

# THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

T. S. CHASE,

DEVOTED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY, AND THE DISSEMINATION OF MORALITY, LITERATURE AND NEWS.

EDITOR & PUBLISHER.

VOL. IX.

COUDERSPORT, POTTER COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1857.

NO. 46.

## Business Cards.

**F. W. KNO.,**  
Attorney at Law,  
Coudersport, Pa., will regularly attend the Courts in Potter County.

**ARTHUR G. OLMSTED,**  
Attorney & Counselor at Law,  
Coudersport, Pa., will attend to all business entrusted to his care, with promptness and fidelity.  
Office—in the Temperance Block, up stairs, Main-street.

**ISAAC BENSON**  
Attorney at Law,  
Coudersport, Pa.  
Office corner of West and Third streets.

**L. P. WILLISTON,**  
Attorney at Law,  
Wellboro', Tioga Co., Pa., will attend the Courts in Potter and McKean Counties.

**A. P. CONE,**  
Attorney at Law,  
Wellborough, Tioga county, Pa., will regularly attend the courts of Potter county.  
June 3, 1848.

**JOHN S. MANN,**  
Attorney & Counselor at Law,  
Coudersport, Pa., will attend the several Courts in Potter and McKean counties. All business entrusted in his care, will receive prompt attention.  
Office on Main-street, opposite the Court House, Coudersport, Pa.

**COUDERSPORT HOTEL,**  
Daniel F. Glassmire  
Proprietor  
Corner of Main and Second streets, Coudersport, Potter Co., Pa. 44.

**R. W. BENTON,**  
Subor and Conceptor,  
Raymond P. O. (Allegheny Tp.) Potter Co., Pa. will attend to all business in that line with care and dispatch. [1933-17]

**W. K. KING,**  
Subor, Draftsman, and Conceptor,  
Snethport, Keok Co., Pa.  
Will attend to business for non-resident landholders, upon reasonable terms. References given if required.  
P. S. Maps of any part of the County made to order.  
Coudersport, Oct. 29, 1856.—9-24.

**E. R. HARRINGTON,** having engaged a Window in Schoemaker & Jackson's Store, will carry on the WATCH AND JEWELRY BUSINESS there. Watches and Jewelry carefully repaired, in the best style, and on the shortest notice. All work warranted.  
Coudersport, Oct. 29, 1856.—9-24.

**BENJAMIN RENNELS,**  
BLACKSMITH.  
All work in his line, done to order and with dispatch. On West street, below Third Coudersport, Pa.

**SMITH & JONES.**  
Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Stations of Drugs & Medicines; Paints, Oils, Fancy articles, &c. Main Street, Coudersport Pa.

**JONES, MANN & JONES**  
General Grocery and Provision Dealers—Also in Dry Goods, Hardware, Boots and Shoes, and whatever men want to buy. Main Street, Coudersport Pa.

**O. T. ELLISON, M. D.,**  
RESPECTFULLY informs the citizens of Coudersport and vicinity that he will be found regularly at his office, over the Drug Store of Smith & Jones, ready to attend to all calls in his profession. Nov. 20—17

**D. E. OLMSTED**  
Dealer in Dry Goods, Ready-made Clothing Groceries, Crockery, &c. Coudersport, Pa.

**A. H. BÜTTERWORTH**  
WILL furnish the People with fresh Beef and Mutton, on Tuesdays and Fridays during the season. Cash will be paid for beef at all times.  
Coudersport, July 17, 1856.

**M. W. MANN,**  
Dealer in Books & Stationery, Music, and Magazines. Music, opposite N. W. corner of the public square, Coudersport, Pa.

**DAVID B. BROWN,**  
Furniture and Dealer in Ploughs, &c. &c. 77 and of Main street, Coudersport Pa.

**A. B. GOODSPELL,**  
GUNSMITH, Coudersport, Pa. Fire Arms manufactured and repaired at his shop, on Main street.  
March 3, 1849.

**J. W. HARDING,**  
Fashionable Tailor. All work entrusted to his care will be done with neatness, comfort and durability. Shop over Lewis Mann's store.

**ALLEGANY HOUSE,**  
AMUEL M. MILLS, Proprietor.  
On the Wellsville road, seven miles North of Coudersport.

## THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

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### Selected Poetry

SUNSHINE OF THE HEART.

Oh! don't go sighing through the world,  
There's sunshine all the way,  
If you'll but do the best that e'er  
Reflects the blessed ray.  
It glitters in the greatful tear,  
That flows for a kind deed,  
And quivers in the voice that sobb  
Its thanks, for help, in need.  
It sparkles off in radiant smiles,  
At tones tuned in the heart,  
And guided over the page of life,  
With beams that ne'er depart.  
It dwelleth in the loving look  
That answers to our own,  
And swelleth up a spring of joy,  
To selfish taste unknown.  
It smooths the rugged ways of life,  
With carpets soft and light,  
Woven of conscience free from frowns,  
And impulse acted right.  
It cheers the darkest hour on earth—  
Steels under sorrows deep;  
And even smiles above the path,  
That leads to dreamless sleep.

### Educational.

#### Election of County Superintendents.

This may possibly be the last number of the Journal that will meet the eyes of Directors, before they assemble to elect County Superintendents for the next three school years. The proper performance of that duty, so as to effect the original design of the liberal and far-seeing Legislature which established the office, will be of incalculable benefit to the State; and the contrary will be equally injurious. It is, therefore, our design, as one amongst the thousands of Pennsylvanians who have been watching the workings of this new feature in our educational system, with intense interest, frankly to state the conclusions to which our observations have led.

Three years ago, few Directors or others had any clear view of the necessity, nature, mode of operation or probable results of this office. The natural consequences were, in the first instance, numerous mistakes in selection and compensation. These have been, we think erroneously, attributed, both in and out of the State, to a settled purpose to defeat the office, or out of general hostility to the system itself. In a few cases this feeling may have had its influence, but in most, the action complained of really grew out of a mere want of knowledge of the office itself, and an honest belief that, upon an addition to the expense and the working machinery of the system, was wholly unnecessary. Whatever may have been the cause, however, it is certain that, in 1854, the duty of selecting County Superintendents was performed as to produce one or other of the three following results: Either,  
1. An incompetent person was chosen, who of course, failed, no matter what the salary. Or,  
2. A competent person was chosen, who in most cases, failed or was greatly crippled in his operations by total inadequacy of salary. Or,  
3. A competent person was selected, with adequate salary, who fulfilled the just expectations of the friends of the measure.

From this it would appear that fitness in the person and adequacy of compensation are the elements—the essential conditions—of success. Of course, as in all other complex affairs, there are instances that appear to conflict with this conclusion; but on close inspection they will be found rather to confirm it. For example, one Superintendent may have been so well qualified for the station and so devoted to the system, that he discharged its duties at a most shamefully inadequate salary. But who will argue from this, that it is the right of the public to impose such a burden on private means or individual patriotism? Or, it may have been that all the conditions appeared to be secured—both adequacy of salary and skill and experience in the art of teaching,—yet failure ensued. Yet who will condemn the office of County Superintendent, because, here and there, a good teacher may have made a poor Superintendent? Many an able lawyer makes a miserable Judge; few of the most successful practicing physicians are qualified for the Professor's chair; and so, a capital teacher of boys may not succeed as the Teacher of Teachers and the administrative officer of a complicated school system. It would be no difficult task, at the present juncture, to rüh over the whole State and show the correctness of the conclusions just stated: Cases of full success or of entire failure, or of partial failure or success might be instanced, in strict accordance with them. But it is neither proper nor necessary. What we have to do with, now, are general results. These are so plain that he who runs may read, and require no announcement of the facts on which they rest, from us.

Taking it for granted, then, that experience has fully justified the wisdom of the Legislature in requiring the selection of a fit person and the payment of a sufficient salary, for this office, two questions arise:—  
1. Who is a fit person for the office?  
2. What is a sufficient salary?  
In answer to the first question, it may, in the words of the school law, be replied that fitness consists in  
1. "Literary and Scientific Acquirements." These are both indispensable, and the degree of them should be considerable. In every country, schools of every rank and grade—from the lowest primary to the high school, with its full round of branches—either are or must soon come into existence: and to discharge the office properly, the Superintendent must be qualified "to examine" all the Teachers, "to visit" them, and to give such instructions in the Art of Teaching, and the method thereof in each school," as the condition and grade of each shall require:—How can this be done, except by one who is scholar enough to teach the teacher of the highest branch taught in the highest school in his country?  
2. "Skill and Experience in the Art of Teaching." Is another requisite, and is also exacted by the law; not only skill to know, but practice to do. It is no doubt true, that, in some instances, the office has been well filled by persons of no great, or possibly no actual experience in the art. This is owing to the known fact that some men have naturally in them so much of the elements of the Teacher, and such a love for the work and the cause, as to supply, to a great degree, all other defects. But the exception only proves the rule; for the instances of failure for want of this element have been too numerous to leave the question doubtful. The safer and the legal rule, is, in all cases, to require this "skill and experience."

3. "Ability to impart knowledge and give information publicly, as well as privately, is indispensable." Since the passage of the act of 1854, in addition to the public meetings for the examination of Teachers, and the public visitation of schools in the presence of directors and parents thereby prescribed—the holding of district and county Institutes, Associations and Meetings for the improvement of Teachers, and the delivery of public lectures and addresses for the furtherance of the system and the explanation of the law, have become so general, and are found to be so beneficial, that they may now be regarded as an integral part of the Superintendent's duties. All these occasions impose the duty of addressing the public; and the officer who does not do it, no matter what the cause, fails in his duty. The ability, therefore, to speak in public should be embraced amongst the requisites of fitness for the office.  
4. "Energy of character and love for the work, are the last essentials that need be specified." Without these, the highest degree of scholastic attainment, of professional skill, and power of expression will fail, for the great moving forces of the required character will be wanting. With these present in a large degree, even a medium of qualification in other respects may succeed.

Amongst the qualifications necessary to this most important office, it is, of course, not deemed requisite to speak of temperance, honesty or industry, nor of common sense, suavity of manners, or knowledge of human nature. These are requisites to the safe and efficient discharge of every public trust; the one in question being no exception to the general rule, but rather demanding them in a greater degree than most others. In a word, and aside from special requisites, the nearer the character of a County Superintendent approaches to that of the Christian gentleman, the greater will be his acceptance and success.

The answer to the question, what is an adequate salary? will depend mainly on the locality; and the experience of the past three years will, in many cases, modify past action on this point. Many of the Conventions fixed the salary in 1854, under a total or very material misapprehension of the nature of the office, the amount of service required and the degree of good to be effected. Now, in many parts of the State, all these points are clearly comprehended, and the action of directors will no doubt, be different. No one who knows the people of Pennsylvania will, for a moment, suppose that injustice will be done in regulating the compensation of those who are found to be amongst the most useful, most laborious and most important of our public agents. The actual amount must, as just remarked, depend on the circumstances of each case; still, certain general principles are indicated by the nature of the office and the wants of the schools, which it may be useful to elicit.

The first point to be determined is, whether the whole, or only a portion, of the officer's time will be required for the full discharge of the duties of the office. This will wholly depend on the number of schools in the county; if they are materially over 100 and should be increased, then the best policy and the course most productive of good, will be to pay for and require his whole time and services. In such cases more than half of the year may be most beneficially devoted to school visitation; which to be effectual, should be full and frequent. The rest of the year can be profitably devoted to the improvement of the Teachers in one or more Institutes of greater or less duration to the officer's own improvement and to the preparation of his reports &c.

In smaller counties a less portion of the officer's time will be needed; and the salary may be in proportion; but in all cases enough should be given to secure his whole time and efforts to the service of the schools while in operation, and to the improvement of the teachers during a portion of the recess. The only other general principle to be kept in view in arranging the salary is that of making it large enough to command the very best professional talent within the reach of the Convention. For reasons already given, no other should be thought of.

The man, then, whom law experience and the wants of the system demand for County Superintendent, is:—  
*A practical Teacher, who is also an accomplished scholar, and a ready public speaker; with sufficient love for it to undertake, and energy to perform, the great work before him; and the salary should be sufficient to compensate him, as far as money can, for the efficient discharge of so great a labor.*

Whoever such a man is found, he should be selected. Whoever he has already been found, he should be retained.

At the present time it may be proper to recall to the attention of Conventions to elect County Superintendents, that section 40 of the school law of 8th May, 1854, confers upon the State Superintendent of Common Schools very considerable powers in reference to the commissioning of the persons elected. The words alluded to are these: "If objection be made within thirty days to the issuing of such commission, the Superintendent of Common Schools may require such evidence, under oath or affirmation, in regard to the election or qualification of the person elected County Superintendent, as he shall deem necessary, and shall then issue his commission to the person properly qualified, who shall have received the highest number of votes."

Under this provision it is competent for any citizen, and would seem to be his duty, to make objection to the commissioning of an unqualified person, and to set in operation for the good of the system in this respect, the powers vested in the State Superintendent. In view of this fact, the true course for Directors in their Convention will be, to vote for none unless such as by learning and professional skill are fully qualified to discharge all the duties of the office.—*Pennsylvania School Journal for April.*

[Correspondence of the Journal]  
From Harrisburg.

DEAR JOURNAL; Yesterday and today have been days of sorrow at this place. One of the brightest ornaments of the Senate is no longer among the living. Charles B. Penrose, member from the City of Philadelphia, died on last Monday, between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The Senate met at three o'clock on that day, and immediately adjourned. At 9 o'clock on Tuesday they met, and the death of Mr. Penrose was officially announced to the Senate by Mr. Crabb, who offered a series of resolutions suitable for the occasion. Mr. Crabb proceeded to remark on the character and worth of the deceased, in a peculiarly affecting manner, giving evidence how deeply he felt this solemn Providence, by his sudden manner, and the touching solemnity of his tone of voice. He was followed by several others in eloquent and appropriate remarks, among whom I may particularly mention Mr. Jordan. His remarks were appropriate, solemn, and religious. It was truly pleasant to see Senators admonish one another of the uncertainty of life, and of the common end that awaiteth all, sooner or later; and to see them give evidence of possessing heart and soul not altogether corrupted by political life. Mr. Crabb and Mr. Jordan seemed to grieve for Mr. Penrose as for a brother. Mr. Sutherland was absent, being one of a committee appointed to attend the body to Philadelphia.

Mr. Penrose was a native of Philadelphia; but when a young man settled in Carlisle, Cumberland Co., and from that district, in 1833, was elected to the State Senate, and remained there until 1839. He was elected Speaker of the Senate in 1839. I remember well his brilliant career in the Senate at that time. His speech against A. V. Parsons, a member from Lycoming, who assumed to be leader of the democratic party, was, perhaps, the greatest literary effort ever made in the Senate of the commonwealth, and Mr. Parsons was most signally floored. Mr. Penrose has since removed to Philadelphia, and has become a good man, and a man of no inconsiderable eminence.

Mr. Penrose was a devoted Christian, of the highest style of man. After leaving the Senate, he established himself in Lancaster in the practice of his profession as a lawyer. While there, he was indefatigable in his duties as a member of the Presbyterian church of that place; showing especially great zeal and interest in promoting the welfare of the sabbath school. This gave occasion, at one time, to some pleasant remarks of Taud Stephens, who was partial to a small Baptist church. Mr. Penrose and Mr. Stephens were particularly intimate as members of the same political party, and as eminent lawyers, practicing at the same bar. Some one remarking in Mr. Stephens' presence of Mr. Penrose's zeal in behalf of the sabbath school of the Presbyterian church, Mr. Stephens replied, in half joking, half earnest way, "I must be stirring about for our little Baptist church; it will not do to let Mr. Penrose out-work me." Mr. Stephens, however never did much for the Baptist church, excepting by contributing very largely towards it, of his pecuniary means.

In 1841, Mr. Penrose was, by President Harrison, appointed Solicitor of the Treasury of the United States, and continued to fill the office under Tyler. He then settled in Philadelphia. He was, last fall, elected a member of the Senate from that city, and died at his post, a martyr to the conscientious discharge of duty, at the age of 63 years. He was a member, and I believe, a Ruling Elder in Dr. Boardman's church, Walnut-st., Philadelphia.

Mr. Penrose was a Christian Gentleman, courteous, affable, kind and honest; of a clear, discriminating judgment, and extensive knowledge of human nature. I wish all our public men were as much so. I saw him in the Senate on Friday apparently in good health, and particularly cheerful. He was attacked with Pleuresy and died on Monday.

The snow storm on Monday was very extensive, reaching from the lakes to New Orleans. In New Orleans, there was sleet and rain. There was snow three inches deep in Tennessee. In Dunkirk it was 18 inches deep. In that place it was about 2 in. The thermometer, on Monday, in the space of 13½ hours, fell 28 degrees or better than two degrees an hour for one day.

The Governor has appointed James Armstrong Esq., of Williamsport Lycoming County, judge of the Supreme Court, in the place of Judge Black.

The proper committee in the House of Representatives have reported a bill for the sale of the Main Line of our public improvements and its consideration is the order of the day for every afternoon session, until disposed of. This bill makes the minimum price \$7,500,000, and if the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., shall be the purchaser, they are to give \$1,500,000 additional, and the largest tax is to be removed. This bill ought to pass. Our public improvements have given occasion for the very vilest corruption and plunder.

The total receipts in the last four years, 1853 to 1856, from the Main Line is \$5,074,028 43  
Total expenditures 7,228,315 56  
Excess of expenditures over receipts, 2,154,287 13  
Of the above account \$1,696,597 68 were appropriations to New-Portage Road; and also 33,933 85 were appropriated to the western Reserve.

This leaves the expenditures of the road from Pittsburg to Philadelphia, to overbalance the receipts \$123,735 99  
Just to think of that Mr. Editor.—