The Daily Post.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Terms—Daily, Six Dollars per year, strictly in advance. Weekly, Single subscriptions, One Dollar per year.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY

FRIDAY MORNING.....DEC. 27.

CITY MATTERS.

KILLED BY A TRAIN OF CARS.—About half past eleven o'clock on Tuesday night a man (then unknown) was knocked down by the tender of a locomotive attached to a train of Pittsburgh & Cleveland stock cars, which were being taken to the outer depot of the Pennsylvania Railroad. He was seen upon the track, on Liberty street, near the Rush House, as the train rounded the curve from the Penn street depot.—The engineer whistled down brakes and stopped the engine, but not in time to prevent the man from being struck by the tender and knocked down. The brakeblock struck him on the neck and side of the head and pushed him along, about half the length of the engine, preventing the wheel from going over him. An inquest was held, and the jury found a verdict in accordance with the facts, but were unable to ascertain who deceased was. His body was removed to Devore's undertaker shop, where it was yesterday identified as that of Louis Zack, a German twenty two years old, engaged as a baker at Miersch's confectionery store, St. Clair street. He went to the Fifth Ward about ten o'clock to distribute some presents and, not returning on Christmas Day, search was made for him, resulting in the identification of the body, which was yesterday interred.

Christmas Day.

The manner in which the "Feast of the Nativity" was observed in this city will go far to dispel the belief that we are, as croakers say, in the midst of "hard times." Our storekeepers, anticipating slow sale for fancy goods, had been extremely cautious in purchasing their stocks, yet they all agree in saying that their sales were larger than they have been for years at this season. And this must be true, as the good old custom of giving presents to friends was generally followed and young and old where made happy to a great extent.

The day was clear, bright and not too cold, and from d wn till dark the streets were full. We have never seen as many persons collected on Wood and Fifth streets; nor a crowd more easily gathered by excitement. Yet there was little disorder and less than the usual holiday proportion of drunken men.

The toy, book, fancy, jewelry and confectionery establishments, did, as we have intimated, an immense business and the restaurants and eating saloons were crowded nearly all day.

The Theatre was comfortably filled in the afternoon and entirely crowded every night. The performances and musical pieces were entirely new, received with the applause which pleased. Other places of amusement were also liberally patronized, including the mad with the circus and "sell and sell in the line of business were well satisfied with the day's receipts.

Those religiously disposed went to churches in the morning, the places of worship being open during the rest of the day and evening to recreation.

Altogether the day was a merry one.—Many Christmas dinners were hugely enjoyed, and we hope our readers all fared well. We wish them one and all many returns of so happy a day.

Fire in Manchester—shocking Casualty.

About eleven o'clock on Tuesday night an unfinished frame house on Chartiers street, Manchester, owned by a brakeman in the employ of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad, named Lichtenthaller, took fire and was partly burned and partly pulled down to save the adjoining buildings. Mr. Robert C. Caughey, whose parents reside in the next house to the one burned, remained, with a few neighbors, to see that the fire was completely extinguished. While passing in the lot, the chimney, which had been seen to shake several times while the building was being torn down, suddenly fell towards Mr. C's house, catching him in the fall, crushing his head and causing his death soon afterwards. Mr. Caughey had long been a resident of Manchester, was about thirty years of age, unmarried, and universally esteemed for his fine social qualities, integrity and business capacity. He was employed as book-keeper at the banking house of Hanna, Hart & Co., in which his brother, Mr. C. P. Caughey, is a partner. Cut short in a career of usefulness his loss will be deeply regretted by a large circle of friends. An inquest was held on Wednesday, the jury finding a verd ct in accordance with the facts, and the funeral took place yesterday.

COMMISSION OF LUNACY.—David Reed, Esq., appointed by the Court of Common Pleas a Commissioner to inquire into the sanity of John Diller, Esq., an old and wealthy resident of Peebles township, yesterday morning empannelled a jury *de limutus inquirendo* and proceeded to an investigation, Messrs. Wade and Slagle appearing for the complainant, (his wife), and J hn H. Hampton, Esq., for the defendant. It is alleged by the complainant that, although rational on ordinary matters, Mr. D. is afflicted with monomania in money matters, but it evident when asked to spend the smallest trifle for his family, who were obliged to leave him, under articles of separation, some five years since. The defendant's counsel will endeavor to prove him of sound mind in all respects. The case will occupy two or three days, but as it would be manifestly improper to give an testimony to the public, we shall only give t result of the inquiry when concluded

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT.—On Tuesday afternoon a colored man named Jas. Clear was assailed, at the c rner of Webster and Fulton streets, Sixth Ward, by Dan l Coffee and William Johnston, also colored. The three were scuffling in sport, when Coffee became enraged, and seizing a boulder, threw it at Clear, striking him on the side of the head and felling him to the ground Johnston then jumped upon him, and otherwise abused him, while in a prostrate position. Clear was insensible for about half an hour, and for a time was thought to be dead. His injuries, however, are not dangerous, and the arrests were made Coffee was recently a servant with Capt. H Lowe, of the 102d Pennsylvania Regiment.

LAKE FORTIFICATIONS.—We hear that agents of the Government are about examining the vicinity of Erie with reference to Lake defences, and that the Governor of this State has gone to Washington, to request that all troops now raising and to be raised be allowe to remain in the State for home protection. Included in this request, we also learn, is the 111th regiment, Col. Schlaudecker, now encamped near Erie.

MILITARY IN THE CITY.—Lieut. John Cassell, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, was in the city on a flying visit yesterday and left last night for Fortress Monroe, where his regiment is stationed. Captain Hamlet Lowe of the 102d Pennsylvania regiment, Colonel Rowley, is at home on a furlough, being in bad health. Lieut. A. P. McKee, detailed as ordnance officer by General Patterson, recently arrived home from Baltimore, where he has been detained by official duties since the disbanding of the three months' regiments. He will again enter the service.

THE CRIVELLI CONCERT LAST EVENING.—Lafayette Hall was well filled last night by a fashionable and critical audience, two thirds of whom were, we venture to say, sadly disappointed, if they expected to hear vocalization of the first order. Mad. Crivelli should not put forth any pretensions as a prima donna, as she has a very weak voice and but little musical talent. Evidently the mantle of the mother (Mad. D'Angri) has not fallen upon her daughter. Her singing during the first part, while we remained, excited no enthusiasm and she was not once encored. The same is true of the male artistes; Sig. Garibaldi has a good voice, but its cultivation has been neglected and he is but a second or third rate singer; Sig. Ardavani is better, but he falls far behind Brig oli and many others. Mr. Wolowski's performance on the piano was creditable and the full tones of the Steinway grand (furnished by Messrs. Keber & Bro.) were the most pleasing part of the entertainment. The concert will not be repeated.

THE Conference of the Central Literary Union of Western Pennsylvania will be convened as a special meeting on this (Friday) evening, at Milton Hall, (High School buildings) at 8 o'clock, P. M.—Punctual attendance is earnestly requested.

By order,
HALL PATTERSON, Sec'y.

RAILROAD DISPATCHER KILLED.—A sad accident occurred at Huntingdon one day last week, resulting in the death of David M Confer, dispatcher for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at that point. It appears that he was engaged in couplin a pair of cars, and, while standing between them, was caught between the bumpers, and injured to such an extent that, some two hours afterwards, he died. Mr. Confer was a sober, industrious and energetic business man, and, during the four or five years he resided in Huntingdon endeared himself to a large circle of friends and acquaintances He leaves a wife and seven small children, the youngest only a week or two old, to mourn his unexpected death.

PETROLEUM BOMB.—The Buffalo *Express* has an account of the fire bomb shell invented by Mr. M. F. Trowbridge, of Meadville, and says that the government has ordered a trial of this shell to be made by the officers of the Michigan at Erie and, in case they pronounce a favorable verdict upon it, will order an extensive manufacture of them.

BELL FOR ST. PETER'S.—A bell, cast in New York for S. Peter's Episcopal church, (here, Rev. M. Van Deusen) has arrived in the city and is now in front of the church on Grant street. It weighs about 2,600 pounds and from its position can be heard over the greater part of the city.

THE Criminal Court was engaged in trying small cases yesterday. The most important was one against a man named Henry [illegible] for [illegible] Verdict not made out and the defendant was acquitted.

MR GRAU, manager of the New York Academy of Music, arrived in the city yesterday and [illegible] for the coming season, making preparations for the grand operatic concert on next Thursday evening. An entertainment of rare excellence may be expected, as all the artistes are good in their respective departments and have attained just celebrity in the musical world.

"ALLADIN or the Wonderful Lamp," and the pantomime of the "Night Owl" attracted a fair audience to the Theatre last night. The same bill is announced for repetition this evening

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2D EDITION.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

Last Night's News up to Two O'clock.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON CITY, December 26.—HOUSE.—The journal of Tuesday was read but no business transacted, there being evidently no quorum present. The House stands adjourned till Monday.

SENATE.—On motion of Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, it was agreed that when the Senate adjourn to-day, it be till Monday next, and when it meets on that day, it adjourn to next Thursday.

Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, presented the petition of citizens of Iowa in favor of the introduction of the homœopathic system practiced in the army

Mr. Sumner, of Mass., and Mr. Trumbull, of Illinois presented petitions for the emancipation of slaves, under the war power of the government.

Several petitions were presented for the location of a National Armory at Rock Island

Mr. Hale offered a resolution that the Pres dent be requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to transmit copies of all dispatches which have passed between this government and that of Great Britain, relative to the seizure of Mason and Slidell. He said the dispatches could be communicated either in open or executive session, as may be deemed proper.

Mr. Sumner, of Mass., objected to the resolution.

Mr. Hale said he had understood from the public press, and from those who held more intimate acquaintance with the Administration than himself, that for three or four days past this Cabinet has had under consideration a proposition fraught with more evil to the country than anything that has yet marked its history, and that was the surrender of Mason and Slidell to Great Britain. By this we would yield all we had gained in the revolution, and be humiliated to the condition of a second rate power. No man would go farther than himself for peace, but he would not submit to national disgrace and dishonor to obtain such peace. He would favor the arbitration of another power, but the demand had been made by Great Britain for the surrender of Mason and Slidell, war should be declared at once. He would make all honorable concessions for peace, but a peace involving such surrender would be infinitely worse than war. His friend from Indiana had remarked this morning that his State had now 60,000 men in the field and would double it, if necessary, to maintain the national honor. But if this Senate should go home after such surrender and have an election, it would be the last election in [illegible] country. He regarded it much as if England as a mere pretence for war. She was determined to humiliate us first and fight us afterwards. Let our citizens and influence be polled and burned, but let our national honor be preserved. France the first said, after the battle of Pavia, that all was lost but honor. He would say that the Administration might run the risk of [illegible] our national honor Thousands would yet come to the front to defend it. If the surrender was made the Administration would be met with such a storm in the rear that it would be hurled from power. If we had war with England it would be for the same cause that sent our King to the block and another to exile over the world, and one that would appeal to men wherever the English language was spoken. He believed to, that if Napoleon had side-tracked more than another, it was to wipe out the stain on the French arms at Waterloo.—All over Canada there were thousands of Irishmen who would rush to arms to maintain such a course. Our people was our great strength and if war must come, we would say let it come, and the issue be as we were the instruments in it. He [illegible] work out its own cause

Mr. Sumner, of Mass., said the Senator has made a speech—a war speech it might be termed. For himself, he would rather consider this grave and important question when presented in a practical form.—The Senator has treated the whole matter on a hypothesis. He had said that Great Britain had made an arrogant demand of this government. How did the Senator know this? Or the Senator or the Country? He, Mr Sumner, did not know it. The Senator had said he would favor an arbitration. How did he know but what the administration had considered that? The Senator was too swift in his decided that? His own behalf was that the difficulty would be honorably and amicably adjusted. It was in safe hands and it would be better for the Senate to reserve themselves for facts and not to act upon a hypothetical case

The resolution of Mr. Hale was then laid over under the rule.

Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, gave notice that he should introduce a bill confiscating every species of property of all persons who had any connection with the Southern rebellion, to either civil and military or naval capacity.

Mr Harlan, of Iowa, introduced a bill for establishing provisional governments in all the seceded States

Referred.

Mr. Howe, of Wisconsin, introduced a bill amending the fugitive slave act.

The Senate then adjourned till Monday.

Arrival of the Baltic.

NEW YORK, December 26.—The steamship Baltic arrived to day from Fort Pickens, where she landed the 76th New York regiment.

She left Fort Pickens on the 19th and Key West on the 22d

The United States frigate Niagara was at Fort Pickens.

The gun boat Wissahicken left on the 17th for Ship Island.

The steamer Richmond left Key West on the 21st for New York to repair her machinery.

Matters at Fort Pickens were unchanged.

Deserters from the rebel forces represent that great distress and discontent prevails among the troops.

The United States gun boat Iroquois, the pirate Sumter blockaded in the port of Cienfuegos.

The United States gun boat Flambeau was at the port of Nassau, N P. where the privateer Isabel was in harbor.

Arrival of the Europa.

BOSTON, Dec 26.—The steamship Europa stopped at Fort Warren yesterday, and it is rumored, with some appearance of truth, that Mason and Slidell were put on board. The authorities at the fort refuse to say anything about the matter.

LATER.—The report is now believed to be incorrect. It arose from the Europa stopping to discharge her pilot.

Arrival of the Arago.

NEW YORK, Dec 26.—The steamship Arago from Havre and Southampton arrived at half past 5 o'clock this evening. She brought full files of papers but no mails. Her advices have been anticipated by the Niagara at Halifax.

General Scott is among the Arago's passengers.

Heavy Cannonading.

STONINGTON, Conn., Dec. 26.—A heavy cannonading has been heard all day in the direction of Gainer's Bay.

A messenger from Fisher's Island reports a mysterious light last night in the vicinity.

State of Pennsylvania Coast Defences

HARRISBURG, Dec. 26.—Gov. Curtin returned from New York yesterday and will leave for Washington to-morrow for the purpose of consulting with the national government upon the military affairs of the State generally, but more particularly upon the best means of defending Pennsylvania from a foreign enemy.

The Governor some time since wrote to J. G Totten, Chief of the Engineer's Department at Washington, requesting early information respecting the present state of the defence of the river Delaware and the harbor of Erie

The reply is most satisfactory and in substance is as follows:

Fort Delaware is amounting to 135 large guns, besides 20 flanking 24-pounder howitzers.

Fort Mifflin is also ready for its entire Armament, consisting of 47 large guns. Besides these preparations an application is now before Congress for a grant of money to commence a new fort opposite to Fort Delaware, and the means of increasing the defensive capacity of Fort Mifflin, as well as completing the barracks accommodations of Fort Delaware. With respect to Lake Erie, Congress is also asked to grant a large sum of money for the purpose of providing defences at such points on the Northern frontier as may require them. This is a gratifying state of affairs and will tend greatly to calm the fears of the timid. It war comes, Pennsylvania, at least will be armed and ready for the conflict.

The report of the commissioners, Messrs. Part and Baitzhoover, of Pittsburgh, appointed some time since to visit the Pennsylvania troops, then in Kentucky, has been received and the result proves that the duties imposed upon them have been well and ably performed. The most important as well as the most gratifying result of this commission is that the officers and men have signed allotment rolls which amount in the aggregate to $22,000 per month. Under the late act of Congress, this sum will be remitted to the respective families of the signers, by the Paymaster General. Gov. Curtin has written a letter to the commissioners thanking them in behalf of the loyal people of Pennsylvania and compliment them for the faithful and able manner in which they performed their duties.

Australasian Arrived.

HALIFAX, December 26—The steamer Australasian arrived to-day from England, with 1,265 troops, a field battery, &c.

The steamship Niagara has arrived with Liverpool dates to the 15th inst.

The ship Columbia, from Deal for New York, has put back.

The ship Jay, from Hong Kong for New York, had put into Singapore, short.

The ship Vanguard, from Liverpool for New York, put back on the 14th, with loss of boats.

GREAT BRITAIN.—It is intimated that about 10,000 troops will be sent to Canada, two batteries of artillery are expected to the 18th in the Adriatic and Persia. No cavalry or horse artillery was being shipped to Canada at present.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times at Mr. Trowbridge's dispatch [illegible] known to have created [illegible] They have [illegible] on the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]