

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

Dr. John B. DeMott lectured on "Teaching that Pays." Facts which cannot be gained are what pays. It is not the discount you do that makes you strong. It is exceedingly difficult to teach children unless you teach them facts historically. He showed many objects illustrating the different processes of manufacturing. An arithmetic written in 1546, with very curious problems, Indian relics to get pupils interested in Indian history.

Experimental science with home-made apparatus for our common schools was discussed by Prof. Russell of the Millville Seminary. In the first place teachers should have some experimental knowledge of these subjects and then it will be both profitable and interesting to teach in our public schools with home-made apparatus. Children should be taught to observe and have them examine so that they fully understand the experiments.

"Sweet By and By," was sung and then Prof. Sperry spoke on the science and art of successful living. More colds are taken from over-eating or want of exercise than by draughts of air. Dyspepsia sometimes come to me wondering why they feel so badly after being so careful of their diet, eating no pastry, drinking no tea nor coffee; yet if these same men would go to work in the woods they might eat fat pork, drink black coffee and eat solid biscuit and perhaps feel none the worst of it. Fresh air with exercise is the best medicine. Worry lays the foundation of disease. Never worry about what you cannot help and never worry about what you can help are the two best doses for the wearing away of pleasant life. We want a recognition of all God's laws; a scientific, practical common sense hygiene, Socrates once said to some young men: "I have no time to talk with you for what you are speaks louder than you can."

Supt. Johnston made some suggestions and the Institute adjourned.

TUESDAY EVENING.

The exercises opened with a solo by Prof. Parker, a piano duet by Misses Rose Haas and Ella Stump, and Dr. Levin Irvin Handy, the lecturer of the evening, then in a most amiable manner told what he could in two hours of Patrick Henry. In contrasting the lives of Geo. Washington and Patrick Henry we find them both brave, noble and patriotic, but while Washington caused a pause and silence to fall over a company of children, Henry was their most trusted friend, their best playfellow. The former rose step by step as the nation's father and greatest statesman, the latter by a single bound took rank with the greatest orators this world ever knew. We cannot lie down to sleep one thing and wake up another. Patrick Henry had his failures as well as all arduous youth must have, but he also shared in the successes that awaits all such. He took to reading and when a man takes to reading seriously he touches a door which swings on golden hinges. Eloquence is not acting; wherever there is a sublime emotion there the spark of eloquence begins.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

The teachers were assembled in two sections this morning. In the Opera House Rev. Mr. Brandt read a part of the 7th chapter of Matthew and led in prayer.

Dr. DeMotte was greeted with a hearty applause as he stepped on the rostrum to resume his practical instructions on success in life. He said success means sacrifice. Teachers need to sacrifice: first, caprice for capacity; second, leisure for labor; third, dissipation for self discipline, and fourth sham for sincerity. "There's room for a soul to grow, and I'm bound to climb," exclaimed a boy as he paused while picking brush and only twenty-one years afterward he held the highest office attainable in the church.

Singing was indulged in for some time with a marked interest, Prof. Parker conducting.

"The Growing Child" was the subject of Dr. Handy's morning lecture. I will narrow myself down to the intellectual growth of a child. A child is not a body. Men have a period of intellectual growth as well as a physical one. We grow by individual effort. His definition of an old maid is a woman who is not fool enough to be fooled by every fool who tries to fool her.

Dr. Sperry talked on what he said might be called "Bands and Chains or Breakage." We are all bound by bands and chains which we must break. The first one I will name is heredity. We have certain tendencies that some are destined to prison; ignorance is another band. Many persons will not eat at a table surrounded by thirteen persons. Delusion often leads men to the ministry or the school room when they should be hoeing corn or shoveling gravel. No other thing is deluding more people to day than drugs. Habit was the last named chain. "Truth will break all these bands. Dull pupils have generally proved to be superior to the brilliant ones in the end."

At the High School building Prof.

Sperry occupied the first period, followed by Dr. DeMott, who said it is the duty of teachers to take care of the body as well as to train the mental power. Pupils should be taught to govern themselves.

Mrs. Ella B. Greene, of Hyde Park, Massachusetts, spoke on Physiology and Hygiene. Teach pupils to observe the form and structure of the body and kinds of food necessary to properly develop it.

Supt. Johnston spoke to the young teachers on some timely school topics. Always have a regular time to open and close school and be sure to live up to it. Better not keep scholars in after school. Keep a program.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

When Prof. Parker took charge of the music this afternoon, the house was nearly full and before long it was evident the people were going to beat all former records of attendance thus far during the week.

Dr. Sperry gave his last lecture this afternoon, on reflex activities. Laughing and singing are reflex as well as walking. Training our organs to do the right thing in the right way at the time is the secret of success and by and by this house of ours will take care of itself. Every thing we should learn to do well, then we will have no trouble. Reflex activities will occur we can't help it. John Burns the engineer, trained himself in this way, when a freight car had been hurled across the track in front of his moving train, he seized the lever, turned on all the steam, rushed into the car with such force as to split it in two parts leaving the train to pass on without any loss of life. This man had trained himself to do the right thing in the right time at the right place, in the right way. For this one reflex act he not only saved many lives but was presented with a purse of four hundred dollars.

Prof. L. E. A. Crouter, of the Penna. Institution for the deaf and dumb with two bright looking boys from this institution illustrated to a very attentive audience what they are teaching the deaf, for he says there are really dumb persons. These boys could talk and answer any question asked them, write sentences of their own formation, containing any common word suggested.

After distributing tickets to vote for five teachers of the county as a committee to examine applicants for permanent certificates, Mrs. Ella B. Greene talked on physiology. Fermentation is process of doing away with that which nature does not need. This should be explained with the use of objects by the teachers using microscopes to show the pupils the existence of life too minute for the naked eye. Do not try to teach children what you cannot verify to them.

The Metherell Orchestra with Prof. Richardson at the piano accompanied Prof. Parker's voice in singing one of his choice selections.

Miss Haas sang a solo in a clear musical voice which held the house in a death like silence.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

In a few well selected words Prof. J. P. Welsh introduced Col. G. W. Ban, of Keptucky, who lectured on Prose Ballads of Human Life. The large audience evidently showed the general favor of the speaker, for he has been here before, and would receive a most hearty welcome again. It is impossible to convey the silvery tones, the exquisite oratory, and the impassioned whole-heartedness of the speaker in his life work of elevating the standard of morality and the building of human character on a basis of malice toward none and love to all mankind. Among the many good things he said we select the following: While music fills the soul Thomas Payne's Home Sweet Home fills our hearts with glorious memories. We speak of life as a shadow but treat it as the rocks or the everlasting hills. Instead of taking the doctor's medicine get up in the morning and after taking a bright walk in the pure morning air you will go back with an appetite the doctor can never give you. Oh the golden links nature would add to our year if we would get up and let the morning paint roses on our cheeks and sparkling brilliants in our eyes. I have never rounded the globe, but I have rounded nearly every curve on our railroads and seen the mountains covered with nature's beauties and nowhere have I found life so cheerful as where they "list to nature's teachings." Some people make life miserable by comparing what little they have to what others have. John Wanamaker bought a picture for a hundred thousand dollars, but we can go a summer morning and find riche, lovelier and more beautiful pictures than money can buy. Show me a home where children honor parents and parents honor God and I will show you a home of contentment. One thing makes me sad while traveling for the last ten years up and down this beautiful land and that is so many country boys going to the city. I believe there is more comfort and happiness awaiting the boys in the country than will ever be found in the city. Country life is the sweetest. God bless the country boy.

THURSDAY MORNING.

The teachers were again divided in two sections this morning. In the Opera House after singing several new pieces the Rev. Mr. Heilman conducted the devotional exercises by reading a portion of Proverbs and prayer. Miss Ella L. Richardson of the New York Normal Art School by explanation and illustration presented the subject of drawing in an instructive and at the same time a very entertaining manner. Drawing is receiving more attention each year. In many States teachers must pass an examination on this as well as the other branches. She said pupils should be required to study and think about their lessons in drawing the same as arithmetic. Don't talk if you have nothing to say, was sung by the institute, after which Mrs. Ella Greene resumed the talk on Physiology. It is necessary to know the origin of the narcotics in order to teach physiology well. Water, sugar, ferment and heat are the four necessary things to produce alcohol. Anything that deadens or stupefies the nerves is a narcotic. The use of opiates even among scholars is growing to an alarming extent. We must lay the most of the blame to dishonest physicians and warn our children against it. Disintegration of muscles and exhausted nerve force is the cause of heart failure. Prof. Parker led in singing, after which geography was discussed by Prof. Chas. H. Albert of the Normal School in a practical way. The end of teaching he says is to find a new truth. Not only impart knowledge but test and prove it. No teacher in Columbia county needs a moulding table to teach what a hill is, but it may be used to test his knowledge of it. You cannot discuss climate, soil or products without you know the relation of the different divisions of land. Develop conscious powers in order to find things. Children should know what they know and you know what they know. They will get in their minds a conglomeration of stuff without any definite concepts of the relations of places and things. Have a high school boy load a vessel with a salable cargo to be unloaded and reloaded at all the principle ports in a journey round the world with salable goods. This will require many months but I believe children will consider this a pleasure and this will be of more value than nine tenths of what is usually taught. In the high school building Mrs. Greene spoke on physiology. Prof. Albert on primary geography and Miss Richardson on the subject of drawing. These talks were along the same line as were given in the Opera House, but were more especially devoted to the needs of the primary teacher. The directors also had an interesting meeting in the High School building this morning but this afternoon they will assemble with both sections of the teachers in the Opera House.

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TEACHERS LAST DAY—MANY DIRECTORS HELP SWELL THE CROWD.

Some people who pretend to know have said teachers' institute are a waste of public money. How any teacher could attend the sessions of the present institute without being benefited in some or many ways is certainly more than any one would be able to say fearless of a successful contradiction. The rural teachers are brought in contact with their town neighbors; those in the higher schools get a conception of the leaders of the country minds which have always proved the nation's able leaders, and all receive that inspiration and high ideal of a noble education, which only those who have climbed the ladder are able to impart. It is an utter improbability that a teacher can be moved by these inspirations without lifting their pupils to a higher and a nobler life.

The Opera House was full Thursday afternoon when Mrs. Greene spoke on brain and nerve work, explaining the power of the mind, structure of the brain, cause of the delirium and the power to think.

In a very pleasant voice Miss Haas sang a beautiful song.

Charles C. Evans addressed the teachers and more especially the directors on the subject of "Our Public School System." Our schools were not properly represented at the Chicago Exposition. Columbia county gave but \$20 of which Berwick gave ten and Beaver and Locust each five dollars. The highest fraction of a school system is not to teach books but make character. It is preposterous to think an examination of a few days will cover the ground of a year's work. We know of several pupils suffering from nervous prostration brought on by worry over examinations. We believe no more institutes will be held in this state in the middle of the school term.

Prof. Albert then in a most lively manner spoke on "School Discipline." He said the first thing a child should know was to govern itself. We should govern our schools by appealing to the pupils' conscience. So long as our school houses are not furnished like our homes we should not expect good order.

"The Proper Relation of Teacher, Pupil and Parent," was the subject of a very able address by L. B. Kline, M. D. Parents should visit the schools

if they wish the highest success attainable, it not only inspires the children but helps the teachers.

Prof. Parker led in singing a few of his choice selections and on account of the illness of the next instructor, Miss Ella Richardson, the institute adjourned.

THURSDAY EVENING.

The Ollie Torbett Concert Company had a crowded house and entertained them in such a way as to receive rounds of applause. The smiling face and gracefulness of Miss Ollie Torbett in rendering the most exquisite harmony from the liveliest of all musical instruments, the violin, sent a thrill of enthusiasm through the vast audience which was greeted with well deserved applause. It would have added somewhat to the enjoyment of the Lutteman Sextette, who are from Stockholm, Sweden, if they would have sung less in their own language and more in ours.

FRIDAY MORNING.

The institute sang "Autumn Weather," and Rev. Patterson read 1st John 3rd chapter, and offered prayer.

Supt. Johnston named the teachers who are to take charge of the local institutes in the several townships, made some explanations and stated of the 233 teachers in the county 223 were present and three were unable to come on account of sickness.

The various committees reported as follows:

Permanent certificates—W. W. Heffner, chairman, Boyd Trescott, Secretary; E. K. Richardson, Mrs. L. L. Steadman and O. H. Yetter.

Auditing committee, of which B. F. Kelley was chairman. Report of 1892: Receipts \$914.57; expenditures \$347.11; balance \$567.46.

Committee on resolutions, E. K. Richardson, chairman.

It is resolved by the teachers of Columbia county in Institute assembled:

1. That we tender our thanks to our County Superintendent for the interesting and profitable instruction and entertainment which he has furnished for our benefit and to all our instructors for their earnest efforts in our behalf.

2. That we respectfully urge all school boards to lengthen the school term.

3. That if it can be done, the Institute be held so as not to interfere with the school term.

4. That the teachers have at least a little benefit of the five and one-half millions in the shape of more equitable wages.

5. That the teachers be employed as soon after the meeting of the new board in June as possible.

6. That we teachers will strive to improve our methods, systems of teaching, and ourselves by reading regularly, professional books and periodicals.

E. K. RICHARDSON, ELA McHENRY, ROBERT BARDO, HARRIET COOK, Com.

Prof. Albert next talked on the objects and methods of the teacher. Teach principle instead of facts. All literature is founded on human nature. What is the difference whether Evangeline lived or not?

Civil Government was next presented to the teachers by P. E. K. Richardson, of Berwick. Teachers should be familiar with all recent school laws.

Younger scholars can be taught the different township officers as well as the older ones. After teaching township officers take up borough, county, city, state and national government. Cultivate a law of patriotism and a love for law.

Prof. Parker again took charge of the musical department which has been receiving so much attention that the teachers now sing with a spirit and a will.

After a short recess Mrs. Greene made some excellent suggestions on school work. Teachers should receive much help in order to be successful. Book companies find it does not take quite so many books since they are bought by the directors. Study your children, some of them will help you and some will need your help. This year especially when so many mills and factories are closed we should try and be successful in our teaching.

After singing "The Sweet By and By," Rev. Mr. Heilman spoke a few words of admonition recommending the Bible as the best of all books to help over difficulties, and after prayer the Teachers' Institute was a thing of the past.

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