

THE CARPENTER'S GUILDHALL.—The master carpenters of this city are formed into a most pleasant association. Their Guild has been in existence for a period of one hundred and thirty-four years, and their Guildhall has as many historical associations clinging about it as are connected with some of the ancient structures in Europe which are used for a similar purpose.—Next to the Hall of Independence, Carpenter's Hall is the most interesting structure in the city. It was the meeting place of the first Congress, and Washington, Patrick Henry, the Adamases, and other great men of the Revolution, met within its walls. Since then it has had a varied career, but as most of our readers are familiar with its history we will not again sketch it. Recently the ancient society has restored their Hall to its original condition, and here they have their library and they transact the business of the Association. We were present one day this week, at one of the periodical dinners given by the company. A table was set in an oblong circle in the principal room, with but one entrance for those who might choose to occupy the inside seats.—Around both sides of this table sat the members of the Carpenter's Company and a few invited guests. The fare, which was plain, but excellent, was cooked in the basement, and served up in homely style with genuine hospitality. Most of the persons who sat around the table were white headed veterans, who wielded the hatchet and shovled the jack-plane many a long day ago, and before steam planing mills were dreamed of; most of them have been enabled to retire upon the fruits of their honorable toil. It was a pleasant sight to see these ancient worthies hob-nobbing together, and to hear them descanting upon events which occurred when they were young men, and before some of the younger men present were born. And all this was going on in the apartment where Washington knelt during the time that Parson Duclé delivered that famous first prayer in Congress, and where the fervor of Henry's eloquence thrilled those who heard it.

A worthy member of the Carpenters' Company, in reply to a question from us concerning the means of the Association, and its objects, said: "We have plenty of means to enable us to take good care of the widows and orphans of our departed members, and also to allow ourselves and our friends an occasional indulgence in this way."

The Carpenters' Company is understood to be very wealthy.

- Jan. 22. 58 -

The Spruce and Pine Street Passenger Railway.
—A bill to incorporate this railway has been introduced into the State Senate. The track of the road is to begin at Third and Walnut streets, and down Third to Spruce; thence along Spruce to Twenty-third street; thence down to Pine street, and eastward along Pine to Third street. The capital of the Company is to be \$500,000; but the Directors may, from time to time, increase the same to such an amount as may be deemed advisable. No dividend can be declared which will directly or indirectly impair the value of its capital stock. The Company has power to raise upon bonds any sum not exceeding one-half their capital stock. The other provisions of the bill are the same as those of the charter of the Fifth and Sixth street Railway. The following gentlemen are the incorporators:—E. S. Handy, E. M. Lewis Rivinus, Jno. M. Hester, F. Collins, A. Borie, A. F. Campion, Jos. Singerly, Foxhall A. Parker, William F. Asson, W. E. Bowen, F. W. Grayson, Martin Thomas, N. A. Jennings, Jno. McGregor, W. P. Cooper, E. Hart, Jno. Fallon, C. Fallon, E. Cameron, and those who may become associated with them.

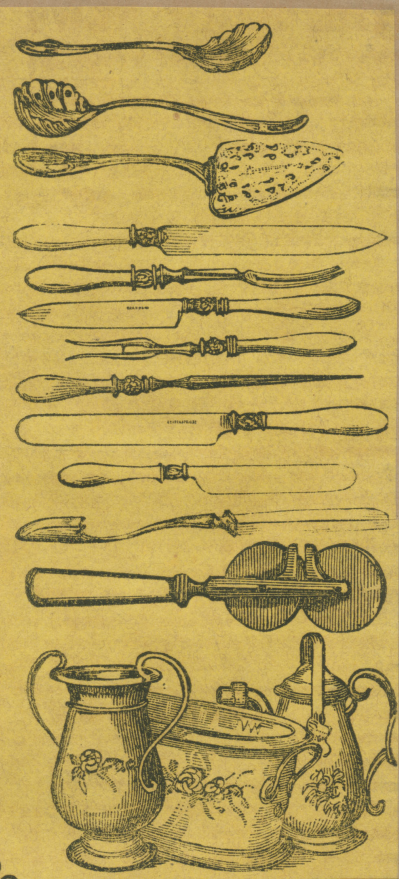
- Jan. 29. 58 -

City Railroads.

Touching City Passenger Railroads, a great change has come over our Philadelphia people. At first city railroads were violently opposed, as is every step of progressive civilization in this slow-seeing and slow-going, drab city. The Legislature was inundated with petitions against these improvements, and threats were loudly uttered that they would be torn up as fast as they were laid. But after immense opposition, the Fifth and Sixth street roads have gotten into full operation, and lo! from the very first start, they have become wonderfully popular. City railroads are now all the go. They will rapidly become the fashion, and ere long a network of iron rails will overlay the city, and supplant the cumbrous enormity of omnibuses.

A meeting of omnibus proprietors and others was held last week at the Franklin House, to compare notes and perfect some comprehensive plan of railroads over the whole city. Plans were accordingly submitted, which selected as routes pretty much the present omnibus routes, nearly all of them centering at the Exchange. Doubtless, these plans foreshadow in the main the routes which will in fact be ultimately adopted. We may all be assured, that in the course of a year, or two, or three, the distracting noise of elephantine omnibuses will have died out in Philadelphia, succeeded by the more agreeable basso of railroad rumbling. And what is a matter of particularly practical importance, our streets will no longer be subjected to the horrible wear and tear of these ungainly machines. Omnibuses run on the stones; cars run on iron. It is an item, and will be, in all the charters for city railroads, that they are bound to keep the streets in repairs through which they run. Here is a double saving to our tax-payers. So we will shortly go everywhere on city railroads. This consummation all are now wishing for; because experience is now demonstrating to all that city railroads do not block up the streets, do not impede free travel, do not destroy many lives, do not lower the value of properties along their line, but on the other hand, facilitate regular, quick, speedy, pleasant and safe communication between various and distant wards and districts, render suburban residence practicable, accessible and cheap, and stimulate, in a word, all the life, business, pleasure and society of our vast city.

- Jan. 31. 58 -



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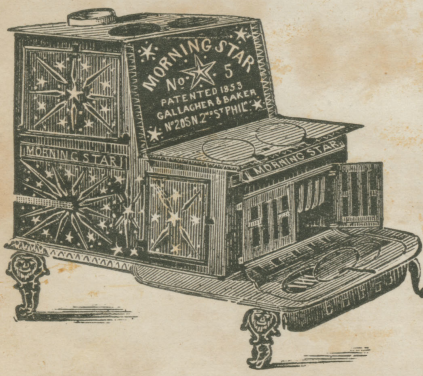
Fashion Market.

(Reported for the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.)
In reviewing the condition of this market during the last week, we have to report a degree of buoyancy (and gillancy) which is observable in no other branch of business. The various sorts of Dinners, Supper Parties and Receptions have been in eager demand, and holders have had no difficulty in disposing of them at their own rates. "Receptions" has been clearly the fancy stock, and has had an immense run. The principal dealers are talking of a combination to reduce the time on this article from 10 1/2 @ 9, as they declare it impossible to sustain themselves at the present rates, which now frequently rule as high as 2 A. M. In connection with this branch of trade, large operations have been made in Coffee, Tea, Chocolate and Sandwiches, at remunerative prices. Supper stock may be said to have gone down considerably, and a good deal of whining has been noticed in consequence. A large quantity of White Kids, taken up at 1 @ 1 1/4, remain in first hands, though we hear of several lots cleaned up as low as 12 1/2 @ pair. Allrounders continue firm, but are put up in such small parcels that holders are facetiously quoted as "necks to nothing." There is no abatement in Crinoline as yet, and so far as evening Companies are concerned, we notice amongst Petticoats "nary a red." "Juvenile" stock continues to appreciate, and we have heard this week of a lot of Prime Old Ladies quoted at 20 @ 22, and a lot of Extra Roué was offered as low as 19. Little or nothing is being done in Weddings, and we have not heard of a single operation in Engagements; the latter article is as flat as Pennsylvania Bank, probably owing to the same cause, a want of specie basis. In "Opera" a heavy business has been done, the Bulls having it all their own way (judging by the horns in the orchestra, and the bellows in the Patent Ventilator, and the *matinée*, which was held at 3 1/2 *apres midi*).—This stock has exhibited some new *Formes* this week, resulting in greatly increased activity. There are some "fancies" which have had a wonderfully uniform success this winter—as a sample of which we may quote the "Lancers." More operations have been set on foot in this line than in any other, and the movement continues unabated. Some of the dealers have done a tearing business, and have succeeded in putting a peculiar stamp on the stock. We regard it, however, as purely a "fancy," and expect to find it marked "no quotation" before another season. Any one who has watched the fluctuations in this market, must have noticed that, in spite of the apparently healthy condition of things, a crisis is impending, and the knowing ones predict that there will be a general caving in about Feb. 17th. We hope dealers will be warned in time and shorten sail, or they will find themselves, when the crash is up, going to fast.

- Jan. 30. 58 -

DOUBLE OVEN COOKING STOVE,

1858



Front and side view without fixtures, showing the Stove closed up



Back and side view with fixtures, showing the Baking and Roasting Oven, etc.