SECOND PART.

THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH.

PAGES 9 TO 10.

PITTSBURG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1890.

SEEKING FOR A LAW.

Councils Asking for Authority to Appropriate the Necessary Money

TO BUILD FREE BRIDGES.

A Hot Discussion on the Propriety of Taxing Church Property.

DOGS WILL HAVE TO BE LICENSED.

Chief Bigelow's Bill for His European Trip Ordered Paid.

ANOTHER HUNT FOR A POOR FARM SITE

Free bridges to the Southside was the feature of the discussion in Councils yesterday. It has lost no freshness from the fact that it has been under consideration for 17 years, neither have the Southside members lost their interest in the matter.

Mr. A. C. Robertson opened the ball in Select Council by presenting a blank ordinance providing for a free bridge over the Monongahela river, which shall be free for all purposes. He asked that this ordinance be referred to the existing Committeee on Free Bridges, and also requested that the committee be made permanent.

Mr. Lambie presented the report of the Free Bridges Committee. He read a resolution providing that the Legislative bill drafted by the City Attorney be not presented to the next Legislature, as having carefully considered the opinion of the City Attorney, the committee had coincided with his belief that "special legislation relative to bridges and fences was unconstitutional."

Free Bridges Not Unconstitutional.

The resolution also called attention to pages 47, 48, and 49 of the city digest to qualify their position, and stated that the committee believed that the city already had sufficient power to proceed with the work of making free bridges over the Monongahela river, which was according to the City Attorney's opinion, and which the committee believed to be correct. By this, Mr. Lambie states, he did not mean that free bridges were unconstitutional, but that legislation on the subject, to be legal, must be general, and not for the benefit of a particular community.

Mr. Keating and Mr. Robertson spoke on the same subject, Mr. Robertson stating that as there was nothing to prevent the city from proceeding in the free bridge matter he had introduced his blank ordinance, and he hoped there would not be a member of either branch of Councils who would stand in the way of this great benefit to the people.

Mr. Robertson's resolution was adopted and then another resolution was presented and adopted requesting B. F. Jones to appoint four persons to the Board of Appraisers provided for in the act of May 19, 1873. The act provides that B. F. Jones, George R. White, John McDevitt, James Park, Jr., and Joseph Dilworth be constituted a Board of Appraisers to appraise "the actual cash valuation of the capital stock of any one or more of the bridge companies owning and operating a bridge within the corporate limits of the city." All but B. F. Jones of the appointed board having died, the resolution requests him to appoint new members in their places according to a provision of the same act.

Common Council Takes a Whirl.

After Select Council was gotten through with the free bridge question for the day, as it thought, Common Council proceeded to take a fall out of it. The reference of the ordinance to the Free Bridge Committee was concurred in, when the resolution was taken up asking Mr. Jones to fill the commission. Mr. McGee moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee for further investigation. He believed that a general act could be passed for free bridges, but he did not believe that the old commission could be used. It was created under the old constitution, it had never met so far as was known, all the members but one were dead and he did not think Mr. Jones could breathe life into it. It was juggling with the people of the Southside to pretend to depend on the old act.

Mr. O'Donnell wanted to try the old act. If it was then decided that Mr. Jones had no power to fill the vacancies, then a new way could be adopted.

Mr. Flinn said that on the Southside free bridges were regarded as buncombe to be used at election times. There was a great deal of talk and that was all. He would like to know how these free bridges could be gotten. He did not expect it to be done without increased taxation. Things must be paid for. He was opposed to sending the matter to the Finance Committee, as he had none too much faith in that body.

Mr. Mullen was opposed to any postponement, and Mr. Bigham thought that better legal light should be obtained; the opinion of the City Attorney was no opinion at all. Mr. Magee, in speaking of appropriating free bridge money, said any surplus at the end of the year would go into the sinking fund.

Differs With Controller Morrow.

The Chair said: "I would like to say to the gentleman from the Fourteenth ward that the Controller says it will not."

"And I will say to the Chair," replied Mr. Magee, that if he don't put the surplus in the sinking fund he will be mandamused. The law must be obeyed."

Dr. Brewster thought they had all the information needed. A director of the South Tenth street bridge had told him that that bridge could be bought reasonably, and it would pay for itself in from five to seven years.

The Chair thought that was a good reason why the bridge could not be bought reasonably, and Mr. Ferguson suggested that the bridge was falling down.

Mr. Bigham offered an amendment to send the matter back to the Committee on Free Bridges and Mr. Magee accepted the amendment.

Mr. Ferguson wanted to know why the city couldn't appropriate money for bridges as well as for any other purpose; why it couldn't build a bridge without further legislation? Mr. Bigham had said this was illegal. Mr. Ferguson couldn't understand this, although Mr. Bigham was a lawyer and might know more law than Mr. Ferguson.

This allusion to Mr. Bigham's legal learning created a laugh, which was renewed when Mr. Mullen as a Southside representative asked that the motion to recommit be voted down and Mr. Flinn, in his capacity as Southside representative, hoped the motion would be adopted.

The motion was adopted and the whole matter went back to the Committee on Free Bridges.

The action of Common Council was reported to the Select branch and concurred in.

BIGELOW'S BILL PAID.

The Expenses of His Visit to Mrs. Schenley to be Defrayed—Mr. Scott's Check Accepted—Officials Must Get Consent of Councils for Future Trips.

The bill for the expenses of Chief Bigelow and party to England was brought up again in Common Council by Mr. Pitcairn, who moved that the action of Council in rejecting the resolution be reconsidered. This was agreed to by a vote of 30 ayes to 4 noes.

An amendment was offered reducing the amount from $1,328 35 to $928 35, Mr. J. B. Scott having sent his check for $400 to Mr. Bigelow to cover Mr. Scott's portion of the outlay. This amendment was agreed to and the resolution was adopted by a vote of 32 ayes to 6 noes. The vote stood:

Ayes—Messrs. Angloch, Brown, Crawford, Donley, Delaney, Elliott, Ertzman, Ferguson, Flinn, Groetzinger, Hagmaier, Jarrett, Johnston, Larkin, Lowry, Magee, Mason, Metcalfe, McClure, McEldowney, MacGonigle, O'Connor, Pitcairn, Pfeifer, Shannon, Taggart, Voight, Wallace, Wilson, White, Wright, Williams—32.

Noes—Messrs. Brewster, Fox, O'Donnell, Russell, Stewart and President Holliday—6.

Mr. Magee, in casting his vote, said he thought the city should have paid the entire amount, but as Councils would not agree to it he would vote for a partial payment.

As soon as this matter was brought up in Select Council, after running the gauntlet of the other branch, Mr. Robertson sprung an amendment to the resolution authorizing the payment of the bill, as follows:

That from and after the passage of this resolution no person or persons shall undertake any mission in the interest of the city or otherwise unless first authorized by the Councils of the said city, where the expenses are to be paid out of the city treasury.

Did Not Want to Set a Precedent.

He said in explanation that he desired to emphasize that if this bill was paid it was not to be taken as a precedent in the future by others to do likewise.

The amendment was ruled out of order and the resolution was then passed by a vote of 21 to 2, the negative votes being cast by Messrs. Braun and Warner. Mr. Robertson then presented his amendment in the form of a resolution.

Mr. Keating opposed it. He had been much mortified by the unpleasant bickering that had taken place over the Bigelow expense account and thought it extremely parsimonious for a great city like Pittsburg to reward the labors of citizens who had worked hard to secure something she needed by finding fault with the cost. Mr. Bigelow had secured a bargain in the 19 acres for an entrance. There had been many difficulties to overcome owing to the untimely death of the late R. B. Carnahan, and the Blind Asylum site difficulty, and it was necessary for the gentlemen who did go, to see Mrs. Schenley personally. Mr. Keating thought that if Mr. Bigelow had come before Councils and asked permission to have made this trip at an estimated cost of, say, $300, there were some big-headed city officials and members of Council who would have done all they could to defeat it, in their zeal for economy or some other laudable desire.

Humiliating a City Official.

The bill of Mr. Bigelow was for money spent on business strictly, and there was not a cent in it for luxury or sightseeing. But since he had been humiliated so grossly in an effort to get back his own, it was very unlikely that any other city officer would ever take chances on the same experience. Therefore, there was no use in passing such a resolution. Even if it was passed, it would die with the term of the present Council. Next year things would be where they are now.

Mr. Robertson denied this. Under the new charter, resolutions of this sort remained in force until repealed by a special ordinance. He thought the line on this sort of expense should be drawn by Councils, and the city officers should not be allowed to run around at will, spending the people's money. Councils were the proper authorities to do that, and they must see to it that their authority was not usurped. This resolution would do that.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 24 to 1, Mr. Keating voting only in the negative.

TAXING CHURCH PROPERTY.

Mr. Robertson Opens a Hot Discussion by Advocating the Assessment of All Real Estate—Mr. Lambie Comes Back at Him—Both Called to Order.

Select Council enjoyed itself for half an hour discussing an ordinance exempting churches, schools, hospitals or public institutions from the payment of building permit fees on buildings to be used for educational, charitable or religious purposes.

Mr. Robertson took the floor in opposition. He said the tendency of the best class of thinking people of the present age is in favor of the taxation of church property. Churches are only corporations, and it is a wrong discrimination to exempt them and tax other corporations. If this keeps on the great mass of taxation of this country will fall upon the people who have little or nothing and the millionaire corporations of every kind and class will be exempted. The Third ward of this city shows the impropriety of this idea. Nearly one-sixth of the ward is covered by church property, free of taxation. If that property, valuable for business purposes, as it is, was taxed like contiguous property, as by right it ought to be, the bulk of it would be yielding

An Honest Revenue to the City,

and it would be on the market for sale in the over-crowded down-town district. It would be far better and more equitable for the people who own churches to pay the taxes on them—better for the people and the city as well. In this ordinance it was intended to usurp the powers of the individual taxpayer for the benefit of the corporation. While this was true of churches it was equally true of other corporations, such as those contemplated in this ordinance."

Mr. Lambie thought Mr. Robertson's remarks had been entirely out of place, speaking, as he had been, on a motion to suspend the rules to consider the ordinance on two reading, but since so much had been said, more would be in order. He thought, in the first place, that the building permit tax should be abolished altogether.

"It was wrong," Mr. Lambie continued, "to tax a man for building a house and then tax him more for his property after the house was built. It would seem more proper to hold out inducements for people to build, the better class of buildings the better for the city. After the structure was completed the city would get its revenue from the increased legitimate valuation.

"I believe in having a careful building inspection, and in allowing no one to build without a permit, but I think the salary of the inspectors should come from the city, and not from the comparatively few citizens who erected buildings to improve the city."

Mr. Lambie cited the case of the Seventh and Eighth wards, now building a new school house, and said the directors had been taxed $90 for a building permit. He failed to see the propriety in that, of the city paying a tax for the erection of her own buildings.

A Blot on the City Government.

Mr. Robertson replied that he was more than willing to wipe out the building permit tax altogether. He thought it a blot on the city government, but if it could not be removed he was opposed to discriminating against any one class of corporations. Bodies that were able to build, whether churches or not, ought to pay the same as others. He was opposed to making one class of citizens pay for the benefits which the whole enjoyed.

Mr. Lambie replied: "That argument will cut both ways. Mr. Robertson, who poses as the champion of free bridges had better not try to use such reasoning, for with it he attacks his own pet project. If it is wrong to legislate for the whole city at the expense of one class, it is equally wrong to legislate for one class at the expense of the whole. That is exactly what free bridges to the Southside amounts to."

The discussion was getting interesting at this point. Mr. Robertson had risen to reply before Mr. Lambie had ceased, but Chairman Ford ended the matter by calling both to order, and a vote being taken on the motion to suspend rules, it was defeated by a tie vote. Later in the session Mr. Robertson desired to reconsider this vote to take decisive action on the bill, but it was voted down.

A HUNT WILL SOON BEGIN

For a Poor Farm on a Navigable River and With Railway Facilities.

Mr. MacGonigle presented a new poor farm ordinance in Common Council. It provides that the Chief of the Department of Charities shall advertise in the official papers for sealed proposals for sale to the city of a tract of ground fronting upon a navigable river in the county of Allegheny, having railroad facilities for ready access; the proposals shall be received by the Controller and transmitted to the Chief of the Department of Charities; the Chief of the Department of Charities shall open the proposals in the presence of the Chiefs of the Departments of Public Works and Public Safety and the Mayor, or a majority of them; these officials shall visit all the tracts offered and either reject all the proposals or select such one as may be deemed by a majority of them suitable for a poor farm; the choice shall not become binding on the city until the Chief of the Department of Charities shall report the same to Councils and Council shall have power to reject the site selected; in case of a rejection by the Councils the Chief of the Department of Charities shall readvertise; the money realized from the sale of the old farm is set aside for the purchase of the new farm, and the construction of the buildings and the surplus, if any, shall be paid into the city treasury.

The ordinance was referred to the Committee on Charities.

DOGS TO BE TAXED.

A Plea Made on Behalf of the Poor Man's Friend.

Select Council passed the ordinance taxing male dogs $1 each and females $2 each and providing for establishing pounds, by a vote of 25 to 4, Messrs. Collins, McCurry, Perry and Reilly casting the negative votes.

Mr. Perry had endeavored to amend by taxing male dogs 50 cents and females only $1, but Mr. Lambie showed how that amount of tax would not pay the expense of supporting the pounds and he declared that less than the amount fixed in the original ordinance would be insufficient.

Mr. Collins thought it wrong to tax the dogs at all, as it would be a burden on poor people, to which Dr. Evans replied that it would save money for poor people because they would then dispense with dogs. It always seemed to him that the less a man had the more dogs he owned. The ordinance was all right, the doctor thought, except that the tax ought to be $10 instead of $1.

Mr. Lambie said the ordinance was the result of sentiment, but it was practical and ought to be passed.

NEW BUSINESS IN COUNCILS.

Petitions and Ordinances for Sewers, Lamps and Other Conveniences.

A number of petitions and ordinances were presented upon the call of wards and referred to appropriate committees. They were as follows:

Select Council—Ordinances for sewer on Howard, Cooper and Bluff streets; opening Gum alley; grading, paving and curbing Wiuebiddle avenue; grading Arch street; repealing an ordinance locating Walton street; establishing the grade of Arlington avenue; petitions for water pipe on Forbes street; public lamps on Black street and Collins avenue.

Common Council—Ordinances relocating Transit alley, and for a sewer on Yale alley; petition of the A. French Spring Company for the paving of Twentieth and Twenty-first streets with block stone; petition for water main on Finley street; petition for lamps on Hallman street.

PASSED THROUGH SAFELY.

Ordinances Which Have Met With the Formal Approval of Councils.

The following ordinances were read a third time and passed finally:

Select Council—Ordinances establishing the grade of York alley, from Bates to Louisa streets; grading, paving and curbing Ledlie street; sewers on Achilles, Renfrew, Arabella and Gross streets, Xenia and Spring alleys.

Common Council—Ordinance locating Brownell street; relocating the northerly line of Ellsworth avenue, at Neville street; establishing the grade of Dresden alley; dedication of an alley in the Thirteenth ward; repealing the ordinance for grading and paving Wallingford street; opening Homewood avenue; opening Haights street; opening Watson avenue, and changing the name of Ardsheil avenue to Murray Hill avenue.

COUNCILMANIC SCRAPS.

COUNCILS granted the Health Bureau another clerk at $75 a month.

THE consideration of the cab ordinance was postponed by Select Council.

THE ordinance opening Webster avenue to Mercer street was indefinitely postponed.

THERE was a number of Southsiders in the lobby listening to the free bridge discussion.

COUNCILS passed a resolution thanking Mrs. Gusky for the elephant presented to Schenley Park.

COMMON COUNCIL had to adjourn early because the electric lights went out, and it was too dark to read ordinances.

THE Rea switch ordinance was returned to Councils with a negative recommendation and was indefinitely postponed. It was again presented, the interested parties having effected a compromise.

RUMORS OF A SHORTAGE.

The Accused State Treasurer of Arkansas Disclaims Knowledge of It.

LITTLE ROCK, Dec. 8.—Great excitement was caused yesterday by rumors that State Treasurer William E. Woodruff was short some $67,000. A reporter called upon the official, and in reply he said he knew nothing of it, and it was time enough to talk of such matters should an investigation disclose the facts to be as stated. He said he had nothing further to say.

The Legislature meets in January, when the books and accounts will no doubt be carefully examined.

SPECIAL auction sale of diamonds, repeating and chronograh watches Wednesday, December 10, at 2 P. M., at M. G. Cohen's, Diamond Expert and Jeweler, 533 Smithfield street.

Our Ulster and Cape Overcoat Sale

Yesterday was a grand success at Gusky's. There's nothing strange about it either, when you stop to consider that we were offering coats worth $20, $25 and $30 for just $15. It was our intention to limit it to one day, Monday, and we so announced it, but in order that there may be no disappointment among those who did not buy, when they come to see the bargains those obtained that took advantage of our offer, we will give you two more days, Tuesday and Wednesday, in which to take your choice of any ulster or cape overcoat in the house. The coats may not last but a single day longer, but that will not be our fault.

EXTRAORDINARY sale of blankets and comforts. Largest assortment and best values ever offered in the city.

TTSSU HUGUS & HACKE.

NOTHING more desirable than Prof. Little's "Comfort" glasses. BIGGS & Co., Jewelers.

WONDERFUL MINING.

Draining a River's Bed for the Gold to be Found There.

GREAT ENGINEERING PROJECT.

Flume Built to Carry Off the Waters Until the Work is Finished.

MONSTER DAM ABOVE THE GOLD BED

OROVILLE, CAL., Dec. 8.—The details of the mammoth mining project, the bare facts of which were telegraphed to THE DISPATCH some time since, are just coming to light.

For 40 years Butte county has been famous for her splendid gold mines. During that long period a stream of precious metal has steadily been flowing from her hills, bars, flats, gulches, canyons, ravines and rivers into the coffers of the men who had the courage and skill to open and develop her wonderful mines.

Feather river, that wild and turbulent stream that cuts the heart of the Sierras in twain, is the richest gold-bearing channel on the face of the globe. Each of its hundred tributaries contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of the virgin ore.

Throngs of miners lined the banks of the North, South and Middle Fork and the numberless creeks that empty into them, cleaning up the bars, washing down the banks where possible, fluming the bed of the stream, running drifts into the hills and sinking shafts on the flats to obtain the vast treasures of precious metal which in all these places abounded.

MANY MILLIONS IN GOLD.

During the first 10 years of gold mining in California, the average return to each man was from $20 to $25 per day. Four thousand miners working 300 days to the year gives us 1,200,000 days each season. Multiplying this by the lowest estimate per day, $20, and we have $24,000,000 a year from Oroville and its near vicinity.

Experience proved to the gold miners of '49 that the precious metal had gradually been washed down from its matsrix in the quartz ledges in the hills and gulches till it reached the bottom of the larger streams, which became the great natural storehouse of the same. Acting upon this idea miners were always delving into the beds and channels of the creeks and rivers whenever possible.

Various plans were taken to lay bare the bottoms of the streams, but the most common method was by wing dams. These were dams built out from the side of the stream and angling down stream and back, so as to confine the water into a narrow space. This laid bare a part of the bed, or channel, and enabled the miners to extract the gold lying in the gravel, but the crevicing of the bed rock was impossible owing to seepage water.

Of course this method of mining was impossible in many places, and especially so with the larger streams. In such cases the river was dammed and the water forced into a long wooden flume built in many cases at a tremendous cost.

LUMBER $100 PER 1,000 FEET.

In some instances the lumber for these flumes had to be whipsawed, while in others it was transported at a cost of $80 or $100 per 1,000 feet. Such were the riches in the beds of the creeks, however, that nearly every tributary of the Feather had miles of its channel flumed, and the amount of gold thus obtained was an enormous sum.

Some idea of the extent of river mining can be obtained from the open noted mines in this locality. In 1857, when the famous Cape Claim was was worked near Oroville, the expenses of fluming and laying dry the river bed amounted to $176,985. Two hundred and fifty men were employed from May to November, and in 42 days of mining it is estimated by reliable men that no less than $1,000,000 in gold was taken from the mine during that single summer, and it is known that $680,000 was paid in dividends in this town.

In this celebrated claim 142 pounds of pure gold were taken out in a single day. The value of this was $36,672, and if we estimate that 200 men were employed this would average for each man $183 for the day's labor.

John Norton, a resident of this town at the present time, washed in the Cape Claim the richest pan of dirt ever taken out in the California gold mines. It contained 52 ounces or about $884.

CLEANING UP A RIVER BED.

Above Morris ravine and below historical Long's bar the Feather enters a narrow and rock-bound gorge, and in the early mining days the difficulties were so great and the cost so enormous that the enterprising gold miners shrunk from attempting to mine this portion of the stream.

The problem was to lay bare the bed of a mighty river held between rock-bound mountain walls, and to keep its waters out of such a bed for a time sufficient to admit of the surface gravels being removed so that the bed rock and lower gravel layers within which the gold was imbedded could be "cleaned up" and the golden treasure stripped from its home with four or five season's mining.

To lift a great river from its rocky bed, a river that has a flow of 2,000 cubic feet per second, hold it safely while an army of miners clean out its sands and gravel and scrape clean the very rocks themselves, deserves and will rank with those gigantic engineering feats like that of building the Mt. Cenis tunnel between France and Italy, where the Alpine barrier between those two countries was pierced, with that of building the great tunnel beneath the Hudson river to connect Jersey City with New York, or like that beneath the waters of the Thames at London.

Major McLaughlin saw that a single season was too short a period in which to erect the dam, build the great flume and mine the river in a satisfactory manner. He therefore planned to build the dam this year up to low water mark, and by cutting a gigantic canal and building a series of great walls during the winter and spring, to finish all the work by 1891, so that operations could begin in the river early in the coming season. To gain these objects was a task of more than ordinary magnitude, as we have already pointed out, but, to make them more apparent and show the grandeur of this undertaking, we give below some details concerning the dam to be constructed.

This head dam, as planned, is designed to serve as a permanent structure. The site selected seems formed by nature for this very purpose. Each eminent engineer who has examined the river, selected this very spot, which presents great advantages for the work proposed. The dam will extend from a great rock point at the foot of South Table Mountain to a high mass of rock in the center of the stream, and thence to the opposite bank.

A MONSTER DAM.

The solid part of the main dam will be 140 feet long and 10 feet wide on top. Its height will be about 47 feet with a shutter dam or superstructure of 10 feet. This shutter dam will fall down on to the main dam during winter floods. Added to the main dam will be a secondary dam—diagonal—160 feet long and about 11 feet in height.

A pier of masonry 15 by 30 feet in plan and about six feet in height is provided for at the point of junction of the two parts of the dam, and also an abutment of similar construction is planned at each extreme end of the dam. In other words, there are two parts of the dam, and each part is to be built of two pieces.

In constructing this dam nearly 500,000 feet of lumber will be used. There will not be less than 2,500 cubic yards of gravel excavated and about 5,000 cubic yards of rock. The cost of construction will be in round numbers between $22,000 and $25,000, as nearly as can be estimated at the present time.

Great as this work is, however, it will be far less costly than the great canal that must be built to carry the water of the Feather even at its low stages. In its construction there must be about 60,000 cubic yards of rock excavated, which alone will cost over $100,000; while in addition to this must be added the walls to be built, which will amount to some $45,000 additional.

OTHER HEAVY EXPENSES.

These figures do not include, of course, the foot dam to be built, nor the camps, houses, roads, bridges, derricks, tracks, cars, tools and appliances, nor do they cover the expenses of the engineering supervision and incidental expenses which will naturally occur. Still to these figures must be added the cost of the electric plant to be used in lighting the mine, the cost of bringing water power for running the derricks, etc., so that when the total amounts to be expended in this mining project are taken into consideration the sum will reach several hundred thousand dollars. There will be an immense quantity of cement used, something like 7,000 barrels, many tons of iron, and fully 1,000,000 feet of timber.

The exceeding richness of the channel of Feather river near the town far more than justifies the enormous expense incurred in building the dam we have attempted to describe, and in cutting the great canal to carry the waters of the stream itself.

Some idea of the amount of gold that this river bed ought to yield may be gained from the output of the celebrated Cape claim, which was worked here in 1857. This mine yielded $525 per linear foot, and as there are 7,500 feet to work, the amount, if estimated at the same rate, would be $3,937,500.

This sum of $525 per linear foot, however, was taken from ground mined in the most hurried and wasteful manner, the bed rock, certainly the richest part of any river mine, was scarcely worked at all, and all appliances were of the rudest description.

When we consider that under the system proposed by Major McLaughlin every foot of ground and every pan of gravel can be thoroughly worked and that the bed rock can be cleaned so as to obtain every ounce of gold, we may fairly estimate that the yield per linear foot will be double that of the Cape mine. This then would give us no less than $7,875,000 as the probable output of this magnificent enterprise.

STILL KEPT IN THE FOLD.

FORGER SMITH'S NAME RETAINED ON PLYMOUTH CHURCH'S ROLL.

A Notable Letter of Repentance From the Convict While in the Tombs—Dr. Abbott Offers a Resolution, and Sends a Message of Sympathy to Sing Sing.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Forger Albert H. Smith, although clad in the striped suit of a convict and serving a 17 years' sentence for forgeries, will obtain some little comfort in his cell in Sing Sing, when he is informed that he is a member in good standing of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn. His name is to remain on the roll of membership, and when he returns from Sing Sing, he may resume his place among the other brethren. The regular monthly business meeting of Plymouth Church was held last night. An inkling had got out of what was to take place, so there was an unusually large attendance of the church members. Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott arose and, holding a piece of closely written paper in his hand, claimed the attention of the gathering. Dr. Abbott told of his interview with Smith, and said that he firmly believed that the criminal had repented. He then opened the piece of paper held in his hand, and it proved to be a letter from Smith, which Dr. Abott read. It was as follows:

Dr. Lyman Abbott:

MY DEAR PASTOR—Will you kindly advise me if my present position as an unworthy member of Plymouth Church—what my duty is toward the brethren? I can, at the least, but express my bitter sorrow and sincere repentance for the crime I have committed, and ask you to make expression of this to the proper officers of the church.

My daily prayer is for God's forgiveness and for grace to bear my deserved punishment and humiliation. I feel that He has brought my heart back to Himself. He saw me slipping away from my professions to the world of a desire to lead a Christian life, and has taken this means of saving me. I see in this call to bear this heavy cross and shame that I have yet an opportunity to serve Him and try to do His will. I trust I have set my face in the right direction, and ask for your prayers and forgiveness. Very sincerely yours,

ALBERT H. SMITH.

Everything was hushed while Dr. Abbott was reading the convict's letter. It bore the date of the day before he was sentenced to Sing Sing for 17 years, and had been written in the Tombs. When Dr. Abbott concluded he produced another piece of paper which proved to be a resolution, which read as follows:

Resolved, That this church, fully recognizing the sin of Albert H. Smith in the act for which he is now suffering the legal penalty, retain his name upon the rolls in the faith that no man more needs the watch and care of a Christian church than one who has fallen into sin, but has sincerely repented of his sin and desires to return to the way of righteousness and life. Our message to our brother is that God pardoneth and absolveth all those that truly repent and unfeignedly believe His holy gospel, and we commend him to the prayers of the members of our church and to such special officers of spiritual aid as it may be possible for the pastors or other officers of this church to render to him.

W. B. Boorum and Thomas G. Shearman seconded the resolution. No other remarks were made. Deacon Blair put the question, and without a dissenting voice the resolution was carried.

A CONVICT WITH MONEY.

Dying He Leaves $30,000 to a Man Who Was in Prison With Him.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 8.—It is not often that a convict is possessed of a fortune of $30,000, but one has just died at Stillwater leaving that amount to a fellow convict. Six years ago Walter Williams became engaged to Miss Matilda Kittleson, of Winona county, and two days before the day set for the wedding he borrowed $500 of her and ran away. In anger and disappointment she had him traced and arrested at Rushford, but she repented of her harshness and married him to save him from punishment.

He was soon released, but committed a forgery and was sent to Stillwater for a term of years. At the prison he met Edgar Wilson, a life convict, the son of wealthy parents. Wilson and he became warm friends. Williams was released on pardon and Wilson died, leaving Williams all his property, valued at $30,000, in remembrance of his kindness while they were in prison together.

THREE COUNTERFEITERS CAPTURED.

Their Den Raided and Their Plant and Spurious Money Confiscated.

DEARBORN, MO., Dec. 8.—Special Treasury Agent Mason and Secret Service Officer Treadwell decended upon a den of counterfeiters near Newmarket, yesterday and captured John Barker, a man by the name of Henley and a third counterfeiter, whose name could not be learned. The officers also confiscated their entire plant and over $20,000 in spurious money.

The counterfeit money they have been shipping East and is very dangerous imitation, especially the $20 bills.

SHILOH'S Cough and Consumption Cure is sold by us on a guarantee. It cures consumption. Sold by Jos. Fleming & Son, 412 Market st.

BAER FOUND GUILTY

Of Manslaughter in His Trial for Killing Thomas Daily.

QUARREL BETWEEN TWO FRIENDS.

The Jury Only Required Forty-Five Minutes to Find a Verdict.

COURT NEWS OF THE DAY TOLD BRIEFLY

John Baer was tried yesterday before Judge Stowe, on the charge of having killed Thomas Daily, a letter carrier, and after 45 minutes' deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter.

Daily died at Mercy Hospital, on September 26, from a wound in the head alleged to have been inflicted by Baer in the course of a fight some time previous.

At the trial yesterday there was but little trouble experienced in securing a jury. The Commonwealth was represented by District Attorney Johnston and Attorney Morrison, while ex-District Attorney Porter and Messrs. Scaife and Goss conducted the defense. The first witness examined was Mrs. Daily, the wife of the deceased, who testified that she saw her husband at the Central station the morning after the fight with Baer. He had a large cut on his temple. Mrs. Daily took her husband home and kept him until he lost his reason and ran out of the house. He was then taken to Mercy Hospital, where he died.

DAILY AT CENTRAL STATION.

Police Surgeon Moyer testified that he attended Daily at the Central station. The deceased had a severe wound on the temple, which had been made by some sharp instrument, probably a knife. On cross-examination Dr. Moyer said that the wound could have been made by a stone if it was sharp. Dr. Meyers, of the Mercy Hospital staff, was called and corroborated Dr. Moyer.

Officer Ben Hughes testified that on the night of the fight he was on duty on the corner of Wylie avenue and High street, and heard Baer call Daily a vile name. The two men then crossed the street and the witness saw the defendant strike the deceased twice, once back of the ear and once on the side of the face. The men then clinched and fell into a cellar where a new house was being built.

Daniel McCarthy testified to having heard Baer calling Daily a vile name on the night of the fight. Thomas Barry heard the defendant tell Daily that he was no good. They were standing on the corner of High street and Wylie avenue at the time.

The Commonwealth rested at this point and Attorney Goss opened for the defense, stating that they expected to prove that Daily was killed by the fall into the cellar and the defendant was in no way responsible for his death.

John Baer, the defendant, was then placed on the stand. He testified that his only remembrance of the affair was that he had a dispute with Daily about some beer and started for Powers' liquor house to settle the dispute.

FRIENDS AFTER THE FIGHT.

They got as far as the new buildings, when Daily struck at him, and they clinched and fell into the cellar. The next day he found himself in the Central station with Daily, and they talked together and were friends. The witness denied that he used a knife, and stated that he did not carry one. On cross-examination the witness denied calling Daily a vile name in front of Officer Hughes. The witness admitted to having been indicted in 1883 for assault with intent to rob, but was not convicted of it.

Dr. Chesrown, jail physician, testified that he attended the defendant in jail, and that he was suffering from a very severe scalp wound and was hurt about the shoulders.

Frank Porter testified that on the night of the quarrel he was on his way home from the theater and saw the two men scuffling, and saw them fall into the cellar and pull two barrels with them. The witness further stated that Policeman Hughes could not have seen the scuffle from the position he was in.

This closed the case. The arguments were made by Attorney Scaife for the defense and Morrison for the Commonwealth, and were limited to 15 minutes each. The charge of Judge Stowe was very clear as to the jury's duty, and rather favored a verdict of manslaughter.

The jury, after being out 45 minutes, returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter.

IN THE DIFFERENT COURTS.

The Trial List to be Called by the Judges To-Day.

Common Pleas No. 1—Savage et al vs Barnes, receiver; Grant vs Carnegie, Phipps & Co.; Berberich vs Ebach et al; Walles vs city of Pittsburg; Garey vs same; Davison et al vs same; Shapira vs Mackey.

Common Pleas No. 2—Baer & Gazzam vs National Wrapping Company; Thompson et ux vs Imperial Coal Company; West & Seip vs Vernon et ux; Rush vs McCandless; Jennings, administrator, vs People's Mutual Accident Insurance Association; Gillespie & Lucas vs Grand Lake Coal Company.

Criminal Court—Commonwealth vs Josephine Moses, Mary Miller, Kate Fox, Henry Rofstock, Fred Dierke, David Joint, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Reuben Bowers, Andrew Swinson, Mary Lindner, Anton Breigel, William Jones, Franz Maier, William Watson, alias Young, George Denman, Yes Yeo, Mary A. Neville, William Goldstein, Mark Mogersky, A. J. Frick.

THE NEW COUNTY ROAD.

Report of the Viewers Assess No Damages to Property.

W. W. Shaw, James Davis and W. A. Herron yesterday filed in the Quarter Sessions Court their report as viewers on the new county road, to run from Coraopolis, via Neville Island, to the bridge at the mouth of Chartiers creek. The road will be about nine miles long, and, it is claimed, will be the finest driving road in this part of the State.

The viewers stated that they could not get a release for damages from all the property holders, but as the benefits to the property would cover all damages arising they had assessed no damages.

AN APPEAL TO SUPREME COURT

To be Taken by Alexander Killian's Attorneys on Saturday.

Clerk of Courts McGunnegle yesterday received a letter from Governor Beaver acknowledging the receipt of the record, and asking if it was likely that an appeal would be taken to the Supreme Court in the case of Alexander Killian, convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged. Upon inquiry, Killian's attorneys stated that they would take an appeal on next Saturday, and a reply to that effect was sent to the Governor.

The inquiry was probably made so that in case no appeal was taken the case could be disposed of before Governor Beaver goes out of office.

Allowed to See His Dying Wife.

Judge Stowe yesterday departed from the custom of the court in the interest of mercy. An application was made to him to allow William Hanrahan, who is serving an eight-months' sentence in the jail for illegal liquor selling, to go to his home, on Forty-eighth street, in charge of an officer, to see his wife, who is at the point of death.

An Appeal From the Award.

John S. Slagle, President of the Allegheny Bessemer Steel Company, yesterday filed an appeal from the award of the arbitrators in the case of Sheriff McCandless against the company. The Sheriff's claim was for wages for the deputies who were on duty at the works of the company during the strike. The arbitrators awarded him $240 which the company thinks too much.

WORK OF THE GRAND JURY.

A Number of True Bills Found and One Ignored.

The grand jury yesterday returned the following true bills: George F. Alstaat, felonious assault and battery; Hugh Dolen, John J. Foster, John Harkin, assault and battery; William Cannon, Edward Devers, Albert Lee, larceny; Mary Lindner, selling liquor without a license.

The bill against Elizabeth Foster, for aggravated assault and battery, was ignored.

Briefly Told Court News.

THE ejectment suit of Adam Reineman against Mary Hoelscher is still on trial.

IN the United States Court yesterday eight persons were naturalized and four took out their first papers.

F. SHANLEY and A. T. Jessup yesterday were appointed appraisers of the effects of D. Allen, who assigned for the benefit of creditors, to A. J. Durragh.

AN order was made yesterday for the distribution of $5,521, funds on hands, among the Michael Hill Oil and Gas Company, which has been dissolved.

THE suit of J. H. Sorg, executor of Elizabeth Krapp, against John and Elizabeth Matheis, an action on a mortgage, is on trial before Judge Magee.

A PRECIPE was filed yesterday in the suit for damages by Martha A. Kennedy against Booth & Flinn and the Duquesne Traction Company. No statement was filed.

JUDGE ACHESON, of the United States Court, yesterday appointed L. L. Minor to take testimony in the case of H. T. Stewart against A. Allen, a suit on a contract to sell coal lands.

THE suit of William and James McJenkins against the Equitable Gas Company, for damages for a right of way taken through the plaintiffs' property, is on trial before Judge Collier.

THE English Mineral Water Company yesterday entered suit against the Pittsburg Traction Company for $1,000 damages for running into a wagon owned by them, which injured the horses, wrecked the wagon and spilled the water.

THE case of the Insurance Company of North America against the People's Natural Gas Company is on trial before Judge Slagle. The suit is to recover the insurance paid on property damaged by the gas explosion on Sixth street about two years ago.

PINCHING THE RIVERS.

Encroachments of Railroads and Other Corporations on the Waterways—The Chamber of Commerce Gives Mr. Malone a Sort of a Passing Salute.

Vice President Anderson presided at the regular meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, yesterday. Captain Draws, of the committee on rivers and harbors, reported a resolution relating to the encroachments on the river banks in both cities and at Davis Island dam. It recommended that in view of the detriment to river traffic, as well as the danger to life and property by reason of a prevalence to overflowing banks, the Secretary of War be appealed to to survey and establish the harbor lines, as provided by act of Congress in its last session. There are a number of members of the Chamber who are interested in the rivers hereabouts, and the question to them is an important one.

Captain C. W. Batchelor, President of the Keystone Bank, spoke earnestly in favor of the resolution. He said his opinion on the matter was very well known; that for many years the rivers had been getting narrower of necessity by the filling in for the banks by mills and shops and railroads. At the mouth of the Allegheny the waterway is now about one-third what it used to be. All along the banks of the three rivers the streams were becoming contracted. Only a few days ago he noticed a house built out at a place far beyond where he used to back up his boat to shelter it from the wind. He understood the city got $3,000 a year from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for the use of the wharf where its depot is, and which had been