LOCAL AFFAIRS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.....MARCH 19.

Arrest of Counterfeiters.—An extensive arrest of counterfeiters was made, on Monday night, by officers Ray and Hamilton, of the Mayor's police, in the Fifth Ward. These officers had been on the track of a gang of counterfeiters for some time, and a plan carefully laid for their detection, resulted in the arrest of four persons, named Margaret Munts, James Danforth, Edward Murphy and James M'Dermott, with a large amount of bogus money, and all the implements for manufacturing the same, in their possession.

On Monday night, about 8 o'clock, the above named officers went to the residence of Danforth, in the upper part of the Fifth Ward, where they found him, alone. Upon searching his person, a counterfeit $5 note was discovered, but no coin. However, after considerable examination, a large pill box, containing a quantity of bogus gold dollars, was discovered secreted behind a large picture frame. While they were searching the premises, Edward Murphy came in, and both men were taken into custody and conveyed to the Mayor's office. After searching the latter, the officers went back and proceeded to during these, the officers went back and proceeded to search the dwelling adjoining, occupied by Margaret Munts, who was arrested at the same time. The search was fruitless at first, but, at last, after diligently ransacking every portion of the house, their labor was rewarded by finding a glove or mitten, concealed in a box, containing over $250 in bogus gold dollars, $2,50 pieces, and counterfeit quarters, only partially finished. In the same box was also found about three pounds of metal, used in the manufacture of the coin, plaster of Paris moulds, and all the implements for making counterfeit money. These, together with the woman, were likewise taken to the Mayor's office.

The information which led to these arrests also tended to implicate a tavern keeper on Penn street, named M'Dermott, in the transactions, and he was subsequently arrested by the same officers, and locked up with the rest.

Yesterday, after an examination before Mayor Bingham, the whole party were committed to jail for a further examination on Friday next. M'Dermott was afterwards released on bail.

The large amount of counterfeit coin and material found in the houses where the arrests were made, shows that operations must have been carried on very extensively, and too much praise cannot be awarded the officers for their sagacity and exertions in tracing out and bringing to justice those engaged in the nefarious business.

The Disputed Aldermanship.—Judge M'Clure yesterday delivered the following opinion in the case of the disputed Aldermanship of Alderman Hartje, of the Third Ward, Allegheny:

The petition represents that Auguste Hartje was elected Alderman for the term of five years, for the Third Ward of Allegheny city, and commissioned by the Governor on the 3d day of February, 1855; that the office is situated in the Ward, although his domicil is out of it, and that he acts under his commission, has not resigned, and has never neglected or refused to discharge the duties of his office. The petition further states that Robert Bell, supposing the office vacant, did, on the 8th January, 1855, present himself as a candidate, and received about 117 votes out of about 464 polled, and that the most of voters not believing that there was any vacancy, abstained from voting for any person as Alderman, and that no notice of a vacancy or election was given as prescribed by law, and that the petitioner, fearing that if any opposition be made thereto, the Governor may inadvertently grant a commission to Robert Bell to the prejudice of the petitioners, and other good citizens.

This proceeding is based upon the 7th section of the act of Assembly, and the powers of the Court are derived from this same source. This action points out minutely how things must be done and where they must be done, and amongst many directions, the section goes on to say, " and such compliance shall not be valid, or regarded by the Court, unless the same shall have been filed within ten days after the election in the Prothonotary's Office."

The record exhibits that the election was held on the 8th of January, and that proceedings were filed January 26th, 1856.

Therefore, by the express words of the statute, the Court is estopped from entertaining the petition or deciding on the merits, as more than ten days elapsed after the election, before complaint was filed

Proceedings quashed.

Maintaining the Prisoners in Jail.—An Act of Assembly was passed in May, 1855, giving the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions the power to fix the amount to be allowed for the sustenance of prisoners in the county jail, which, previous to that time, was 10 cents for vagrants and 12 cents for court prisoners per diem. The court, however, has never established the sum it deemed necessary, and yesterday, was required in hearing arguments of counsel upon the subject. Mr. Woods appeared for the late Sheriff, Mr. Magill, and endeavored to show that less than fifteen cents for vagrants, and twenty cents for court prisoners, would not remunerate the Sheriff for the expenses required to maintain them. Mr. Marshal appeared as the representative of Sheriff Patterson, and claimed the same amount. The County Commissioners, through their solicitor, Mr Sewell, resisted their claims, desiring it to be fixed at a less sum, at least so far as Mr. Magill was concerned. Lengthy and able arguments were made on both sides. The arguments will continue to-day.

New Scale Pianos.—A new, and it seems, very important improvement to the Piano Forte has just been brought out by Messrs. Nunns & Clark, of New York. It consists of an entirely *new scale*, which affords greater room for the sound board, and thus greatly increases the power of the instrument. Judging by the sound of these pianos, it must be considered as a most valuable improvement, for the volume, brilliancy and delicious quality of tone is such as we thought impossible to be produced by any thing short of a full sized grand piano. The appearance of the interior also is thereby much improved, and the price, withal, not a whit higher than formerly. H. Kleber & Bro., at whose store may be found these unrivalled specimens af the " new scale Piano," will be happy to exhibit them to all who favor them with a call, whether purchasers or not.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Messrs. Campbell & Pollock, which will be found in our columns this morning. Their stock embraces an unusually large variety of goods, such as Irish Linens, Threads, Ribbons, Hosiery, Gloves, Domestic Dry Goods, &c., &c. They have also a manufactory of Gilt Mouldings for Looking Glass and Picture Frames, and for the decoration of Railroad cars and steamboats; and judging from the samples exhibited, we have no hesitation in pronouncing their manufacture equal to the Eastern article. We therefore commend them to the purchasing public.

The Grand Jury of the United States District Court yesterday found true bills against James A. Mason and Catharine Ellis, for counterfeiting. A motion was made by the counsel of the parties, Hon. R. P. Flenniken, for a continuance, and the case will probably be laid over until the next term. The attention of the Court was occupied principally in hearing motions, and other business of no great importance to the public.

National Hotel.—Workmen are busily engaged thoroughly renovating and repairing this building, and putting it in condition to be again used as a Hotel. The repairs will be completed by the first of April, after which time it will be for rent. The building is admirably situated for a Hotel, and any one who desires to go into that business should not fail to apply soon for the lease.

Health Report.—The interments in the city for the past week numbered 16. Of those 9 were adults and 7 children: 5 died from consumption: 2 from sprains; 2 diseases of the heart; 1 disease of the brain; 1 disease of the bowels; 1 inflammation of the lungs; 1 dropsy; 1 unknown; 1 putrid sore throat; 1 exhaustion. Seven were males and nine females.

New York Papers in advance of the Mail.—We are indebted to Master Richard Shannon for the New York *Herald*, *Times* and *Tribune* in advance of the mail. He will serve them to subscribers at the rate of fifteen cents per week in a faithful manner.

In Town.—Capt. L. A. Pearce, the General Agent of the Michigan Central Railroad, is in town, and stopping at the Monongahela House. The Captain is a whole-souled man, and represents A No. 1 Road.

District Court.—Hon. H. W. Williams on the Bench.

TUESDAY, March 18, 1856.

In the case of Forgeus vs. Johnston, the jury returned a verdict of $150 63 for plaintiff.

Michael O'Neill vs. Jacob Peck. No. 459, July term, 1854. C. W. Robb for plaintiff; Coehran for defendant. Action for slanderous words. Damages laid at $10,000. On trial.

Admitted to the United States Court.—S. P. Ross, Esq., on motion of Judge Shaler, was yesterday admitted to practice as an attorney in the United States District Court.

On motion of H. D. F. Flenniken, R. A. Gibson, Esq., of Washington county, was admitted to practice in the same Court.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 19, 1856.

Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, No. 205 Penn street, Pittsburgh—We anticipate that HOSTETTER'S BITTERS will soon become as popular in California as they have in the older States of the Union. Every party that have tried them wants more, and dealers who have bought them from us have not failed to renew their orders. As the demand is daily increasing, we desire that you should ship us, via New York, 50 doz. per month until further notice. We have orders on file from Honolulu, Sandwich Islands.

Very truly, yours,

PARK & WHITE,
feb25olaw Wholesale Druggists.

☞ **Clark's Stomach Bitters** are acknowledged by all who have tried them to be the best family medicine of the age, for the cure of Dyspepsia, Costiveness, and a disordered state of the Liver and Stomach. They have no rival. The proprietors do not pretend to caution people from using other preparations that are palmed upon the public under the name of Stomach Bitters, for they have found that only one trial was needed to render such caution unnecessary.

For sale, wholesale, by COLLUM & CLARK, Third street, between Wood and Market; GEO. H. KEYSER, 140 Wood street; and by Druggists generally.

AUCTION SALES.

MARKET STREET DRY GOODS STORE AT AUCTION.—On WEDNESDAY MORNING, 19th inst., at 10 o'clock, at the Fashionable Dry Goods store of Thomas H. Dry, No. 75, Market street, between Second and the Diamond, unable is declining business will be commenced the sale of his entire stock, of staple and fancy Dry Goods. The assortment is quite complete, and has been carefully selected for customer trade; among which are elegant dress silks, poplins, merinos, bombazines, de laines, cashmeres and printed delaines; linen and silk bdkfs; hosiery, gloves, &c.

Also, satinetts, flannels, blankets, checks, tickings, cottonades, drilling, linen and cotton diapers, linen table covers, and a general variety of Dry Goods, Trimmings, &c.

mh18 P. M. DAVIS, Auct'r.

MECHANICS' SAVINGS BANK OF ALLEGHENY.—On THURSDAY EVENING, March 20, at 7 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange, Fourth street, will be sold 10 shares Mechanics' Savings Bank of Allegheny city, $25 per share paid in.

mh18 P. M. DAVIS, Auct'r.

ELEGANT HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE AT AUCTION.—On TUESDAY morning, March 20th, at 9 o'clock, at the residence of M. Micheltree, No. 70 Penn street, between Hay and Marbury, will be sold as he is declining housekeeping his entire Household Furniture, Paintings, Silver, &c., &c., of the most elegant and superior quality, comprising rosewood cane seat sofas; Rocking Parlor and Stool, full carved, brass trim'd, hair cloth; rosewood plate mantle and pier glasses, richly framed, valuable oil paintings and engravings; chandeliers and girandoles; oil lamps, Lamertine and Sinumbra; Brussels, Ingrain and other carpets; marble centre tables; mantle ornaments carved rosewood sofas, chairs and arm chairs; mahogany sofas, chairs and rockers; card and centre tables; mahogany and other bedsteads; hair mattresses; bed clothing, &c.; kitchen furniture; cooking utensils, &c.

Also, a lot of valuable Books, among which are Shakespeare's Works, in 2 vols.; Milton's Works, in 1 vol.; Byron's Works, in 1 vol.; Cowper's Works, in 1 vol.; Pope's Works, in 1 vol.; Dryden's Works, in 1 vol.; Addison's Works, in 1 vol.; Goldsmith's Works, in 1 vol.; Burns' Poems, in 1 vol.; Scott's Poetical Works, in 1 vol.; Scott's Prose Works, in 1 vol.; Scott's Lives of Eminent Men, in 1 vol.; Scott's Tales of a Grandfather, in 1 vol.; Scott's Life of Napoleon, in 1 vol.; Scott's Life of Napoleon, in 1 vol.; Scott's Life of Napoleon