Lancaster Intelligencer.

TUESDAY EVENING, JAN. 1, 1884.

"Experts" on Insanity.

There is a very unseemly quarrel among the medical experts appointed to examine into the sanity of McGinnis, the Philadelphia murderer who has just been respited from Thursday next till the fourth of March. Dr. Thomas G. Morton is the member of the commission who does not seem to know how to conduct himself in the matter. He is the chairman of the commission and disagrees with all his colleagues, who think McGinnis insane, while Morton is sure he is sane. His colleagues lately addressed the governor in behalf of their position, and Morton now comes up with a demonstration of his. Both parties have their statements published, and Morton declares that he has positive knowledge that the governor is going to sustain him. It seems that an inquiry, entered into to determine the responsibility of McGinnis, has resolved itself into a contest as to which set of doctors shall be sustained. Poor McGinnis is permitted to live while the doctors are trying to get on top of each other, but according to Morton he is bound to be hung at last. McGinnis seems to appreciate the situation, declaring when he got news of the reprieve that he would rather die now, while he was prepared for it, as he did not know how he would be in March. That was an eminently sane and sagacious remark, and is so much support to Morton's theory. Morton may be right about it, for though he demonstrates himself to be a good deal of a brute by his zeal to get McGinnis hung, to gratify his professional pride of opinion, yet he may not be a fool. It is, however, safe to say, that any doctor who undertakes upon his expert knowledge, to declare positively for or against the mental accountability of a man, undertakes to say a great deal more in many cases than any expert knowledge that he can have will justify. Whether sanity or insanity exists at the moment of crime is a question which can often be told by any sensible observer as well or better than by the medical man, who is resorted to as an expert on the subject of mental diseases. There is undoubtedly a prevalent insanity that exists spasmodically and springs from temporary disturbance of the bodily functions, which makes the sufferer as dangerous to the community as though he were permanently insane. This is a sort of mental unsoundness which is very difficult of judgment, and about which doctors and observers will readily disagree. There are many such opportunities of disagreement in determining men's irresponsibility for their conduct. There is an interesting case now attracting public attention in the Rathbone tragedy, and opinions will naturally differ as to whether the husband, who seems to have been responsible enough before and after the act, was temporarily insane when he killed his wife, who had barred his way to their children, or whether he was only in a passion; and if in a passion, was it one due to physical causes which made it uncontrollable.

Many a man has been hung for an act prompted by a passion that was beyond his control. A bodily condition that sends the blood to the head unduly, may cause a passionate outburst that cannot be controlled. Dyspepsia is a prime cause of irritability, and indigestion is responsible for many if not most crimes of violence. The jury in criminal cases has a very delicate duty to perform, if it would perform it properly. It is roughly done under our present methods, and really righteous judgments are rare enough. The courts are not much more intelligent than the juries in reaching them. The Pennsylvania law makes cool deliberation a necessary element in murder in the first degree, but judges instruct the juries that a minute or so of cooling time is enough to make the crime deliberate, and have never stopped to ask whether dyspepsia or indigestion stood in the way of such speedy frigeration.

The question as to this man McGinnis is whether he is sane or insane now. It seems that it is considered unseemly to hang a man who is not in perfect possession of his senses; although the fact is that most men who are hung are in just that condition, under the kindly aid of whisky or morphia. The law's idea of the fitness of things is not the hang man's; and if McGinnis is insane he is entitled to life; the reason being that it is possible that if he was sane he might find something to urge why the judgment should not be executed upon him. The humanity of this conclusion of the law, which gives life to him who cannot enjoy it and takes it from him who can, is somewhat obscure; but it is too old a notion to be gainsaid.

THE scandalous exposure of the Huntington letters presents a story not secondary in interest or infamy to the Credit Mobilier transactions, in which Oakes Ames' memoranda of public men and their price blasted so many congressmen, and yet had a healthful influence in clearing the atmosphere and exposing a number of hypocrites. There may be occasion for another congressional investigation; in any event Stanley Matthews is again presented in a light which will confirm the necessity for an inquiry into the reiterated report that his appointment was one of the conditions of a bargain by which the railroad interests, which wanted him on the supreme bench, contributed $100,000 to the campaign fund, which Dorsey spent for Garfield's election.

THE optimist, who believes that this is the best day the world has yet seen, welcomes with good cheer the year that is ushered in so dismally by the clerk of the weather. It is so natural for man to indulge in the illusions of the hope that it would be a poor world if nobody could see the silver lining to the cloud of uncertainty that now seems to hang over business, political affairs, religious interests and the relations of nations with each other. The future is involved in strange doubts, but the thing certain is that the opening year will be one of exciting events, pregnant with weighty consequences to the race and to history.

THE election of Mr. Thurman to the Senate from Ohio would be a happy New Year surprise to the country.

WRITE it right; '84 has the floor.

INCREASED respect for the Pons comet will be developed since it has been discovered that although it had only a single tail in 1812, it now has a double tail, the larger part of which is seven degrees and the shorter three degrees in length.

FOREIGNERS are credited with poking a great deal of fun at the American navy; yet there is not noticeable on the part of our brethren across the sea any disposition to interfere with the screaming of the American eagle, notwithstanding our alleged defenseless position.

TRANSPIGURED.

We marked her battered hull,
Her canvass old and soiled,
As slow she crept athwart our course
To where the fishers toiled.

But when the western wave
Glowed with the dying day,
Far on the horizon's eastern rim,
White-robed and fair she lay.

—*A. W. Gould.*

THE four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Zwingli, claimed by the Reformed church as its founder, falls to-day. Differing widely from Luther in mental characteristics and in the part he played in the religious struggle of his age, he is scarcely second to him in historical interest as a factor in the work which engaged their attention; and the general celebration of that work by the Reformed churches fitly supplements the recent Lutheran memorial.

CAPT. ADAM JACOBS of Brownsville, Pa., has left a will intended to tie up his estate for as long a time as the law allows. Availing himself of the act of assembly which permits a man to make a will in such manner that it will control his estate for a period of 21 years after the death of the youngest heir living at the date of the same, his devises are such that if his grandchildren live to the age of 60 the estate will be controlled by the provisions of the will for about 80 years. One provision of his will, however, is open to attack on the ground that it is prejudical to public morals. Sometime ago George Dawson Jacobs, the youngest child, incurred the displeasure of his father by marrying, as the latter deemed, "below his station." This young man is out off without a shilling—as long as he is the husband of his present wife. If at any time, however, George D. should take unto himself a wife "who is unobjectionable to his mother," ample provision is made for him. This may be construed as a hint in the direction of a divorce.

THE book agent is a singular individual. With cheek of adamant and urbanity of a Chesterfield, he penetrates the innermost sanctuary of the domestic temple, and rarely leaves before pushing some portion of his wares on his unwary victims. There are various types of book agents, some possessing a Napoleonic dash that carries everything before them, others stealing their way into one's confidence by their charming manners; but of them all, a book agent from Philadelphia is fairly entitled to the distinction of king of his race. This enterprising individual traveling to New York fell in with a gentleman from Elizabeth, N. J., J. Madison Watson by name. Learning that Mr. W. was anxious to secure a certain book, the gentlemanly agent obligingly sold him a copy of the work. It having been developed in the course of the conversation, that the book had been discussed by Mr. W. and his wife, the book agent managed to reach the Watson residence before its master arrived and disposed of a copy of the same book to the wife. Of course, a great storm was raised by Watson pere on his arrival home, and in the midst of it the urbane agent was seen passing the house on his way to the train. The irate W. hastily dispatched a friend unacquainted with the facts to head off the oily book vender. On being accosted the latter promptly informed the friend that Mr. W. wanted one of his books and that he could not miss the train. The friend then obligingly bought a third copy of the identical work for Mr. W. The narrator charitably draws a veil over what happened when the Elizabeth merchant learned he was the possessor of a third copy of the same book.

PERSONAL.

SPEAKER CARLISLE's reception by the Commonwealth club, Philadelphia, is fixed for Jan. 16.

JOSEPH LONGWORTH, a well known citizen of Cincinnati, died on Sunday morning.

MASON, the would-be assassin of Guiteau, denies that he is to put himself on exhibition in a museum for $200 a week—he will get $1,000.

FIRST COMPTROLLER LAWRENCE, of the U. S. treasury, is in receipt of information that many Ohio Republicans will desert their party because it has overdone the Protection business.

GENERAL MACKENZIE, who is insane, has been taken to the Bloomingdale asylum near New York city, instead of to Washington, as at first intended. It is believed he will be quieter at Bloomingdale.

REV. EDWARD EVERETT HALE lectured in Washington, the other evening on "Shakespeare." Bob Ingersoll introduced him, and so well did his work, that when the lecturer began to speak, the audience began to leave. Hale became disconcerted and told his hearers that he would "never again ask Colonel Ingersoll to introduce me to an audience."

HON. WILLIAM PINKNEY WHYTE, ex-United States senator, ex mayor of Baltimore and ex-governor of Maryland, took the breath away from the City Hall politicians by refusing to accept from them a handsome silver salver costing $150. The salver had been specially manufactured as a present to Mr. Whyte, and had been on exhibition in a prominent place for several days. He has made it a rule of his political career to never receive gifts.

The Gallows in New Jersey.

The court of pardons at Trenton, New Jersey, yesterday refused by an unanimous vote to commute the sentence of James Graves, of Newark, who murdered Jodon, the boy lamplighter two years ago. Graves will accordingly be hanged next Thursday. Robert Martin will be hanged the same day for killing his wife and child.

HUNTINGTON'S LETTERS.

BUSINESS TROUBLES OF A RAILWAY KING.

Racy and Original Views Concerning Prominent Speculators and Statesmen—Demagogues and Strikers

When the Southern Pacific railroad was built it was understood that it was to be a competitor of the Central Pacific, whose owners thought it well to prepare for the possibility of a struggle with and probable surrender to the government when Central Pacific government bonds should fall due. As a matter of fact the Southern Pacific railroad was built by the owners of the Central Pacific, Governor Stanford, C. P. Huntington, Mark Hopkins and Charles Crocker. These men selected General Colton, of San Francisco, to take charge of the construction and running of the Southern road. They formed with him the "Western Development Company," which was the "Credit Mobilier" which built the road and reaped immense profit from the work. About the time the road was finished General Colton died and his associates at once changed the name of the "Western Developement Copmany," and attempted to cut Mrs. Colton off from her husband's share of the money that had been made. She brought suit for her share, and it was in the trial of this suit that these now famous confidential letters of Huntington to Colton first came out. Huntington denied that any confidential relations existed between him and Colton, and these letters were offered as evidence to the contrary. The following are some of the raciest of them:

Educating the People.

NEW YORK, December 1, 1874.—Friend Colton: . . . I would like to know what is being done with the California Pacific extension bonds. Has any of our people endeavored to do anything with Low and Frisbie? They are both men that can be convinced. . . . I will see Luttrell when he comes over and talk with him, and may be he and we can work together, but if we can brush him out it would have a good effect, and then we could, or at least would try to, get some better material to work with. . . . I am doing all I can to educate the people on the S. P. securities, and it begins to look as though the bonds could be sold within ten to fifteen months at prices that we can afford to take, but to do that we have got to work the Centrals up, and I am doing what I can in that way. If we can get the Centrals up to par I hope we shall be able to start the S. P. at 90 to 95. That would be a good price. You will not sell many in California, and it is therefore very important that the few you do sell should be at a high price. And in this connection it would help us very much if we could fix up Cal. Pacific income and extensions on the basis that was taken of, even if we had to pay something to convince Low and Frisbie. . . . Yours truly,

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

Settling With the Government.

NEW YORK, April 12, 1875.—Friend Colton: . . . . The U. P. and P. M. people have talked with me, and it is best we do not forget the same parties control both, but I said to them that I did not have the data here, and if I had, was not familiar enough with the details of operating the road to make or enter into a contract with them, etc. I quite agree with you that the rise in freights, and, I may say, the general business of the Pacific, or I perhaps should say the U. P. road, has become so notorious of late, and I think it is quite liable to hurt us very much in our settlement with the government. In fact, there is where I think we are likely to be most harmed. I think I understand our position here, and know that to get just what belongs to us may cause us much trouble and perplexity as long as Jay Gould controls a link in the overland line and also a line by sea. For I think him the worst man to do anything with I ever knew. But I think, while no doubt not the worst, but almost the worst thing we can do, as matters stand to day, is to quarrel with him, and I do not propose to have a quarrel if I can well avoid. You know something of him, and can tell the other California associates what you think of the situation here. It is night and I will quit. Yours truly,

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

Cheap Advertising.

NEW YORK, April 7, 1875.—Friend Colton: . . . . I read your letter No. 25, where it refers to matters here, with much satisfaction, as it shows that you understand the whole situation between P. M. O. and O. and U. P. and C. P. Anyone fully understanding the position of the different companies would see at a glance that the C. P. is not entirely master of the situation, but I am very well satisfied that if we hold steadily to our purposes and not strain our credit too much we shall finally beat all the wild speculators like Jones and Gould. If I mistake not Jones is a small gun compared with Gould. I have set matters to work in the South that I think will switch most of the South off from Tom Scott's Texas and Pacific bill. I am having articles written and set afloat in the papers here about O. & O. Co., and they make the rounds by being recopied, and, as it costs nothing, it is a cheap way of advertising. I am also having articles written and published as though written in the places where we buy cars and locomotives, &c., for the S. P. It gives the S. P. some notoriety without cost. Yours truly,

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

Not to be Scared.

NEW YORK, May 8, 1875.—Friend Colton: Yours of April 29 and 30, Nos. 29 and 30, are received. . . . . Gould has never built much road, and I do not think it is his strong point, and I believe he knows it. The U. P. folks have been talking for years of building a road into Colorado to kill the K. P., but they never done much although they finally scared the K. P. folks so that they let Gould and his band get into bed with them, which I do not propose to do. They may scare me so that I would leave the bed, but I am quite sure that I never shall get so frightened as to let them in with me, and I have little fear of my California associates doing it. . . . . Yours truly,

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

A Wild Hog.

Friend Colton: . . . . . I notice what you say of Luttrell; he is a wild hog; don't let him come back to Washington; but as the House is to be largely Democratic, and if he was to be defeated likely it would be charged to us; hence I think it would be well to beat him with a Democrat; but I would defeat him anyway and if he got the nomination, put up another Democrat to run against him, and in this way elect a Republican. Beat him. . . . . Yours truly,

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

A Rough Fight.

NEW YORK, March 4, 1876.—Friend Colton: Yours of February 24, No. 142, received. I have been in Washington most of the time since Congress met, and you say truly when you write that you think I have had a rough fight here this winter. The railroad committee of the House was set up for Scott, and it has been a very difficult matter to switch a majority of the committee away from him, but I think it has been done; but Scott is very able, and then he promises everything to everybody, which helps him for the day and in this fight, and just what he may yet do I cannot say. . . . And I think it of so much importance that he is not allowed to build a road parallel to ours with government aid that I shall endeavor to get our bill passed through the Senate this winter, if possible, and the House, too. If we only get it through the Senate, and could then get built some road in Arizona before Congress comes together next winter, I think there would be but little doubt we would win the fight. What do you all think of it? . . . . Yours, truly,

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

P. S.—Those memorandums giving progress of the work on S. P. are very interesting to me. H.

Controlling the Press Agent.

NEW YORK, May 2, 1876.—Friend Colton: Herewith I send a copy of telegraphic dispatch that came over yesterday. Who is this Webster? Is it not possible to control the agent of the associated press in San Francisco? The matter that hurt the C. P. and S. P. most here are the dispatches that come from San Francisco. Scott has a wonderful power over the press, which I suppose he has got by giving them free passes for many years over his roads. . . . Yours truly,

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

Mr. Huntington Irritated.

NEW YORK, June 7, 1876.—Friend Colton: . . . . . I am having the hardest fight by a hundred times that I ever had in Washington, but we shall not be eaten up this time. I hope Luttrell will be sent back to Congress. I think it would be a misfortune if he was not. Wigginton has not always been right, but he is a good fellow, and is growing every day. Page is always right, and it would be a misfortune to California not to have him in Congress. Piper is a shamed hog, and should not come back. It is shame enough for a great commercial city like San Francisco to send a scavenger like him to Congress. I have not time to write more.

Yours truly, C. P. HUNTINGTON.

A Little Scheme.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24, 1876.—Friend Colton: . . . . . I am doing all I can to have the government take 6,000,000 acres of land and give the railroad company credit for $15,000,000, but the prospects of their doing it is not as bright as I wish it was. I wish you would have the newspapers take the ground that this land ought to be taken by the government and held for the people, so that when they wanted it they could have it, etc. Something that the demagogs can vote and work for. Letting the government take the lands now at $2.50 an acre to pay a debt due them, say in twenty years, is not more than $1 would be put in a sinking fund at 6 per cent. interest compounded each six months. . . . . Yours truly,

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

SAVAGE ATTACK ON A JESUIT PRIEST

Women and Children Crushed to Death in a Vienna Church.

At Vienna, Sunday night, in the Johannskirche in the Favoriten Shavplatz, the workmen's quarter of the city, a scene of terrible panic and confusion occurred such as has not been witnessed in Vienna since the burning of the Ring theatre. A Jesuit priest named Hamerle was preaching a mission sermon to an enormous audience, a majority of whom were women and children. Suddenly crowds of excited workingmen broke violently into the church, shouting "down with the Jesuits!" smashing doors, windows and chairs, tearing the robes of a Jesuit priest named Geon, throwing paving stones at Father Hamerle and damaging the altar and images. After a severe handling the priests managed to escape and concealed themselves in the sacristy.

Meanwhile the wax tapers on the altar, falling about, caused a blaze, which was soon extinguished, but caused a most fearful panic. Women and children were squeezed, crushed, and trampled upon. Three dead bodies have been identified, and seven persons were severely, and probably fatally injured.

For some time past great ill feeling has existed between the workingmen and the Jesuits. The workingmen complain that Father Hamerle, who is very eloquent, preaches between 7 and 10 o'clock in the evening, and that all the women and children in the neighborhood flock to hear him instead of staying at home cooking their suppers. This was the immediate cause of the scandal. Father Hamerle's theme last night was: "The glory of poor christians in the midst of the wilderness of socialism."

Simultaneously with the attack of the mob upon the church thousands of socialist proclamations were distributed throughout the city. The chancel was literally torn in pieces, and everything in the interior was destroyed. The floor here and there is marked with blood stains and is still covered with socialist proclamations, torn prayer books, hats, bonnets, shoes, and clothing. During the havoc two woman gave birth to children.

Archbishop Ganglbauer has ordered the profaned church to be again consecrated. A dozen arrests have been made and great excitement prevails.

WAGES REDUCED.

A Gloomy Outlook for Labor.

An order was received at Wilkesbarre, last evening, for a suspension of all the mines for three days in the week, beginning on Thursday next, and lasting until April 1.—Several large iron firms at Wareham, Massachusetts, will make a reduction in wages to-day. The Wareham nail company will make a cut of 15 per cent. below the ticket price. The Parker nail company will cut nailers 15 and laborers 10 per cent. The Franconia company has posted a notice of 10 per cent. reduction. The nail establishment of the Tremont company has shut down for several weeks for repairs.—The wages of the employes of the Lancaster gingham mills, at Clinton, Massachusetts, were cut down yesterday, in some instances as much as 10 per cent.—To day the Assabet woollen mills, at Maynard, Massachusetts, which employ about a thousand hands, will make a general reduction of wages of 10 per cent.

CRIME AND CALAMITY.

Killed by Eating Poisoned Eggs.

John C. Marsh, his wife, Reese Blair and James Boylan were poisoned by eating eggs at Beaver Dam, Union county, N. C. Marsh is dead, but the others are convalescing. It is supposed the eggs were poisoned for the purpose of killing rats, and were put on the table by mistake.—T. H. Weathersby, sheriff of Madison county, Miss., has died of hydrophobia. He was bitten by a rabid dog two months ago.—Nine Italian laborers digging a tunnel for water works at North Saugus, Mass., were buried by the earth suddenly caving in. Five of them were badly injured, the foreman, perhaps, fatally.—Ann Kelley, aged 80, was burned to death by the upsetting of a lamp in her room in East 10th street, New York.—Conway Brown, a member of the freshman class of Harvard college, committed suicide at the house of a friend in Providence, where he was spending the holidays.

Arrest of Thieves.

"Big" Kelly, a notorious express robber, was captured eight miles from Columbus, O., Monday morning. Three others of his gang, who were with him, escaped. He was caught by means of a detective pretending to join in a plot to rob the Cleveland express train.—O. E. Stewart, reputed "one of the most expert and notorious cattle thieves in Nebraska and Wyoming," was arrested at Hot Springs, Arkansas, on Sunday by a detective.—John C. Rentz, from New York, was arrested Monday in Baltimore, for having robbed the house of T. McGuigan, in the latter city, on Sunday. The stolen property—$100 in cash, a gold watch and chain and some jewelry—was found upon him.

RING IN THE NEW.

1884 USHERED IN BY GRAVE AND GAY.

Watch Meetings in the Churches—Tripping it on the Light Fantastic—The Old Year's Death.

The year of grace 1884 is here and the face of '83, to which a twelve month acquaintance lent in a measure an attachment, has faded into the misty past. Right royally was the stranger greeted in his arrival, it being a case of "welcome the coming, speed the parting guest." The bells of Old Trinity rang out the midnight hour, announcing the birth of the new and the death of the old year, and special services were held commemorative of the event. The watch meetings of the Moravian and Methodist churches were well attended by expectant crowds anxious to see the last of the old year. The new order of things was also observed, socially as well as religiously, the Stevens house assembly, Liederkranz ball and private social diversions giving an opportunity to see the old year depart and the new year enter. A resume of the observances marking the incoming of 1884 is given below in detail.

AMONG THE CHURCHES.

Observance of the Duke Street Methodist.

Service was held in this church from 9 p. m. to midnight, the attendance being very large. A sermon was preached by Rev. J. T. Satchell, after which the holy communion was administered to a large number of communicants. An experience meeting followed, and as midnight approached the old year was song out with hymns, and when the clock struck twelve the new year was sung in with a joyful anthem. Then followed handshaking all round. At the close of the service Dr. Witherow's class presented the pastor, Rev. J. T. Satchell, with a finely finished crayon portrait of himself, executed by Mrs. Dougherty.

There will be revival services in the Duke street church every evening this week.

St. Paul's M. E. Church.

There was a large congregation at St. Paul's last night from 9 to 12 o'clock. Rev. A. I. Collom, the pastor, made an address, after which the communion was partaken of. Miss Lizzie Sharpe, the evangelist, spoke at some length, after which there was an experience meeting, with closing services around the altar, followed by the usual handshaking when the new year came in. The protracted meeting which has been going on in St. Paul's for sometime will be continued during this week, perhaps longer, and Miss Sharpe will be present at all the meetings.

Trinity Lutheran Church.

A service of prayer conducted by Rev. C. L. Fry was held in Trinity church from 11 to 12 o'clock last night, which was largely attended. Rev. Fry made a short address, there was, good music by the choir, and the closing moments of the old year were passed in silent prayer. The great bell in the steeple announced the advent of 1884, and the choir responded with a "Te Deum." Then followed the usual mutual congratulations.

The Moravian Church.

The congregation assembled about half-past eleven o'clock. There was the usual service of prayer and an address by the pastor, Rev. J. Max Hark. As the midnight hour struck the choir sang an anthem and then followed a few minutes of general congratulations.

The Church of God.

At the Union Bethel there was a large gathering of worshippers. The meeting, conducted by Rev. G. W. Sellhamer, pastor, commenced at 8 o'clock and continued until after midnight. During the service the ordinances of the Lord's supper and the washing of the saints' feet were observed.

At several other churches watch meetings of the usual character were held.

The Catholic Churches.

New Year's Day, the feast of the circumcision, is a holiday of obligation with Catholics, and its observance was fittingly remembered in the Catholic churches of the city by special services. The masses at St. Mary's church were at 7 and 6 a. m.

SOCIAL DIVERSIONS

A Brilliant Gathering at Lancaster's Annual Assembly.

The Stevens house assembly, the grand annual society event long looked forward to by the beauty and fashion of the city and vicinity, took place last evening, and like all of its predecessors, was a conspicuous success in every particular. Lancaster's fairest daughters were there in abundance and a goodly cohort of her fashionable young men, besides many of the heads of families were in attendance. Representatives were also present from Columbia, Marietta, Middletown, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Downingtown, Bellefonte and Newark, N. J. Seldom is it the privilege of any one to gaze on a brighter or more animated scene than that which met the eye when at 9:30 o'clock the grand promenade took place to the delirious strains of Taylor's orchestra. That over, the ball was fairly in motion and unceasingly after, the glowing hours were chased by the flying feet of the gay dancers until the early morning.

At 11 o'clock the tables were spread in the spacious corridor of the second floor of the hotel, and on them were heaped all the dainties of the season, prepared in that excellent style for which mine host of the Stevens house has been long famous. Again and again were the tables filled and emptied with the gay company who kept coming from the dancing hall, and when the midnight hour pealed forth, ushering in the new year a merry party might have been seen on the floor of the dining hall welcoming the visitor in the mazes of a new year's quadrille.

The dressing of the ladies was remarkable for its richness and beauty, and the sparkle of diamonds and glitter of jewelry under the bright gaslight lent to the enchantment of the scene. It was an occasion when Lancaster was seen socially at her best, and her goodly array of "fair women and brave men" mingled in the gathering each as component parts of a harmonious social whole. The "wee sma' " hours had been long reached when the last strain of music died away, and nothing but praise could be heard on all sides from the parting guests of the efficient management that had made Lancaster's great social event this year the most notably successful in the history of similar gatherings.

The Liederkranz Sociable.

Last evening the Liederkranz gave their first concert and sociable in the hall which they now occupy. There was a large attendance, notwithstanding the disagreeable weather, and a fine time was had. The programme of the concert, which took place before the dancing began, was as follows:

Overture—"Liederkranz March"—(F. Losse). Orchestra.
Vereinsgruss—(M. Buhr,)—.....Liederkranz.
Overture—"Between the Acts"—(A. S. Bowman),.....Orchestra.
Tyroler Heimweh—Tenor Solo—(A. Villanger) Mr. A. Bender.
Sangermarsch—(H. Schaeter),...Liederkranz.
Gavotte—"Forget Me Not"—(Theo. Geisse). Orchestra.
Erst 'S Geschett und Dann's Vergnuegen—(C. Kuntze).....Liederkranz.
Overture—"Enchantment"—(F. Hermann), Orchestra.

A Phantom Party.

A delightful "phantom" party, given by some young gentlemen of the city to their lady friends, was held at the residence of Mr. Geo. Nauman last evening, and the management was in the highest degree successful in providing for the entertainment of all the guests. The young ladies who were present declare—not "by a large majority," but unanimously—that it was in none of its appointments behind the assembly. The masks were removed at 10:30 p. m. and dancing continued to 3 a. m.

A Pleasant Party.

A very delightful party was that given by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Luckenbach, last night, at their residence corner of East King and Shippen street. About forty ladies and gentlemen were present, among whom were several fine vocalists and pianists. The closing hours of the old year fled rapidly away and the bright new year was ushered in by a blast of horns that would have done credit to Gabriel himself. The collation was superb, the host and hostess indefatigable in looking after the pleasure of their guests. The merry making was kept up until after two o'clock, when the party broke up everybody wishing everybody "a happy new year."

Pretty Decorations.

The county register's office is prettily trimmed with greens, and the first thing that meets the visitor's eye on entering is "A Happy New Year," in letters of spruce suspended from the centre of the ceiling.

"THE BANDIT KING."

A Blood and Thunder Drama.

Last evening the small boy who delights in reading tales of highwaymen, &c., had a benefit in the opera house, where S. H. Barrett's company appeared in a blood and thunder piece entitled "Jesse James, the Bandit King." There was a very large audience present, the gallery being packed. The play was given here last year when it was criticised in these columns. It is of the trashy kind, and the most vigorous acting is done with knives, pistols and guns. J. H. Wallick, who knows a little about acting and a great deal more of ranting, impersonated *Jesse James* with Miss Susie Russell, a rather pretty girl, as *Kolemah*, the "Indian maiden." The other people were poor, but not a great deal worse than the play, which suited them exactly. Fred Lyons, a colored man who had some talent, was seen in several acts. He played the banjo well and sang a number of good songs. The horses "Raider" and "Charger," which are said to have been owned by Jesse James, were introduced in the play, and they showed more intelligence by far than the majority of the company.

O. A. R.

A New Post Mustered at Strasburg.

Last evening Maj. C. H. Fasnacht, M. N. Stark, James Sweger and Hiram M'Elroy, of this city, visited Strasburg and mustered a new post of the Grand Army of the Republic, by the name of "Capt. J. N. Neff post, No. 406." The new post has sixteen charter members. The following named officers were installed:

Commander—Jason Skelton.
Sr. Vice Com.—I. S. Mullikin.
Jr. Vice Com.—John I. Shurts.
Adjutant—B. F. Book.
Quartermaster—B. F. Spichlman.
Surgeon—Daniel E. Clark.
Chaplain—Lod B. Shroy.
Officer of the Day—B. Frank Sides.
Officer of the Guard—Samuel Miller.
Sergt. Major—Benj. F. Brown.
Quartermaster Sergt.—John F. Russel.
Council of Administration—Franklin Brison, Samuel Wertz, Benjamin F. Brown.

The new post, named after one of Strasburg's best and truest soldiers, starts under very promising circumstances, there being a large number of veterans who have made application for membership, and who will be admitted at next meeting of the post. The meetings will be held in Massasoit hall.

A NEW HISTORY.

The Deserving Enterprise of a Lancaster Author.

Mr. I. S. Clare, of this city, author of "A Universal History," published in Philadelphia in 1876, and which has already reached the enormous edition of 35,000, has written two other works, one of which entitled "A Short History of the Human Race," he is now making an effort to have published. Alex. Harris, esq., a litterateur and historian, himself, of distinction who has carefully examined a large portion of Mr. Clare's manuscript, writes in terms of warmest commendation of its merits, and appeals to the citizens of Lancaster to stand by Mr. Clare and aid him with their subscriptions in the publication of his new work, not only out of considerations of local pride and interest in a native author, but because of the worth of his work.

Improving the Public Roads.

A very decided improvement is being made on the road in Colerain township, known as the "Black Rock," which now passes the site of the old furnace of that name. Some months ago, after several views and reviews the new road was laid out, and is now almost completed, except the bridge over the Octoraro, which will be built by the county. By this new route all the hills and the really dangerous fording of the old road are avoided.

In the whole lower end of this county the roads have been very much improved in the last few years, both in changes of route and in quality of road beds. Some new bridges which have been built have also largely added to the convenience of public travel.

List of Uncalimed Letters.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the postoffice for the week ending Monday, December 31, 1883:

Ladies List.—Nettie Bachman, Mrs. Annie Blarkey, Mrs. Susan E. Brubaker, Dollie M. Brubaker, Mrs. T. Burton Brown, Blanche Carleton, Mrs. Barbara Clay, Lizzie Fenstermacher, Annie Food, Lizzie G. Hess, Annie D. Huber, Amanda Kiser, Mrs. Sallie G. Moore, Elizabeth H. Rohrer, Sallie Sheneck, Mary Thomas.

Gents' List.—Michael M. Aumeut, John Brobst (for.), Christian Charls, Jacob Esbenshade, Philip Hildmann (for.) Frederick Lieban (for.), Jacob Mayer, Joseph Mumma, Nolan & Bros., Martin Rowe, Hugh A. Thompson, Elmer Vogan, Jos. P. Weber, John H. Weaver, Albert Wetter (for.), Aaron Widder.

Pension Papers Destroyed.

Mary McKeen and Margaret Boyd are U. S. pensioners who reside at No. 551 North Queen street. For safe keeping they placed their pension papers in the clock, not knowing that a family of mice had taken up their residence therein. When they came to look for their papers a day or two ago, they discovered that the mice had eaten them to pieces to make beds for themselves and their young. The fragments of the papers were gathered up and taken to Alderman Samson, by whom they will be sent to the Philadelphia pension office, where duplicates may be obtained, so that the pensioners will suffer no loss.

Election of K. of P. Officers

Lancaster lodge, No. 68, Knights of Pythias, elected the following officers last evening, for ensuing terms:

C. C.—C. V. Lichty.
V. C.—C. H. Campbell.
P.—Jno. E. Zecher.
M. of A.—H. M. Raub.
M. of E.—Jno. Barnhart.
M. of F.—C. H. Brown.
K. of R. and S.—M. W. Raub.
Trustee—C. H. Fasnacht.

The newly-elected officers will be installed on Monday evening next.

Telephone Exchange Connections.

Dr. Schenck, of Rohrerstown; J. D. Buckwalter, of Bareville; Andes & Son, of Mechanicsburg; George Rank and Amos Rutter, of New Holland, have had their places of business connected by telephone with the exchange in this city.

THE LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Business Disposed Of.

At the meeting of the law library association this morning, in the absence of the president and vice president, N. Ellmaker, esq., was called to the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report showing a balance of $254.65, was audited and found correct. The library was reported in good condition and the library committee was increased from three to five members; 155 volumes were purchased last year. The committee on paving Duke street reported progress. The insurance on the library was ordered to be increased from $4,000 to $6,000. Librarian Snyder's bill for $80—$50 for salary and $30 for extra services—was only allowed to the amount of the regular salary and a motion to increase it to $75 was not agreed to. A new bound catalogue of the library has been distributed among the members of the association. The following officers were elected and committees appointed: President, Thomas E. Franklin; Vice President, H. G. Long; Secretary, Geo. Nauman; Treasurer, D. G. Eshleman; Librarian, Joseph C. Snyder.

Committee on Finance—D. G. Baker, S. H. Reynolds and W. U. Hensel.

Purchasing Committee—H. G. Long, D. G. Eshleman and George M. Kline.

Library Committee—Amos Slaymaker, Wm. A. Atlee, Wm. Leaman, C. Kennedy and T. Brown.

LITTLE LOCALS.

Here and There and Everywhere.

Samuel Hess & Son sold for D. Logan yesterday 18 Ohio horses, averaging $240.20 per head.

St. Lawrence and Henry, the Ironsides' new battery, are from Springfield, Mass., not from Illinois.

Mayor MacGonigle this morning sent to jail, for 20 days, one drunk and disorderly, and discharged five tramps.

The globe of the electric lamp in front of Al. Rosenstein's store was broken to pieces to day at noon by a fall of snow from the roof of the house.

Frederick Long, engineer in E. J. Zahm's jewelry factory, had his finger badly mashed this morning by the driving wheel of the engine. Dr. Rohrer dressed it.

Mrs. James Sellers did not press the suit brought by her before Alderman McConomy against her husband for assault and battery, and he was discharged upon payment of costs.

Wm. O. Smith, West Strawberry street, has a partridge cochin hen, eight months old, which has already laid four dozen of eggs, one of which measures eight inches around the points and six inches around the girth. Whose pullet can beat this?

A Traveling Army on a Drunk.

Last evening Harry Haider, a young man who is employed by John A. Snyder, was standing at the door of the saloon when Wm. Richardson passed. The latter drew a revolver and pointed it at the head of Haider, threatened to kill him. The young fellow was almost frightened to death and ran into the saloon, but was unable to speak for some time. He made complaint at Alderman McConomy's against Richardson, who was arrested by Officer Herr. When taken two loaded revolvers were found upon him. He is held for assault and carrying concealed deadly weapons.

Held for Embezzlement.

John Urban, of Mount Nebo, this county, was arrested in Philadelphia and held in $1,000 bail for embezzlement on oath of Thos. C. Jenkins, of No. 426 Fairmount avenue, who swears that Urban had charge of one of his ice wagons, collected about $200 from customers and absconded with it. Urban went to Philadelphia to spend Christmas with his mother and was picked up by the police. Chief Deichler, of this city, would have captured him in the vicinity of Safe Harbor a week or two ago had not one of Urban's friends aided him to escape.

Resignation of a Teacher

Miss Lizzie Carpenter has tendered to the board of directors of the public schools of this city, her resignation as teacher in the Lemon street advanced secondary school, to take effect on Friday, January 4th. It will be remembered that at a late meeting of the school board, Miss Mary Martin, teacher of St. James' parish school, was elected as assistant teacher in the boys' high school. It is understood that Miss Carpenter was offered and has accepted the position of teacher made vacant in St. James school.

Shenandoah Relief.

Mayor MacGonigle has received from the treasurer of the Shenandoah relief fund an acknowledgment of the receipt of $60 for the sufferers by the late disastrous fire—$56 of which was contributed by the Mennonites of this county. "Long life to the Mennonites," says the treasurer; "Many thanks from over 800 people made homeless by the late fire."

Petty Larceny.

A gang of boys were detected in stealing the cast iron numbers with which the stalls in the northern market were marked. Two of them named Wendler and Singleton were arrested and gave bail for a hearing before Alderman Samson on Friday. Warrants were issued for the arrest of three others.

JOHN WANAMAKER never stops. No sooner is the Christmas tide over, than, without waiting to catch his breath, he is into something else. This time a great Reduction Sale—the first in six years. He is too careful of his reputation to make such an announcement without meaning a good deal by it. Well, whatever it is, "it is an ill wind that blows nobody good." We have the big advertisement on the other page, and the people have the bargains, and Wanamaker has his own way, which we candidly admit is a pretty good way generally. Out of nearly two millions of dollars' worth of goods, there must be something that most everybody wants when it can be had a little off the regular price; and this is the time for excursion parties down to the big town and the big store. 1t&w

Interesting Services

There will be preaching in Salem church of God on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, January 2d and 3d, by eminent ministers connected with the Susquehanna mission society.

Amusements.

"*East Lynne.*"—This favorite drama will be presented in Fulton opera house this evening by Fanny Mountcastle, who in England won much praise and patronage. She has a new version of this play, which is said to be superior to any others. Mr. Chas. R. Thorpe will be her leading support, and her company is said to be a very strong and capable one. There will doubtless be a big audience present.

"*Our Goblins.*"—To-morrow evening Rice