

Perry County Teachers' Institute.

The Teachers' Institute of Perry county, Prof. Silas Wright, Superintendent, convened in the Court House, in Bloomfield, on Monday, December 7th, 1874, at 1 o'clock P. M., and was called to order by the President, Prof. Wright, and opened by the reading of a portion of Scripture and prayer by Samuel E. Bucke. The President then made a few remarks, stating the objects of the institute and giving some very valuable suggestions for the consideration of the teachers during its sessions. The Institute then proceeded to organize by electing Mr. S. B. Fahnestock, Vice President, and Messrs. H. C. Gantt and L. E. McGinness, Secretaries.

The roll was next called, and the names of those teachers who came in later were inserted. Institute opened with 89 teachers present.

The question, "How should we teach Penmanship?" was referred by the President to the teachers, and discussed with interest by Messrs. J. P. Long, S. E. Bucke, W. E. Baker, G. D. Owens and others.

Next in order was the fixing of the time for opening and closing. The time for opening in the morning was fixed at 9 o'clock and closing at 12 M.; in the afternoon open at 1 o'clock and close at 4 o'clock, and in the evening open at 6:30 o'clock—the time for opening on Monday evening being fixed at 7 1/2 o'clock. Teachers who came in during the afternoon were enrolled. Adjourned.

Evening Session.—Institute was called to order at 7:30 P. M., President Wright in the chair.

Prof. J. H. Kurzenknebe, of Harrisburg, was then introduced and gave a lecture on the subject of Vocal Music, after which the Institute sang several selections.

Prof. J. W. Shoemaker, of Philadelphia, was next introduced, and entertained the audience by reading the following selections: "The Burial of Moses," "The Red Jacket," and "The Charcoal Man."

Prof. Kurzenknebe and Miss Phemie McKee then sang an amusing song, entitled "Look me in the Eye," followed by reading "The Children's Prayer," "The Beef Contract" and "The Old Man in the Model Church." Music, "Crown Him Lord of All," after which Prof. Shoemaker read several selections in a manner highly gratifying to the audience. Adjourned.

TUESDAY. Morning Session.—Institute opened at 8:45 A. M., with Scripture reading by Prof. Wright, and prayer by Rev. McPherson.—Prof. Shoemaker then read "Bells of Shandon," "Excelsior," "John Maynard," and "Darius Green and his Flying Machine."—The time for his departure having arrived, to the regret of the audience, he retired.

Music, "The Little Ones," after which Prof. Kurzenknebe gave an interesting lecture and class drill on the subject of vocal music.

The spelling contest was next in order.—Eighty words were pronounced by the President, Mr. H. D. Stewart taking the honors. Music, "All Shout Liberty," Prof. A. N. Raub, of Lockhaven, Pa., was next introduced, and gave a very interesting lecture on the subject of School Management. He argues that a teacher receiving a certificate from the County Superintendent only indicates a good teacher, but to be a practical teacher he must be a good manager or disciplinarian. We must make our school-rooms pleasant. The first idea is to have pots of flowers or plants of some kind in the room. Pictures, mottoes, &c., should be added. Rooms should be well ventilated. In building new houses he recommends an opening near the top of the room to receive fresh, pure air, with a pipe extending downward from the opening to prevent the escape of warm air, and with an opening in or near the floor, either under the stove or remove the carpet strips beneath the door to allow the escape of noxious gases. Adjourned.

Afternoon Session.—Institute was called to order at 1 o'clock, President in the chair.

First in order was the election of a committee on Permanent Certificates, which resulted as follows: Messrs. S. B. Fahnestock, W. E. Baker, G. C. Palm, Wm. C. Shuman and J. S. Campbell having received the highest number of votes were declared elected. Messrs. T. K. Long and J. C. McAllister acting as tellers.

Music, "Music in the Air," by the Institute. Prof. Kurzenknebe then gave a talk on vocal music. Next in order was discussion of Queries. The question what is the correct spelling of Mrs.? Should the abbreviation Mrs. be pronounced Mistress or Missus? Referred to Mr. D. Fleisher. The first question was discussed by Messrs. Fleisher, Fahnestock, Baker and Bucke, and referred to Mr. Fleisher to be answered on Wednesday.

Second—Should we devote as much time to pupils who have very little talent, or those who will not learn, as to those who learn well? Referred to Israel E. Sheaffer, who advanced the idea that pupils of good talent, who will not study, should not receive as much attention as those poorly talented who will study. He was followed by Messrs. G. W. Gehr, J. P. Long and J. R. Bucke, whose opinions were in accordance with Mr. Sheaffer.

Third—Does the solar rays unreflected contain heat? Referred to Mr. W. E. Baker, who argued that a solar ray unreflected does contain heat, and produced principles to prove his position.

Music, "Sweet By and By."—The subject of school management was again taken up by Prof. Raub. He dwelt on the teacher's manner in the school room—he should be very careful and go through his labors in a quiet and reserved manner.—The teacher who speaks loud will have a noisy school. A single tap of the bell is sufficient to call and dismiss classes, and will cause the least noise. He discouraged corporal punishment, and believed in the use of the rod as the last resort. Teachers should be careful not to administer punishment immediately after the offence has been committed, and that punishment should never be inflicted when the offence is purely accidental. He recommends that teachers be careful at all times in punishing, they should not infer that every little occurrence was intended as an act of disobedience and aimed at them. He disparaged the idea of using written rules. As an illustration of the teacher's inability to make and enforce rules in the school room, he related some of his own experience.

Mr. S. B. Fahnestock offered the following: Resolved, That we recommend the adoption of a uniform system of Penmanship in the various school districts of the county; the use of not more than the three first numbers of a series in our common schools; that each pupil be provided with practice paper and each day's lesson be carefully practiced before written in the copy books; the classification of pupils according to the degree of advancement, and discard the writing of copies by the teacher.

The question, How shall our county schools be graded? Referred to J. W. Soule, who gave some very good ideas, and was followed by Mr. Fahnestock who asserted that we have not, strictly speaking, one graded school in the county, and that it would be difficult to draw a dividing line between the different schools. He thought that there should be a definite line drawn, and that teachers should be required to advance their pupils to this line before they admitted to a higher grade, and that the directors support him in all his duties.

Prof. Wright then read a selection from the Pennsylvania School Journal on this subject, giving a synopsis of the studies that should be assigned to each grade.

The time for closing drawing, near the subject was dropped to be resumed at some future time during the sessions of the Institute. Adjourned with 125 teachers present.

Evening Session.—Institute opened at 6:30 P. M. with music, "Crown Him Lord of All."

Prof. Raub, then spoke of the origin of the English Language. He gave the etymology of the words epizootic, epidemic, hypodermic, rubbers, turnpike, and many others. He read a selection criticizing the use of slang phrases, adding his own disapproval of their use. He also gave the origin and meaning of most of the names of our towns, rivers and mountains, both interesting and instructive, which was indicated by the attentiveness of the audience.

Music duet, "Follow up the Plow," by Miss Phemie McKee and Prof. Kurzenknebe. After the music an address was delivered by W. E. Baker, subject, "How I teach the little ones," which was quite instructive.

Music, "All about Liberty" and "Columbia the Gem of the Ocean." Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY. Morning Session.—Institute opened at 9 A. M. with Scripture reading and Prayer by Prof. Kurzenknebe. Prof. J. V. Montgomery, of Millersville State Normal School, was next introduced and gave a very interesting lecture on the subject of Drawing. He argued that drawing is as essential as penmanship and that it should be taught in our Common Schools. The first lesson he gives is drawing straight lines; of measuring distances by the eye; of forming these lines into squares, angles, &c., giving illustrations on the board quite interesting.

The Vice President, Mr. Fahnestock, then took the chair, the president being required to meet the directors who convened in a separate room.

Music, "Fair as the Morning" lead by Prof. Kurzenknebe, who next gave a class-drill in music. Next order of business was the discussion of queries. The question re-referred to Mr. Fleisher was first considered, his opinion being that there is no spelling for the abbreviation Mr. He was followed by Prof. Kurzenknebe, whose idea was that the position in life governs the spelling. He thought that if he intended writing to a school mistress he would not like to address her as Mrs. especially if he had any intentions. [Laughter.] The next question—"Should written rules be used in school?" was opened by Mr. Morrow, who thought that written rules were out of place in the school room. He was followed by Messrs. Rice, Baker and Kerr. Mr. Baker argued that Christ gave rules to his people, and the teacher should have and enforce rules in his school. The Rev. Mr. Edgar then made some very appropriate remarks advising the use of rules or laws in the school room—giving illustrations of their good effect. He was followed by the Rev. Mr. Sheeder, who thought that a law expressed in some manner is essential, but did not believe that there should be a long list of written rules. A vote was then taken on the question and resulted in the negative.

The question, "If a teacher has no success in teaching, should he blame himself?" was answered in the affirmative by Mr. Stambaugh.

The next query—What causes the hazy state of the atmosphere, during the period termed "Indian Summer," referred to H. L. Tressler. A few remarks were made, and the subject dropped, having been considered at a former meeting of the institute.

The question, "Is piety essential in imparting instruction in our common schools?" Answered in the affirmative by W. E. Baker. Adjourned.

Afternoon Session.—Institute opened at the usual hour, President in the chair.—Prof. Raub then lectured on the subject of Grammar. He recommends to teachers that the first lesson be to require the pupils to correct errors of conversation.

The subject, How shall we grade ungraded schools? was next taken up and discussed by Messrs. Bucke, Long and Gehr. The President then appointed all persons holding permanent and professional certificates as a committee to consider the question and report to the Institute.

Prof. Montgomery resumed his lecture on drawing, giving some very interesting and beautiful examples on the blackboard.

Music, "Swinging Death the Old Apple Tree," by the Institute. Next in order was discussion of queries. First, in country school districts, where wood stoves are used and are unfit to warm the house, should the teacher allow the pupils to leave their seats and go to the stove? Referred to Mr. J. S. Campbell. Answered by several of the teachers in the affirmative.

Second, Can a person become a finished reader without understanding the art of ventriloquism? was referred to G. W. Gehr. Answered in the negative.

Third, The parsing of the words "worth," "a," "and," "dollar" in the sentence: "Wheat is worth a dollar a bushel" was referred to Mr. Fleisher.

Fourth, Is there such a thing as half steps? was referred to W. H. Jackson, and answered in the affirmative.

Fifth, Should a law authorizing school-directors to purchase text books for the

schools at the public expense be passed? was referred to S. E. Bucke, who was followed by Messrs. Long, Stephens and Rice, but was undecided. Adjourned.

Evening Session.—Institute met at 6:30 P. M. Called to order by the President. Music, "The Little Ones," "Crown Him Lord of All," "The Little Reapers," "Go work in my Vineyard," and "All Shout Liberty."

Next in order was a lecture on vocal music, by Prof. Kurzenknebe, who referred to the creation of the earth when the morning stars sang together. And also to the use of the instruments in the time of the Patriarchs as well as to David the sweet singer of Israel, and refers us down through all ages even to the present time. He gave instances of the use of music by the best and noblest of the earth. His lecture was listened to with interest, and we regret that space will not permit a more detailed account of it. Music, "Crown Him Lord of All." A lecture on Geography, its origin, history and methods of teaching, by Mr. Fahnestock, was next in order, in which he gave many valuable ideas. His lecture was full of instruction and very interesting. He recommends that teachers should use as the first lesson the hills, valleys and surroundings of the school room, compare them with those of other places, let the pupils be drilled on the points of the compass, locating objects and places about them, and from thence to objects more distant.

Music, "Jolly Jonathan," Quartette, representing America, England, Ireland and Germany, and also, "Mortgage the Farm," by Prof. Kurzenknebe. Adjourned.

THURSDAY. Morning Session.—Institute assembled at 9 A. M., and opened by Prof. Wright reading a selection, and prayer by H. L. Tressler. The minutes were read and approved.

Discussion of queries.—First—Should teachers yield to the wishes of parents? Referred to W. H. Glenn, who thought that a teacher should yield to the wishes of parents when he can do so without injury to the school, and when he can not do so he should explain to them the reasons for not yielding, and then be firm. Mr. Glenn was followed by Messrs. Tressler and Ritter, whose opinions were in accordance with that of Mr. Glenn.

Second—Should the teacher allow the pupils to use the book in mental arithmetic? Referred to W. J. Rice, who believed in the use of the book by the pupil. He was then followed by Mr. Dumm who thought that the book should not be used by beginners, but those more advanced may be allowed its use.

Prof. Raub recommended that the book be not used by the pupil, as it merely turns mental to written. Prof. Wright agreed with Prof. Raub in his remarks. He was followed by Prof. Kerr who believes in the use of the book, because the pupil can see what he is going to do. The eye is the best teacher, and by the use of the book his eye is left free to deal with the solution, not having to remember the problem. The teacher should not put as much stress on the answer as on the solution, this being the important point, for while the solution may be correct a slight mistake in the work will give an inaccurate answer. Many other valuable suggestions were given by the members of the Institute. Mr. Soule moved that the sentiment of the teachers be taken in a vote—lost.

Third—What is the plural of Tailor's goose? Referred to G. D. Owen—his opinion being that the expression is incorrect, it should be Tailor's iron.

Fourth—She met me with tears in her eyes? Referred to Mr. Brandt, who pronounced it correct.

Fifth—Is "looked sick" a verb in the sentence, "She looked sick." Answered in the negative.

Sixth—What punishment shall we inflict for truancy? was referred to E. Smith, who thinks that we should first use moral suasion, and should it fall then resort to the rod. Mr. G. D. Owen argued that the rod will not always answer, but that the best plan would be to keep the offenders in at recess.

Seventh—What part of one hundred is 4-5 of the other part? was referred to J. M. Dumm, who answered 4-9.

Eighth—"Greece is no more," was referred to Prof. Kerr to be analyzed and parsed, who disposed of it in a manner satisfactory to the members of the Institute.

Music, "Nearer, my God to Thee," and followed by a class-drill on music by Prof. Kurzenknebe.

Remarks on Grammar were resumed by Prof. Raub, who gave some very valuable suggestions in regard to determining the different cases. He remarked that the sooner we simplify our teaching of Grammar the sooner we will be successful. His time being limited, he gave place to Prof. Montgomery, who resumed the subject of drawing, giving some valuable lessons on the board. The hour of adjournment having arrived, the subject was dismissed to be resumed at 1 P. M. Adjourned.

Afternoon Session. Institute met at the usual hour—President in the chair. Music, "Home Sweet Home."

The subject of drawing was then resumed and many additional lessons given on the board, showing the principles to be observed in drawing: 1st, symmetry; 2nd, repetition; 3rd, harmony; 4th, repose; 5th, breadth; 6th, proportion; 7th, adaptation; 8th, character. His address was very interesting and the only regret of the audience was that the time was so limited.

The next subject was primary teaching by Prof. Raub. After giving many very good ideas he explained the result—Should the Tropic of Cancer be moved 10 1/2 deg. north of what it now is?

Music, "Safe Within the Vale." Class drill on vocal music by Prof. Kurzenknebe. Closed by singing "Praise God from whom all Blessings flow." The President then gave the boundary of the Atlantic Ocean. He was asked how many female teachers there were in the county? Answer, 23.

Mr. J. S. Campbell then disposed of "was elected" in the sentence—John Adams was elected second President of the United States.

The question—How should the opening exercises of each day's school be conducted? was referred to Mr. J. R. Smith, who answered, by reading a portion of scripture, prayer and singing. Messrs. H. L. Tressler and L. E. McGinness then gave their methods of conducting the opening exercises in their schools. Mr. Baker's idea was that teachers can not compel pupils to read in the Bible. Rev. Decker then followed by

saying that the doctrines taught in the Bible are the basis of all education, but secularism should not be tolerated in any wise. Quite a spirited discussion then followed, Messrs. Junkin, Sponser, Edgar, Potter and others participating in regard to the use of the Bible in our schools, and how it should be used. Adjourned.

Evening Session. Institute opened with a full house at the usual time. Music, "Sweet Hour of Prayer," "I'm a Shepherd of the Valley," and "Home Sweet Home."

Rev. Mr. Edgar then entertained the audience by a lecture on Phonetic Spelling in substance as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen:—Phonetic Spelling is—always having the same character or combination of characters to represent the same sound, so that the spelling of a word will always tell its pronunciation. This is not now the case in the English language. "Ough" has six different sounds in the following line—"Though the tough cough and hic-cough plough me through." Why is this? Spoken language is of Divine origin, but written language is human invention, and is imperfect. The ancient cuneiform characters were mainly syllabic not phonetic, that is, each character represented a combination of sounds not one sound; and so with the ancient hieroglyphics of Egypt, they were not phonetic. The Phoenicians invented the first phonetic alphabet but failed to have enough characters to represent all the sounds. Greece borrowed that alphabet, modified its characters and added to their number, but still not enough. Rome in like manner adopted and modified the Greek characters, and the Roman modified alphabet is now ours, but with only twenty-six letters to represent forty sounds which really exist, viz: Eight explosives, p, b, t, d, ch (soft), j, k, and g (hard), eight continuants, f, v, th (e. g. then) dh (thin) s, z, sh and zh. Two liquids, l, r. Three nasals, m, n, and ng. Two semi-vowels, w, y and whispered h. To these twenty-four consonants add twelve vowels and four diphthongs making forty sounds. The twelve vowels are e in eat, a in late, i in arm, a in all, o in hope, oo in food, i in it, e in met, a hat, o in on, u in up and oo in foot. The four diphthongs are i in high, oi in oil, ou in loud and eu in neuralgia. Other writers add to these sounds, but there is no need to extend the list or give the signs. The main question is shall we always have the same letter or letters for the same sound? What advantage is this?

First to the child, (a). It will save the immense amount of time now spent in merely learning how not to mispell words, and will give time for real knowledge instead of mere "conventional" knowledge. (b) It will save the vast distaste to study and the real injury to the mind by the contradictory rules of our language on this topic. God never deals thus in nature—the starting man's mind, by contradiction.

Second to the language itself—Remove this absurdity from the English tongue, and intelligent foreigners, acknowledge you give it a chance for final supremacy in all the world.

Third—General Advantages—The transition then to written Phonography is easy, also the child, not only saves time in learning to read but becomes a good reader naturally.

Will it be introduced? It has more favor than the "Metric System" now asked for; and while it would necessitate a revision of all the books now in existence it will bring out the "Pure Gold" and cast the "trash" into obsolescence. The best of books only, such as would pay, would be carried over into the new era, while the worthless and useless which now flood our country would die amidst the ruins.

But how shall it be introduced? By first using it as a pronunciation key in our spellers, if the United States Philological convention will decide on the signs to be used.

Music, "Whispering Hope," after which Prof. Raub delivered a lecture. Subject—"Life and Living." The speaker first referred to life as we find it represented by the leading business pursuits and claimed that in the main this is not what it should be. He illustrated his remarks by citing a number of examples, showing that men whose highest happiness consisted in ministering to their appetites and not living a high life. Also, that those who devote their whole time and lend their whole energy to the matter of accumulating wealth for the mere sake of being rich, are not living a true life. He gave a number of ludicrous examples of men of this kind showing their short comings, and the "tricks of the trade," to which many of them resort in order to become wealthy. He was particularly severe on men who make a business of selling out at cost to attract custom. He also contrasted brightly the two classes of society as governed by etiquette and politeness, showing that the two terms are not synonymous.

Finally he claimed that true life is best shown forth in the homes of the land, and that if home life is correct the national life will be right. He strongly urged that the home should be beautiful and made attractive by the planting of shrubbery and flowers, and the adornment of the living room by pictures and engravings. He was opposed to making the parlor the pleasantest place in the house, unless all were admitted to it and it be made in this way, the living room of the family.

The attention manifested on the part of the audience indicated the appreciation of the remarks of Prof. Raub.

Music, "My Country 'Tis of Thee." The time of meeting on Friday was fixed by the President, at 7:45 A. M. The committee on permanent certificates then met. Adjourned.

Committee on permanent certificate met immediately after the adjournment of Institute, and was called to order by W. G. Shuman. S. B. Fahnestock was chosen chairman and J. S. Campbell secretary. After an exchange of opinions as to the manner in which the committee will discharge their duties to conform to the requirements of the laws, it was decided on the suggestion of W. C. Shuman, that applicants for permanent certificates shall submit to an examination on the subject, matter of teaching.

S. B. FAHNESTOCK, J. L. CAMPBELL, W. C. SHUMAN, W. E. BAKER.

FRIDAY. Morning Session. Institute assembled according to announcement at 7:45, A. M. Mr. W. C. Shuman conducted the opening exercises by reading a portion of Scripture and prayer.

The committee on grades for ungraded schools then reported the following: Pursuant to appointment by the county Superintendent the committee on Grades for ungraded schools respectfully submit the following to the teachers of Perry co., to systemize instruction in the common schools.

First Grade—Oral Language Exercises, Alphabet with Charts, Spelling by sound and letters, and lessons introductory to reading, Printing letters and writing on slates and blackboard, Vocal Music, Oral Arithmetic and Drawing.

Second Grade—Second reader, spelling and defining words, Lessons on objects, Pri-

mary Mental and Written Arithmetic, including fundamental rules. First lessons in Geography, Penmanship and Drawing on slates and paper, Oral and written Language lessons, Vocal Music.

Third Grade—Third Reader, Spelling and defining words and key to pronunciation, Mental and Written Arithmetic, Political Geography, Penmanship, Language Lessons, Declamations, and Vocal Music.

Fourth Grade—Fourth Reader, Spelling and Defining and Analysis of words. Abbreviations and contractions used in writing and printing. Mental and Written Arithmetic, Political Geography, Grammar, Composition, U. S. History, Penmanship and Drawing, Declamation and Vocal Music.

Fifth Grade—Elocution, Physical Geography, Rhetoric, Familiar Science, Physiology, Algebra and Geometry.

Committee—S. B. Fahnestock, J. S. Campbell, W. E. Baker, S. E. Bucke, J. R. Bucke, H. D. Stewart, W. C. Shuman, G. D. Owen, J. E. Stephens, D. Fleisher, Maggie E. Lauver, J. P. Long, J. W. Morrow. The report of the committee was adopted as read.

Next in order was the discussion of Queries. First—Should teachers require their pupils to commit the words and definitions at the beginning of reading lessons? Referred to W. C. Shuman, who answered in the negative.

Second—Should we adopt a music book for our common schools? Referred to W. C. Shuman, who answered in the affirmative, H. L. Tressler then offered the following: Resolved—That in adopting a series of text books, books on vocal music be included—Lost.

Third—Are there any objections to the use of the words male and female as applied to teachers of the county? Referred to W. C. Shuman, and answered in the negative.

Third—Do the degrees of latitude increase from the Equator toward the Poles? Referred to Mr. Bucke, who answered in the negative.

Mr. S. B. Fahnestock, then gave an explanation on the board, showing that they do increase towards the Poles.

Prof. Raub, then gave a talk on grammar. The question: Is it proper to say, the two first of anything? Was answered in the affirmative, by Mr. Fahnestock.

A discussion on the subject of intermittent springs ensued, participated in by Messrs. Fahnestock, Baker, Gantt, and others.

Prof. Wright then made some closing remarks, urging the teachers to an earnest discharge of their duties; also urging the co-operation of teachers. Directors and all who have at heart the great cause of Education.

Music—"Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Adjourned, sine die. HARRY C. GANTT, LEMUEL E. MCGINNESS, Sec's.

DIRECTORS' MEETING.—Agreeably to a call of the County Superintendent, a number of the Directors of Perry county, met in the Jury Room, on Wednesday at 10 A. M., December 9th, 1874.

The meeting was organized by calling F. M. McKeehan to the chair, and electing Wm. H. Roddy Secretary.

The Superintendent then stated the object of the meeting, and said that directors had a good work to do, and should act for the best interests of the Schools at large and for the welfare of pupils and patrons throughout the county. Mr. Robinson, County Superintendent of Juniata, made a short address, and urged unity of action, and that the schools should receive the attention of every man in the school board.

The subject of school houses, Ventilation, Furniture and Apparatus was taken up. The importance of having a first-class house with windows and ceiling high, and stove in proper place to be fed with pure air from without, in order to prevent the stove from consuming the oxygen, so necessary to human life, was very ably discussed by Mr. Robinson, Shull, Shelby, Fritz and others. After some further remarks by Rev. McPherson and Prof. Wright on size of houses, proper Ventilation, Beauty of Location and the surroundings, attractions, etc., the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That we recommend that the most convenient size of our country school houses be about 30 by 24 feet, with portico in front, ceiling twelve feet high, well ventilated and lighted, and in the construction of the building there should be a vestibule at the entrance and recess for depositing the clothing, the entrance to which, shall be within the school room, under the eye of the teacher and the school, the room to be furnished with the most approved and comfortable desks and seats.

The subject of what kind of desks should be used in our common school was taken up and very ably discussed by Lewis Potter, John H. Shelby, Geo. A. Shuman and others. The sentiment of the directors present appeared to be in favor of Patent Desks, now used in some of our schools.

Next in order was, How should the salaries of teachers be graded? Mr. Geo. A. Shuman thought that the teacher ought to be paid according to the amount of work done and not according to certificate. Prof. Wright stated that some of our best teachers in the county held very ordinary certificates. Mr. Potter next gave it as his opinion that getting a certificate is an inducement for greater effort, and has a beneficial effect on the young, who attend school at the present day. The question of holding protracted religious meetings was discussed. The sentiment of the different boards represented, appeared to be directly against holding protracted religious exercises in our common school houses, from the fact that it is not the design of the law that they should be used for that purpose, and other reasons with which we are all perfectly well acquainted. The following resolution was then adopted:

Resolved, That Protracted Religious Meetings should not be held in our common school houses during the term. On motion the meeting adjourned.

F. M. MCKEEHAN, Pres't. W. H. RODDY, Sec'y.

English engineers, in behalf of the Viceroy of Egypt, have recently surveyed the coal field of Dranista, situated about fifty miles southwest of the town of Salonic. There is an aggregate thickness of about eight feet of coal, extending over a known area of 2,000 acres; but the engineers think that there is a total area of thirty square miles in which this thickness of coal would be found, and which in round numbers would contain 255,000,000 tons of coal. The coal is of good quality.

A young lady, who wore spectacles, exclaimed in a voice of enthusiasm to a plowman walking on the road, "Do you, sir, appreciate the beauty of that landscape?" "Oh! I see those darling sheep and lambs, skipping about!" "Them ain't sheep and lambs; them's hogs mas!"