The Times, New Bloomfield, Pa.

SCHOOL REPORT. Ebe Bloomfield Eimes.

Annual Report of Silas Wright, County Su-perintendent of Schools of Perry County, for the year ending June 2, 1873.

In submitting this annual report to the public it should be borne in mind that it exhibits in the main so far as it relates to work done, the labor of my predeces-sor Geo. C. Welker, Esq., whose death on the 11th of last March left the visitation of the schools unfinished, and before my appointment, commission and the papers were received in April, the majority of the schools had closed. I made short visits to seven schools.

HOUSES .- New houses have been built in Liverpool, Carroll, Centre, Oliver and Saville townships, four of which are brick and one frame building. The directors of Newport made one more room in the brick building and furnished it for a high school with new furniture of

the Gothic style. GROUNDS.—There is not in the county a school-yard or school grounds that fully answers the following description, though upon fair representations of what was intended, which we presumed done, three have been reported first-class. were presumed to conform to the following description in order to be entitled to first rank: "School grounds of sufficient size in the country are intended to have an extent of at least half an acre; and in towns should be large enough to allow all the pupils to enjoy exercise in the open air, with proper gymnastic apparatus. School grounds suitably improved, means neatly fenced, free from rubbish of all kinds, planted with shade trees and properly prepared as a place for the plays of children."

GRADED SCHOOLS. - In each of the following towns: Millerstown, Liverpool, New Buffalo, Newport, Duncannon, Marysville, Bloomfield, Landisburg, Loysville, Blain, New Germantown and Ickesburg, are graded schools, but with a single exception they have all been separate, distinct in government and different in the mode of teaching, and yet these schools have a preparatory and a higher department. In view of the objects for which graded schools were established---More THOROUGH and HIGHER education-it is recommended that boards of directors in these districts adopt courses of studies which may be divided into studies for Primary Schools, Studies for Grammer schools and Studies for a High school, and that pupils be promoted from one grade to another when upon examination they shall have been found proficient in the studies of that grade. Over the graded schools of each town there should be elected a be elected a principal to teach one of the grades and take the general control of school affairs subject to such regulations as may be adopted by the school board and suggested by the county Superintendent. It is further recommended that instead of selecting the youngest and most inexperienced persons to take charge of the Primary schools, that the ripest experience, most successful practice of teaching, to gether with all the other qualifications that teachers are required to possess, be considered requisites of the one who is elected to this position. We apprehend the highest art of teaching is the ability to teach a primary school well.

VISITATIONS .- A number of schools in the districts east of the Juniata river were not visited on account of the illness and death of the County Superintendent. The schools west of the river were visited by Mr. Wm. E. Baker, as Deputy, but the notes of these visits are believed to have been mislaid or lost, as none came into the possession of the present officer.

lays in sending in the Annual reports calls for special mention of the fact that it is the duty of the outgoing secretary to fill out the report for the closing year and then hand it to his successor to fill up the blanks with the names of the officers elected for the next year, and forward to the County Superintendent.

EXAMINATIONS .- At nineteen public and several special examinations 252 pro visional and two professional certificates were issued, the latter upon examination to John S. Campbell and H. B. Zimmermon, both of whom were found proficient in the long list of studies named in their certificates.

RECOMMENDATIONS .- 1st. That courses of study in accordance with the general principle explained be adopted, and that Principles be secured for the graded schools.

2d. That a "Teacher's School Census of Perry County" be taken by the teach-ers during the first month of the next annual term.

3d. That the best plans be secured for the houses about to be crected, and that none but the best furniture and apparatus be placed in these houses.

4th. That each school board engage their secretary with the understanding that he shall at least pay monthly visits to the schools in the district.

5th. That visitations to the schools by patrons, ministers and other persons be encouraged by the teachers by frequent personal invitations.

6th. That the services of the best teachers that can be afforded by the district be secured.

7th. That every teacher attend the next County Institute to be held at Bloomfield during the week commencing Dec. 1, 1873.

Sth. And finally that cach teacher and member of a school board become a subscriber to and a reader of the "Pennsylvania School Journal."

An Extraordinary Rat Trap.

As an evidence that the quantities of nerve and downright pluck are not confined exclusive to the heroic men of creation there is herewith offered the narration of a circumstance wherein a young girl bore herself bravely under such trying circumstances as would have severely tested the most dogged determination ever shown by the average genus homo. On Sunday last this young lady was at church, when, during the delivery of the sermon, she suddenly became aware that something of a crawling nature was making an expeditions journey up her leg. Startled as may well be believed, she was for the nonce bereft of the power of action, and there forthwith chased each other through her mind extremely lively and fearful apprehensions touching snakes, rats, and a host of digusting creatures, but with a determined effort she recovered her presence of mind and by the time the " thing" had got a short distance above her knee she clutched it through her dress, with a vice-like grip, and held on like grim death. Since the first revelation of the distressing circumstance she had not uttered a sound nor indeed given any outward sign of the mental torture which she must have suffered, but sat rigid and composed, firmly grasping the "horrible thing" which she knew was some living creature, when upon being clutched, it gave forth a squealing sound. For full three-quarters of an hour

A Troublesome Convict.

Among the cluster of convicts that accompanied Frank Walworth from the tombs to the State Prison was the notorious. Wes" Allen, and he has added another Incident to his very notorious prison record by refusing to join a draft of prisoners, to be sent to the State Prison at Auburn. When preperations were making for their departure he rushed to his cell, and carrying with him a large knife, which he had evidently surreptitiously secured from the dining hall.

With this terrible instrument he rushed to his cell, and brandishing it over his head, he defied any one to approach him, and threatened death to any man or men who showed any disposition to capture him. It is scarcely needful to say that there were but few signs of that disposition shown, and "Wes" was allowed to display his knife without much molestation. Formidable as the carving knife was, "Wes" evidently did not think it terrifying enough, and from the stone quarries it is supposed he obtained a pound of nitro glycerine.

He pointed with a demon-like derision to this glycerine as keeper after keeper approached his cell, armed with the carbine or the revolver in use in the prison, and defied them to fire at him. With a savage leer in his one eye, the other having been destroyed in an attempted prison escape, and a Satanic fierceness that gave reality to his terrible threat, he announced his intention to destroy the entire prison by exploding the nitro-glycerine if they attempted to main or kill him by shooting him.

Warden Hubbell and the keepers thought discretion the better part of valor, and left him behind the bars, secure in the possessession of these fierce and deadly instruments of destruction. The draft went on to Auburn, but "Wes" Allen did not form one of the party. He still remains at Sing Sing, a living manifestation of what can be accomplished by a convict who dares.

A Business Chap.

There is an air of business in the following which one cannot fail to admire. It is from a Detroit merchant whose wife died the other day: "Dear sir: I take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well, but my dear wife, insured for five thousand dollars in your company, is no more. She died to-day. Her policy is No .-- , I can truly say that she was a fond wife and a good mother. I have the doctor's certificate, so that there will be no trouble about the policy. She was sick only a short time but suffered much. Do you give a check in advance, or must I wait sixty days for the money ?"

Grasshoppers.

A despatch from Sioux City, Iowa, dated the 28th ult., says : During the last two days the grasshoppers have been visible in the air. At this hour countless millions may be seen. Their general tendency seems south-west. Grave apprehensions are expressed by those familiar with their ravages in other parts of the country. The results cannot be other than disastrous, should the clouds of grasshoppers now hovering over this vicinity settle here.

Miscellaneous News Items.

137" At Baltimore on the 26th ult., a respectable German, named John Schwarts, hung himself. Ho married his third wife, a young girl 16 years old, two weeks ago. He was 76.

The disparity in their ages was the subject of ridicule among foolish friends, and the old gentleman was so much annoyed by their taunts that he was driven to desperation. He only knew the girl two or three days before he married her.

137" At Philadelphia, on the 27th ult., a most singular accident occurred. Mary Truitt, aged five years, was sitting on the front steps of her residence in the southern part of the city. Mrs. Cooper, an occupant of the house, went to the attic window with a child's flag staff some three feet long with a spear head, engaged in cleaning out the water pipe. The stick slipped from her hand, and falling perpendicularly entered the child's skull, causing instant death.

The Rev. Mr. Thompson, in speaking of electrical peculiarities, said that he had a man in Wisconsin, sowing grain, who suddenly stopped and declared he could not move the guide stakes. Mr. Thompson laughed at him, and approached to move them himself, but the moment his hands touched the wood they were powerless. A current of electricity streamed from them, and it was some time before they could be moved ; and it was clear weather, too.

Dublin, Virginia, July 29 .- Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd, a bridal couple from Montgomery county, on their way to the Pulaski Alum Springs, while crossing Cloyd's Mountain in a buggy during a thunder storm, the horse shied at a flash of lightning, and threw the party down a precipice one hundred and seventy feet. The buggy was destroyed, and the groom badly braised. The bride had her collar bone and ankle dislocated, teeth knocked out, and was otherwise badly hurt. A tree in the way stopped them from going to the bottom.

137" Mr. H. G. Scofield, of Bridgeport, performed rather a notable engineering feat on Saturday, on the new division of the New York and New Haven Road, from Harlem to New York. It became necessary to lift the draw of the new bridge across Pelham bay, on this line, a structure weighing 160 tons. To effect this object-Mr. Scofield devised the plan of building. trusses, placing them on heavy scows, floating the latter around under the draw at low tide, so that the rising of the tide would do the work required. This was successfully executed Saturday. The tide rose 4 feet 6 inches, and the scows sottled in the water but two feet, raising the draw sufficiently to make the repairs required.

IT is stated that unofficial advices have been received at the war department that the court has found all the Modoc Indians on trial guilty of murder and ordered all of them to be shot. Gen. Davis is said to be only walting the endorsement of the verdict to carry out the sentence. The findings in the military commission in the case of the Modoc Indians recently tried have not yet been received at the war department. The proceedings, after being reviewed by Gen. Schoffeld, will be forwarded to Judge Advocate General Holt, who examines the testimony and findingsand then transmits them to the secretary of war and president for approval, before the sentence can be executed.



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GENERAL J. B. KERSHAM, W. D. Porter and R. M. Sims, a committee of South Carolinians, have had a conference with President Grant at Long Branch, the purpose of which was intercession for the kuklux prisoners of South Carolina. The President said he was desirous of pursuing a very liberal policy towards all the convicts except those guilty of violent crimes, and towards all accused except those charged and probably guilty of similar crimes. It is understood that the President will address a letter of instruction immediately to Attorney General Williams in pursuance of these understandings.

THE Bucks county Mirror published at Doylestown, and edited by Jos. M. McClure Esq., of this county, evidently does not like some of the candidates nominated last week, if we may judge by the following which we copy from that paper:

"The Radicals of Perry county have adopt-ed as their standard for legislative can-didates that of Philadelphia. They nom-inated on Saturday last for the Senate a dead-beat member of the "Third House," aamed Kirk Haines, compared with whom George Handy Smith wouldn't cut a bad figure. For the House, they nominated a little Cameron cur of the poodle kind, whose whole stock in trade is made up of impudence, assurance and obsequiousness to the dirty politicians who own him, and who, when they purchased him, got mighty. little of either soul or body. His name, it is John H. Sheibley. The honest men belonging to the Radical party in Perry will have a fine opportunity next fall to show whether they deserve to be plunder-ed and misgoverned. If they elect the men on their legislative ticket they will have done all in their power to have themselves both plundered and misgoverned." impudence, assurance and obsequiousness

A Lawyer in Trouble.

Rather a curious case was brought be fore the Supreme Court, in New York, last week.

The plaintiff, as widow and administratrix of Ezra R. Goodridge, applied to Frederick A. Lane, then counsel for the Erie Railroad Company, and a friend of Her deceased husband, to act as her attorney and supply the security she was unable to furnish as administratrix. Defendant made his coachman, John Roony, security for her in \$10,000, and the defendant claims to have paid himself \$57,000 out of these judgments. Plaintiff states that, under the circumstances, and as defendant's business is a precarious one, she requires, as security, to have a receiver appointed.

Plaintiff further alleges that he acknowl-

NEW BLOOMFIELD, PENN'A. Tuesday, August 5, 1873.

edged having received for her \$67,660.10, but that he claims to have paid out of it 29 per cent. on \$220,000 of debts. Plaintiff alleges also that of the said \$220,000 a sum of \$191,000 consisted of two judgments obtained against her by defendant without her knowledge ; that she trusted him unreservedly and signed all papers without question ; that the judgments have been opened.

Defendant, in reply, denies that he ever took any proceedings without fully explaining them to the plaintiff; he states that his means are amply sufficient to meet any claims, and says that his business is not a precarious one, and that the case is not one in which a receiver should be appointed. Decision reserved.

A Good One.

The Madison Courier tell this of a revenue officer who was sent into the illicit whiskey distilling district in Kentucky. He knew illicit distilling was going on, but he could get no basis to work from. Coming to an Irishman who was tolerably drunk, the officer tapped him on the shoulder, and said, "My man, do you want to make ten dollars ?" "Is it ten dollars ?" said Pat, "sure and I do." "Then" said the officer, "show me a 'private still."" "I'll do the same; follow me, yer Honor." The officer followed across lots and fields to the camp of a company of soldiers that had been sent there to aid the revenue officera. The soldiers were in line-dress parade. Th Do you see that redheaded man ?" " Yes" replied the officer. "He is," said Pat, "my brother. He's been in the service twelve years. He'll be a corporal after a while, but he is 'a private still." " "Ten dollars gone, and no illicit whiskey found," moralized the officer as he wended his way back to his hotel.

LT A young man has been arrested at Hudson for spitting tobacco juice on the back breadths of a young lady's dress. She had declined his company from church, and so he walked behind and had his revenge.

INSTITUTES .- One hundred and twenty-two actual teachers only attended the last Teachors' County Institute which met at Bloomfield on the 23d of December. The instructors from abroad were W. W. Woodruff, A. M., as Deputy Superintendent, to whom we are indebted for much that is valuable in the actual work of instruction. Miss Emma Garfield of New York, gave readings and instruction in Elocution. Rev. Geo. W. Smiley D. D. of Pottsville, Pa., gave his celebrated lecture, Subject: Origin of the North Amer-Indians, on Thursday evening. ican Valuable assistance must be acknowledged from a majority of the teachers pres ent. Rev. John Edgar, Principal of the Bloomfield Academy, gave a lecture on Monday evening. Other lectures were given by H. B. Zimmerman, Wm. E. Baker and Silas Wright.

Buffalo township teachers have the eredit of maintaining the only district institute in the county.

ATTENDANCE.-Aggregating the esti-mates of non-attendance during the year we have six hundred and sixty-one (661) nearly ten per cent. of the entire school-going population of the county, who were not in school. This estimate is believed to be very nearly correct, and calls loudly for attention from school officers and pat rons.

To ascertain accurately the whole number of pupils who are of school age for the year ending June 1873, arrangements are being made and instructions prepared for taking by the teachers of the several districts what will be called The Teacher's School Census of Perry County, which when completed and taken as a ba-ais, a calculation of non-attendance can be made that WILL BE statistic.

SCHOOL DIBECTORS .- The frequent de-

be brave girl sat the ever, still retaining her hold until the close of the service, when she departed homewards, never relaxing her grip until reaching home, when, giving hurried explanations to the mother, she fainted dead away. A quick examination revealed the presence of a rat, dead as a door nail, as the cause of the unhappy adventure.

Fearful Scene in a Rolling Mill.

A terrible accident occurred on the 30th ult., at the North Chicago Rolling Mills, situated in the extreme northwestern suburbs of the city. About a dozen workmen were engaged in removing an imperfect blast from one of the furnaces, when suddenly a large mass of clinker was detached, making an opening in the furnace, and there rushed out an immense volume of gas, which, coming in contact with the outer air, exploded, filling the place with a sheet of flame which completely enveloped eight workmen. Five of them, were so horribly burned that not one is expected to recover. Three workmen, Owen Corbett, Thomas Conner and Nicholas Schevelin were seriously, but it is thought not fatally burned. The loss to the Rolling Mill Company will be considerable, but the amount has not yet been ascertained.

Severe, but Right.

At Rogersville, Ohio, on Saturday night, during the trial of a man calling himself Jeff. Davis, for raping a nine-year old girl, the lights in the room were put out, the prisoner dragged out of doors and shot twice with revolvers, and then dragged by the heels two squares and hung to a tree till dead.

Fools not all Dead.

A young man named Zuber, was drowned in the canal at Leesport, Berks county, a few days ago. The body was left in the water three hours because the people in that vicinity thought that no one had a right to touch it before the arrival of the coroner.

A prohibition war is being waged at Ypsilanti, Mich., with considerable success, the guilty parties are doubtless those opposed to the efforts to close the saloons.

137 J. Dixon, living near Battle Creek, Michigan, essayed to load hay and smoke a pipe at the same time. The hay made more smoke than the tobacco did.

An old couple living near Sparland, Ill., were recently divorced. The husband has since married the hired girl and the ex-wife taken the hired girl's place.

At a picnic near Muscatine, on Wednesday, a black snake, six feet in length, fell from a tree into a little girl's lap. She demonstrated a wonderful agility in rising to her feet.

tor On Sunday night the office of the City Clerk and Justice of the Peace, at Ypailanti, Mich., was entered and all the city records, 1,100 chattle mortgages public dockets, papers and books belonging to the office taken.

13" At Westerly, R. L, William Crandall, committed suicide on Saturday night by drowning himself. He was seventyseven years old. He had set some hay on fire, and being afraid he would be accused of incendiarism he drowned himself.

tor On the 28th ult., the Colfax and Grass valley stage was stopped by four men near Grass valley, who blew open Wells, Fargo & Co.'s treasure box and decamped with \$8,000. None of the passengers were molested.

IT is said that a Nevada lawyer had as a client a man accused of murder, and that the principal witness in his favor being his wife, who was incapacitated from giving testimony by reason of her relation to him, he got the murder trial postponed, brought suit for divorce in her behalf and secured it, and then triumphantly placed her on the stand to secure the acquittal of her husband. That being secured the couple were again married.

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