The Pittsburgh Post.

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The Daily Post.

JAMES P. BARR,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS:—Daily, Five Dollars per year, strictly in advance. Weekly, Single subscriptions Two Dollars per year; in Clubs of five, One Dollar.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Arbitration Committee of the Board of Trade

For March and April.

WM. McCREERY, V. P. B. CAMPBELL,
ISAIAH DICKEY, B. PRESTON,
R. R. McELROY, WM. MEANS.

TO LETS for SALE at this office.

PITTSBURGH AS IT IS.

Shortcomings and Needed Reforms.

NUMBER NINE.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT—ITS WANT OF GOVERNMENT—ILLY DIRECTED EXERTIONS—FREQUENCY OF FALSE ALARMS, &c.

It is generally conceded that in no city in the United States are the firemen more heroic and energitic than in our own Iron City: indeed their courage is so great that it frequently amounts to recklessness of life and limb. We have known many instances in which our brave firemen have rushed into burning buildings, to enter which seemed to be almost certain destruction, when exposure of their persons could do little if any good, and the chances of their being buried under falling walls were greater than those of making a safe exit. All this is very praiseworthy, but there is no good reason why, in their excitement, they should so carelessly endanger lives, valuable to their families and to the community at large.

If the fire department of our city were perfectly organized and the officers selected for the purpose had a proper degree of control over the individual members the necessity and incentive for rushing into danger thus unheeded would be obviated, and if the operations of the department were better managed and more properly systematized our indefatigable firemen would work to much better advantage. Whether this can be done here, under the volunteer system, remains to be seen; if it cannot, then it is time we had a thoroughly organized, equipped and paid fire department.

No one who goes to a fire in this city fails to notice the alacrity and almost superhuman energy with which our firemen labor, often exhausting themselves so much as to be unfit for anything for days. But it is equally apparent that they often do too much work. Lacking the great essential of a governing head who can direct their exertions, control their motions and command obedience (which cannot be expected from volunteers) it is evident that the different companies must often work at cross purposes and thus, materially impair the value of their services. We have seen half a dozen streams of water played on a building so far consumed as to be utterly valueless, for half an hour, while adjoining buildings, in imminent danger of taking fire, were left without protection. Again, we have seen buildings, where a slight fire had been extinguished by buckets of water, before the arrival of the engines, literally deluged with water and entire stocks of goods destroyed, though the owners and occupants of the house vainly endeavored, (after informing them that the fire war out) to dissuade the firemen from playing. There has been a marked reform in this during the past few years, the organization being now much better than formerly, but there is room for much more improvement. The principal difficulty lies here: Our companies, being obliged to support their own apparatus and pay their own expenses, with only a small allowance of $400 per annum from the city) feel naturally independent and though united in a "Firemen's Association" are not disposed to yield obedience in every particular to the Chief Engineer and his assistants. They seem to be determined to work at a fire as they see proper or not at all, and consequently the orders of the Chief, when given, are frequently ignored, and, the individual members not being under pay, it becomes a matter of necessity to overlook acts of insubordination, as it would be unjust to saddle the company with the offence of one or more members by imposing the only possible penalty, expulsion from the Association. This state of affairs would seem to demonstrate the necessity of the organization of a paid fire department, every member of which should be amenable to the superior officer of his company and they to the head of the department. Then a command would be law, and disobedience or neglect of duty might be punished bya dismissal from the service, which, as the department is now organized, would be no hardship, the firemen generally receiving "more kicks than coppers," and too often more censure than thanks. We believe that with such an organization (even though the expense were quadrupled) the destruction of property by fire would be far less annually than at present.

There is another crying evil which demands attention here, viz: the frequency of false alarms, doing more, in our opinion, to weaken the efficiency of the fire department, than anything else. By the report of the Chief Engineer, at the last quarterly meeting of the Association, it appears that to twenty-five fires there were fifteen false alarms, and, without having kept a record of the number, we give it as our opinion that during the present quarter the proportion has been even greater. Scarcely a Saturday night passes but (the fire boys being anxious for a "run,") an alarm is raised, most generally without cause. Now, among those who observe the course of events, an alarm of fire on Saturday night is considered as a matter of course, and when there is really a fire it is difficult to arouse the citizens. The injurious effects of this custom are quite apparent, as if false alarms are allowed to become so frequent as of late, not only will the citizens disregard them, but the firemen, wearied of running continually at the first tap of the bell, to no purpose, will begin to neglect its call, and they will soon lose that promptitude of action which has characterized them, and the result will be a heavy loss of property, owing to tardiness, which might otherwise have been preserved.

There is an ordinance (see City Digest; p. 119; ch. XXVI, sec. 1) imposing a penalty of $4 for ringing any public bell, after sun-set, without authority; yet we only rememoer of one arrest, in three years, for raising a false alarm. A determination to enforce this provision, on the part of the city authorities, and a few examples, would soon prevent this frequent recurrence of false alarms. The enforcement of this clause should be demanded by the firemen and citizens generally.

We had intended making some reference to the necessity of a central fire alarm, recently broached in the Firemen's Association, but this, with some remarks upon the appropriations made by the city to fire companies and the force of engines we have, must form the subject of another article.

MARCH TERM OF THE COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS.—The March term of the Court of Quarter Sessions commenced yesterday morning at ten o'clock. The lists of grand and petit jurors were called over, and the former sworn and charged by Judge McClure, who pointed out their duties and made some suggestions relative to their power to find true bills when they have no information before them. The jury retired, and about one-fourth of the constables in the county made their returns of liquor-sellers. The court then adjourned until to day.

The following officers have been appointed for the term: Crier, Capt. Charles Roberts; Tipstaves, Robert Neillie, John W. Patterson, John C. Smith, Robert Hague, L. Mitchell, Wash. Swain, Jonathan Neely.

The number of names on the jail calender for this term is fifty-six. They are charged with the following offenses, some on two or more indictments: Larceny, 34; Selling liquor, 1; Malicious mischief, 1; Fornication and bastardy, 2; Surety of the peace, 7; Receiving stolen goods, 4; Highway robbery, 3; Passing counterfeit money, 2; Assault and battery, 10; Seduction, 1; Burglary, 1; Disorderly house, 8; Riot, 1; Assault and battery with intent to kill, 2; Murder, 1; Perjury, 1; Bigamy, 1.

Oil Operations.

A monster well was tested last week, situated in Dry Hollow, above Franklin, on the river. Oil was struck some time since, but a pump was put into it for the first time on Friday evening, and on Saturday morning forty barrels of oil were pumped in six hours with a horse power as a motive force. The machinery gave way, and the well since that time has been idle. The fortunate company, Messrs. Ayers, McKinney, Nicklin and others, will have an engine on the ground in a few days. From present indications this is one of the richest veins yet struck.

A great excitement has recently sprung up among land owners and others in the counties of Western New York—especially in Erie, Chautaqua and Niagara—on account of the discovery of deposits of oil in some localities, like those in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the indications that these underground oleaginous deposits exist all through that region of country. Extensive preparations are making to bore for oil and secure it if found, and the price of land is going up.

It is said that oil has been struck at Industry, Beaver county. There is also a good show in some wells just below the village. The shore of the Ohio river, from Rochester to Liverpool, is lined with derricks.

It is announced that Messrs. Morrison and Cummins, who have been sinking a well near Steubenville, have struck oil at a depth of twenty feet. They had been but eight days at work when their eyes were gladdened with a sight of the grease. They intend boring deeper, and are still at work.

A LUCKY PRISONER—PARDONED BY MISTAKE.—A good joke is current with respect to a pardon recently granted by Gov. Curtin. It seems that a worthy and influential German citizen, who felt an interest in a fellow countryman named Miller, sent to the Penitentiary not long since, for passing counterfeit money: visited the State capital, about a month ago, for the purpose of procuring a pardon for him. After a consultation with Gov. Curtin he came home with the assurance that the pardon would be sent on the following meantime. The papers in the application for a pardon in the case of a young man named Mitchell, confined in the Penitentiary for larceny, were also on file in Harrisburg, and the Governor, remembering his promise, but confounding the names, had the necessary papers for the pardon of Mitchell made out and forwarded at the time designated. Whether the Governor's promise to our military friend has been yet redeemed, we are not advised; if not, the other pardon should be forwarded at once, as Miller should not suffer through the Governor's bad memory, when it was the intention to pardon him. The pardon of Mitchell, though the result of a mistake, was well deserved, as since his release he has given every evidence of having become thoroughly reformed. So "all's well that ends well."

THE MANCHESTER PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY having expressed a determination to resume the running of cars on Sunday, the people of Allegheny (or at least a portion of them) have grown virtuously indignant and say they will make information against them. The probable result of this will be that Mayor Drum will impose the penalty and that the company will then appeal to Court, where the question is whether the fact that the line is a United States mail route will exempt them. The question is one in which many are concerned. Many conscientious people believe there is no harm in a poor man riding to church in a railway car, while his rich neighbor goes to church in his carriage; and others, equally as conscientious, think it wrong, or should be stopped because some people will use cars for going out of the city to seek unholy amusements. It is time the rights of these companies were defined.

DEATH FROM INTEMPERANCE.—Nancy Duffy, wife of Patrick Duffy, residing near the corner of Webster and Crawford streets, in the Sixth Ward, died from the effects of drunkenness, on Saturday evening. Her husband had procured a gallon of whisky and in company with three or four friends had prepared for a regular spree. At two o'clock Mrs. Duffy was so drunk that she had to be taken from the floor to the bed, and at six o'clock she was found dead when some member of the family went to wake her for supper. She was forty years of age, and the mother of five children.

THE LLOYDS opened to a fine audience at Concert Hall last evening and were cordially received, as was to be expected. The performance was good, as usual, and embraced even songs and jokes. A new and varied programme is offered for to-night and we advise all who love fun to be present as they can there enjoy themselves to their hearts content. But two more opportunities remain of hearing this excellent company and those who neglect them will regret it.

JOSEPH AND HIS BRETHREN was produced at the Theatre last evening for the first time, in excellent style, with new scenery, properties and decorations. A good audience was present. Miss Denin appeared in the principal character, Joseph, and was received in a manner which showed that her popularity had not suffered since her last visit. The management deserve credit for the admirable production of this play and we hope to see it draw well. It is on the bills again for this evening.

THE SUSPENDED BANKS.—A bill has been read in the Senate requiring the Auditor General to examine what banks have forfeited their charters by refusal to pay gold and silver, and report them to the Attorney General, who is instructed to proceed against them, and compel a forfeiture of their charters within twenty days, in accordance with the general banking act of 1850.

THE CANALS.—The Western Division of the Pennsylvania Canal is now in full operation, and on the Eastern Division the water is being let in. It will be ready for business to-day, when the whole line of canals from Havre De Grace to Wilkesbarre will be open. The repairs being made on the Juniata canals will prevent their opening before the first of April.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Sunday Dispatch* is now in the city. In the last number of that paper he is quite severe on the Y. M. C. A., but seems to have been well pleased in listening to a discourse delivered by Rev. E. M. Van Dusen, of St. Peters. The religious department of the *Dispatch* is full of interest, and deservedly, being admirably conducted.

BASE BALL.—The Allegheny Base Ball club have re-organized for the coming season and elected the following officers: President, J. M. Carr; Vice President, J. R. Brown; T. M. Blair, Secretary; R. Elion, Treasurer. Managers—Messrs. Blackstock, McBrier and Euer. As soon as the weather permits they promise to give one of their interesting games on the West Common, Allegheny.

NARROW ESCAPE.—On Tuesday morning last, as Mrs. Fisher of Blairsville was working about a fire she had built in the yard, her clothes happening to catch, she was almost immediately enveloped in flames. Her husband, fortunately, was close at hand, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames in time to save her from a horrible death.

LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.—The members of this Association met on Saturday, and elected the following officers for the year:—President—W. M. Shinn. Secretary—W. Bakewell. Treasurer—C. Hasbrouck. Directors—John Mellon, James Sterrett, J. L. Kuhn, M. W. Acheson, G. F. Gilmore, Thomas MacConnell.

FLOURING MILL BURNED.—The large flouring mill of Adam J. Saubrick, located at Blairsville, was entirely destroyed by fire one night last week. The loss is about $10,000—one third of which is covered by insurance.—The fire was accidental.

THE sale of splendid Velvet, Brussels and Ingrain Venitian carpets comes off this day, at McCartney's auction rooms, at 3 o'clock.

FOR KANSAS.—St. Clair Lodge, I. O. O. F., Temperanceville, has contributed $10 to the Kansas relief fund, through Mayor Wilson.

Regular Meeting of Councils.

The City Councils held their regular monthly meeting last evening in their chambers.

In Select Council, President McAuley in the chair, a petition of Thomas Dugan, of the Third Ward, asking a reduction in business tax, was referred to Finance Committee, with power to act.

A petition for water pipes on Forbes street, between Van Buran and Main streets, was referred to Water Committee, with instructions to have the work done, provided the cost does not exceed $160.

A petition from Matthew Tibby, Captain of the Independence Fire company, asking the aid of Councils in procuring a steam fire engine as recommended by the Fireman's Association, was referred to the committee on Fire Engines and hose.

A petition from Messrs. Woodside and Parry, of the Fifth Ward, asking to be exempted from the operation of the ordinance relative to coal and carbon oil refineries, as their refinery is isolated and well secured and will be made more so if desired. Referred to Water Committee, with instructions to include the refineries of Messrs. Kier and Bell, in the same Ward, and report. In C. C. laid on the table.

Mr. Ward, a petition for the paving of Washington street from Webster to Liberty, Townsend, between Clark and Decatur and Clark, between Logan and Chatham. Referred to Street Committee.

Mr. McCarthy, from the committe on wooden buildings, verbally reported that the committee had taken no action relative to wooden buildings on Pennsylvania Avenue. Report accepted.

The committee on Fire Engines and Hose reported adversely to supplying the Fairmount Fire Company with hose, believing they have enough. Report accepted.

The committee on appeals from city assessments reported adversely to the petition of Geo Ogden, Secretary of the North American Oil Company. Report accepted.

Mr. McAuley offered the following (Mr. Berger in the chair) which were read three times and passed:

WHEREAS, It is rumored that an act has passed the House of Representatives of this Commonwealth, chartering a company and authorizing the same to construct a railway from the Monongahela bridge, along Water street to Liberty, through the Fifth and Ninth Wards of this city, with the privilege of carrying on said railroad both freight and passengers, and

WHEREAS, Our city is already sufficiently supplied with passenger railways, and in the opinion of these Councils Water and Liberty streets, above all others should be kept clear of them, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Select and Common Councils of the city of Pittsburgh, that our Senators, Hons. J. P. Penney and E. H. Irish, be and they are hereby most earnestly requested to protest against the charter above referred to and use every honorable means to prevent its passage through the Senate.

Resolved, That the President of Common Councils be requested to forward to Messrs. Penney and Irish copies of the foregoing preamble and resolutions, and request them to have the same read in the Senate.

Mr. Kincaid presented some petitions for extensions of water pipes, which were referred to the Water Committee.

In all business not otherwise noted C. C. concurred.

Adjourned.

In Common Council, Mr. M'Cune presiding, in the absence of the President, the following business was transacted.

The minutes of all the meetings since the last regular meeting, were read and adopted.

A communication from the Controller was read, with a resolution authorizing that officer to certify a warrant on Appropriation No. 19, (sinking fund) for $500 in favor of Daniel Armstrong, Esq., Prothonotary of Allegheny county, for costs on sundry suits instituted for the collection of the Grading and Paving assessments. Also one authorizing a warrant on Appropriation No. 15, (loans due and falling due) for $116 75, in favor of Isaac Morely for a regular order of the city. Communications filed and resolution read three times and passed. S. C. non concurred in the resolution relative to Mr. Armstrong's bill, which was referred to the City Solicitor and Finance Committee to examine and report. The other resolution was concurred in.

Petitions of H. P. Fenton and Spencer & Garrard, for reduction of business tax, were referred to Finance Committee.

Another communication from the City Controller, containing a statement of all the real and personal property of the city, and the funded debt thereof up to Feb 1, 1861, was ordered to be published in the papers authorized to do the city printing. S. C. non-concurred and ordered to be filed.

The report of the special committee to audit the city accounts for the year prior to Jan'y 1st, 1861, was also ordered to be printed.

A resolution of thanks to Aaron Floyd, Esq. for services for the city in the recent suit of Mumm & Barton vs. City of Pittsburgh, was passed.

The ordinance authorizing the construction of a public sewer from the southern terminus of the St. Clair st. sewer along Market street, from the south side of the Diamond, was read three times and passed. In S. C. amended by directing the City Regulator to give public notice through the papers authorized to do the city printing.

A resolution directing the Street Commissioners to have all broken gratings upon street pavements repaired at expense of property holders, was read three times and passed.

An ordinance reducing all dray, one-horse cart and wagon licences to $7 50 was laid upon the table, by a vote of thirteen yeas to eight nays.

A resolution instructing the Street Committee to withold the letting of the grading and paving of Crawford street until next regular meting of Councils, was passed.

In all the action of Common Council not otherwise noted, Select Council concurred.

Adjourned.

MASONIC HALL CONCERT ROOM.—Messrs. Matthews & Co., the present lessees of Masonic Hall, have been untiring in their exertions and spared no expense in rendering it an attractive place of amusement. Thus far their efforts have been most successful, as, taking into consideration the stringent times and general apathy concerning amusements, they have drawn excellent houses. Indeed, cheap amusements will be sought after for a time; and as those competent to judge inform us that an excellent entertainment is offered at Masonic Hall, at the popular figures of ten and fifteen cents, the new establishment must do a good business. On Saturday nights, especially, the hall is crowded; and the afternoon entertainments, on Saturdays, for ladies and children, are also well attended. The company numbers fifteen performers, some females, all good in their line. The enterprise deserves the patronage of all who seek such amusement as is offered at Masonic Hall.

PERIODICALS.—Messrs. Hunt & Miner send us the March number (quarterly) of the "Cosmopolitan Art Journal." It is full, as usual of excellent reading matter and engravings, the finest being entitled "Filial Solicitude." This book, for one year, is worth the price of subscription aside from the works of art in which subscribers have a chance. Also the Eclectic Magazine of Foreign Literature for April, a capital monthly, containing some fine engravings and the cream of the foreign magazines. Also number four of Beadle's Dime Biographical Library—a history of Mad Anthony Wayne. Messrs. Hunt & Miner have all the current literature of the day.

S. F. VON BONHORST, Esq., the newly appointed Postmaster has received a notification of his appointment. When his official bonds are signed they will be returned and his commission, signed by the President and Postmaster General, will be sent on. Mr. Von Bonhorst will assume the duties of his new position on Monday next.

RELIGIOUS.—The Rev. J. M'K. Reilly, formerly pastor of Christ Church, in this city, has been appointed pastor of Exeter street Church, Baltimore.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. C. Sill, No. 246 Penn street, attends to all branches of the dental profession.

SETTLED.—The case of affiliation preferred by Miss Mary Jane Crawford against Robert Thompson, was amicably settled by a wedding.

DRS. STEBBINS & MUNSON, dentists, have formed a partnership and opened an office at 105 Fifth street, second door below the Cathedral. See card.

JOSEPH MEYER. ANTHONY MEYER.

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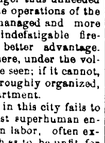

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OFFICE OF THE
PITTSBURGH, FT. WAYNE & CHICAGO R. R. CO.,
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.
PITTSBURGH, Feb. 23, 1861.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF 15 DIRECTORS OF THE PITTSBURGH, FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO RAILROAD COMPANY, to serve the ensuing year, will be held at the BOARD OF TRADE ROOMS, in the City of Pittsburgh, on WEDNESDAY the 27th day of March next, at 9 A. M. The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to the 27th of March—both inclusive, and the holders of Stock in the Ohio and Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, and Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad Companies, which has not been converted into Stock of the new Company, at that time, will not be entitled to vote at said election.

By order of the President.
AUGUSTUS BRADLEY,
fe26:td27 march Secretary.

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY TELEGRAPH.

THE EVACUATION OF FORT SUMTER.

Affairs at Fort Sumter---A Peace Policy Indicated.

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS.

Latest From Mexico--Scarcity of Provisions.

Senate Proceedings.

Report of the Committee of the Clergy on the Kansas Destitution.

OFFCE-SEEKERS INCREASING--HDAVY SEIZURE OF COUNTERFEIT MONEY.

Death of Hon. G. W. Scranton.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 25—*Senate*.—On motion of Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, his resolution for the election of Sergeant-at-Arms and Doorkeeper was laid over for the present.

On motion of Mr. Powell, of Kentucky, it was *Resolved*, That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interests, to communicate the dispatches from Major Anderson to the War Department during the time that he has been in command of Fort Sumpter.

Mr. Howe, of Wisconsin, resumed his speech in opposition to Mr. Douglas' resolution calling for information relative to the Southern forts.

Mr. Douglas, of Illinois, replied. He said that if the War Department does not possess the information which the resolution he had offered calls for, no harm could result from an answer to that effect. If the information has been imparted to the Confederate States, and our enemies are in possession of it, there would be no harm in letting our friends have it. But he apprehended that the furnishing of this information would tend to allay the public excitement. He supposed there was no danger to Fort Sumpter, as he understood that the order had been given for its evacuation. But the question he desired to get at was whether Fort Pickens was to be held merely as a cause of irritation—as a thorn festering in the finger and producing disease. If it was not national but local in its character, it ought to be surrendered to those who hold the harbor. It ought not to be retained by the federal government unless it was designed as the basis of an opposition against the seceded states. He wanted to find out whether we were to have peace or war. He believed, however, the policy of the Administration to be peace. The Senator from Wisconsin had said that his (Douglas') remarks were calculated to belittle the Administration, but he had only said there is no power in the government to collect the revenue and blockade the ports of the seceded states, and that the President cannot use military force excepting in aid of the civil authorities. Hence, the threat to do either of these things without legal authority was a threat to violate the Constitution and laws of the United States. Was it wise to delude the people into a belief that the Administration is going to do what the Constitution and the laws do not permit?

Mr. Howe (interrupting) said the Senator, instead of summoning the representatives of the people to provide the necessary means for collecting the revenue, summoned the government to abandon any attempt to collect it.

Mr. Douglas replied that during the last session, when the Republicans were rushing through a bill to destroy the revenue he endeavored to prevent it, but they would not listen to the warning, and he apprehended there would be an extra session to undo what was then recklessly and unconsciously done.

Mr. Breckinridge wished to reply to Mr. Douglas, but a motion to go into executive session prevailed. The Senate subsequently adjourned.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The number of office-seekers in Washington seems to be increasing. The Departments continue to be thronged with them, much to the interruption of the business of the bureaus. The rush will be numerous in the civil branches of the government, and take place as soon as they can be prepared for official action. This assurance is repeatedly given to the impatient expectants. The applications by letter number from four to five hundred daily. Wm. Jayne, of Illinois, has been nominated for Governor of Dakotah.

Detective Reese, of this city, has seized, and retains by order of the court, bogus and counterfeit notes on twenty-seven banks, amounting to two hundred thousand dollars, with plates and dies for their manufacture. The larger packages contain the following: 30,000 counterfeits on the Bank of Augusta, Me.; 50,000 unsigned counterfeits on the State bank of Ohio; 30,000 bogus notes on the Columbia bank of Washington; 30,000 counterfeits on the Farmers' and Mechanics' bank of Virginia, and 600 of seven denominations, all counterfeits of the Camden bank, New Jersey, and four plates on the same bank. There are also dies of the denomination of ten cents, one dollar and two dollar and a half gold pieces.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The Charleston *Courrier*, of Friday, says that Surgeon Fox of the U. S. Navy, had arrived with orders from Washington to visit and report in relation to the condition of Fort Sumter. He was permitted to visit Major Anderson, on condition of being accompanied by Captain Hartstein. The *Courier* also reports the arrival of Mr. Holmes, formerly a member of Congress from South Carolina. He says that before he left Washington, Mr. Seward desired him so tell the people of Charleston, that he was for a peaceful settlement, and would do everything in his power for an amicable adjustment of affairs. Mr. Holmes also reports that Gen. Scott gave similar assurances, and that the President favors the policy, and that a majority of the Cabinet desire a withdrawal of the troops from Fort Pickens as well as FortSumter.

INDEPENDENCE, March 24.—The New Mexican mail with dates to the 11th instant arrived to-day, being only thirteen days out. Capt. Halloway, Lt. Boice and Lt. Kelly of the U. S. A., came through as passengers. Lieut. Kelly has resigned his commission, and is en route for Louisiana to join the Southern Confederacy.

Capt. Holloway reports an abundance of stores for the army in New Mexico, with the exception of flour, which is very scarce. There is great scarcity of provisions among the people of New Mexico, and some suffering is anticipated. Col. Loring, who takes command of the department of New Mexico, was met at Fort Wise getting along very well.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—A special dispatch to the *Herald* says: There has been some change in the programme about Fort Sumter since Col Lamon left. I am inclined to believe that the evacuation is to be constitutional; that is, that Col. Lamon is authorized to examine the provisions now in that fort, and if he is satisfied there is not a sufficient supply to sustain the troops now in the fort, then to deliver the President's orders to Major Anderson. I have no official authority for this declaration, but circumstantial evidence leads to such a conclusion.

SCRANTON, Pa., March 24.—The Hon. G. W. Scranton, member of Congress from this district, died at his residence here, to-day.

ATCHISON, March 23.—The special committee of the Kansas Conference of the M. E. Church, to whom was referred the question of the drouth and destitution in Kansas, have made a report which was unanimously adopted. They say: "We have been careful to gain all the information necessary to the formation of a correct opinion from ministers representing all parts of the State, and declare

Firstly, that in October last there were not provisions enough in the State, nor means to procure them with, to preserve more than one-half of the people from starvation.

Secondly, notwithstanding all the aid that has been afforded us, the most of our population have had but little for their sustenance except corn-bread, with a little meat a part of the time.

Thirdly, from all accounts, we have no doubt that the various statements of facts in regard to our condition, made by Messrs. Pomeroy, Maher and Hyatt, have been prompted by the purest motives, and are substantially correct, and that we tender them our special thanks.

Fourthly, we have reason to believe that all counter statments, emanating from the press or other sources, have been in ignorance of the facts, or through some interested motives.

Fifthly, that in our judgment the donations of our friends in the East have, in most every instance, reached their destined object.

Sixthly, we desire in this formal manner to express our heartfelt thanks to all our kind donors, and assure them that their combined liberality has saved the lives of thousands, and prevented an untold amount of suffering.

Seventhly. It is now several months till harvest, and we have but little in store, and we pray our friends not to stay their hands till we shall be able to realize something from our own resources.

The report is signed by Messrs. Brooks, Moore, Tenny, Hann, Stukeman and Paulson, Committee.

ST. LOUIS, March 25.—The unconditional Convention, to-day, nominated John How for Mayor. Resolutions were adopted declaring the present depressed financial condition of the country the result of the disunion movement, and in favor of the present economical system of the city administration.

A special dispatch to the *Democrat* announces the passage of the Metropolitan police bill in the House, by 50 against 32, and doubtless it has already received the signature of the Governor.

NEW YORK, March 25.—A daring attempt to rob the New York Exchange Bank was discovered this morning. The burglars had made an excavation leading to the bank to a depth of seventy feet. Daylight surprised them before they had opened the safe and they obtained only a thousand dollars, which was in a tin box on the safe. The daring fellows succeeded in making their escape, although a man has since been arrested on suspicion of having been engaged in the robbery.

AUGUSTA, GA., March 25.—The State Convention adjourned on Saturday night, after having adopted a State Constitution which is to be ratified or rejected by the people at an election to be held in July next. Despatches from Montgomery report nothing new there. It is generally believed at Charleston that Major Anderson will evacuate Fort Sumter on Wednesday next. The Confederate troops from different points at the South are concentrating at Pensacola.

CHARLESTON, March 25.—Col. Lamon, the U. S. Commissioner to Maj. Anderson had an interview this morning with Gov. Pickens and Gen. Beauregard. He then left for Fort Sumter in company with Col. Duryee. The opinion is prevalent that Maj. Anderson will evacuate Fort Sumter on Wednesday. Of the truth of this, however, time only can determine.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Benjamin E. Isherwood, of New York, has been appointed Engineer-in-Chief of the Navy, vice Mr. Archibald, resigned. Henry R. Woodbridge, of Vermont, has been appointed Paymaster of the Navy.

The Cabinet is in session to-day on appointments to fill vacancies, which it is necessary the Senate should act on previous to its adjournment, which will take place probably on Wednesday.

NEW YORK, March 25.—The steamer Champion has arrived from Aspinwall with the California mails of the 1st inst. Her news has been anticipated by Pony Express, and her specie and passenger list already published. The revolutionists had gained several successes in New Grenada, including the capture of a government flotilla on the Magdalena river.

NEW YORK, March 25.—The steamer Bienville, which arrived from Havana on Saturday, is under the surveillance of the Custom house authorities, not having a proper clearance under the coastwise trade act. Both the vessel and her cargo are liable to forfeiture.

BOSTON, March 25.—The ship John Land, which has arrived at Holmes Hole from Manilla, has seventy men on board who were taken from one English and two American ships during the recent storm on the coast.—No particulars have been received.

BOSTON, March 25.—The steamship Canada from Liverpool, via Halifax, arrived here this morning. Her mails were dispatched by the morning train, and will be due in Philadelphia to-night.

PORTLAND, March 25.—The steamship Bohemian from Liverpool, arrived here at midnight. Her advices have been anticipated.

NEW YORK, March 25.—The U. S. steamer Supanac, arrived at Valparaiso on February 17th.

COMMERCIAL.

Stage of Water.

Five feet three inches water in the channel.

PITTSBURGH MARKETS.

Reported Expressly for the Daily Morning Post.

PITTSBURGH, March 25, 1861.

Flour...No change. We note sales of 723 bbls, in lots, at $4.90@5.00 Spring Wheat Extra; Extra family, $5.25@5.50; Fancy $5.75. Winter Wheat, Extra, $5.25@5.31; Extra Family $5.75@5.80; Fancy, $6.00@6.25.

Grain...Sales 200 bush Rye from store at 65c. 110 bush Corn at 44c; 110 do Oats at 26c.

Hay...Sales 6 loads from scales at $9@9.50 per ton.

Sugar...Sales 21 hhds N. O. at 6¾@7¾c ⅌ lb.

Molasses...Sales 62 bbls. N. O., at 30@37½ ⅌ gal.

Coffee...Sales 45 sacks Rio at 14¼@14¾c ⅌ lb.

Cheese...Sales 56 boxes W. R. at 9½@10c ⅌ lb.

Seed...Sales 26 bush Clover at $4.20.

Oil...Sales 18 bbls Lard No. 1 at 89c per gal.

Butter...Sales 6 bbls Roll at 14@15c ⅌ lb.

Eggs...Sales of 8 bbls packed at 10¾@16½c ⅌ doz.

Beans...Sales 28 bush Small White at 87c.

Apples...Sales 20 bbls. good at $2.50@2.25.

Whisky...Sales of 83 bbls Rectified at 17@18c ⅌ gal.

Executor's Notices.

Notice.

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION upon the Estate of JOHN BRYAR, dec'd, late of the First Ward, City of Pittsburgh, having been granted to the undersigned, persons knowing themselves indebted to said Estate, will make immediate payment and those having claims will present them for settlement at the store No. 155 Liberty street, to

ELIZA BRYAR,
or HENRY W. BEAUMONT,
fe20:6tw Administrators

Executor's Notice.

THE UNDERSIGNED EXECUTOR OF the Estate of JONAS TODD, late of Findley town ship, Allegheny County, dec'd, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said Estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same, to present them, duly authenticated, for settlement to the undersigned, at the late residence of the dec'd, on MONDAY, the 11th day of March next, ensuing.

JAMES POLLOCK, Executor.
January 22, 1861. ja24:td6wF

Executor's Notice.

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY ON THE Estate of JOSEPH HOLEMAN, deceased, late of Franklin township, Allegheny county, Pa. Has been granted by the Register of said County, to the undersigned. All persons interested will take notice, and present their claims properly authenticated for adjustment, and those knowing themselves