of those railroads, the speedy completion of which is so important to this city.

In throwing myself upon your indulgence, let me beg you to remember that it is not to be expected that one, the business of whose life has been practical science, and who has been trained up from boyhood as a Civil Engineer, can compete in a literary production with members of what are called, by way of distinction, the learned professions. I know that Pittsburgh has produced many men deservedly eminent in those higher walks of human effort, but it is not to them that I address myself.

It is to you;—to young men engaged in various commercial, mechanical, and manufacturing pursuits that I wish to speak; and I ask you to receive this Address as coming from one of yourselves, from one who is himself a learner, and who seeks no higher distinction than to be useful to that Keystone Commonwealth, of which he is proud to be a native, and of which we all are citizens.

You live in a large manufacturing city, and you have formed a literary and scientific society for mutual improvement. In this you have done well. *One of the greatest advantages of city life is the facility that it gives for such associations.*

The imagination, which delights to revel in a world unlike the real one, paints a state of society of ideal intellectual and moral happiness, but stern reality seeks in vain for their realization. The poets tell us that "God made the country, and man made the town;" but certain it is, that where the town over is the country once was wild, a vast amount of mental and physical labor has been extended to effect the transformation.

Agriculture may be admitted to be the first necessity of the human race; but agriculture *equally for its support, requires the mechanic.* Without the blacksmith, where would be the ploughshare; and without the hillwright where would be the bread we eat?

When we survey that vast edifice of civilization which is the glory of humanity, we do not see its loftiest monuments rising amidst a purely agricultural people. They are to be looked for where *coal* and *iron* abound; and where the *bridal union of fire and water* has brought forth *mighty offspring*, and peopled the earth with a progency of mechanical servants to man, stronger than Hercules, swifter than Atalanta, and ever ready to do the bidding of the master that made them.

Pittsburgh is pre-eminently a city of coal and iron. Standing on a hill, the base of which is washed by three most noble rivers, its place is marked by a cloud by day and a pillarof fire by night. The coal smoke, which is the sign of its industry, is undoubtedly a source of discomfort to its inhabitants; but I have seen more coal smoke in London and Manchester than that which troubles us here. It is a mist to suppose that the highest sanitary attainment consists in a pure atmosphere, or that excellent health cannot be enjoyed in it; but it is certainly an evil, (as every thing is that diminishes beauty,) and an evil that can be and ought to be lessened by smoke consuming contrivances.

The painting of the houses of a light stone colour would give the city a much lighter and more cheerful appearance.

Thorough gas lighting in a city is one of the most efficient means of preventing accidents and crimes. Pittsburgh has great facilities for it, and is already well lighted. Pure, soft, and wholesome water abounds in what may be said to be unlimited quantities, and it is the opinion of an engineer who is equally able to

Permit me to say that it ought to be more extensively used in cleansing the city—and especially the side walks, which very much need it. The ground plot of Pittsburgh is well adapted to good drainage, which is not accomplished, as it may be by a proper system of sewers.

Many of the side walks require to be repaired, and the owners of property ought not only to repair them, but also to make them conform to the regulation level. Laws and ordinances which are not enforced are worse than useless. Open cellars, not now fenced in, should be safely enclosed, and whoever leaves a cellar door, delivery door, open at night, ought to be fined. The crossings at the street corners are made of round stones, and a few hundred dollars expended in laying good, hard, flag stones at the principal crossings would be a signal public benefit. I have do doubt that the ladies would feel grateful to any member of the City Councils who would bring it about.

Pittsburgh and the surrounding towns, including the City of Allegheny, now contain nearly one hundred thousand inhabitants, about the same population as that of Philadelphia 50 years ago. It is unfortunately true that Pittsburgh has not the reputation among strangers of being an agreeable place of residence; and this is a matter which ought to be remembered, for it is of more importance than many people suppose, and has been one cause of the superior growth of Cincinnati. It is the part of true wisdom to look at facts as they are, and, where improvements are needed, to take the preliminary steps to obtain them. Philadelphia has grown in forty years from a city of 60,000 to one of 400,000 inhabitants, and that notwithstanding its foreign trade has fallen off. Good and cheap fuel, good and cheap water, good and cheap gas, good paving, and good drainage have contributed powerfully to produce this result. Clean streets, good walking, and handsome shops will make any city attractive both to citizens and strangers.

Without the labor of the mechanic no city could exist. Every great city is a monument to the glory of the mechanic arts. When standing in London, under the dome of St. Paul's, my heart thrilled as I read in letters of gold the noble inscription to the memory of the architect who rebuilt London after the great fire. "Underneath lies the body of Sir Christopher Wren, *the rebuilder of this church and city*, who lived nine y years not for himself, but for others.—Reader, if you seek his monument, look around you!"

I turned from the marble statues of the heroes of the sword, to think of him whose mission was not to destroy but to rebuild. Such examples strengthen us for the struggle with difficulty which all must encounter. We see that we have some thing more to labor for, than the wages of the day. We take up our burdens *cheerfully*, and press forward firmly and earnestly in our appointed places in the ranks of the grand army of civilization.

Starting in the eastern regions of the rising sun, it has marched westward for ages. Crossing the stormy Atlantic with the high souled Columbus, it commenced its conquests on our Western continent. When the young Washington crossed the barrier of the Allegheries and stood where we now stand, he saw stretched out before him the valley of the beautiful Ohio, the highway provided by nature for the entrance of future millions of freemen into the fertile regions of the West.

Pittsburgh has her own romance of history. Let any one read Washington's letter to his mother, written after the battle of Braddock's field, and see how defeat, instead of conquering, served to develope the greatness of his soul.

It is one of the greatest blessings that Heaven can vouchsafe to any man, to give him an unconquerable will to strive to do well; a will "not to be wearied, not to be deterred, not to be overcome." The weakness of humanity is such, that men falter, and fail, and fall far short, of what they would wish to do, and to obtain and to become. The golden vision fades into the dark reality, and we feel ready to lose all faith in the future. Then comes the time that tries the temper of the soul; whether we shall lie prostrate and strive no more to rise; or whether, like Antæus, we shall spring from the ground, strengthened by the contact with our mother earth. Happy is he that is able resolutely to turn his back upon the past, "letting the dead past bury its dead," and bearing with him no more of its burden, than those lessons of experience which may be useful in the future.

In the management of literary and scientific societies many discouragements arise. They are often concealed from the public, and many an institution, apparently flourishing, and which seems, when seen from a distance, to have had an almost uninterrupted career of success, has been again and again saved from shipwreck by the resolute efforts of a few of its members.

Of the early history of your association I know but little. I am informed that it has labored under great discouragements, and is now beginning to rise into prosperity. In a case like the present, prosperity and usefulness may be considered as convertible terms, for they are alternately the cause and the consequence of each other.

I would fain say a few words of encouragement to the active members of this institution. I have seen other and older societies of a similar character, to which I have the honor to belong, oppressed with debt, paralyzed by the apathy of a majority of their members, and apparently on the verge of dissolution. I have seen them saved and restored to usefulness, by the determined exertions of a few energetic spirits, who would not cease their efforts while there was reason to hope. "We must not only strike while the iron is hot, but we must strike until we make it hot." It is *this* perseverance that is the secret of success. If our hearts are in the work, we will not only find opportunities, but we will make opportunities. That which is easily obtained is apt to be lightly valued, but that which has cost us long continued striving is not easily given up, and is never forgotten.

In your institution you have combined the two objects of a Mercantile Library and a Mechanics' Institute. In such a city as Pittsburgh this combination is wise. Your commerce depends upon your manufactures, and your manufactures depend upon your commerce; hand in hand they go together and one sustains and upholds the other. In your great interest of steamboat building, this mutual connection is finely exemplified.

The number of steamboats constructed here has been, on an average, about *one to each week* for a series of years; and the floating palaces, owned in Pittsburgh, which ply between this city and Cincinnati, are the admiration of every one. May no illegal, artificial, impediment ever obstruct their passage down the river.

Commerce is one of the grandest instruments of civilization. It diffuses knowledge, and spreads far and wide the means of comfort and happiness. It makes men better acquainted with each other; it dissipates their prejudices; and teaches them how to respect those that differ from themselves.

But if its agents be ignorant, how shall they enlighten others; and if they do not respect themselves, how shall they expect others to respect them? It may be said by many that they have but little time for mental improvement, but, if they have but little, it is the greater reason why that little should be well improved. It is a well known truth that men that have the most leisure generally make the poorest use of it. Prodigals of time, they spend lavishly that of which they think they have plenty, and are bankrupts in the end.

It has been well said, by Maria Edgeworth, (a woman whose works are full of the lessons of practical wisdom) that "the general cultivation of the understanding and the acquirement of general knowledge are essential to the attainment of excellence in any profession." That "knowledge is power" is a maxim so trite, that it has almost lost its force by frequent repetitions; but, from the nature of things, it must ever be true.

Books are the silent schoolmasters of the adult mind. They enable us to clear away in secret that one, the business of whose life has been practical science, and who has been trained up from boyhood as a Civil Engineer, can compete in a literary production with members of what are called, by way of distinction, the learned professions. I know that Pittsburgh has produced many men deservedly eminent in those higher walks of human effort, but it is not to them that I address myself.

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Permit me to say that it ought to be more extensively used in cleansing the city—and especially the side walks, which very much need it. The ground plot of Pittsburgh is well adapted to good drainage, which is not accomplished, as it may be by a proper system of sewers.

Many of the side walks require to be repaired, and the owners of property ought not only to repair them, but also to make them conform to the regulation level. Laws and ordinances which are not enforced are worse than useless. Open cellars, not now fenced in, should be safely enclosed, and whoever leaves a cellar door, delivery door, open at night, ought to be fined. The crossings at the street corners are made of round stones, and a few hundred dollars expended in laying good, hard, flag stones at the principal crossings would be a signal public benefit. I have do doubt that the ladies would feel grateful to any member of the City Councils who would bring it about.

Pittsburgh and the surrounding towns, including the City of Allegheny, now contain nearly one hundred thousand inhabitants, about the same population as that of Philadelphia 50 years ago. It is unfortunately true that Pittsburgh has not the reputation among strangers of being an agreeable place of residence; and this is a matter which ought to be remembered, for it is of more importance than many people suppose, and has been one cause of the superior growth of Cincinnati. It is the part of true wisdom to look at facts as they are, and, where improvements are needed, to take the preliminary steps to obtain them. Philadelphia has grown in forty years from a city of 60,000 to one of 400,000 inhabitants, and that notwithstanding its foreign trade has fallen off. Good and cheap fuel, good and cheap water, good and cheap gas, good paving, and good drainage have contributed powerfully to produce this result. Clean streets, good walking, and handsome shops will make any city attractive both to citizens and strangers.

Without the labor of the mechanic no city could exist. Every great city is a monument to the glory of the mechanic arts. When standing in London, under the dome of St. Paul's, my heart thrilled as I read in letters of gold the noble inscription to the memory of the architect who rebuilt London after the great fire. "Underneath lies the body of Sir Christopher Wren, *the rebuilder of this church and city*, who lived nine y years not for himself, but for others.—Reader, if you seek his monument, look around you!"

I turned from the marble statues of the heroes of the sword, to think of him whose mission was not to destroy but to rebuild. Such examples strengthen us for the struggle with difficulty which all must encounter. We see that we have some thing more to labor for, than the wages of the day. We take up our burdens *cheerfully*, and press forward firmly and earnestly in our appointed places in the ranks of the grand army of civilization.

Starting in the eastern regions of the rising sun, it has marched westward for ages. Crossing the stormy Atlantic with the high souled Columbus, it commenced its conquests on our Western continent. When the young Washington crossed the barrier of the Allegheries and stood where we now stand, he saw stretched out before him the valley of the beautiful Ohio, the highway provided by nature for the entrance of future millions of freemen into the fertile regions of the West.

Pittsburgh has her own romance of history. Let any one read Washington's letter to his mother, written after the battle of Braddock's field, and see how defeat, instead of conquering, served to develope the greatness of his soul.

It is one of the greatest blessings that Heaven can vouchsafe to any man, to give him an unconquerable will to strive to do well; a will "not to be wearied, not to be deterred, not to be overcome." The weakness of humanity is such, that men falter, and fail, and fall far short, of what they would wish to do, and to obtain and to become. The golden vision fades into the dark reality, and we feel ready to lose all faith in the future. Then comes the time that tries the temper of the soul; whether we shall lie prostrate and strive no more to rise; or whether, like Antæus, we shall spring from the ground, strengthened by the contact with our mother earth. Happy is he that is able resolutely to turn his back upon the past, "letting the dead past bury its dead," and bearing with him no more of its burden, than those lessons of experience which may be useful in the future.

*Pittsburgh is the iron gate opened by nature, as the Eastern entrance to the happy valley of the West.*

*Of that valley, which is the most glorious amphitheatre on the face of the earth, for the future triumphs of civilization, this is the portal.*

Through this passage we are about to lay a first class iron railway, to serve for ages as the great central highway of the nation. Every piece of iron, to aids this enterprise, does more than serve himself:—he serves his city; he serves the state of which he is a citizen; and he serves the Union to which that State belongs.

The future destiny of Pittsburgh depends in great measure upon the completion of this undertaking. Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Pennsylvania are one in interest, and are, or ought to be, one in feeling. United they stand, divided they fall. Threatened with competition on the north and the south, and already deprived of much trade, by the railroads in Ohio leading to Lake Erie; we are both "driven by the fear of evil and attracted by the prospect of good." Our line is the shortest route from the great free states of the west to New York and Philadelphia. It does not bridge the Ohio river, nor in any way obstruct its navigation. Not a foot of any part of it will be subject to slaveholding legislation. All of our State rights will be free State rights, from the tide waters of the Atlantic to the Mississippi river, a distance of a thousand miles from east to west. Six railroads will compose the chain, of which your own "Ohio and Pennsylvania" road, 190 miles in length, will be the second link.

Pittsburgh is already a great city, and its destiny is to become a much greater one. When to its natural advantages are added those artificial ones which are now in progress, an immense increase of its population must take place. Thronged on a mountain of coal, and robed in a cloud of smoke, here we are destined to have a great manufacturing metropolis. What shall be the character of its people? This is a most important question, and its solution will depend very much upon the young men now beginning to take an active part upon the stage of life. Those fathers of the city, who still have a conspicuous share in its affairs, must soon cease to have it. They must quickly be gathered from works unto rewards. It is the course of nature, and a law from which nothing can exempt us.

"Time rolls its ceaseless course. The race of yore
Who danced our infancy upon their knee,
And told our marvelling childhood legends store,
Of their strange ventures, happed by land or sea;
How few all weak and wearied of their force,
How are they blotted from the things that be!
Wait, on the verge of dark eternity,
Like stranded wrecks, the tide returning hoarse,
To sweep them from our sight. Time rolls its ceaseless course."

Who then shall fill their vacant places? Which of you is preparing himself to fill an eminent place in the service of the city of which you are citizens?—for the greatest among you is he who shall most serve the others.

Now this is not to be done by being a noisy politician, nor by thrusting oneself forward into places which he is not fitted to fill. Opportunities come to those who are prepared to take advantage of them. Those who are unprepared they serve to make ridiculous. An ignorant man, placed in a post of high honor and responsibility, is apt to appear like a criminal in the pillory. He is not only apt to appear like one, but he is apt to be pelted like one, and not to be able to defend himself.

Lord Bacon says, "that a man who is young in years may be old in honors, if he has lost no time." The truth of this saying is exemplified in the history of that eminent statesman, after whom your city is named, and whose arms are graven on your city seal. William Pitt, "the pilot that weathered the storm," became minister of England when a very young man, and conducted her affairs with consummate ability in the midst of the greatest difficulties. Standing high in his integrity and seeking not to enrich himself, he resisted the blandishments of a court and the allurements of pleasure, and devoted his days and nights to the service of his country. Far be it from me to extenuate his errors, and I am no apologist for war; but I believe that, in the hands of Providence, he was an instrument, by whose energy, the flag of the ancient Anglo Saxon race, "the flag that braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze," was borne from being buried by banded nations in a sea saved from being buried by banded nations in a sea of blood. Whatever differences of opinion may exist as to Pitt's character, certain it is that your city bears the name of a man, who was one of the finest examples of youthful energy in modern times.

I have already alluded to the fact, that it was in your own immediate neighborhood, that the young Washington burst forth a bright star of the first magnitude before the admiring eyes of the American people.

His example of high patriotism and steadfast adherence to duty, is now worth more to our country, than all her mines of the precious metals.—His name has become the watchword of freedom throughout the world's wide sphere. And shall we, his fellow countrymen, blot from our memories his farewell advice, and consent to see torn, limb from limb, by any power, the living body of that glorious Union which he left us? Never will the people of the Keystone Commonwealth consent to the fall of that noble arch, which makes them citizens of the *United States*. Never will they consent to tear that star-spangled banner, which now floats from every mast, and is borne aloft, the emblem of our nationality, to the ends of the earth.

"Honor thy father and thy mother," is the first commandment with promise. We are bound to honor our native state;—would that we all loved her more—but while her western waters flow into the Gulf of Mexico, and her eastern waters into the Atlantic ocean, let us never consent to the disruption of the wide spread territory which lies spread out between them.

It may perhaps appear to some that I have, in this address, said too much in praise of physical improvement, and too little respecting the benefits derived from polite literature. But I have said what appeared to be proper for me to say and for you to hear. Of its many imperfections I am very sensible. It has been written in fragments, at intervals of time snatched from other pursuits, and subject to many interruptions.

Two points I have been anxious to impress upon you, the importance of acquiring *accurate* knowledge and of cultivating a taste for reading. Scientific and literary societies are established for these purposes. Science is accurate and classified knowledge, as contradistinguished from the crude theories, half knowledge, and taking for granted, which we so often meet with, and which but "lead to bewilder and dazzle to blind." Love of truth is the first requisite of a scientific man, and accuracy of observation is the second. The dark ages have passed away. Men of science no longer make a mystery of knowledge, but strive to make it clear to all who wish to learn. It is but the amateurs and the pretenders who do otherwise.

In polite literature, we need not fear that any one who has once acquired a taste for good books will ever be disposed to neglect it. "Age cannot wither it, nor custom stale its infinite variety." It furnishes an unfailing theme of conversation for the most delightful sort, and enables us to bring together the brilliant materials of the past, for the purpose of shedding lustre upon the present; as the sun, which has already sunk below the horizon, covers the clouds with more gorgeous dyes than he did in his meridian splendor. Do what we will, the poetry of earth is never dead within us, and the cultivation of a high, pure, and ennobling taste in literature is to be coveted as long as life may last.

Youth may have its peculiar pleasures, but "our days are like a flying shade," and the shadows of evening soon lengthen around us. Our mental acquisitions are out of the reach of the accidents of fortune, and may be enjoyed as long as the Divine Goodness grants us the blessing of a sound mind in a sound body. The healthy laborer sleeps sweetly on his hard bed, while the luxurious votary of pleasure tosses uneasily on his couch of down, and finds no rest. There is no greater fallacy than the vulgar notion that the possession of wealth can confer happiness. "Give me neither poverty nor riches," was the prayer of a man who knew what was best for him to pray for. Men may devote their days and nights to money making, and toil till they are bent with age, to accumulate fortunes for their children to squander, and they find it at last to be but vanity and vexation of spirit.

We should learn to measure the worth of our labors by their usefulness, but we should use the word usefulness in its largest signification. While life lasts we can never be stationary in a moral and intellectual point of view. We must go either forward or backward, and it is the sense of progress which should give us satisfaction. But "to scorn delights and live laborious days," requires self-denial; and so, although we acknowledge our duty, and sooth ourselves with the intention of doing it, we procrastinate its performance; and strive, but strive in vain, to content ourselves with putting off until to morrow what ought to be done to day.

"Unhappy he, who dock his work adjourn,
And till to morrow will his task delay:
That lazy morrow shall be time to day."

But is one day of ease so much to borrow?
Yes, sure; for yesterday was once to morrow.
That yesterday is gone and nothing gained,
And all thy fruitless days