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TEACHER'S INSTITUTE.

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.

Supt. J. M. Coughlin of Wilkes-Barre entertained and instructed the teachers on "How to Study". His way of illustrating the subject was very often applauded by the teachers. Now this afternoon I came here to discuss the importance of studying the English language. The great trouble is that pupils do not know what words mean. They should be taught the meaning of words along with the text. In this way they will see that words are living things. I can only think of two teachers who taught me what words meant and I remember them as my best teachers. It is important that the student know that he *doesn't* know. You must recognize what the children know. Lead the children to see the world around them that they may make correct observations. From observation comes comparison. Compare the size of one slate with another rather than learn their exact size. There is a difference in knowledge, mere knowledge is worthless but available knowledge is valuable.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Prof. Case rendered two solos "John's Wedding Song" and "The Old Piano".

Mrs. Welsh recited "The Faithful Lover" and responding to a hearty encore she also recited a selection from Shakespeare.

Dr. P. S. Henson, of Chicago was next introduced and gave a most amusing, entertaining and instructive lecture on the subject of "Fools". I can't see why I have to speak on this subject, it is the poorest lecture I have, but I suppose the one that chose the subject knew what would suit you better than I do (applause).

The first time I delivered this lecture was in a lunatic asylum. I am glad you have had so much to-night, you are sure of the worth of your money. I never was here before and wonder why you didn't send for me before. (applause).

I asked a miser once how he made his money, he said he didn't make it he saved it, stunted his wife and children and so stingy, dry and crusty, that I could almost hear his skin rattle on his bones. The miser is in hell before he gets there.

One morning my boy came to me with his hair parted nearly in the middle, I said to him "My son, do you know you are in danger of exposing that soft spot on the top of your head in that way. He looked at me and said "Is that the reason you never combed your hair that way?" The spiderleg dude and the drunkard are among the other fools. No man can drink moderately for thirty years without being a drunkard; if he does not become a drunkard he will stop before that time. Archimedes was so taken up with a geometrical demonstration that he did not know when his city had been taken and remained unconscious of the fact when a soldier approached and killed him by a sword thrust.

The best, most beautiful and most beautiful way in the world is to be natural. When I was called from a country pastorate to a metropolitan pulpit, I bought me a broadcloth suit, a silk hat, a gold headed cane and strutted around till I found I would have to do one of three things, take a trip to Europe, the cemetery, or be myself. I didn't have the money to go to Europe as it took all of it to buy my clothes, and not having much of a desire to go to the cemetery, I chose the last named and found myself better soon.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

The Institute was called to order by Prof. Richardson. After singing Work for the night is Coming, Rev. Mr. Kurtz conducted the devotional services, Prof. Case led in singing different selections.

Supt. Coughlin then took up the subject of Geography. He said we should have a maximum of interest with a minimum of attention. Local geography is the beginning of the subject. Pennsylvania is no more local geography to the child than Africa. The study of Geography properly begins within the personal relations of the child. By aid of the mind we bring to the child mental pictures. We can only bring to the mind of the child what has actually been seen. All Pennsylvania meant to me when I went to school was a picture of it in the book, maps and globes. I don't see why maps are not altogether eliminated from the books and birds' eye views given in their place. I would like to have a globe, everything should be taught from the globe that you can before you leave it. The Phenicians saw their ships disappearing from their sight for thousands of years yet did not infer from that the rotundity of the earth; how could you expect

children to? An illustration that requires an explanation is no good. I think we are explaining things to death. The teacher that is apt at illustration has power. Every lesson in geography should have its basis in things known. I would rather know all about twenty cities than be able to name all the cities in the world.

A few pieces of music were next sung by the teachers.

After a five minute recess Dr. White gave some more excellent instruction on teaching. Every thing in teaching reaches one or more of three results, experience, power and skill. There is a process or mode we must observe in reaching these ends. There are principals to guide the teacher in these directions. Knowledge result of an act called knowing. All that you know or ever will know is the result of your own mental action. Knowledge can be only taught by occasioning the appropriate activity of the learner's mind. No human soul ever gets a primary idea from a word; all such ideas must be taught by personal object. There is not a scientific school in Europe or America that teaches science from books. It is not what the teacher does but what the scholar does that tells in his education. Skill can only be acquired by practice. I would rather have a teacher who never taught at all but had correct ideas than one who had taught twenty years without them. The three processes of teaching are instruction; drilling, and testing. Repetition is the mother of skill.

Supt. Johnston made a few remarks in regard to the teachers attendance.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Supt. Coughlin occupied the first period this afternoon on "How to make Teaching a Success." There is a difference in teachers and directors should recognize this in their compensation; give them an extra dollar when they deserve it and they will repay it ten times over. Change the atmosphere of the room once in a while and it would be good to have some breathing exercises, such as Prof. Case has been using here in connection with it. Health, strength and intelligence depends on the line of ventilation. By good order we do not mean a perfectly noiseless school, but one in which all pupils are engaged in doing something in a quiet and orderly manner. I like a thorough recitation; I don't care about your going over so much, but let your work be thorough. There should be a proper connection between one lesson and another.

Rev. Mr. Patterson next spoke on character. The aim of a teacher's work is the fitting of the young for the active duties of life. In order to do this it is important that the moral faculties be instructed as well as the intellectual. A man who is not moral has no idea what morals are. You must be what you wish to impart to others. The pupils must have confidence in the knowledge of the teacher and respect his principles. His character must be such that the pupils can look up to him with respect. Every teacher should magnify his office. He should have before him a high moral attainment and try to attain it. The better men you are the better work you can do.

Moral Discipline was the subject of Dr. White's afternoon address. He said the three cardinal virtues are kindness, truthfulness and justice. Proper means should be used to secure these results. The prize system is being discarded in the first colleges in the United States. The privilege system gives much better results. Mark the effort of the pupils. Do not stigmatize the dull pupils; treat them very kindly and endeavor to assist them in gaining the object desired. Use artificial incentives only long enough to gain the desired point, then drop it. Never use a lower motive when you could use a higher. Whenever a mother begins to hire a child to mind there will be trouble. There are a good many natural incentives but I have only picked out seven which I will call the Royal Seven: A desire for good standing, approval, knowledge, future good, honor, right and duty.

Mr. E. B. Beishline, of Fishing-creek, Mrs. Cora Holmes, Montour, and Prof. L. P. Sterner, Bloomsburg, discussed "How should the Teacher employ the time out of School," in an interesting and at the same time instructive manner. He should employ himself out of school endeavoring to store his mind with knowledge which he can use with advantage in the school room. It is not right for a teacher to appear before her class without making some preparation. Visit patrons of the school. The cooperation of parents and teachers are essential factors in the success of the schools.

THURSDAY MORNING.

After singing the devotional exer-

cises were conducted by Rev. Mr. Hellman, who read from the 5th chapter of St. Math. and offered prayer.

Dr. White then took up the subject of Language. If we have wrong methods in language exercises we will not reach the right end. I once had a boy come to my school who was very backward in his studies but wrote an almost faultless essay in about two hours. He had been taught to use language and not memorise books. There was not a pupil four years ahead of him that could write as good language as he did. He had been required to write a letter every day. He brought me all the letters he had written, 400 in all, nicely arranged. The first letters were boys letters, but they kept on getting better until the last were six pages in length. He knew nothing about grammar but he did know how to use good language. That set me to thinking what is the use of English grammar for the children. Twenty five years ago I wrote my first book on teaching. I have learned something since then. Some boys came to me one day when I was superintendent of the Cincinnati schools and wanted me to excuse them from writing compositions every two weeks. I told them I would on one condition; that they should write one every day and allow me to teach them. They had studied English grammar for five years and could not speak good English.

There was once a poor boy who had to leave school to work as reporter for a newspaper on very small pay and in two years he wrote so well that he was called to write for a much better paper with a large increase of salary. We want facility in the child to express himself clearly. Facility is the great aim of all teaching and then skill in the use of written forms. Skill is acquired by practice. Language is synthesis; grammar is analogy. You can never impart the act of analysis by synthesis, and grammar trains largely by analysis. First have the child see what you wish him to express for no child can write when it has nothing to see. Never require a little child to write what he has not previously told. When a child can tell you clearly what he has found out, he is prepared to write it. Teachers as a class do not know how to teach music. Nearly all make it a test of knowledge and not a lesson to acquire power.

Prof. Case has been giving excellent instructions in music every day and he occupied the next period. He said the time is soon coming when teachers will be required to teach music in all the schools. Those who can teach the rudiment of music now receive better pay. I would just as soon teachers could not sing to teach music. Don't use the whole staff at first; it confuses the children. You cannot find anything that will please the country people better than to teach the rudiments of music. Make all good music readers. Procure a pitch pipe and in that way get the correct key and the teacher need not sing a single word.

Prof. Noetting spoke on Instruction. You are all aware that we are living in an age of progress and in this perhaps the greatest age of the world it behooves us to keep ahead with this momentum. We as teachers want to prove all things and hold fast to that which is good. We must see that our children understand what we present to them. We must stop the hearing of lessons and go to instructing. Many of us read too much, and think too little.

Supt. Johnston appointed a teacher from each district to ascertain what has or will be done towards having exhibits at the World's Fair from our schools. After answering some questions, Supt. Coughlin spoke on Physiology. It is important, he said, that we stem the tide of intemperance and make the next generation stronger and better. By a unanimous vote of the teachers, the law requiring the teaching of physiology was considered a wise one. If the twelve hundred million dollars that are spent for alcohol and narcotics were applied to education, we would have two acres of ground for each school house; Brussels carpet on the floor, pictures on the walls and libraries well stocked with books. Search out the truth and then have the courage to state it. Better health and moral character must come out of this study.

This forenoon was the last time the Institute was divided in two sections, as the instructors were the same in both. We have only recorded what was done at the Opera House where the main body of teachers were. In the afternoon, Prof. Case gave his last half hour to voice culture, which has been very much appreciated.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Hon. J. Q. Stewart, Dept. Supt. of Public Instruction, was the first speaker this afternoon and spoke clearly and forcibly on the public school question. This is the first time I have ever had the pleasure of meeting you. My talk will be something of an off hand general one. The constitution of the state provides for the education of children above six years old and unless the people as a body will interest themselves in the great work of education they will be a dead letter. Upon the body known as the school board rests the greatest responsibilities. He not only selects building sites, but erects the buildings and also employs the teachers. The school director has greater powers and responsibilities than any other official in this country. It is the most sacred trust that can be placed in any hands. You should get the best building sites, erect the best houses, and select the best teachers possible. It ought to be a better house than was built twenty years ago, you find advance in other things and there should be the same spirit in our directors. The same care should be exercised in the teacher. How many of the teachers have any assurance that you are going to teach the same school next year? Some of the schools have no longer terms than they had last year. That is not right, it is his duty to extend the term. How many of the teachers are teaching for the same they did five years ago? Teach-

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CHRISTMAS ECHOES.

HOW THE DAY WAS CELEBRATED AT THE SEVERAL CHURCHES.

The Christmas festival of the Presbyterian Sunday School was held in the Sunday School room on Monday afternoon. A large tree was prepared and gifts distributed to the scholars. The younger classes sang a number of carols, and there were some addresses and other appropriate exercises.

The Episcopal Sunday School held its Christmas exercises in the Parish House, and there was a large attendance. There was a tree, and gifts for each scholar. A number of pretty carols were sung by the school. The rector conducted the services.

At the M. E. Church the exercises took place on Sunday morning. They consisted of responsive reading, singing, recitations &c. It was an enjoyable service. The presents were distributed on Saturday evening in the Sunday School room.

The entertainment given in the Lutheran Church entitled "Shine for a Dime," was witnessed by a crowded house. All seemed pleased with the play. The chief characters were Miss Annie Snyder, Clem Wiss, and Willie Quick—the latter taking the part of a boot black—rendered his part in fine style, he spoke clear and distinctly and acted as if reality. Lloyd Crist took the part of Santa Claus, appeared near the close of the play and after a song and a few remarks un-aided his packs promiscuously among the actors. At the close of the play boxes of candy and other presents were distributed to the members of the Sunday School.

BADLY HURT.

While returning from Danville last Monday night James Tracy was thrown from the wagon near the Hemlock bridge on the Rupert road, and had his skull fractured. Florence Donohue was with him and was also thrown out, but not seriously hurt. It is supposed the horse became unmanageable. Tracy is the Western Union operator here. On Thursday morning he was reported as improving.

EAST BENTON.

An entertainment was held at the St. James church on Christmas eve. Two large trees occupied either side of the altar. The exercises consisted of recitations, Christmas carols, &c. All the exercises were rendered in a creditable manner, and some in a very excellent manner. The best of order prevailed through out. The children were made very happy by the distribution of gifts which were numerous and handsome. But all should reflect upon the source from which all blessings flow.

One of our contemporaries gives vent to this horrible hint: "The Chinese never dun a debtor. If the money isn't paid when due, o' comes an ear. If that rule were enforced in this country, some of our subscribers would have been reduced to mince-meat long before to-day."

THE HOLLY CLUB.

A BRILLIANT ASSEMBLY AT THE EXCHANGE.

Wednesday night was an eventful occasion in society circles. The Holly Club held its first reception at the Exchange Hotel, Bloomsburg, and it is many years, since so brilliant a throng has assembled at any similar party in this town. There were over ninety persons present, those from out of town being the following: Miss Lewis, Miss Walls, J. C. Butler and W. L. Showers of Lewisburg; Miss Packer, Miss Jennie Moody, Miss Sarah Moody, J. Simpson Kling, C. L. Kramer, of Sunbury; Misses Florence, Romaine and Louise Seybolt, John Ward, H. W. Hodgdon, W. W. Drinker, of Scranton; Miss Chase of St. Louis; Miss Gearhart of Danville; Miss Kitty Straub of Hagerstown, Maryland; Miss Sue Runyon, of Newark; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Townsend, Miss Marie Brockway, Woodin Hanley, of Berwick; Thos. F. Forrest, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbert, W. C. Sloan of Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Leverett, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wiegand, of Wilkes barre; John Q. Adams of Shamokin; S. A. Goodline of Jamison City; Miss Bess Monroe of Rupert; A. L. Davenport of Plymouth.

Everything at the hotel was in the best of shape, the holly decorations being profuse. Excellent music was provided by Prof. Oppenheim's orchestra of Wilkes barre. The refreshments were delicious, and were nicely served, causing but little delay in the dancing.

The guests of the Club were received in the public parlor by the patronesses present, Mrs. F. P. Billmeyer, Mrs. Geo. E. Elwell, Mrs. H. A. McKillip and Mrs. Chas. Watson McKelvy. When the last dance on the list of twenty-four was ended, it was nearly four o'clock in the morning, and while everybody was tired, the party broke up with reluctance. It was certainly one of the nicest and largest receptions ever held here, and the hope was universally expressed that the Club would repeat the dose every year, or oftener. The array of beautiful girls and handsome gowns is seldom surpassed anywhere.

The efforts of Mr. and Mrs. McClosky, the accommodating landlord and his wife, were crowned with success, the arrangements being perfect and complete about the hotel, and giving entire satisfaction. Chas. W. McKelvy acted as general manager and Master of Ceremonies, and the success of the affair is largely due to his very efficient preparation of all the details.

The Holly Club has now made its debut. Long live the Holly Club!

SOME CHANGES.

Mrs. J. G. Wells has traded her Centre street property to E. A. Rawlings, and has become the owner of the Rawlings building, next to the Columbian building. On the first of April Mr. Rawlings will move his meat market to the shop now occupied by C. H. Reice. Mr. Reice will move to the building of Miss Bessie Kuhn, and occupy the store room now used by G. N. Wilson, as a meat market.

P. O. S. OF A.

The Patriotic Order Sons of America of Lightstreet, had a big time last Saturday. The Orangeville Band and Lime Ridge Camp with drum corps were among the visitors. A new hall was dedicated, and a fine parade took place at noon. An eloquent address was delivered by Fred Ikeler Esq.

MERCANTILE APPRAISER.

W. T. Cressy of Catawissa has been appointed Mercantile Appraiser by the county commissioners. He is well qualified for the position, and will perform all his duties carefully and satisfactorily.

WATCH NIGHT.

There will be watch services in the Methodist Episcopal church next Saturday night beginning at 9 1/2 P. M., followed by services each night the following week. On Sunday, preaching at 10 1/2 A. M. and 7 P. M.

A Happy New Year.

Come everybody and the Epworth League will entertain you for an hour, with select reading, recitations and music on New Years Eve, in the M. E. Church at Light Street. Mr. M. I. Low is expected to be present and give us a talk on some good subject.

Fire escapes are being put up at the Opera House and Exchange Hotel.

PERSONAL.

E. Barton John, student at Lehigh University, is at home on vacation.

Dr. and Mrs. James B. Neal have returned from Philadelphia.

W. H. Snyder Esq. was in Harrisburg on Monday.

Samuel H. Harman spent last Monday in Danville.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Unangst of New York are visiting Mr. Unangst's parents.

William Oman was in town on Monday and fixed a date for a public sale in the spring.

C. B. White, one of Orangeville's leading manufacturers, was in town yesterday.

J. H. Mercer, C. P. Armstrong and J. A. Hess went to Harrisburg on Monday to witness a shooting match.

L. S. Wintersteen Esq. and M. E. Edwards have gone to Florida on legal business.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Conner of Trenton visited friends here during the holidays.

John Reice of Philadelphia is spending a few days with his brother Charles Reice.

Louis Bernhard Jr. came down from Scranton, where he is attending school, to spend the holidays with his parents.

Frank Miller is spending his holiday vacation at home. He is in the Senior class at Lafayette College.

Charles P. Elwell is spending this week at Reading, attending a convention of music teachers.

Edward T. Ringler and family of Woodville, Ohio, are visiting at R. H. Ringlers.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbert of Philadelphia are spending the holidays with their relatives in Bloomsburg and Catawissa.

Fred C. Drinker has accepted a position as salesman with E. K. Graham & Co. dealers in printers' supplies and machinery, Philadelphia.

Mrs. Woodin, Mrs. Hanly and Woodin Hanly, of Berwick ate their Christmas dinner with Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Oswald.

Matthew McReynolds is at home on a visit. He is engaged as a civil engineer, and is at present residing at Tannersville, Pa.

Edward Eyer and Charles Lawall who are taking a course at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, are at home on a visit.

Thomas Hagenbuch will soon move from Centre township to Bloomsburg, and will occupy the Hendershott property at East and Eighth streets.

L. M. Creveling of Fishingcreek was in town on Wednesday and made this office a pleasant call. He is always a welcome visitor.

Stewart Giron of Hemlocks was among the visitors to town on Wednesday, and took advantage of the occasion to pay his subscription for another year.

Mrs. C. Leidy and family of Summerville, Texas County, Mo., has returned to Bloomsburg where she expects to make her home. Mrs. Leidy is a sister to Mrs. Chas. Hassert of East Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Voris of Scranton spent Christmas at Mr. Louis Bernhard's. Mr. Voris has a fine voice and sings well. His wife is an expert pianist and plays his accompaniments in a charming manner.

Mrs. Ellen Chase and her daughters Misses Mary and Josephine, and Miss Mary Leverett, are visiting Rev. W. C. Leverett and family. Mrs. Chase and Miss Leverett are the sisters of Mr. Leverett. They formerly resided in Newport, but spent the past two years in Europe, and are now on their way to St. Louis, where they will reside in future.

Among the Bloomsburg people now residing elsewhere, who came back to spend Christmas, were Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Neal and sons, of Harrisburg; George A. Clark, of Tyrone; W. Clark Sloan, of Philadelphia; Morris Sloan, of Scranton; Mr. and Mrs. W. Leverett, of Wilkesbarre; Frank Sloan, of Baltimore; Wm. Drinker of Scranton, Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Drinker of South Bethlehem; Dr. and Mrs. D. W. Conner, of Wilkesbarre, and Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Weigand of Wilkesbarre.

A few inches of snow now would make good sleighing. This would delight the lovers of sleigh riding, and would be particularly acceptable to the liverymen, whose cutters have not earned storage room for several years past.