

LOCAL INSTITUTE.

The local institute for Catawissa township was held in the high school room on Saturday, April 4th.

Supt. Johnston called the institute to order at 10 a. m. The program was then opened with singing by the institute, followed by devotional exercises conducted by Rev. Wm. Moses, of the M. E. Church.

Prof. John F. L. Morris, principal of the Catawissa schools, was made Chairman of the institute. After the election of a Secretary the program was continued.

No better opening could have been arranged than the lively motion song, given by Miss Franc Keifer's class.

This was followed by an address by Mr. Hower on the "Formation and Power of Habit," in which he showed habit to be one of the principles underlying education, and a knowledge of its formation and power necessary to intelligent teaching.

Miss Berninger occupied the next period with an interesting class drill, a science lesson on wading birds.

The subject "Specialists in Public School Work," was then discussed in an essay by Miss Kurtz. The importance of this subject has as yet been only partially recognized by the public.

Consideration will show that specialists in public school work will gain for the pupil, time and scholarship.

A much appreciated change in the program was the song with guitar accompaniment rendered by Miss Hester Lewis.

Ambrose Shuman followed with an address on "How to give the child the most beneficial discipline." He impressed the necessity of harmonious training—physical, mental and moral.

Youth properly moulded will make a noble manhood.

The talk of Prof. Bakeless on "Natural sciences in the public school," was listened to with the greatest interest. Teachers have not interpreted the lessons in nature to their pupils.

Country boys go through life with closed eyes to the sermons nature has to teach them. If observation is to be cultivated at all, it must be done before the pupil has reached the age of fifteen.

Education to-day is too bookish, pupils think they can not learn anything outside of books. This must be overcome by the earnest teacher.

The detail of arithmetic, geography and history would better be sacrificed than time may be given to the principles of botany, chemistry and physics, which will be useful to the man in every trade and profession.

These subjects properly taught will open the pupil's eyes to the beauties of nature, and create a yearning in him to pursue the subjects after leaving school.

Chemistry can be so rationally taught as to prove interesting and profitable to the boy of nine years. Children are delighted with experiment. Teachers should make use of this in arousing interest.

Several weeks in fall and spring might be used in creating a love for botany, while during the winter months some instruction could be given in astronomy.

Teachers should acquaint themselves with the country in which they live—the nature of the rocks, flora &c. Enthusiasm aroused on one subject will create enthusiasm on all others.

The science will thus have a reflex action on all branches. Combine science teaching with other subjects, particularly in language work. To do all this the teachers must be willing to sacrifice some time to study, not only of text books but nature.

After the appointment of a committee on resolutions the institute adjourned till 1 p. m.

The afternoon session opened with singing by the institute, followed by an address by Supt. Johnston, in which he spoke of the physical, intellectual and moral fitness of the teacher; necessity of forethought, firmness and charity.

Forethought enables the teacher to meet with dignity the unexpected occurrences of the day. No love of ease must prevent him from setting aside some period for forethought. In order to succeed he must show firmness; there must be some iron in the heart.

Individual excellence is the result of long years of right thinking. The teacher must have a chord in his nature vibrating with that of his pupils, if he would reach their hearts. Charity sees something in every pupil, however dark the exterior. Have we the strong individuality, the personality, the charity to make us the workers we should be?

Miss Grace Moses then entertained institute with a recitation on "Improved methods of education."

Mrs. Welsh of the Bloomsburg State Normal School was then introduced and gave a very interesting talk on "Literature." She showed the need of teachers interesting their pupils in good literature, that they may counteract the trashy literature of the day. A study of the lives of authors will give strength and inspiration to the boys and girls. Literature may be taught incidentally in connection with geography, history and language.

A song by Miss Kimble's class pleased the audience and showed careful training.

An essay on "Relation which school discipline bears to good government," was read by Miss Breecce. It is the function of the common school to make good citizens. Pupils should be so guided as to form the habits of self-

control, industry and loyalty, which will prove safeguards in after life.

The program was closed by Prof. Morris, who spoke of "manual training." The object of manual training, or industrial training, is not to teach any one trade, but to train the mind, the eye, the hand. Dr. Sequin, of New York, gives the most favorable report of the results accomplished through it, in developing minds naturally dull, and even diseased. The case of an idiot was cited, in which marvelous results were effected after three months training. What results may be accomplished in minds of vigor!

Representative Tewksbury spoke briefly on a "State appropriation for school purposes."

The committee on resolutions made the following report: Resolved, That the thanks of the institute is due to the instructors for their kindness in assisting us; to persons who have so kindly furnished us with music; to the parents for their attendance and interest shown in the cause of education; to Supt. Johnston for his kindness in providing instructors.

Resolved, That manual training should be introduced into our public schools.

A. HOWER, } COM. MARtha BERNINGER, } A. SHUMAN, }

Barrett and Booth.

THEY SOUGHT CRITICISM AND WERE STAGGERED WITH THE RESULT.

Aprpos of the death of Lawrence Barrett a story that has never been published of a conversation at the Windsor Hotel in New York between the dead actor and his now sick partner (Booth) may be of interest.

They were waiting for a friend, and while waiting in the hotel corridors they fell to discussing the merits of the average "gallery god." Barrett, who was ever the friend of the "gallery god," insisted that their judgment was infallible in matters pertaining to the drama.

Booth, on the other hand, thought that the cultivated, well-read man was the more competent critic. How they came to get started on this topic in this fashion will never be known, for Booth and Barrett were not in the habit of talking shop together, especially in a public place.

Finally, in a spirit of fun Barrett remarked: "Tell you what we will do. We will walk over to Seventh avenue. That is a fairly representative street. I will stop every urchin newsboy and ask him what he thinks of my *Gaiety* if you will stop every well-dressed dude and ask him what he thinks of your *Richelieu*," the characters happening to be the ones in which the two great actors were cast that week in New York.

The vanquished was to pay for a quiet supper at Delmonico's. A tow-headed urchin with a bundle of papers appeared to be a likely customer and Barrett bought a paper and inquired, "What do you think of Barrett, my little man?" "Barrett, Barrett! O, yes! He is de feller who is runnin' against Finnegan down in the Fourth ward. My boss says that he is no good." Just then a dude with an unusually large cane came up the avenue and Booth commenced talking theatricals to him.

"*Richelieu*, *Richelieu*," said the young swell. "I don't think I know him, don't you know. He don't belong to our set you know, and I don't care about cultivating acquaintances outside of our club." Sadder and wiser the actors walked back to Delmonico's and that night Booth and Barrett both paid for their own suppers out of their own pockets by mutual agreement.—*Kansas City Times*.

How to Play Ball.

The popular "Buck" Ewing, captain of the New York's, has written an article for the Boy's Department of *The Ladies' Home Journal* for June on the "Ins and Outs of Base-ball," in which the famous catcher will tell how to play the game; how to form a nine; the hardest positions and how to fill them; how to throw a ball, etc. This is Ewing's first article, and it is said to be the best which has ever been written for boys on the great national game.

Quo Warranto proceedings will soon be begun against Governor Bulkeley of Connecticut, and Judge Deming, both of whom hold over because a republican House refused to recognize the election of democrats to the respective offices. Connecticut has cast its electoral votes for the democratic candidates for several years back, yet, on account of the gerrymander of the State the republicans control the House of Representatives.

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