LITTLE BROWN JUGS.

The People Who Buy Them at Breweries Are Very Respectable.

SO SAYS EX-MAYOR ROBT. LIDDELL,

Who Gives the License Court Much Information on the Subject.

FUNNY EPISODES DURING YESTERDAY.

One Applicant Who Was Speedily Convinced and Another Who Was Delightfully Frank.

Ex-Mayor Liddell was on the witness stand of the License Court yesterday. He gave Judge White considerable information about "the little brown jugs." Mr. Liddell's statements were interesting. Wholesale dealers generally came up with the amount of business done last year already prepared on paper, so that the work was much more quickly done. Judge White was particular in inquiring about the jug business, and in many cases evoked promises to shut down on that manner of dealing out liquor.

The second day's hearings of the wholesale liquor dealers' applications attracted a very large crowd to the License Court. Julius Adler & Co., 1001 Liberty street, Fourth ward, were examined first and passed easily. Albert Bertalott, 1015 Liberty street, does a business of $125,000, an increase of $50,000. His increase was chiefly in beer sales.

T. D. Casey, 971 Liberty street, sold goods to the amount of $135,000 last year. He had sold small quantities to people who were refused last year. He knew the persons. He has two wagons, which bear his firm name, and he denied that he ever ran a wagon without a sign on it.

J. H. Fahnestock appeared for himself and Emma Hill, 969 Liberty street. They want a druggist's license, and the Court again spoke of his doubts about druggists' licenses. W. J. Gilmore & Co., 623 Liberty street, druggists, only sold $5,000 worth of liquors last year. L. H. Harris & Co., drugs, 913 and 915 Liberty street, sell only to retail druggists. Their largest order last year was for five barrels.

ROBITZER'S LITTLE POINT.

A Kleinerdlinger, 1034 Penn avenue, does a business of $40,000. He sold to the Concordia Club, which his attorney explained was an old institution and not one organized to evade the liquor law. Mrs. M. E. Pollard, 1044 Penn avenue, said her husband died in January. The business last year amounted to $285,000. John Z. T. Robitzer, 717 Liberty street, does a business of $150,000 a year. He got into a discussion with the court over the fact that he had sold some small quantities to persons refused license. He maintained that a refusal of a license did not take away a man's right to buy for his own use.

Frank A. Eble, 223 Fifth avenue, sells dry-goods. He said he had sold some wet goods, was prosecuted and paid the costs. Judge White said "Call another."

H. F. Dannais appeared for Pier & Dannals. They did a business of $130,000 last year. They had not sold to persons refused a license for seven months. He said it took people some time to find out that the Brooks' law meant business, but they knew it now.

On the opening of the afternoon session H. Browarsky, 361 Fifth avenue, Seventh ward, was examined. He ships to a number of out of town places, because that is his business. His sales were $90,000. H. Obenauer, 395 Fifth avenue, Eighth ward, sold $34,750 last year. He had been prosecuted for selling to minors, but the case was dismissed. Constable Harcum, of the Sixth ward, wrote that the case could be settled for $500, but the proposal was spurned. G. J. Schmitt, 1217 Liberty street, says he sends two quarters of beer to the Frohsinn Society every Tuesday and four quarters to the Turners every Friday. He supplies the Teutonia Society and Bachelors' Club, of Allegheny.

VERY QUICKLY CONVINCED.

William Schuster, 1226 Penn avenue, has a wholesale license and did $25,000 worth of business during the year. He deals only in liquor and wine, not handling beer.

Judge White—Have you sold to any persons who kept unlicensed houses?

Mr. Schuster—There may have been such people got liquor. I did sell to people who bought a gallon or so every week.

Judge White—Then you were a party to illegal liquor selling?

Mr. Schuster—Well, I did not think there was anything against our selling to men that way, but do now, since I hear you say so.

Judge White—If I thought you would continue that business I would not grant you a license.

Mr. Schuster—I will quit it. I don't care for it anyway, as it don't amount to much.

Judge White—Well, you are a candid man and tell the truth about your business. This jug business is the worst feature in the liquor business. People buy them and drink the contents in alleyways, yards, etc.

Frederick Mugele, 545 Fifth avenue, Fourteenth ward, has a license and his business amounted $39,530. The previous year it was $28,510. He deals in liquors of all kinds and bottled beer.

Judge White—Do you sell any to clubs or organizations?

Mr. Mugele—Yes, sir, I furnish the Lochiel Club, on Fourth avenue, with liquor. They get about two gallons per month.

Leopold Rauwolf, 995 Fifth avenue, did $25,300 worth of business last year, against $12,000 the year before. The increase was from the sale of beer. He does not keep bottles, but fills them when called for. He also sells some in jugs and has two wagons to deliver his goods. He does not furnish any to clubs, but does to private families.

Mr. Christy—Who runs the drygoods store next to your place?

Mr. Rauwolf—My wife.

Mr. Christy—Now, sir, is there not an entrance from that store to your place?

Mr. Rauwolf—There was, but I closed it up three months ago. Parties did not come into my place from the drygoods store.

EX-MAYOR LIDDELL ON JUGS.

Charles Friel, 2610 Penn avenue, was the first applicant from the Twelfth ward. He has a bottling license, and his business last year amounted to $21,000, $15,000 of which was for soft drinks, which is less than in former years. He has a large family trade.

Judge White—Don't you think it wrong to sell to unlicensed houses?

Mr. Friel—I have heard that there are a great many unlicensed houses, but I was not aware until I heard you say so that there was anything wrong in selling to them.

In answer to Mr. Christy the applicant stated that his wagons were all covered and they do not go out at night. He discharged one man for staying out after hours.

Spencer & Liddell, Twenty-fourth and Smallman streets, came next. Both members of the firm appeared. Ex-Mayor Liddell did the talking. Their business last year amounted to $163,900 against $196,000 the previous year, $98,000 was from beer, $62,000 from ale and porter, and $3,900 from one and two-gallon jugs. They have seven wagons.

Judge White—Do you send any jugs in wagons?

Mr. Liddel—No, sir, we do not. I only know of one man who got jugs in a wagon, and he is a regular customer in East Liberty. Those who get the jugs belong in the neighborhood of the brewery. They have their little ice boxes to keep the jug in.

JUG CUSTOMERS ARE RESPECTABLE.

Judge White—Did you fix up these ice boxes?

Mr. Liddell—No, sir. The people who come for jugs are private individuals. The largest portion of jugs are bought during the night. We do not have the jugs made especially for that use. They are not branded with our name. The people who buy jugs are as respectable as any class in the county and prefer that way of buying beer rather than go into saloons.

Judge White—Do you sell to any unlicensed houses?

Mr. Liddell—No, sir; we do not sell to any houses that were refused license last year. The wagons are out until 10 o'clock at night, but not after that. The peculiarities of the Brooks law made me watch my business very closely. Our agents go out and get orders, but we take special care to avoid selling to unlicensed houses. I never sold to an unlicensed house where I knew it to be such. I am not aware of any complaint having been made about our jug business. I have watched my business very close and don't think I was away from home more than three nights in the last year.

Mr. Christy—Are there not a good many buckets about your brewery; also more or less drinking?

Mr. Liddell—No, sir; there is not. In the 25 years that I have been in the business I never retailed a drink.

MELVILLE'S CONFESSIONS.

Joseph Speilman, Soho street and Wadsworth avenue, was the only applicant from the Thirteenth ward. He drives an express wagon and never was in the business before. He wants a license to make some money and help pay for his house.

Judge White—If I could regulate it properly I would rather grant six licenses than one, because I would like to see an equal distribution of this large sum of money, but I am afraid that it would increase the sale and consumption of liquors.

John Morris, 924 Fifth avenue, did not apply last year because he thought he could make money in the grocery business, but found that he cannot and would like a bottling license.

John Melville, 894 Fifth avenue, had a bottling license last year, and his receipts amounted to $9,000. He has one wagon, and said the driver sells to anyone who wants to buy, and he didn't care so long as he got the money. The applicant afterward corrected himself, and said he did not mean that his driver sold to everybody, but only delivered beer where it had been ordered. He could furnish the Court with a list of his customers.

Judge White—I can't grant you a license on your testimony. I must see the driver. You may be selling to unlicensed houses.

Mr. Melville—Well, a man can't know all his customers.

Judge White—Your testimony is very unsatisfactory.

Mr. Christy—Did you sell John Morris any beer?

Mr. Melville—Yes, sir; I did.

Mr. Christy—That man was on the stand just before you, and testified he didn't have any beer in his house.

Mr. Melville—I don't think he understood the Judge's question. He meant that he sold none.

Mr. Christy—Did you deliver any beer to No. 25 Ross street?

Mr. Melville—Yes, sir; I did.

Mr. Christy—Are you on the bond of the party at No. 25 Ross street? She is sued for keeping a bawdy house.

Mr. Melville—Yes, sir; I am. Was that a violation of the license law? I did not know what kind of a house she kept.

Joseph Fuhrer & Son, 2701 Butler street. Have a wholesale liquor license; $37,000 was the amount of their business last year, as against $80,000 the previous year. They sold about two barrels a month in bottles, also sold some in jugs and in buckets.

Judge White—The jug trade is a great objection to your place.

Mr. Fuhrer—Well, I did not consider it a serious offense; however, I will quit it in the future.

The Court did not state how much of the list will be taken up to-day, but it is the intention to get through the list, if possible.

THAT ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

Three Defendants Held for Court on an Accident Policy Suit.

Mrs. Hattie Garfield, Dr. H. E. Campbell and R. M. Martin furnished $500 bail for Court on a charge of conspiracy brought by F. H. Kohler, Secretary of the People's Mutual Accident Association.

Kohler testified that J. M. Garfield held a policy in his company, and that after the papers, showing his death, were presented, an investigation and the suit followed. A. K. Stevenson, attorney for Mrs. Garfield, testified to having sent to the company certain affidavits gathered by E. L. Berton, brother of Mrs. Garfield. Mayor Pearson testified that Martin swore before him he had been induced to make his affidavit, and the statements made in the paper were made at the suggestion of someone in Mr. Stevenson's office.

A copy of the original certificate of death stated the cause was pulmonary consumption. C. P. Sorg, of the Pittsburg, Allegheny and Manchester Railway Company, testified they had no record of any accident on the day Mr. Garfield was said to have been injured. Detective Allen, of the Gilkinson Agency, testified as to how he had worked up the case. The defendants were not shown to have been acquainted with each other, or to have ever consulted, and Thomas Marshall, for the defense, said the charges had not been proven and he would not offer any testimony.

WILL CUT OFF THE WATER.

The Residents of Reserve Township Must Come Into Allegheny.

The new Allegheny Councils will have an important measure before them at the next regular meeting. The matter of supplying water to residents outside of the city has been brought up several times, but no definite action has been taken. East street extension divides the Tenth ward and Reserve township. The residents of the township have been receiving water and all the advantages of their neighbors across the street, while their taxes are considerably less.

The Tenth ward people have filed objections and say that the city water supply to the Reserve township people must be cut off or they must be compelled to come into the city. A petition has been prepared and will be circulated to-day among the Reserve township people asking them to come into the city, and if they do not agree to come in, the water supply and other privileges will be cut off.

Some of the residents of the Tenth ward have not the advantages of the Reserve township people and do not propose to pay taxes for what they do not receive.

AN ELECTRIC ROAD

Will be Connected With the New Castle Shannon Incline Plane.

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Castle Shannon Railroad the contract for the engine of the proposed new incline plane was awarded to the Robinson-Rea Company. The other contracts for the cars, the tracks and the general work will be let to-day or to-morrow, to commence work as soon as possible.

The new incline is for freight and passenger service and the old incline will only be utilized for coal traffic. Inasmuch as it will run to the top of the hill on Bailey avenue, it is proposed by the company to stop the car on the right hand track at the Castle Shannon depot for the convenience of the railroad passengers.

In addition to that the company is considering a plan of building an electric railroad from the top of the hill as far as the horseshoe curve, which will make another connection of the incline plane with the railroad.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY.

The Exhibit Continues to Draw and Grow in Interest.

The interest in the fourth annual exhibition by the Pittsburg Amateur Photographers' Society, in the theater of the Pittsburg Club building, was unabated yesterday, the attendance being very large until late last night. The exchange of slides between this city, New York, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis gives an exhibition itself of 600 or 700 pictures, and considerable time is necessary to take in all the points presented.

Some that attracted particular attention were the "Goblin Story" by Louis S. Clarke; a fine bromide enlargement by W. S. Clowe; a flash light by the same; "Only a Boy With His Strange Ways;" panoramic views, very fine and much admired on account of the difficulty of obtaining continuity. The exhibits of Miss Edith Darlington and Mr. O'Hara Darlington were much admired. The gold medal offered by the former was awarded Mr. A. S. Murray, of California, for artistic merit.

JESSE HARPER'S DEATH

Is Still a Matter of Considerable Suspicion to His Relatives.

Daniel Zinn, the brother-in-law of Mrs. Jesse Harper, is said to be doing everything he can to induce that lady to have the body of her husband exhumed in order to find out whether it is true that Jesse Harper was foully dealt with at the Dixmont Insane Asylum previous to his death.

The Coroner said last night that he had not yet been requested to investigate the matter, but that he would do so if he is asked.

Dr. Hutchison, the Superintendent of the asylum, refused to have anything more to say on the subject with newspaper men, simply because, he remarked, there is nothing more to be said.

PETTY WITHDRAWS

And John Cox Seems to Have an Easy Path Before Him.

It was stated last night that at a meeting of a number of the friends of R. B. Petty, Esq., yesterday, it was decided, Mr. Petty so wishing it, that he would withdraw from the contest for the Republican nomination for District Attorney.

Hon. John Cox is the man slated for the nomination, and Mr. Petty having no desire to be posted up only to be knocked down, decided to withdraw.

A Priest Honored.

The St. Augustine Literary Society presented Father Gregory, of the St. Augustine Church, last night with a fine portrait of himself. Father Gregory accepted the gift and thanked the society for it. He leaves shortly for Europe for the benefit of his health.

A Soiree at the Randall Club.

The members of the Randall Club held a very entertaining musical soiree last evening at their rooms on Sixth avenue. Some of the best known local musicians were present and a very interesting programme was rendered.

WANT A REDUCTION.

The Iron Manufacturers Will Not Pay the Present Wage Scale.

A STRIKE OR LOCKOUT EXPECTED.

Ice Dealers Meet and Refuse to Grant the Drivers' Demands.

GLASS PACKERS CAN'T GET A CHARTER

Notwithstanding the fact that President Weihe and Secretary Martin have issued a notice to the members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers on the wage question, a prominent member yesterday gave the opinion of his lodge on the subject. As is well known the iron and steel trade is not in very good shape at present and the manufacturers contemplate a big reduction in wages when the new scale is made in June. All the lodges in the Amalgamated Association have prepared their views on the matter and almost all agree that the present scale can be continued for another year.

An old member of the association who has served his lodge as a delegate to the annual conventions for three terms, was seen by a reporter for this paper yesterday and said:

"The iron trade is dull and the men want the present wages continued for another year, but they will not succeed. The manufacturers have some very good arguments showing that a reduction in wages is absolutely necessary, but the men have no arguments to counteract them, and I believe they will lose. The Amalgamated Association is as strong to-day as far as membership is concerned as it ever was, but many of the members have no backbone. They will accept a reduction rather than remain idle for a short time and win a strike. I am tired of the business, and will not represent my lodge in the convention this year. If the men made a determined stand for a continuance of the present scale, I believe they would win, but I do not think they will. They have not the material in the organization that they had a few years ago, and the present members may weaken."

Some of the members of N. D. A. 217, K. of L., are applying for membership to the Amalgamated Association, but they will not be received unless they can show that they are in good standing in the order and have cards permitting them to join another organization.

The following telegram on the wage matter was received at this office last evening from Wheeling:

As is usual at this time of year, when the Amalgamated people and nailers are active in the preparation of the scales for the coming 12 months, there is a great cry being raised among the nail manufacturers as to the terrible condition of trade and allegations of a dismal outlook for the future are to be heard everywhere. To-day a leading local manufacturer almost shed tears as he dwelt upon the dullness of trade in his line. He didn't see any chance for an improved demand for six months to come, but could not predict any permanent improvement, mainly for the reason that the wire nail was meeting with a constantly increasing demand, which took the cream of the cut nail trade and a good deal of the skim milk besides.

It is settled that the manufacturers are going to insist upon a large reduction when the new scale is presented to them, and this will be particularly the case with small nails. The men are willing to concede a cut in those sizes which are being turned out by the tack factory pickling process, but nothing more. A nailer said to-day: "A reduction in wages would bring no relief to the manufacturers, but would on the contrary be a bad thing for them by breaking down the pool. We have refused the reduction proposed by some mills in the Wheeling district recently, but we will concede one thing, and that is a reduction on fine threepenny to 85 cents, 36 cents off from the present price. This reduction was offered to two mills, to go into effect at once, and was accepted, but we got no more work out of them than before. That is about the way it would be if we were to concede a general reduction. Many nailers are in favor of demanding a straight 21-cent scale all through, and this will probably be laid before the Amalgamated convention.

CANNOT GET A CHARTER.

The Glass Packers Threaten to Leave the Knights of Labor.

The glass packers are determined to form a national organization composed of all workers not eligible to membership in the American Flints and L. A. 300, K. of L. They intended to form a National Trade District of the Knights of Labor, but Master Workman Ross, of D. A. 3 has filed a protest against the issuing of a charter. He claims that according to the law of the order a N. T. D. cannot be formed of mixed assemblies.

Notwithstanding this protest a meeting has been called for next Sunday afternoon, and will be held at Kauffeld's Hall, on Carson street, Southside, to complete the organization. If they cannot obtain a charter they propose to leave the order and organize a national organization to be attached to the American Federation of Trades.

There will be a number of delegates present from the Wheeling district.

ICE MEN MEET.

They Put Up the Price on Wholesalers and Talk About Wages.

The Pittsburg and Allegheny Ice Exchange held an important meeting yesterday afternoon at their rooms, No. 47 South Diamond street, Allegheny. The rates for ice during the summer to private consumers will remain the same, but the rates to wholesalers will be increased 2½ cents per 100 pounds.

The drivers have demanded an advance in wages, which has been refused, but may be considered at a future meeting. They have been paid $14 per week and ask for an advance of $2 per week. They claim that they are entitled to a portion of the advance in the price of ice, but the dealers are not willing to grant it. Several dealers were spoken to last evening and say that the demands are unreasonable and will not be paid.

The Strike at Duquesne.

The strike at the Duquesne Steel Rail Works has not yet been settled, although the firm attempted to compromise the matter. It will be remembered the rail straightener struck because the company would not pay more than $2 50 per day, while the regular pay for rail straightening is $6 per day. The firm agreed to pay $4, which the men accepted, but refused to allow the firm to discharge one of their men.

Coal Miners' Wages.

The railroad coal operators will meet in the gentlemen's parlor of the Monongahela House this morning to appoint a committee to meet a like committee of miners to arrange a scale of wages. The miners will hold a convention on Monday and appoint their representatives. It is probable that 71½ cents will be agreed upon for the first six months of the year, and 76½ cents for the last six months.

The Reduction in Wages Accepted.

The strike over a reduction of wages at Hogsett's coke works ended yesterday morning by the men going to work and accepting the reduction. The Youngstown Coke Works also started up at a reduction of 6½ per cent in wages below last week's and monthly pay-days as heretofore. The Redstone Coke Works superintendent says their company will not make any reduction.

The Engravers' Scale.

A conference of committees from the American Flint and Lime Glass Association and the Workers' Union was held yesterday to arrange the scale of the workers in the engraving departments. The scale was not arranged, but the work is progressing satisfactorily and will likely be settled to-day.

The Plumbers' Walking Delegate.

The Twin City Association No. 4, of Journeymen Plumbers and Gas Fitters, met last evening, and decided to put a walking delegate in the field. John Beck, the special agent of the Marble Slate and Tile Workers' Union, was selected, and he received his commission last evening.

Reduced Coal Rates.

The coal rates within the 40-mile radius from Pittsburg to Mahoning and Shenango Valley points has been fixed at 60 cents, a reduction of 10 cents from the old rate. The new rates will go into effect on the 15th.

Labor Notes.

THE shipment of ore from the lakes has been commenced.

SOME of the miners in the fourth pool went to work yesterday at the 2-cent rate, which is a reduction of ½ cent a bushel.

TWENTY-THREE local unions of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union have agreed to participate in the reunion to be held at Rock Point in June.

ISAAC CLINE's report of the condition of the window glass trade this week shows that there are 1,076 pots operating and 230 idle, an increase of 12 idle pots this week.

NOTES AND NOTIONS.

Many Matters of Much and Little Moment Tersely Treated.

A GAMBOL on the green—A sucker at faro.

ARBOR DAY would be a good day to plant that yearly joke forever.

HANS VON BULOW pretends to be eccentric. He is a musician of course.

A GERMAN officer has found a new explosive. It is probably the Teutonic bust.

MOODY says shouting and psalm singing will never cover up sins. What will, please?

ANDREW CARNEGIE'S charges against the Pennsylvania are simply ironical raillery.

THE girl who played on her young man's feelings probably touched his heart strings.

ALL the firms except one in Lawrenceville have signed the marble, slate and tile workers' scale.

NIAGARA FALLS cranks again threaten the country. Fortunately they generally take a tumble.

MRS. CLEVELAND and her husband will spend a few weeks at Narragansett Pier this summer.

H. C. OVERHOLT, President of the National Foundry and Pipe Works at Scottdale, is in the city.

MRS. L. V. DAULER entertained the Toboggan Club at her residence in Oakland last evening.

THE committee to redistrict the city failed to secure a quorum at their meeting yesterday afternoon.

COUNT PAPENHEIM has absconded from Bavaria to New York. McAllister must amend his list to 401.

THE unknown man found dead at Thirty-third street, has been identified as being one Matthew Freeman.

YOUNG CHRIS MAGEE, employed as messenger in the Building Inspector's office, fell and dislocated his shoulder.

THERE were 3,000 visitors present at Mantaumaker's Bethany Sabbath school last Sunday. He spoke of poor Job's lot.

THE Mayor of Jersey City has never seen a baseball game. This confirms the opinion that the Phillies can't play ball.

ANNIE WAGNER has just been released from her fifteenth term in the workhouse, and will probably go up for another whirl at it.

THE invariably licked Chicagoes are slowly eating their way home by way of numerous banquets. It is evidently not a fast club.

A YOUNG Alabama wife put cotton in her biscuit just to play a joke on her husband, and the mean man never knew the difference.

WESTERN States are encouraging poolselling on races. After they have played the short end awhile they will discourage poolselling.

THE prize offered for the best means of watering stock has not yet been claimed. Gas companies prefer to stick to their own lines.

GOVERNOR WATERMAN, of California, is growing rich on his gold mining ventures. His very name would frighten away Pittsburg speculators.

NEW YORK is still weeping because she must feed 8,000 Pennsylvania troops during the centennial. Don't cry, sis. You may want those troops some day.

C. C. CORCORAN, the baritone, with his family, will leave for Florence, Italy, next Monday, and remain two years. Mr. C. will cultivate his voice.

WARD MCALLISTER haughtily says no gentleman would render an account of money in his hands. These delicate, sensitive natures will bear watching.

EDISON prides himself upon the tropical spreading palms in his offices. That's nothing. Pittsburg can boast of a lot of spreading palms in her lawyer's offices.

COLONEL WM. OSBORN, who has been visiting in the city, went to Topeka last evening. He will ride via the Hannibal, a line he helped to build over 25 years ago.

SEWARD H. MURRAY, of the Oil Exchange, took a straw vote yesterday with the result of 30 votes for whisky and 29 for prohibition. The boys are evidently in hard luck.

GEORGIE FRANCIS brought suit yesterday against Alice Hamilton for selling liquor without license. Other charges were made. Bail to the amount of $2,500 was furnished.

FATHER AGOSTINO, the eloquent Roman monk, doesn't like to have reporters put down what he says. Most people object to having reporters put down what they don't say.

DEPOT MASTER BUTLER, at the Union station, celebrates the twenty-fifth anniversary of his appointment to-day. Mr. Butler claims to be the oldest depot master in the country.

FRANK CONNELLY, managing the benefit at the Bijou this afternoon for the Exposition fund, has engaged Harry Kerwell's company to bring the mat to a lively and successful close.

THE Harrisons are not feeling well. Carrie says its malaria and Ben says its French cook. Babe McKee says its colic. A mean Chicago paper tells them all to go back to corn pone and molasses.

MRS. BRIDGET KANE was held in $1,000 bail for court last night by Magistrate Hyndman on the charge of illegal liquor selling. This is the woman whose case was ignored by the grand jury recently.

THE President of the New York Health Board sagely remarks that illuminating gas is not injurious. This will probably not increase gas bills in the East End where the usual spark is light enough.

IMPULSIVE insanity is a new name given by physicians to the old weakness of murdering, and then running away after the alleged patient realizes his crime. A little "string halt" would be a good remedy.

THAT western German who deliberately shot himself with a cannon must have been more than half shot. It was the only way he knew of getting out of town, but even then he couldn't escape Milwaukee bier.

THE reason the Pittsburg Exposition does not resemble General Grant's monument is that the former will be completed on time. Secretary Batchelor is all smiles and good humor, and promises that the show will be a corker.

JOSEP FOLEY was refused a drink in Auden's saloon on the Southside last night, and out of revenge he began throwing beer kegs against the saloon door. The police took him to the Twenty-eighth ward station house to cool his anger.

WHAT great fun it is to see, a man of harmless prophesie, who issues his futile fakes daille, and smokes a paralytic tobie, and says that us, the people, we, must never name him with a o——; now he says with ghoulish glee, this afternoon more rain will be, and everybody, both you and me, will give to Wiggins a great big fee, if he takes a trip beyond the sea, or will decide to go and dee.

THE MECHANICS' HALL.

Charter Applied for by the Jr. O. U. A. M. of the Southside.

The American Mechanics' Hall Association of the Southside yesterday filed in court an application for a charter. The membership of the association consists of a committee of five members from each council of the senior and junior orders of the United American Mechanics of the Southside.

The directors specified in the application as having been duly elected are James Tarr, John D. Casey, Mark Andrews, Hugh M. Gilmore, A. H. Sunshine, Thomas Pshell, Isaac W. Riggs and Frank R. Dyer.

The "Benefit" For the Exposition.

This afternoon at Bijou comes the extensively advertised and highly promising performance gotten up by our cotemporary the *Leader*, for the benefit of the Exposition fund. Our columns have already set forth the attractions in detail. It only remains to be said that they embrace excellent features for an afternoon's entertainment. That those who patronize it will receive no narrow allowance of enjoyment may be inferred from the fact the curtain will rise at 1:45, and one attraction succeed another from then till 5 o'clock.

An Abandoned Baby.

The Children's Aid Society took charge of a 10-month-old child yesterday that was alleged to have been abandoned by its mother, Grace Wallace, at the Allegheny General Hospital in January and which had been taken to the Allegheny City Home on the 4th of this month. It had been removed to the Home by order of Major Hunker, Secretary of the Poor Board, who was told a pitiful tale about it by the hospital authorities. The child was born at the hospital on the 26th of last July, its mother being unable to pay for its support since.

Another Grip Broke.

Another gripman was thrown out of his car on the Citizens' Traction line at the Forks of the Road yesterday evening because the grip broke. This time it was John Fry, and he was badly hurt by falling on the cobble stones. Travel was delayed an hour.

False Alarms.

A large quantity of old iron at Jones & Laughlins' furnace, on Second avenue, was blasted last evening to make room for a new furnace. The noise of the blast was very loud, was heard all over the city, and gave rise to reports of boiler explosions.

FORTUNE'S CHILDREN.

The Lucky Man Was in Demand At the Sale of Unclaimed Freight.

AN EXPRESS COMPANY'S SURPRISE.

Many Funny Results When Mysterious Packages Were Opened.

A BARREL OF VINEGAR BECOMES WINE

"It is better to be born lucky than rich." The majority of mankind prefer being rich and taking chances with luck.

The man who fortune constantly smiles upon was in demand yesterday at the unclaimed freight sale of the American Express Company at Henry's auction rooms on Market street. There it was like buying a pig in a poke. You bid on something when you had no idea what it was. To secure something valuable was where the luck came in.

There were 434 packages sold at auction. Everybody knew what was in the four hundredth and thirty-fifth package, but no one was on speaking terms with the contents of the other 434, which were as exclusive as New York's 400. These packages included everything from ancient cotton foot gear to a house and lot. The latter was on paper. None of the packages were known to be very valuable.

HOW SOME WERE FOOLED.

Some patent medicine bottles were labeled "worth its weight in gold," but nobody seemed willing to swap even a trade dollar for one. There was a book of blank checks on a city bank which would be worth millions if you could only persuade a few millionaires to sign their names at the bottom. The book is a silent monument of "what might be."

There was a barrel which would prove invaluable License Court testimony if delivered at your back door at 13 o'clock. It was said to contain vinegar. Three dollars was paid by the lucky customer for the half barrel of excellent catawba wine.

A package of old clothes brought 25 cents, and immediately after 95 cents was paid for a box of medicine warranted to cure everything from a case of "swelled head" to a broken neck.

A number of valuable architectural plans and specifications were sold for 65 cents a volume. They are worth much more.

LOVE OF MYSTERY.

One man captured a box which was evidently intended for a Christmas present. It contained a varied assortment of ladies' and childrens' collars, gloves and ribbons. He said he would find them useful. He looked like a married man.

Articles that could be easily examined, such as trunks and satchels, brought a good price if they had a fine plethoric appearance, but a hungry satchel was trusted about as much as *Cuarius* in Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar." The more mysterious the package looked the higher the bidding. Bidders would have simply gone wild over a policeman if he had been put up at auction immediately after arresting a suspicious looking tramp.

Some high prices were paid for trunks, but they were removed unopened, so that the curious did not learn if the purchaser was lucky or otherwise. A number of albums were purchased for a very small sum by those present at the sale. Every package was sold.

B. H. GROVER DEAD.

The Popular Manager of Harris' Theater Dies at Midnight.

The legion of friends of Mr. B. H. Grover, the late manager of Harris' Theater, will be grieved to learn of his death, which occurred at the Homeopathic Hospital shortly before midnight. Mr. Grover was suffering from a complication of diseases, and his death occurred unexpectedly after only a week's illness. He had been living at Sewickley during the past winter, but went to the St. Charles Hotel a few days ago. Here he was taken ill, and was moved to the hospital.

He had been in the show business all his life. For many years he was connected with Barnum's circus. He came to Harris' Theater at the commencement of last season. Mr. Grover was about 55 years of age. He leaves a wife and three children in Washington, D. C. Mr. Leonard F. Grover, the playwright, is a brother of the deceased. The remains will likely be interred in this city.

FRANKLIN B. GOWEN.

The Ex-Railroad King Pays Pittsburg a Mysterious Visit.

Franklin B. Gowen, ex-President of the Reading Railroad, and a man well known in financial circles, is at the Monongahela House. Mr. Gowen arrived on the limited.

The object of his visit to the city is not known. A reporter sent a card to his room, but Mr. Gowen sent word back that he had retired, and could be seen in the morning.

A conference of railroad coal operators is to be held at the hotel to-day, and as Mr. Gowen is interested in anthracite coal fields, a gentleman suggested that he had probably come here to attend the conference, but this is hardly possible.

CHINESE HOSPITAL PATIENTS,

A Lady Doctor From the Flowery Land Will Tell About Them.

Dr. Elizabeth Reifsnyder, lately head physician of the Woman's Hospital, in Shanghai, China, will address a meeting in the Y. M. C. A. chapel to-morrow at 3 o'clock. The Woman's Hospital is under the care of the Woman's Union Missionary Society, an undenominational organization formed in 1869.

The hospital was opened for Chinese women and children in 1884. During 1886 to 1888 more than 60,000 patients were treated in the dispensary, 400 in the wards and 80,000 prescriptions were filled. Much of the credit of this work is due to Dr. Reifsnyder.

WILL INVESTIGATE THE PEN.

The Senate Appropriation Committee to Arrive in the City To-Day.

The Senate Appropriation Committee will arrive in the city this morning. The members will pay strict attention to the Western Penitentiary. They will be accompanied by Senator Robbins, who is anxious to have the Riverside prison investigated.

The appropriation for the penitentiary will depend largely on the showing made by its officers before this committee.

The committee will also look into the needs of the various charitable institutions in this neighborhood.

The Firm Says Differently.

We have received from Messrs. Godfrey & Clark, paper manufacturers, a disavowal of the interview attributed to their firm in Wednesday's issue respecting inequalities of freight rates. They say they are satisfied with the Pennsylvania Railroad's charges and treatment. The explanation of the matter is that the interview just as printed in THE DISPATCH was had with Mr. Edward Godfrey, an attache of the firm. The reporter's error consisted in attributing it to the firm, the reporter supposing Mr. Edward Godfrey was a member of the firm, which turns out not to be the case.

A Big Deal.

The largest real estate sale ever made at McKeesport took place yesterday when a syndicate of Pittsburg and McKeesport capitalists, headed by James S. Kuhn, cashier of the First National Bank, purchased the Power tract for $150,000. The ground consists of nearly 100 acres, all of which is located within the town limits. The syndicate will form a chartered company with a capital stock to be decided on at a future date, and will lay out the ground into city lots. They will also build several hundred dwellings to be sold on the monthly payment plan.

Elected Their Officers.

The Fire Insurance Secretary's Club met yesterday afternoon in their rooms on Fourth avenue for the purpose of electing the officers of their association. The same gentlemen who officiated last year were re-elected: Captain P. Herbert, President; H. F. Eggers, Secretary, and Hillis McCowan, Treasurer.

Is It Oliver Wolff?

The body found near the city line in the Monongahela river on Wednesday night is supposed to be that of Oliver Wolf, of Washington county, because a letter was found in the pockets containing that name. The body will remain in the morgue to await identification.

Orator Hurd Still Lives.

Frank Hurd, the free trader of Toledo, dropped into Pittsburg from some quarter early yesterday morning, and registered at the Seventh Avenue Hotel. He left in the afternoon for parts unknown.

PHILADELPHIA IS AWAKE.

Mr. Carnegie's Address Received With Great Interest in the Quaker City—His Points Well Taken.

H. Sellers McKee said yesterday that he was not interested in the fight made by Mr. Carnegie against the Pennsylvania road. He noticed that all the industries along the line were prosperous, and this is an indication to him that the road is treating shippers fairly.

A Philadelphia business man going West last night, who refused to give his name, but seemed to be well posted on the freight situation, said: "Mr. Carnegie's speech was received with as much interest in Philadelphia as in Pittsburg. The business men of the Quaker City have the same complaints of discrimination to make, and the result of this agitation will be such a ground swell of public opinion against it that if this Legislature refuses to pass anti-discrimination legislation the next one will not dare to dodge the issue.

"I talked yesterday with a number of prominent Pennsylvania officials, and twitted them about Mr. Carnegie's attack. They replied that Mr. Carnegie had no reason to complain. But for all that Mr. Carnegie's points are well taken in Philadelphia, and the business men and manufacturers propose to continue the agitation. If Pittsburg and Philadelphia combine against the road these evils can soon be corrected."

GOOD AND BAD BALLS.

How the Police Authorities Propose to Discriminate.

The first application for license to hold a public ball was filed with Superintendent of Police Weir yesterday by the W. C. Taylor Hunting and Fishing Club of the West End. The Department of Public Safety has had printed a blank form of application, which stipulates that the parties signing and who desire to hold a ball, expressly agree to conduct it in strict accordance with the ordinance governing public balls, passed by Councils two weeks ago.

The applicant must wait for several days before his license is granted in order to give the department time to investigate as to his fitness and the character of the proposed ball. If the investigation is satisfactory the license is issued, no fee being charged; but if not satisfactory, it is refused. Failure to apply for a license for a ball, or the toleration of disorder at a ball after the license is issued, subjects each member of the committee or organization conducting the ball to a fine of $50 or 30 days to the work house.

THIS IS FAST RUNNING.

An Engine Fails to Overtake an Overland Flyer—Swift Traveling.

Pittsburg railroad men are just now talking about the "Golden Gate special" on the Union Pacific road from Council Bluffs to San Francisco, which is one of the fastest trains in the world.

The other day two English tea merchants, bound for Japan, missed the flyer by five hours. As it was necessary for them to catch the train or wait six weeks in San Francisco for another vessel, they hired a special engine and car to overtake the special. After running 519 miles they found they had only gained an hour, and at that rate the train would reach the Pacific before they did. The flyer was then held for them at Cheyenne.

INCREASING THEIR FUND.

Friends of the Colored Women's Home Trying to Raise Money.

The friends of the Aged and Infirm Colored Women's Home gave a supper and fair at Lafayette Hall yesterday for the benefit of the institution, which is in need of funds. Dinner was served from 11 A. M. to 3 P. M., and was well attended. In the evening a fair was held. The various stands and booths were prettily decorated with laces and bright colored material. The attendance was not very large.

The home has now eight inmates. It is the wish of the managers to purchase ground and erect an additional building in order to accommodate those who wish to enter.

Allegheny Public Contracts.

The Out-of-door Relief Committee of the Allegheny Poor Board held a meeting last night and awarded the following contracts for the ensuing six months: Shoes, R. Taggart & Son; coal, Eastern district, Panhandle Coal Company; Western district, Lee & Hamilton.

Working in Earnest.

The Prohibitionists held a meeting in the Fifth Avenue Market House last night. J. E Ditweiler, of Kansas, and Charles Tussey made rattling addresses. The music was quite a feature.

Solid Value.

Our reputation of being the lowest-priced clothiers in this city has been obtained by always giving purchasers solid value for their money. We can and do undersell our competitors in the clothing line, and we stand ready to back up our assertion with goods and prices. Here are a few specials for to-day and to-morrow. Call and see 'em. Men's fine spring suits, $8, $10, $12. Spring overcoats, silk-faced, and cut on the latest box pattern, and "very English," $10 and $12, some silk-lined. Special in hats, men's crush hats, tobacco brown and side nutria, at 38c, worth $1.