

The Columbian.

VOL 28

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NO. 122

The Public Schools.

PROF. STERNER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

BLOOMSBURG, PA.
May 22nd, 1893.

TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

GENTLEMEN, In compliance with your regulations and my custom for the past two years, I herewith present you my report for the school year ending May 17th, 1893:

No. of months in the school term... 8
No. of days the schools were open... 160
No. of teachers employed... 54
No. of schools... 19
Total number of pupils enrolled... 920
Average attendance of pupils... 704
Average percentage of attendance... 89
No. of pupils enrolled in High School... 109
Percentage of attendance in High School... 95
Director's visits... 54
Principal's visits... 106
Parent's visits... 137
Visits of others... 300

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE.

The enrollment this year is nearly a hundred more than that of last year. The attendance was affected by scarlatina, or scarlet fever and other contagious diseases. There was more sickness this year than in the three preceding years together. In one room of 32 pupils, 18 were sick a total of 288 days, and in several other rooms the same ratio can be found by examining the monthly reports. 50 to 100 pupils between 8 and 13 years of age are employed in the mills and factories during the fall and spring, and a few during the whole year. No one but the parents should be held responsible for this open violation of the law and disregard for the rights of their children.

TEACHERS' MEETINGS.

During the year teachers' meetings were held semi-monthly, on Tuesday evening, in the High School Library. But few of the teachers were absent unless for some unavoidable reasons, as sickness, or severity of the weather.

OBJECTS AND AIM OF THE YEAR'S WORK.

At least four weeks before the opening of the schools, I began the preparation of a more complete outline of the course study. I gave each teacher a copy of this elaboration in order that she might more clearly see her field of labor. My aim was to effect a uniformity of work. The teachers in the same grade and supposed to be doing the same work, were, until recently, working independently of each other, of the board and of the principal. No later than last year teachers in some of the grades took their pupils through textbooks regardless of the pupil's knowledge of the subjects passed over. This year the work has been more completely graded. The objects of my aim at uniform and systematic work, have been attained in part, and in another year the work should be very uniform and systematic.

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY.

The literary societies of the High School have furnished 75 volumes for the library and the Lyceum society has on hand a fund of \$12 by which several more books can be bought.

EXAMINATIONS AND PROMOTIONS.

Nineteen began the senior examination and but 14 passed. Seven hundred and two took part in the final examination. The following table shows the number examined and promoted in the different rooms:

Room No.	Street.	Teacher.	Ex.	Pro.
4	Fifth	Miss Snyder	47	41
4	"	" Holmes	48	45
3	"	" Robbins	61	53
2	"	" Fox	35	15
2	"	" Brockway	35	15
1	"	" Rawlings	41	23
1	"	" Mr. Pursel	41	17
Total			308	209
4	Third	Miss Townsend	70	42
3	"	" Lowenberg	47	38
2	"	" Bernhard	40	37
1	"	" John	34	20
1	"	" Mr. Romberger	24	17
Total			215	154

HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

4	Centre	Miss Rinker	44	33
3	"	" Allen	37	29
2	"	" Breece	34	26
1	"	" Finney	42	34
1	"	" Mr. Kocher	23	22
Total			179	144

Fifth Street	308	208
Third Streets	215	154
Grand Total	702	507

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

The commencement was held in the Opera House on Friday evening,

May 19, 1893. The class of '93 consisted of nine girls and five boys: J. Grier Quick; Lillie Keller, Kitty Cadow, Julia H. Furman, Mary Morris, Mary Kline, Eura Williams, Clara Kunkle, Lillian V. Roberts, Jennie M. Sutliff completed the Normal Course, and Chas. Kesty, Horace Kramer, Joseph Townsend and Harry Achenbach graduated in the Business Course. The exercises consisted of essays, declamations, orations, recitations, and music under the direction of Prof. H. Butts. The Opera House was crowded, and several were turned away from the doors.

In conclusion permit me to say that I have made a very earnest effort to improve the schools, and that in nearly all cases I have had the hearty co-operation of the teachers. It has been said that "As the teacher is, so is the school." This is only true in part. Patrons and others may undo or prevent the teacher from doing effective work. At the close of this term, seventeen of the nineteen teachers employed are Normal School graduates. One would infer from this that the work done is of a superior quality. It is very difficult to prevent a good teacher from doing good work, and equally as difficult to lead or train a poor teacher to do good work. The best plan, it seems to me, is to employ good teachers, and leave the poor ones to find employment. I desire most heartily to thank you for your assistance and support.

Very respectfully,
L. P. STERNER.

VAN CAMPEN.

TO THE COLUMBIAN.

The Life of Major Moses Van Campen, the great Indian fighter of Columbia County, has been long out of print. The last copy of the work which I saw, an imperfect one at that, was sold for \$6.00—and for some years now it has neither been on sale nor in the catalogues. Lately, the author, a very old man, has been revising the work, and has put the manuscript into the hands of John S. Minard, Fillmore, New York, who had also been preparing a new edition. Their combined labors have produced a beautiful and highly interesting volume of over 350 pages, illustrated with a portrait of Van Campen and other matters of local interest.

Several Columbia County families figure in the book, to wit: The McClures, the Salmons, the Boyds, and incidental notices of others. Here we have the builder or defender of both, of Fort McClure, Fort Wheeler, Fort Jenking, Fort Rice, and Fort Muncy. All but the last in our own immediate neighborhood. Here Capt. Salmon and then Lieut. Van Campen contended for the hand of Miss Wheeler, and the Captain beat the Lieutenant, who afterward captured Miss Margaret McClure.

People talk about Daniel Boone of Kentucky, about Francis Marion of South Carolina, but here we have, right at home a scout, Indian fighter and warrior as brave as either of them—a man, who more than a hundred years ago made this valley ring with his name, and our mountains echo and re-echo to the crack of his rifle.

I am sure there is not a boy or girl in Columbia county who does not want to read the "Life of Van Campen." He has a personal interest in the story, it belongs to him and he will realize, as he never did before, the dangers and excitement of his grand-fathers.

JOHN G. FREEZE.

Bicycling is a pleasant exercise, and has become very popular in Bloomsburg. A large number of wheels are owned here, several of the owners being ladies. Owing to the fact that there are so many, it may be proper at this time to call attention to the rights of pedestrians, as well as those of bicyclers. It has been decided by the courts that wheelmen have the same right in the public road as any other drivers of vehicles. The sidewalk is intended for the use of foot passengers, and if a wheelman should run over or injure a pedestrian on the pavement he would be liable to lose the case in a suit instituted for damages. Several accidents have already occurred, though not of a serious nature, and it would be well to heed this timely warning before something more serious happens.

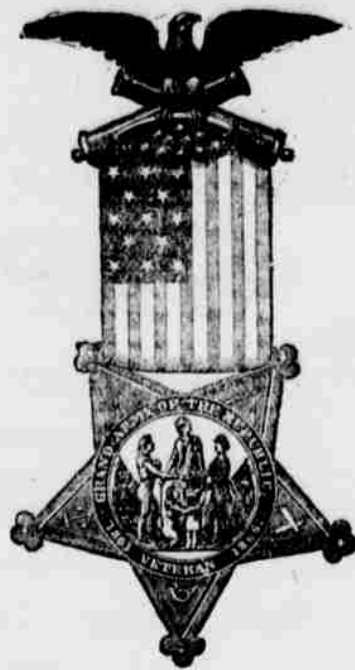
BASE BALL.

There will be two games of base ball at Athletic Park on Decoration Day. In the morning at 10 o'clock the Bloom nine will play the Kingston club, and again at 4 p. m. Admission, gentlemen 25 cents, ladies 15 cents.

"The Haunted Ghost" will appear soon in this paper. Read it.

MEMORIAL DAY.

Program of Exercises in Bloomsburg.



Tuesday next is Decoration Day. As usual the exercises will be under the management of Ent Post G. A. R. The program will be as follows: At 2:30 p. m. all taking part in the exercises, except the Normal School, will report to the Marshal on Market Square, where the line will form and move up Main Street to the Normal School, where the Philologist and Calliepians Societies will join the line, marching down Main to Centre, up Centre to the Cemetery. Dirge by the Bloomsburg Cornet Band; Ritual Services; Decorating; Philologists and Calliepians will decorate through the Cemetery, assisted by members of Ent Post; also the graves in the circle. Sons of Veterans will decorate in the old grave yard. After decorating, all will return to the circle. The line will form and move to the Court House, where the addresses will be delivered in the following order:

Opening Prayer.
Music by the Y. M. C. A. Choir.
Address by J. B. Robison Esq.
Music.
All ministers invited on the stand.
All places of business will close from 2 to 5 p. m.

M. P. Lutz, Commander of Ent Post, has issued the following:

"As Memorial Day is again near at hand I make this request of the citizens of Bloomsburg, that they join with us in making the day truly a Memorial day. Let the day be given wholly to the services that the memory of the noble dead who gave their lives for the land we love and the liberties we enjoy, may be fittingly observed. Instead of turning the day into an occasion of pleasure and sports, help us to make it what it is intended to be. A day in which we hold communion with our comrades who have gone before and are now answering roll call in that Camp above where God is the Supreme Commander. Let there be a liberal donation of flowers, for each anniversary finds a greater number of graves on which to strew them. All soldiers whether members of the G. A. R. or not are requested to meet at the Post room at 7 o'clock and accompany us to Light Street and Esqy."

A FALSE REPORT.

A few days ago a report became current on the street that there were fifteen cases of diphtheria at the Normal School. It was utterly untrue, there not being the slightest foundation for such a report, as there have been no cases of any kind of contagious diseases in the school. People should be very careful not to repeat such reports unless they are very sure of the facts. If any contagious disease should appear in the school the authorities certainly would not attempt to conceal it, and thus endanger the lives of all the students and blast the prospects of the institution. The Trustees and the Faculty would at once adopt every known means of preventing the spread. There has been no diphtheria in the school, and the only thing that even approached a sore throat was a single case of quincy. The report was apparently made out of the whole cloth, and the school authorities would be glad to know where it originated.

Mr. Niels Lavoids Jansen Gron will occupy the pulpit in the Lutheran Church next Sabbath morning. In the evening he will deliver his lecture on "SCANDINAVIA BY A SCANDINAVIAN." He comes highly recommended and we can assure the people of a good lecture. All are invited, seats free.

"The Haunted Ghost."

St. Paul's Centennial.

The Episcopal Church will Celebrate Its One Hundredth Anniversary next Week. The Archdeaconry to Meet Here.

The Spring session of the Archdeaconry of Williamsport will begin in St. Paul's P. E. church next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock. There will be full evening service, and a sermon by Rev. C. J. Wood of Lock Haven. On Tuesday there will be a business meeting in the Parish House at 9 a. m., and at 10 o'clock, there will be service with a sermon by Rev. Dr. H. L. Jones of Wilkes-Barre. Another business meeting will be held at 2:30 p. m., and at 3 o'clock, papers will be read by Rev. Mr. Snyder of Wellsboro, and Rev. Mr. Heakes of Muncy. At 7:30 p. m. there will be evening service, with missionary addresses by Archdeacon Graff, and Revs. Foley and Snyder. The rite of confirmation will be administered by Bishop Rulison.

Wednesday, the 31st, will be Centennial day. It is one hundred years since St. Paul's church was admitted into union with the Convention of the Diocese of Pennsylvania. The morning services will be held at 10 o'clock. The Holy Communion will be administered, and the sermon will be preached by Rev. Thos. H. Cullen, a former rector, now of Freehold, N. J. At 1:14 a lunch will be served in the dining hall, by the ladies of the congregation, for the visiting clergy, and other strangers, the vestry and the choir.

The evening service at 7:30 will be devoted to addresses by former rectors, and the Bishops.

A full report of the proceedings with a historical sketch, and an excellent cut of the Church property will appear in next week's COLUMBIAN. Persons desiring extra copies should order them before Wednesday.

A DOUBLE EXECUTION.

HARRIS BLANK AND ISAAC ROSENWEIG HANGED AT TUNKHANNOCK.

A large number of people gathered at the country town of Tunkhannock last week Thursday morning to witness the execution of Harris Blank and Isaac Rosenweig, who murdered Jacob Marks on Dutch Mountain, March 18, 1892. The crowd began to gather around the jail at 9:30 and at 11 o'clock about four thousand people were admitted by Sheriff Knapp to the jailyard, where the scaffold was in readiness.

Three friends of the condemned men were permitted to have a short interview with them, and told them to obey the officers and die like men. About 11:36 Blank, escorted by Sheriff Knapp, closely followed by Rosenweig, leaning on the arm of the Coroner, Dr. E. B. Biddleman, came slowly down the corridor of the jail.

At 11:39 they reached the scaffold, and when given an opportunity to speak only said: "goodbye, gentlemen." The nooses were adjusted, the black-caps drawn, and at 11:40 the drop fell. There was a slight muscular tremor for a moment or two, then all was quiet. The physicians pronounced Rosenweig dead at 11:55. Blank's heart fluttered faintly for three seconds longer.

The necks of both men were broken by the fall. The bodies were cut down at noon and given in charge of friends, by whom they were taken to Wilkes-Barre for burial.

Sheriff Knapp was complimented on all sides for the skillful and prompt manner in which he attended to all the details of the execution.

ROSENWEIG'S CONFESSION.

Rosenweig left a confession, which in brief is as follows: "I am sorry for poor Blank. I wish I had never met him, then he would never get into this trouble. I dragged the poor soul into the affair; I am sorry for him. I have given Rabbi Adolph Raddin, of New York, my statement, which will explain matters regarding me more fully. Don't mention to my family that I was hanged. Blank is innocent. I am guilty."

The crime for which Harris Blank and Isaac Rosenweig suffered the death penalty was that of murdering Jacob Marks a young Hebrew peddler, on Dutch Mountain, in Wyoming county, on March 18, 1892.

Early in March young Marks started on one of his periodical trips through Wyoming and Sullivan counties with a large stock of clothing, notions and jewelry. He had a good horse and wagon and was well acquainted with the route. For four weeks nothing was heard of him by his brother in Towanda, and the latter began to feel anxious, for the young man had said that he would surely return home in

time to participate in the celebration of the passover.

Finally public announcement was made of the young man's unaccountable absence, and several parties, headed by detectives, searched the mountainous regions through which his route lay for some trace of Marks. One day it was learned that Marks had been seen, in company with two other peddlers, Blank and Rosenweig by name, driving up the lonely mountain road that leads up to Lopez. Nothing further could at that time be learned, and the officers, now fully convinced that Marks had been foully dealt with, searched the vicinity where he was last seen. After several days' work the searchers entered an old barn situated about five hundred yards from Wyoming and Sullivan county line. Here in an old barrel and covered with an old quilt, the dead body of Marks was discovered. Two bullet-holes were in the body.

For four months detectives worked on the case. The suspected peddlers were traced to Falls Station, few miles above Pittston. There trace of them was lost. By following up a box of freight which the peddlers had shipped to an address in Hester street, New York, the metropolitan detectives gained a new clue, and several months afterward, by means of a telegraph sent by Blank to the Hester street address, asking that the box of freight be shipped to him, the peddlers were located in Montreal. This much known, the detectives changed the scene of operations to Canada, and one day, just as Blank and Rosenweig were preparing to board a steamer for South America, they were both taken into custody.

Sufficient evidence was found in clothing and jewelry upon their persons to convict them of the murder of Marks, even had not Rosenweig confessed that they were guilty. The only motive given for the crime was the desire for plunder.

The prisoners were extradited and in January last their trials took place separately in the Wyoming county Court House in Tunkhannock. Both were convicted and sentenced to be hanged. The executed men were Poles. They had been in this country but a few years. Blank leaves a wife and several children in Poland.

KNIGHTS' TEMPLAR.

Crusade Commandery No. 12, Knights Templar of Bloomsburg was represented at Wilkes-Barre on Tuesday by about twenty-five of its members, who participated in the grand parade, the occasion being the annual encampment of the Grand Commandery. Among those who went up were E. S. McKillip, A. D. Tyson, C. F. Knapp, J. M. Staver, C. B. Robbins, Prof. G. E. Wilbur, P. S. Harman, J. Lee Harman, F. B. Hartman, G. S. Robbins, W. S. Rishton, Prof. W. H. Butts, A. G. Briggs, L. N. Moyer, J. Q. Barkley, W. H. Brooke.

The First Spike.

The first spike on the extension of the Williamsport & North Branch Railroad was driven Friday, at Satterfield, the junction with the S. L. & S. About a mile of track was laid Friday, and the work is to be continued, we understand, until the road is finished. A telegraph station has been established there, and the piles of ties, car loads of steel rails, and other paraphernalia appertaining to railway construction, give the place a busy appearance.—*Dushore Review.*

Rev. A. Houtz will deliver his second lecture on the Reformation as follows: On Sunday, May the 28, St. James at 10:15 a. m., Zion at 2 p. m., Orangeville at 7:30 p. m.; on Sunday, June 4, Briarcreek at 2:30 p. m., and on Sunday, June 18, Hilday at 2:30 p. m. The Historical Tree chart of Christianity will be used. This lecture is intended to prepare the way for the Centennial Anniversary of the Reformed church in the U. S., which will be observed a few weeks later. All are invited.

At the last meeting of the M. E. Quarterly Conference a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions for the erection of the new church in Bloomsburg. For some time past the present building has been too small to accommodate the congregation or the Sunday school, and a larger edifice is greatly needed. The trees on the church lot, corner Market and Third streets have been cut down, and the lot is being levelled and it looks as though the efforts to raise the necessary funds will be successful.

The Normal boys beat the Wyoming Seminary nine last Saturday afternoon by a score of 19 to 9.

BRIEF MENTION.

About People You Know.

Policeman Thomas has a new uniform.

C. F. Stohner is clerking at the Exchange Hotel.

John Appleman Esq. of Buckhorn was in town on Saturday.

Judge Ikeler has raised the pavement in front of his residence.

O. W. Cherrington has bought Prof. Albert's new house on Normal Hill. The Professor will build again.

Mrs. J. H. Lingle of Bellefonte with her children, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Brower.

Frank Phillips has cast aside his knickerbockers, and made his first appearance in long pants last Sunday.

I. E. Schoonover, formerly a teacher in Bloomsburg, died in Brooklyn last week. He was well known here.

Miss Bessie Monroe of Rupert will be married on June 1st to Mr. Herbert Henry Royce of New York.

It is reported that a wedding will take place on Market street on June 14th.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian church is in session in Washington, D. C. Rev. D. J. Waller Sr. is attending it.

C. H. Dorr, editor of the *Independent*, has been appointed postmaster at Berwick. It is a good appointment, and we extend our congratulations.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. L. Cohen and Mr. and Mrs. L. Gross spent Sunday in Milton with Mr. and Mrs. W. Dreifuss.

Prof. I. W. Niles has shaved off his whiskers, and his acquaintances have to look twice now before they can recognize him.

The *Patriot* of Tuesday says that Representative Tewksbury became ill on Saturday with congestion of the lungs. We hope it will not prove serious.

J. S. Phillips, foreman of the *Benton Argus*, spent Saturday and Sunday in Bloomsburg. He is looking well and reports the *Argus* in a flourishing condition.

J. G. Wells, Geo. S. Robbins and Geo. E. Elwell have been elected lay deputies to the Diocesan convention of the Episcopal church, which convenes in Williamsport June 13th and 14th.

Edward Geringer has resigned his position in G. A. McKelvy's drug store, and will go to Washington, D. C., where he will be employed by Alfred Hendershott, druggist.

Dr. James B. Neal is preparing to erect a house on his return to China. The glass will be furnished by Moyer Bros. and the doors and sash by Creasy & Wells. Some of it has already been shipped.

Rev. P. A. Heilman started on Tuesday for Canton, Ohio to attend the meeting of general synod of the Lutheran church, and will be absent several weeks. He expects to attend the World's Fair before returning east. Next Sunday the Lutheran pulpit will be supplied by Rev. Geo. Parsons D. D., of Sunbury, one of the old young men.

Among those who went up to Wilkes-Barre to view the Knights Templar parade on Tuesday, were C. A. Klein, G. A. McKelvy, C. H. Reice, C. P. Sloan, J. R. Townsend, H. J. Clark, H. H. Grotz, L. Gross, J. M. Shew, R. W. Oswald, Dr. T. C. Harter, J. S. Blue, P. B. Heddens, I. Maier, M. Ellenbogen, C. M. Christman, Miles Betts, J. Fetterman, Wm. Kramer, F. P. Hagenbuch, W. B. Taylor, F. M. Gilmore, N. Fowler.

Edward Newhart is wanted for stealing \$500 from David Mauser of Montour township. He was raised by Mr. Mauser who had entire confidence in the young man. The money was in a desk, and was taken while Mr. Mauser was in Bloom. Newhart got on the train at Grovania, went to Milton, bought a suit of clothes, and then went to Sunbury, since when no trace can be found of him. A reward of \$50 is offered for his arrest.

Damage amounting to a million dollars was done in Pittsburg and Allegheny and along the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio rivers by high water last week. A number of lives were lost. At Erie the loss is estimated at \$500,000. High water was reported all through the western end of the state.