

Legislation. BOWERS OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

The next bill in order was House bill No. 273, file folio 923, entitled An act to authorize justices of the peace throughout the Commonwealth to hear and determine certain specified criminal offenses and misdemeanors with the aid of a jury and to impose sentences upon convicted persons.

This bill has been a good deal debated, and it is alleged to be unconstitutional because the jury of the Justice is to consist of six persons, and is to hear and determine the several offenses and misdemeanors mentioned in the thirtieth, thirty-first, forty-fourth, forty-sixth, sixty-ninth, seventy-second, ninety-seventh, one hundred and third, one hundred and twelfth, one hundred and fortieth, one hundred and forty-eighth and one hundred and fifty-second sections of the act of the thirty-first day of March, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty, entitled "An act to consolidate, revise and amend the penal laws of this Commonwealth."

I have therefore examined the matter a little for the benefit of the debate, and general information on the subject. In the laws agreed upon in England, it was provided, Paragraph 8, that all trials shall be by twelve men and as near as may be, peers or equals, &c. Laws of Penna. Vol. 5—Page 416.

By the constitution of 1776, the trial of all criminal offenses shall be by an impartial jury, and in civil suits the parties have a right to trial by jury. Trials shall be by jury as heretofore. I bid 425, 428.

By the constitution of 1790 it is declared, Art. IX, Par. VI—That trial by jury shall be as heretofore, and the right thereof remain inviolate. Laws of Penna. Vol. 5—XLI.

In the constitution of 1838 it is declared, Art. VIII, Sec. VI. Trial by jury shall be as heretofore, and the right thereof remain inviolate. P. L. 1839—40. XIII.

In the constitution of 1874 it is declared, Art. I, Sec. VI—Trial by jury shall be as heretofore and shall be inviolate.

The number twelve is a common law jury—and there is no Act of Assembly in Pennsylvania fixing the number of jurors necessary to try either criminal or civil issues: But it has been held that the word "jury" in a constitution imports, *ex terminis*, twelve men. The word is loosely used in statutes and elsewhere, however, to mean a body of men selected in the manner prescribed by law and sworn to declare the facts in a case as they appear from the evidence presented.

The number of men constituting a jury for the trial of civil and criminal issues is not fixed or mentioned by Magna Charta or by the constitution of the United States. But the constitution provides for the right of trial by jury in both issues, and perhaps a trial by jury may be intended by the words "lawful judgment of his peers," in the 39th section of Magna Charta.

The question at issue, therefore is, whether at common law, the misdemeanors included in the Bill were entitled to be tried by jury? If so, it seems the right is inviolate, and the Bill unconstitutional. Whether they were or not, I have not examined. J. G. F.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that contain Mercury.

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surface of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co., Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. per bottle.

Harper's Magazine.

The first instalment of the Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc having shown the environment in which the heroine's childish years were passed, the second (in the May Harper's) will carry forward the marvellous story to Joan's efforts to take to the Dauphin the message she had received from Heaven: "It is appointed that I shall drive the English out of France, and set the crown upon your head."

A Minister's Experience With Heart Disease.

Rev. L. W. Showers, Elderton, Pa.: "For many years my greatest enemy has been organic heart disease. From uneasiness about the heart, with palpitation, it had developed into thumping, fluttering, and choking sensations. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gave instant relief. A few bottles have rid me of almost every symptom of heart disease. It is a wonder-worker." Sold by Wm. S. Rishton. 6-15 17.

GOOD TIMES ARE COMING. What the Post Office Figures Demonstrate.

The auditors' division of the Post Office Department has just completed the settlement of accounts of post offices for the last quarter of the calendar year 1894, and the figures, as compared with those of the same quarter of 1893, are viewed with much satisfaction by the officials. The volume of business transacted by the postal service has long been considered a reliable index of the condition of trade and commerce of the country.

When the recent panic began to affect the business interests of the country that fact was at once shown in reduced receipts at the post offices. Now that the figures show an increase, the officials feel justified in arguing that the bottom has been touched and that the country is on the upward grade.

The sale of stamps for the quarter was \$19,495,571. This is said to be the largest sum received from that source within the same period in the history of the postal service. The receipts for the last quarter of 1893 were \$18,199,729.

REV. I. W. HILL.

Pastor Methodist Church, Accord, N. Y., says cancerous diseases can be cured.

ACCORD, N. Y.—Under the old school method it was believed that any disease of cancerous growth could never be cured. The surgeon's knife was resorted to, but the old trouble was sure to break out again.

Since the discovery of Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy, all this has been changed—the action of Favorite Remedy upon the system leaves no trace of poison in the blood, the seeds of disease are expelled and lost health restored. A notable case of the efficacy of Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy is that of the Rev. I. W. Hill of this town. Some years ago he was suffering with a cancer of long standing, on his lip, and finally concluded to have it removed. In speaking of his case Pastor Hill said: "About three weeks previous to having the operation performed, I purchased Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy and continued taking it for some time after the cancer was removed. Ten long years have passed since then and no trace of the ugly thing has returned. I speak with knowledge in the highest terms of Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy as being able to cure the troubles for which it is prepared."

One of our local physicians said, in explaining the demand for Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy: "It acts as a nerve and blood food, and to my knowledge it has made many permanent cures of Nervous Debility, Sleeplessness, Dyspepsia, Rheumatism and of the sickness peculiar to women, where other treatments have failed. For headaches, constipation and the run down condition, one often suffers with, there is nothing else so good."

Harper's Weekly.

The thirtieth anniversary of Lincoln's assassination, falling in April, will be commemorated by the publication in Harper's Weekly of two noteworthy articles, of which the first will discuss the sources of Lincoln's eloquence, and the second will be devoted to the Lincoln genealogy—tracing the line back to New England stock. The second article will be contributed by Lucius E. Chittenden, Register of the United States Treasury during the period of the Civil War, and an intimate friend of the President himself, as well as of many of the leading men connected with that administration.

Washable Materials for Ladies' Summer Gowns.

New grass lincens and ecru linen batistes have color introduced in dashes, bars and stripes, or else they are quite plain. Heavier smooth lincens come in a variety of shades, such as light blue, navy, pink, green, and yellowish brown. Among the new cotton fabrics are some beautiful Hindoo batistes and smoothed twilled teviot suitings. Gingham, zephyrs and dimities are always popular, and appear in pretty and novel designs. Dotted swiss muslins with artistic wreaths, bouquets, or separate blossoms, printed in natural colors, on tinted or white grounds, easily take the lead for elegant wear. In the McDowell Fashion Magazines just at hand can be seen many illustrations of these new fabrics and their applications. The latest styles of skirts and capes appear in special coupon patterns. These popular and artistic patterns continue to form a most characteristic feature of the McDowell Journals, and are highly prized for their accuracy of details and their practical excellence. "La Mode de Paris" and "Paris Album of Fashion" cost only \$3.50 a year, or 35 cents each per copy; "The French Dressmaker" is \$3.00 per annum, or 30 cts. a copy; "La Mode" costs only \$1.50 per year, or 15 cents a copy. If you are unable to procure either of these publications from your newsdealer do not take a substitute from him, but apply by mail to Messrs. A. McDowell & Co., 4 West 14th Street, New York.

METHODS OF PRIMARY READING. XIII.

The Pollard Synthetic Method. Concluded.

BY WILLIAM NOETLING.

Back Door Keys. "Back door keys consist of the consonants that follow the last vowel of a word; as *ud* in *and*, *nk* in *bank*."

Front Door Keys. "Front door keys consist of the consonants that follow the last vowel of a word; as, *er* in *erab*, *str* in *strap*."

Door Knobs. "Door knobs are the single consonants found at the beginning or end of words or syllables. We turn the front door knob when we sound the first consonant, and the back door knob when the last consonant is sounded. If we do not sound aright we do not turn the right knob; hence we must not expect the right door (word) to open."

The following are some of the rules which the children are required to learn to enable them to pronounce words.

"Mark a short in two and three letter words ending in single consonants, except such as begin with *or* or begin with *r* (exceptions, *war*, *war*); also, when followed by *ck*, *nd*, *ng* and *nk*: as *task*, *hand*, *sang*, *rank*."

"Make a equivalent to *e* short in such words and syllables as *said*, *says*, *any*, *many* again, against."

"Mark a obscure when found alone, either as a word or a syllable: as, a *top*, *around*."

"When any single consonant except *r* separates a from *e* final, in the same syllable, mark the *e* silent and the *a* long; as, *bake*, *lace*, *jade*, *lame*, *pane*, *late*, *maze*; exception, *have*.

Exceptions to the above rule are found in the unaccented syllables, *acc*, *ase*, and *age*, where a must be marked obscure; as, *urnace*, *image*.

"When a is followed by *ng*, mark it long; as, *range*, *strange*."

"Mark *i* short in two and three letter words ending in single consonants, except such as end in *r*; as, *ship*, *rim*; also, when followed by two or more consonants, the first of which is not *r* (*ck*, *ng*, *nk*, *nt*, *st*, *th*, *ss*, *ff*); as, *sing*, *pick*, *ink*, *mint*, *mist*, *with*, *biss*, *stiff*. Exceptions are found where *i* is followed by *nd*, *ld*, and *nt*; as, *find*, *mild*, *hint*."

"Make *e* hard before *a*, *o*, *u*, *k*, *l*, *r*, *t*; as, *eat*, *cob*, *cut*, *back*, *clam*, *cry*, *fact*."

The sharp or hissing sound of *s* is learned by singing to the air of "Trump, the Boys are Marching," the following doggerel:

"When we find this crooked mark, At the end of any word With the sound of p, t, k, or f before, We must try to make the sound that the little piggies heard. When Growler sprang to chase them from the door.

Chorus: S, s, s. But do not bite them; This was Tom—my Tucker's call; And the doggie seemed to know He must bark and make a show, Just to frighten them away, But that was all."

Besides the "Airs" or tunes already referred to, the Manual contains doggerels of from one to twenty-four stanzas to "Here we go around the muberry bush," "Hold the fort," "Wait for the wagon," "America," "Jesus loves even me," "O come, come away," "Coming through the rye," "John Brown's body," "Our stately ship moves on."

As will be seen by the foregoing the children learn the sounds of the letters by singing them, and then, by means of rules, determine which of the sounds a word contains, and thus arrive at its pronunciation.

A Speller accompanies the Manual. In this, words, familiar and unfamiliar to the children, are arranged in so-called families. To the letters of these words the children are to give their diacritical marks and sounds according to the rules learned, and then to pronounce the words.

The "busy work" consists of drawing upon their slates or paper ladders, "windows," and printing (not writing) letters, syllables, and words. The object of the "busy work" is to keep the children interested (out of mischief) while they are learning the sounds of the letters.

Mrs. Pollard must have bestowed much time and labor upon the revival and systematization of the "synthetic method." She has added all the musical accompaniments, increased the number of those of the animals, improved the classification of words, and arranged all into a scheme to be wrought out according to directions and prescriptions. The directions are, "Follow step by step the Manual;" in other words (mine), Here do this; do it this way; do it so many times.

As before stated, the method is not one of reading, but of pronunciation; and if reading means no more than merely pronouncing words, then, that it accomplishes its end, cannot be denied, but the same can be attained more easily and rationally by any of the other phonic methods; it can be attained even by the alphabetic.

The method is not new to me; I purchased the Manual and the Speller soon after they were published (in 1889), and gave the method a careful

examination.

Objections to the Method. 1. It violates one of the most important laws of pedagogics, namely, that instruction in all branches should be inductive—that children should be led to discover their own definitions, laws, rules, &c. The Pollard method requires the children to learn ready-made rules with which to discover the pronunciation of words. This is a serious objection, and alone sufficient to condemn the method in the minds of competent educators. Who, for instance, would want to go back to this method with arithmetic, the method of forty, fifty years ago, when all problems were solved by rules? Such a mind blunting method would be an insult to the children's intelligence.

2. It violates one of the generally accepted and leading principles of modern psychology, namely, that mental activity is developed by thought, and that thought, the mind's food, must be the children's experiences, their past mental life. Any artificial method, like the Pollard, that violates the laws of the evolution of mental growth is erroneous and, in the end, harmful.

3. The Manual says the children should print their exercises instead of writing them. Such a suggestion would readily have been accepted by the teachers of the past age, but no thoughtful person of the present day would think of demanding such a time wasting and useless performance of children.

4. The method is loaded down with a useless "burden of encumbrances," all intended to keep up the courage—interest they call it—of the children until the dry and tedious sounding has been learned. The children's so called interest is not centered on thought-getting, but on the flummery, the incidentals, the things that captivate the unwary.

The value of a method (system would perhaps be a better name) can be determined only by experts, not by novices.

Below I will give what some of the leaders in the educational councils of the country say of the Pollard method.

Col. Francis W. Parker, Cook County Normal.—"The 'Pollard system' is purely mechanical, for machine teachers only. It would be a great misfortune to introduce it."

E. E. White, L. L. D.—"It reaches wrong ends by wrong means, and the greater the apparent success, the greater the mischief."

L. H. Jones, Supt., Cleveland, Ohio.—"I have no sympathy whatever with the 'Pollard method,' as I believe it a great waste of time."

Supt. Geo. J. Luckey of Pittsburg.—"It is a machine, and with its accompanying gewgaws is likely to please the young and thoughtless teacher, but the experienced educator will have nothing to do with it."

Supt. J. M. Greenwood, Kansas City, Mo.—"It does not teach the children how to read. 2. It does not teach them how to spell many words except by sound. 3. It misdirects the pupil's energy. 4. It introduces too much foreign matter that has no relevancy to the subject of reading or spelling."

Dr. Irwin Shepard, Pres't. Winona Normal, Minn.—"It had a temporary trial in the schools of Winona, but was very soon discontinued. I know of no competent or prominent educators that recommend it."

Dr. Larkin Dunton, Prin. Boston, Mass., Normal.—"There is too much artificial machinery connected with it."

Dr. John W. Cook, Pres't Normal University, Normal, Ill.—"It seems to me too pathetically mechanical. It is not used in any State Normal School of my acquaintance."

The late Supt. Geo. Howland for bid its use in the schools of Chicago. I have not learned the names of any leading educators that recommend it.

Teachers who have the curiosity to examine the method should write for the Manual and the Speller. They are published by the Western Publishing House, Chicago.

Climatic Influence on Health.

It cannot be denied that the influence of climate upon health is great, and it is in recognition of this fact that physicians send patients suffering with pulmonary diseases to great distances for "change of air." But when the sufferer happens to be too poor to act upon the advice his lot is hard indeed. But it is not necessarily hopeless. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery can be had at any medicine store, and to thousands whose cases were considered desperate owe their lives.

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