

CIRCULATION
OVER 1800.

The Centre Democrat.

WANTED
Correspondents to send
in the news—we will
publish it.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, Ed. and Prop.

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CENTRE COUNTY POST MASTERS

Statesmen in the Various Sections
After Appointments.

HOW THEY ARE PULLING.

What Meritorious Claims They Present—The "Whys" and "Wherefores"—Anxious to Serve Their County.—All are Faithful Republicans.

In our last issue we gave a portion of the replies received in regard to the contest among republicans about the county for postmaster. Another interesting batch follows this week and the situation, at the various points, is told by these various replies:

Lemont Post Office Contest.

So far we have four aspirants for the post office here, with several more to hear from.

Mr. C. A. Everett started the ball rolling, by the aid of his republican boss, J. W. Getz, who issues the orders around these parts. In fact Mr. Everett says he would not have come out to it at all, but for the fact that Mr. Gray and Gov. Hastings and Mr. Reeder, and others in his official favor, had insisted that he must have a share of the offices parcelled out. Mr. Everett's chief claim for the post office lies in the fact that his assistant is the only qualified person around here to fill the office, and that if he receives the appointment, patrons can receive refreshments at the same time. Arctic soda 5c and Greenland modifier, 10c.

Next, we have Mr. Isaac Armstrong. He came out a little late, and is scarcely able to secure as many signatures as his rival; but nevertheless he is entitled to consideration. Mr. Armstrong is certainly competent to discharge the duties imposed. He is an old citizen here. Served in the late war for four years, was wounded twice; is a member of the G. A. R. receives but a paltry pension, and his appointment would give excellent satisfaction to all.

J. Irvin Ross, they say would not object to handling the leather and canvass sacks, for Uncle Sam, they say if he makes an effort for the keys that J. F. Lenker will hustle around for the plum. J. C. Bathgate will be pleased to receive the same also, and then there is John N. Lucas, who thinks that he would make a fourth class postmaster too. There are others, who rumor connects with the office.

In the meantime, John I. Williams performs the duties in such a satisfactory manner that no complaint is heard from the most exacting, and it would be a credit to the nation if such persons could be retained in the public service; but as to the victors belong the spoils and when the change is made, we sincerely hope it will be given to a man who has done something for his country and is deserving of recognition one who is capable of performing his duties and who will not be compelled to rely upon resources not his own, to discharge the duties not involved.

Madisonburg Contest.

The scramble of the republicans, in this little town, for the postoffice, is not quite as hot as in many other places. The reason is apparent at a glance—when the income of the office which is only about \$126 a year at its present situation in the centre of town, is at least \$25 a year more.

The present postmaster is U. S. Shaffer, whose term expires in April 1897. Mr. Shaffer has been one of the best postmasters we ever had, although many complained about the place.

So far three applicants have appeared on the surface to become Mr. Shaffer's successor, although another one had contemplated coming out. The first one to come out was Mr. Joseph Bierley, who was postmaster under the Harrison administration for over a year. Mr. Bierley is circulating a petition and has about 15 signers. He would undoubtedly have many more if he could have held his tongue, during the campaign. It is said he helped to circulate such reports like this, "Any one who votes for Free Silver has no brains." Such assertions cut deep, and are not easily forgotten. Mr. Bierley is confident of being appointed because our local Republican boss, Reuben Grimm, is supposed to have a pull with Congressman Arnold besides being one of the original McKinley men. Mr. Bierley also claims considerable credit because he is a deserving man, and has always been a faithful republican. Many claim the accommodations were not first class, when Mr. Bierley had the office under the Harrison administration, and for that reason will not support him now. But Mr. Bierley says he will remedy the defect, if he gets the appointment, by

putting up a building especially for the office.

The second applicant is Frank Sylvius, who came to this place less than a year ago. He bases his chances principally on the accommodations that he could give, which he thinks would be better than any Mr. Bierley could furnish. Frank thinks Jim Coburn is working for him, because he wrote the heading to the petition he is circulating. He has about the same number of signers that Mr. Bierley has. Mr. Sylvius says he would entertain the public royally, if he would get the appointment, as he is sort of a clown, can sing comic songs, dance a jig, cut your hair, shave your face, mend your shoes or make you a new harness.

The last applicant to come out with a petition is Mr. Newton Fiedler, a brother of James A. Fiedler, former postmaster of Bellefonte. Mr. Fiedler has been the most successful so far in getting signers, especially among the farmers who would sooner see the post office in the south end of town, along the main road running east and west. If Mr. Fiedler gets the appointment, the office will be put in Isaac Smith's store. Mr. Smith is working hard for Mr. F. he is supposed to have considerable influence with Congressman Arnold as he is related to the congressman. Mr. Fiedler has always been a faithful republican and has never held an office, and consequently many think Mr. F. will be the successful man.

Five at Snow Shoe.

The present term of postmaster J. A. Kelley, does not expire until Oct., 1897. Already there are four applicants, and possibly one or two more.

The first to float an application was Jas. Uzzie, who seems very confident of the appointment. He has many reliable recommendations from different parts of the county, and among them is one from Hon. A. C. Hopkins, of Lock Haven.

The next applicant to appear, was that of ex-postmaster J. I. Yarnell, who seems to think his claims are very bright, and we admit they are. He too has many valuable recommendations from all business men of this place, and a great many from leading politicians from nearby counties.

Jesse Y. Lucas is third on the list. He has many signers on his application, but we know of no leading politicians being connected with it but Alfred Quay Lucas, who claims he will make it very interesting for the rest of the applicants. We understand he is backed by the Hon. Dan.

John Gunsallus is fourth, and last, to declare his intentions, and has the promise of some very able politicians to push his claim. Mr. Gunsallus is one of those few men who live through life without making many, if any, personal enemies, and should he receive the appointment, we feel very confident it would meet with a hearty approval of all citizens, but we can say this of all four applicants, and the writer wishes them all success, but will advise them all to look out for the fifth applicant.

Howard's Full Dozen.

Alice Cooke had a petition, about two feet long, before the election, and has increased it some since. Her brother, Robert Cooke (ex-sheriff), is looking after her claim; expects to get it for her, through M. S. Quay. Sheriff Cooke has a letter from Cong. Arnold, saying her claim would have his careful attention, at the proper time. She ought to have it on the good work the Sheriff did in the late campaign.

H. C. Holter had the promise from D. H. Hastings, that he would have the appointment under Harrison's term, and now expects to get it through Hon. W. C. Arnold. He don't feel so sure, as he has been against the present state administration. Has no petition.

Ira M. Packer is looking after his interest and is sort of working the prohibition racket. He has no petition yet. He is interested with Hon. J. G. Love in some real estate in our town. He expects his support from that source.

W. E. Confer thinks he ought to have it on general principles. He is a good republican, and has a big family, and is a soldier's orphan. He has a letter from W. C. Arnold saying, his claim will have due attention when the time comes. He has a petition but says he is not going to buy the office, if he never gets it. He wrote to Gov. Hasting and his answer was that he could do nothing for him, as he had promised another party.

J. Z. Long was postmaster some years ago, succeeding James Mahaffey. He called to see Geo. H. Wistar, while he was home from Washington to vote, to get some pointers as to how to proceed. Don't know what encouragement he got. Expect he will get W. F. Reeder's support, as he was his attorney in the famous Howard church suit. He has a petition.

H. T. Lucas served under Harrison's administration, and only got to serve about three years on account of the pro-

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INSTITUTE IN SESSION

The Fiftieth Annual Session
Largely Attended.

ABLE INSTRUCTORS PRESENT.

Complete Report of the Various Sessions—Summary of the Principal Addresses.—Institute Very Largely Attended—Other Items of Interest.

The fiftieth annual session of Centre County Teachers Institute convened Monday morning, 21st, at 10 o'clock, nearly all of about three hundred teachers having come together and presided over by Supt. C. L. Gramley.

J. C. Meyer, Esq., of Bellefonte, delivered a brief address of welcome, stating that the Bellefonte people are the most hospitable people and welcomed all the teachers and educators in the county. Mr. Meyer laid much stress on the duty of the teachers to teach patriotism, by the singing of our national songs in which practice all the other eastern systems excel America. It is the duty of all teachers to build character, as children come under the instructor when in the possession of but very few or no ideas; hence a teacher may be an exemplar of morality in the community.

Responses by Professor Dr. D. M. Wolf, of Spring Mills, and Prof. Krise. Dr. Wolf gave a brief sketch of the history of the institutes of Centre county. At Oak Hall, in 1850, it was held the first time. Teachers were then older, or more mature than now. Page's theory of teaching, which is still a classical work on that subject, was then used. That meeting was the beginning of the Pennsylvania School Journal. About 42 teachers were present. Prof. Krise complimented Supt. Gramley for selecting Supt. A. Gibson, of Cambria, as the musical director of the institute. Prof. Albert, of the Bloomsburg State Normal, who has the honor of coming to Centre county four times already, then addressed the teachers for a short time by asking them how much stronger or better they were than last year. Teachers are too much like tramps, following telegraph poles, mechanical programmes. Teaching can never be a science, but an art, hence the object of educators is to get the child to think. Prof. Albert defines thinking as seeing relations, reminding one of Hamilton's, Spencer's and Herbert's psychological theories. As the child acquires more words it acquires more thinking power. Teachers, through a lack of a proper conception of method, make many basketsful of what the professor termed "intellectual shavings."

After the roll call, Dr. Brumbaugh, professor of pedagogies in the University of Pennsylvania, addressed the audience, and took for his theme the "Child-world." Teachers should use note books during institutes in order to know, not that something was said, but what was said. The world to the child in early years is "exceedingly small." The whole sum of attainable objects is all reachable. A sad feeling of the child occurs when the world becomes larger, i. e.: by experience it learns that objective reality extends beyond the reach of the limbs. The whole of life is then occupied to regain this great world of knowing. Education is the break-down what is between us and the world which we must conquer. Children should be led out of their world of loneliness not by doing it for the child, but by directing it.

Hon. Willis R. Bierly, of Williamsport, was then introduced. He used to be a former teacher of Centre county. He spoke on elocution and patriotism, by referring to Cuba's struggle for liberty.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Prof. Albert, who had for his theme the nature of the human intellect, said that it is the duty of the teacher not to attempt to create new faculties, but to develop those already possessed, but as yet dormant. Prof. Albert, in his studies of the mind and educational theories, is a man fully abreast with the most recent investigations of child-mind study, adopting all data that our ablest evolutionary psychologist have established, such as Wundt, Preyer, Sulley in Europe, and James Hall, Baldwin, etc. Prof. Albert's mind is an open one, which is the true characteristic of all great teachers. The old practice of having children commit poetry for developing the memory, which at a certain period of our childhood becomes very active, should be discontinued, and in place of it lead to thinking, and realize the thought. Every child's mind grows by its own exertion. The question is, what most impresses the child.

Dr. Brumbaugh addressed the audience on the theme: "What is a teacher, and what should be his qualifications." A school is a place where a real teacher and pupils meet. The real school is the teacher and not the school house.

MONDAY EVENING.

In place of Dr. Atherton, Dr. Benedict of State College delivered a very suggestive lecture on habit.

The audience was favored by two instrumental duets rendered by Miss Bessie Dorworth and Miss Lizzie Crouch.

After singing, Hon. Willis R. Bierly, of Williamsport, made an address on some fundamental principles of education. Mr. Bierly, who was Deputy State Superintendent of North Dakota, answered many interesting questions put to him in regard to the state's method of conducting its educational methods.

TUESDAY MORNING.

After singing and prayer Prof. Bible gave a very interesting talk on reading in schools. He was then followed by Prof. Brumbaugh having for his subject a phase of language teaching.

1. What ought the child to read.
2. " " " the teacher to read.

Three features of a good book: (a) must be interesting; (b) must lead the reader to think; (c) must make the life of the reader better.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Instrumental duet by Miss Bessie Dorworth and Miss Lizzie Crouch. Dr. Brumbaugh, Prof. of Pedagogy in the University of Pennsylvania, lectured on "The Teche Country, a part of La.," to a full house in the court room. He described his experience on his trip to La., for State Supt. Higbee had recommended Dr. Brumbaugh to the State Supt. of La., to assist him in organizing institutes. He described various customs, habits, etc., of the people South and gave an account of the stormy passage of the lottery bill in the Louisiana legislature.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

After singing and conducting of the religious services by Prof. E. Wolf, of Centre Hall, Prof. Albert lectured on the teaching of Geography, one of the best authorities on this. He was followed by Prof. M. Coughlin, of Wilkesbarre, who talked on teaching English composition, saying that he gives emphasis on the creative part in writing and making correctness or negative criticism as secondary. Children in reading classical literature almost unanimously agree upon the best passage in literature. He suggests that geographical, historical and national

questions (Cuba) should be selected. Biographical compositions should be very much emphasized. He made selections from Webster, Lincoln, Lowell, Ruskin, etc.

Dr. Brumbaugh then spoke, and lauded the Pennsylvania Dutchman and pointed out that our State's history is written by New England historians; that we, as Pennsylvanians, are ignorant as to the real history of Pennsylvania. He mentioned several distinguished Pennsylvania Dutchmen, as David Rittenhouse, who is distinguished in Astronomy on account of making the first transit of Venus; Peter Miller, who lived at Ephrata, was the best linguist in America for fifty years and translated the Declaration of Independence into seven different languages at one sitting; also Col. Weiser, Joseph Neef and Christopher Dock. It was the early Pennsylvania Dutchman that formed our state and shaped our various institutions.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Prof. Coughlin took for his subject "General scholarship." The teacher should be, above all, a scholar. Every pedagogue should have a specialty. That which gives self control is sympathy. "Self control is simple unadulterated sympathy for humanity." Decision of character is of greatest importance. The teacher should study the different temperaments of the children in order to give more justice to individual development. According to Herbert Spencer, punishment should follow the nature of the offense, but this is what the majority of teachers forget. Self-knowledge, self-reference and self-control, according to Tennyson, are the chief points in school work, and government.

Dr. Brumbaugh having as his theme, "Hit a boy to the world through his industries": A teacher that earns but \$99 per year, and costs the state \$100, which is the case with the majority of teachers is detrimental to the commonwealth. The English government, through a royal commission is hoping to restore its former position in commerce, by having taught in its schools industrial and economical geography. The industrial question is not a political but an educational one. London consumes nine billions of eggs in a year, which would, when placed end to end, more than extend round the earth, and the oysters that that city consumes, similarly arranged, would extend seven times round the earth. In London you can always get new wheat because it is the "wheat focus of the world," and the wheat crops ripen in different parts of the world at different times. At seven places only in United States bottle corks are being made, and five of these are in this state. If all the boxes of sardines used in the world in one year would be piled on each other it would be 75 miles high. The idea of Sahara desert, as is commonly entertained, is wrong, for but little sand is seen; more rain falls in the western part than at Bellefonte, and it has mountains 3,000 feet high which are covered with snow. If all the coffee is arranged seven grains wide that is used by the world in one year, it would extend from the earth to the moon. 12 lbs. of coffee is used on an average per year by an individual in the world. Before the expiration of one generation we can go round the world in 35 days at the costs of about \$500.

This was the last address of Dr. Brumbaugh. He certainly has captivated the hearts of the teachers of Centre county; he was by far the ablest of the lecturers. We sincerely hope our able superintendent will again make such a wise selection and be able to have this Dutchman, of Huntingdon county, come again.

Prof. Albert followed with a lecture on teaching Science, and stated therein that all the yellow silk comes from Italy, and the white from Japan, in his series of object lessons on silk, but why it is of different colors, is a matter of conjecture. He then took a fish bone and made a most interesting talk by explaining its anatomy and the function of its parts considered from the standpoint of comparative anatomy.

The readers are indebted to Prof. H. Elmer Bierly, for the above complete and carefully prepared report of institute proceedings to Thursday morning, Mr. Bierly who is a resident of Rebersburg, Pa., is a recent graduate of Princeton college and a young man of rare intellectual attainments. This season he is the instructor at Hubersburg, Pa.

No Baby Seats.

The members of the L. A. W. at Harrisburg, petitioned councils at that place to pass an ordinance prohibiting the use of baby seats on bicycles. The claim was made that seats are dangerous to children in case of a fall.

Accepted a Call.

Rev. S. M. Davis over a year ago pastor of the Presbyterian congregation at Centre Hall, has accepted a call from the church in Hastings, Minn.

NO PAPER.

According to the usual custom, no paper will be issued from this office next week. All desire a brief vacation during the holiday season, and the newspaper people are anxious for the brief recreation, after six months of steady work.

During the week the office will be open to attend to business and fill any orders for job printing that may be urgent, or receipt for subscriptions.

Our correspondents will also note this fact and kindly omit one week and follow with a breezy communication for the first issue of the year.

For 19 Years.

This week two school teachers are in attendance at institute about whom an interesting romance could be written. It is a lady and a gentleman, who are well known to the teachers of this county. When the gentleman was but fifteen years of age he met a pretty lass who played havoc with his affections. He was early a victim—a love sick youth. For no less than nineteen long, long years he courted the idol of his heart, and at last the happy event was consummated. During the past week these faithful, constant, persevering lovers realized that they should cease this wooing, and the knot was secretly tied, and at last the "two souls with but a single thought and hearts that beat as one" are in the domain of conjugal felicity.

We now have given away more than we should, about our friends from the Bald Eagle Valley. Can you guess who they are? Further particulars will be given in our next issue.

Sudden Death at Potter's Mills.

Mrs. Sarah McNitt Allison died at her home at Potter's Mills Friday evening. She was taken with a stroke of paralysis at half past seven o'clock and at half-past eleven death came to relieve her suffering. She was in her 73rd year, and was the widow of the late William Allison, Sr., a wealthy grain dealer of Penns Valley. Mrs. Allison leaves five children to mourn her loss, namely: William Allison, Jr., of Spring Mills, Mrs. Frank McCoy and Archie Allison of this place, and Edward and Lillie who reside at home.

The funeral took place Monday morning from the house. Interment at Spring Mills.

A Family's Unlucky Luck.

Near Romola, this county, there is a family living who have been the victims of bad luck during the past summer. Last Friday Mr. George Weaver, the head of the family, was kicked by a horse and one of his legs was broken in two places. Early in the spring one of his sons was turning "flippers" in the barn and had one of his legs broken. Later in the season another son cut down a tree which fell on him breaking one of his legs. In the fall one of Mr. Weaver's daughters was bitten on the hand by a copper head snake. There are several other members of the household and they are wondering what accident is to befall them.

Fell Into a Cave.

George Garbrick, a Centre county farmer, was plowing in his field a few days ago when suddenly the ground gave way under the hind feet of one of his horses and the animal fell back into an opening of the earth that engulfed the horse up to its ears. The farmer called for help and a dozen men responded and helped the horse out of the ground. That section of Nittany valley is full of caves. It is supposed that the covering of one of these caverns, having been worn away, was not strong enough to bear the weight of the horse.

A Success.

Thus far the starting of the Bellefonte Glass Works gives every indication of proving a success. It gives employment to almost thirty men, most of whom are skilled workmen and draw good salaries. They now are making a good quality of glass and are in receipt of more orders than can be filled. The starting of this industry means that more money will be put in circulation here and everybody will be more or less benefited.

To Honor the War General.

A concerted movement is being made by the G. A. R. posts to petition the next legislature to make an appropriation for the erection of a monument on Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, to perpetuate the memory of the war general, Andrew Gregg Curtin. John S. Pittner post, this city, has received a copy of the petition.

New Year's Eve Ball.

The young men of Snow Shoe will give a grand ball in Gravers Hall, at that place, on Thursday eve, Dec. 31. Music will be furnished by the Bellefonte Orchestra. This will be an important social event in that place.