HOME MATTERS.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Friday, August 5th, 1853.

This body met yesterday in the Third Ward Public School House, Pittsburgh, pursuant to adjournment.

The President, JOHN H. BROWN, of Philadelphia called the Association to order, and by his request,

The Rev. Dr. CAMPBELL, of Manchester, addressed the Throne of Grace.

The Secretary then read the Constitution of the Association, which had been adopted at the session of 1852, in Harrisburgh.

The names of officers elected at the last session were read, and are as follows:

President—JOHN H. BROWN, Philadelphia.

Vice-President—Prof. Thompson, Pittsburgh; William Roberts, Philadelphia; L. T. Covel, Pittsburgh; J. M. McElroy, Indiana County.

Recording Secretaries—John Joyce, Philadelphia; A. K. Brown, Schuylkill.

Corresponding Secretary—James G. Barnwell, Philadelphia.

Treasurer—Conley Plotts, Philadelphia.

Executive Committee—Messrs. S. D. Ingram, Harrisburgh; J. P. Wickersham, Lancaster city; William Travis, New Castle; H. R. Warner, Philadelphia; J. M. Barnett, Indiana County.

The following are the names of the members of the Association:

Allegheny—Prof. Jas. Thompson, Richard N. Avery, R. Morton, A. Burt, Lucius Osgood, Jas. Gregory, D. Dennison, A. Thompson, Wm. B. Frew, Leonard H. Eaton, J. B. Mitchell, Sam'l P. Irvin, Jas. Ralston, John Kelly, H. Williams, James McFeyer, Thos. H. Carroll, John Kelly, W. W. Dixon.

Armstrong—R. M. Davids.

Blair—Wm. Domer, A. D. Cherry.

Butler—J. K. Coulter.

Centre—Ira C. Mitchell.

Crawford—Thos. F. Thickstun.

Dauphin—Daniel Eppby, S. D. Ingraham.

Fayette—Jos. N. Campbell.

Huntingdon—J. S. Barr.

Indiana—J. McElroy, J. M. Barret, James S. Koles.

Lancaster—Hon. T. H. Burrowes, J. P. Wickersham.

Lawrence—Wm. Travis, A. D. Simpson, Geo. W. Sloan.

Schuylkill—Elias Schneider, A. P. Browne, Wm. E. Porter.

Washington—Wm. Smith, D. D., Alex. M. Gow, T. B. Hazzard; Prof. Samuel S. Jones.

Wayne—J. R. Sanford.

Westmoreland—S. P. Shryock, C. C. Baugh, S. W. Grier, G. W. Frick, M. S. Workman, John Wright, Daniel Morrison.

Philadelphia—John H. Brown, Geo. A. Piper, P. A. Craig, Conley Plotts, John Joyce, H. K. Whitney, S. B. Baldridge, H. P. Birchall.

The following ladies also became members:

Elizabeth Hughes, Margaret M. Hughes, Rebecca Morrison, Anne Foster, Mary Taggart, Mary E Brown, Caroline Davis, Nancy Campbell, Caroline A. Saunders, Charlotte H. Follansbee, Jane H. Dennison, Sophronia M. M. Thickstun, Melissa Edgar, Susan M. Hazeltine, Ellen E Wishart, Margaret S. Kiddoo, Jane E. Boggs, Martha Vance, P. M. Douthitt, Mary E. Carpenter, Dorcas E. Kearney, Nancy Hemphill, Jane W. Elliot, Harriett Cooper, Jane A. Covell, Eliza W. Tell, Margaret Frazer.

A member requested a delegate from each county to prepare and present a written list of the delegates from every county.

It was observed that no person could become a regular member of the association unless he be a teacher at the time.

A member wished to know whether there was not some action taken at the session at Harrisburg relative to females becoming active members.

Another member in reply stated that no action had been taken, and that no distinction existed.

Professor THOMPSON, from the local committee, announced that he had been successful in making arrangements for accommodating the members during their stay in this city, at the houses of private persons, without cost. The committee would meet with the members at adjournment.

Many think that if sent as delegates, they become members; not so.

The chairman of the executive committee stated that he could make but a partial report, which was as follows:

For the afternoon: A lecture on Manual Schools, by Hon. H. Burrows, of Lancaster city.

This lecture to be followed by a free discussion of the subject by the members.

"Duties of Teachers," by L. T. Covell, of this city.

"Uses and abuses of Text Books," by Professor Thompson.

Addresses from various gentlemen on subjects to be chosen hereafter.

The chairman of the committee felt anxious to enlist all persons who felt an interest in the cause of education, as honorary members.

Ladies are not expected to pay the matriculation fee (one dollar.)

The order of business for the evening will be stated in the afternoon. Members would please hand it to the Chairman of the Executive Committee topics for lectures, essays, &, &c.

It was moved and adopted that gentlemen interested in the cause of education from other States, who were present, be requested to participate in the proceedings.

The Treasurer, Mr. Plotts, stated that he had objections to the ladies being allowed to become members without charge, as it was contrary to the Constitution.

A motion was then made that the Constitution be so altered and amended as to permit ladies to become members without paying the usual matriculation fee.

The motion was laid over until the afternoon session for consideration.

The President then delivered his Inaugural Address, which was listened to with deep attention by the audience.

Professor Thompson moved that when this Association adjourn, it will adjourn to re-assemble at half-past two o'clock.

On motion adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association re-assembled at the hour appointed (half-past two o'clock) and was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Brown.

The President read a communication from the Library Committee of the Young Mens' Mercantile and Mechanic Library, offering the free use of the room and Library to the members of the Association.

The communication was on motion received, and the thanks of the Association returned to the committee.

The Hon. Thomas H. Burrows, from the committee on Normal Schools, read a report which was listened to with the deepest interest. Owing to the length of our report to-day, we are unable to present the whole of this admirable lecture. The following is the first and most interesting portion of it.

Report on Normal Schools.

At this period in the progress of general education, *it* is not deemed necessary either to describe the institution in question, as much length, or to adduce, formally, reasons in support of the right of the State to effect its establishment.

A normal school, as now, universally understood, is a public institution in which the teacher is duly instructed in his profession, and prepared for the proper discharge of its active duties.

Almost every State in the civilized world, which recognizes intellectual and moral culture, as necessary to the proper discharge of social duty, has founded and now supports, as an essential institution of government, schools of this class. Two years ago there were in the old world, 264 such institutions, and there are now, probably, a larger number; the tendency towards their establishment being general, without a single instance of abandonment being known. Giving them in order of time in which they were founded, in Europe, Prussia has 51; Hanover 7; Wirtemberg 7; Baden 4; Austria 11; Bavaria 9; Saxony 10; the lesser German States 20; France 97; Holland 2; Belgium 2; Denmark 2; Sweden 1; Scotland 2, Ireland 1; and England and Wales 23.

In North America there are eight Normal schools established by State authority, and supported by the public means, viz: two in Canada; three in Massachusetts; one in New York; one in Connecticut, and one in Michigan.

This harmony of action, on the part of educating governments, would seem to settle all question as to the right, as well as the policy of the State in establishing Normal schools.

With us, here in Pennsylvania, this right may be said to rest, specifically on three grounds:—

1st. On the constitutional injunction for the establishment of schools throughout the State.—

2d. On the general necessity of instruction for the *prevention* of crime. And 3d. On the duty of instructing the citizen so as to fit him to perform the public duties which are incumbent on every member of a free State. For, if the "establishment" of schools for these purposes, or any of them, be a public duty, it requires no argument to read to the conclusion that the preparation of teachers for them is also a public duty; since it were difficult to realize the full idea of a school without a fit teacher.

The right, then, when based on the practice of other States, or deduced from the nature of our own, would seem to be plain. But the *policy* of exercising that right must have heretofore been, and may yet be, thought questionable amongst us. What else can have placed Pennsylvania, that need to lead in all projects for human amelioration, so far behind in this! She—whose very soil was honestly bought from its Indian owners, who was among the first to assert the unconvertible rights of conscience, who applied her first liberated energies to the abolition of slavery, who led the way in rendering mild her penal code and reforming her prison discipline—Pennsylvania, that expended forty millions for internal improvements, and fifteen to twenty millions for public education in eighteen years—that she, who has thus ever been honest, humane, liberal and broad-minded, should have stopped short and have failed, by this expenditure of a few thousand dollars, to render her system of education complete, and thereby all her other reforms effective and her outlays profitable, is truly a strange state of affairs, and one for which there must be some adequate cause.

As the results of this cause are grievous, it is time that its nature would be ascertained, and the corrective be applied. And what combination of circumstances can be more grievous than that by which we see ourselves surrounded? Of the 500,000 youth of the State, who are of an age to attend school, at best one-half are without proper instruction, though nominally on the rolls of the Common Schools. Of the $1,500,000 of School tax and State appropriation, now annually expended in support of those schools, the same proportion, at least, is little better than thrown away. And, in the meantime, our whole Common School System bears the blame of this almost incalculable loss of youth's best hours, and of this vast outlay of money. Yet that system is not blameworthy. But they are deeply blameworthy who have abandoned this noble fortress against ignorance and vice, to the equal chance of being garrisoned by ignorance as by knowledge—by vicious tendencies, if not by vice itself—as by virtue!

And who are they?—for if they can be ascertained, they can probably be so operated on, as a class, as to induce or compel them to amend their ways and apply the remedy; the evil being by all admitted to be the want of properly qualified teachers: the remedy then due professional preparation.

In the first place, they are neither the first originators, nor the chief administrators of the system. The following extracts from reports will settle this point:"

A large number of extracts from reports of various Superintendents of Common Schools to the Legislature, showing the necessity of some institution of the nature of Normal Schools, were read. The lecture concluded with an exhortation to determined effort; and recommended the circulation of petitions in every School District, for the appropriation of money for this purpose by the Legislature.

Remarks in approval of the establishment of Normal Schools were made by Professor Thompson, of Pittsburgh, Hon. Thomas H. Burrows, Harrisburg, Mr. Platts, of Philadelphia, and Professor Zachios, of Cincinnati. The latter gentleman was an examiner of teachers in Cincinnati, of whom he had examined some 1,200. He generally found them ignorant of the most simple points. The speaker added his testimony in favor of the efficiency of Normal Schools.

Dr. Cutter, of Massachusetts, gave testimony to the favorable effect of Normal schools in that State. They had three such schools there, and they were very popular. It had been found that graduates of colleges were not always able to teach, and required as much instruction at a Normal school to be teachers, as they would require to be physicians or lawyers.

Mr. George A. Piper, of Philadelphia, offered the following:

Resolved, That in the judgment of the State Teachers Association, in order to obtain the greatest efficiency from our school system, it is the imperative duty of the Legislature to establish Normal Schools for the education of Teachers, and that the Committee who have reported to this Convention on this subject, be directed to memorialize the Legislature thereupon.

Professor Thompson arose and stated that there was one present, and a member of the association, who was familiar with the workings of the Normal Schools in England. He referred to Mr. Smith, a teacher in an adjoining borough, and he would move that that gentleman address the association on that subject.

Mr. Smith arose, stating that he had no idea, when entering the room, of addressing them.—In England, local committees choose young persons, who showed an aptness for teaching, in different districts, to attend the Normal Schools. The scholars must be very hard students. They are employed in teaching six hours during the day under the supervision of experienced teachers. In the evening, the students assemble in the Theatre, or room set apart for the purpose, and there criticise the lessons of the day. Lectures on the mode of teaching are delivered at stated periods, thus affording the student the opportunity of learning practically and theoretically the art of teaching. In case of sudden sickness of teachers there are always others who can supply their places, and do their work as effectually as they themselves. Besides, there is an organising master attached to the Normal school, whose duty it is to spend three or six months with such schools as may be going into disorder, for the purpose of re-organizing them. Such an officer would be of immense advantage in some of the District schools of this commonwealth. The speaker expressed his hope that the time was not far distant when the Normal schools would be established in this State.

Mr. Warriner, of Philadelphia, was in favor of leaving the subject open until the next meeting of the association at Lancaster, the coming winter.

Dr. Cutter, of Mass., stated that the Legislature of that State did not pass the law authorising Normal schools, until petitions were thrown in numerously signed. Should the teachers present, in their various localities, agitate this subject, and circulate petitions, the appropriation would soon be passed.

Mr. Trevis, of Lawrence county, spoke of the little acquaintance teachers had of the Normal schools, and those who were not teachers were more ignorant still. In view of this fact the speaker thought that the matter should be referred back to the committee for them to present a memorial, containing the fullest information in every respect, of Normal Schools, and that be presented to the Legislature. Lecturers should be sent through the State to explain the subject to the people, and then go to work and elect Legislators who are favorable to the advancement of education.

Mr. Burrows stated that meetings and memorials had done no good. In 1850, the largest educational meeting ever held in Pennsylvania, assembled in Harrisburg; Legislators were present, approved of the proceedings, the Legislature printed an address at its own expense, and then the matter dropped. Teachers by memorials could do nothing. They must work among the people—among the children, who will influence the mothers, the mothers the fathers, fathers the Legislators, and then the appropriation would be passed.

The speaker moved as an amendment, that a committee be appointed to draft a memorial to be presented to the body at Lancaster next winter.

Messrs. Piper, Plotts, and Smith, addressed some further remarks on the subject.

Mr. Trevis stated that Dr. J. P. Stoddard, of Wayne county, would address the Association on points appertaining to this subject, in the evening. He would therefore request the further consideration of the motion to be postponed until after the lecture, which was accordingly done.

The resolution brought up at the morning session, relative to the admission of ladies as members, without charge, was on motion adopted.

Mr. Howe, of Washington county, offered the following:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to report on the expediency of preparing a constitution and form of procedure to be adopted in the Teachers' Institutes in the several counties of the State. Referred to Executive Committee.

The following persons were enrolled as honorary members:

A. W. Price, Cleveland; E. L. Carns, Cincinnati; Calvin Cutter, M. D., Mass; William D. Swan, Boston; Judge Sherman, Michigan; John Biddle, Philadelphia; D. M. Warren, Philadelphia; L. Andrews, Columbus, O; Professor Zachios; Dayton, O.

On motion adjourned until 8 o'clock.

NIGHT SESSION.

Dr. J. P. Stoddard, of Wayne county, delivered an address on the "Educated and the Education."

Remarks were made by Professor Baldaman, of Columbia College; Schneider, of Schuylkill county; N. A. Avery, of Pittsburgh, Mr. Dixon, of Pittsburgh, and a number of others, on the subject of Normal Schools.

The resolution reported in the afternoon proceedings, on being put to a vote, was adopted unanimously.

ILLUSTRATED NEWS.—DOUBLE SIZE—NO CHANGE IN THE PRICE.—In consequence of increased space required for Crystal Palace illustrations, which have added largely to the regular edition, the ILLUSTRATED NEWS will, hereafter, be published MONTHLY PUBLISHED AT ITS FULL SIZE OF SIXTEEN PAGES, instead of supplementary editions being occasionally issued as heretofore. The enlargement commences with the next issue, which will be a most excellent number. Its engravings fully illustrate the GREAT PHILADELPHIA CELEBRATION AT PLYMOUTH and comprise a large and handsome picture of the "Embarkation of the Pilgrims at Delft Haven," an engraving covering two entire pages, and considered the finest engraving of the kind issued in America. The Pilgrim Celebration number will be invaluable for preservation and future reference.

THE PRESIDENT of the Educational Association, the Rt. Rev. Bishop POTTER, will arrive in this city this evening. He visits Pittsburgh, we understand, for the purpose of presiding at the Convention next week. The Rev. Bishop will, we learn, preach on Sunday evening, at a quarter before eight o'clock, in St. Andrews Church, Hand street.

SEDUCTION.—Henry Gibson was arrested yesterday and held to bail by Mayor Park, on a charge of seduction, on oath of Sarah Ann Barnes, a colored girl, about fourteen years of age.

SURETY OF THE PEACE.—Wm. Seward, of the First Ward, Allegheny, was held to bail by Mayor Park yesterday, for surety of the peace, and fined for disorderly conduct.

NOTICE.—Rev. A. M. Bryan will deliver, Providence permitting, a Temperance discourse, in the Scotch Hill Market House, on to-morrow (Sabbath) afternoon, at 8 o'clock.

ALLEGHENY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.—The Common Council met on Thursday evening, August 5.

Present—Messrs. Craig, Conard, Chambers, Davidson, Gang, Geitz, Johnston, Large, Moon, Biddle, Smith and Stockton.

The President being absent, Mr. Large was appointed President pro tem.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A petition to grade and pave North Alley from the East Common to Federal street, referred to Committee on Streets. Concurred in by S. C.

The petition of Gordon & Rafferty to grade an alley in the Third Ward, referred at last meeting of Councils to the members from the Third Ward, Mr. Moon, Chairman, respectfully offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ordinances report an Ordinance granting the prayer of petitioners. Adopted. Concurred in by S. C.

By Mr. Stockton, a report from the Committee on Engines was read, accepted, and the following resolutions were read:

1st. Resolved, That the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized to draw his warrants in favor of the American, Washington and Shiffler Fire Companies, for the sum of $37,50 each, being the quarterly allowance due them July 1st, 1853. Adopted.

2d. Resolved, That the sum of $1,000 be and is hereby appropriated for the purpose of building a new house for the First Ward apparatus, Providing the Company will allow the interest to be deducted out of their yearly allowance for three years; said house to be built under the direction of the Committee on Engines. Laid over.

3d. Resolved, That the sum of $1,000 be and is hereby appropriated to purchase a lot on which to build an engine house for the American Fire Company. Laid over.

4th Resolved, That the Committee on Engines have the Washington Engine put in complete repair. Laid over.

5th. Resolved, That the sum of $70 be and is hereby appropriated to defray the expense of repairing the engine now used by the American Fire Company. Laid over.

All of which was concurred in by S. C.

A petition was read from citizens on Voegtley street, praying Councils to order the grading and paving of said street. Referred to Committee on Streets. Concurred in by S. C.

An Ordinance to authorize the grading and paving of sundry streets was read, adopted, and concurred in by S. C.

On motion, adjourned.

SELECT COUNCIL.—STATED MEETING.—Present—Messrs. Atwell, Bufford, Graham, Marshall, Moffitt, Shaner, and Walker.

Mr. Marshall appointed Chirman, *pro tem*.

A petition from residents on Shields street, asking for water pipe on said street, was referred to the Committee on Water, and concurred in by C. C.

By Mr. Walker, report of committee on Water, with resolution authorizing Superintendent of Water Works to lay a four inch pipe on Chesnut street, from Long Lane to city line. Also, a resolution authorizing the mayor to draw warrants as follows, viz: F. Basharis, $38 16; John Kain, $33 75; Edward Kain, $11 15; Samuel Stell, $40 00; Elijah Dewer, $12 00; William Mullen, $23 25; Wm. C. Young, $16 00; Thos. Ray, paving reservoir, $27 75; Benj. Johnston, $45 00; J. Melville, $5 58; Miller & Bickerston, barrel Oil, $70 85; Benj. Patterson, for Coal, $66 00. Adopted and concurred in by C. C.

By Mr. Atwell, a remonstrance against paving Rebecca street in the manner in which it is being done, with resolution requiring the Street Commissioners to furnish each contractor with a copy of the paving ordinance. Adopted and concurred in by C. C.

By Mr. Walker, a resolution to appoint a committee of two from Select and three from C. C. to notify the city of Pittsburgh to cease raising their wharf any farther into the Allegheny river, and to remove the dirt now placed there. Adopted, and Messrs. Walker and Shaner of S. C. appointed. Concurred in by C. C., and Messrs. Craig, Davidson and Johnston appointed.

A communication from Mr. Guthrie, Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, addressed to the City Treasurer, asking the indebtedness of the city in bonds, &c. Referred to Committee on Finance, and concurred in by C. C.

By Mr. Atwell, two petitions relative to the grading of Marshall street. Referred to Committee on Streets, and concurred in by C. C.

By Mr. Moffit, a resolution to re-contract for the grading and paving of Liberty street, was adopted. No action in C. C.

By same, a resolution authorising the Mayor to issue a Proclamation for an election in the Second Ward, to fill the vacancy in C. C., created by the removal of Richard Denver. Adopted. No action in C. C.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

CITIZENS' DIRECTORS AND BANK NOTE REPORTERS.—It appears that the business of publishing Counterfeit Detectors and Bank Note Reporters has become one of the staples, very profitable, but it does not appear that the publishers of these humbugs have learned that the public requires its wants that various attempts have been made to impose upon the community, and that the counterfeiters in Washington again from Illinois, now in Tennessee. In all cases "Bank Note Reporters" are worthless, and the public are cautioned against purchasing them. Counterfeiters generally, and the sewers for illustration among that class of swindlers, Bicknell & Co., of Boston, have been for years engaged in the business, and cannot be correctly informed as to the character of the notes of the banks in any section of the country. Any publication professing to be a bank note reporter, and not having been revised and corrected by the officers of the banks in the section of country for which it is published, is worthless, and is only a means of swindling the public. Such publications are generally issued by persons who have no character to lose, and who are not responsible for the damage they may do. Persons who purchase them will be disappointed, as they will find that they are not worth the paper they are printed on.

BIGAMY.—Jane Reed instituted suit against Jas. W. Reed, yesterday, for Bigamy, before Alderman Robinson. She stated that he was married to her in Steubenville, Jan. 11, 1848, but about three weeks ago he refused to live with her, and married another woman. He was married by Alderman Parkhurst. In default of $1000 bail he was committed for trial.

LARCENIES.—Robinson Addis was arrested and taken before Alderman Steele, yesterday, charged with the larceny of Clothing from Davis' Auction Rooms. He was held for further hearing.

William Gardner was committed by Alderman Major for stealing a large copper kettle from Mrs. Gillespie, and selling it at a doggery on Fifth street.

ROSITER'S PAINTINGS.—These grand triumphs of art are now attracting crowds each day and evening and we would fail to see them—They are both pleasing and instructive, and they afford the highest pleasure a refined mind is capable of appreciating. Cargo's Band will be in attendance to-night. There will be a full house without doubt.

Receipts of the Hudson river Railroad for July, 1853,	$30,244 37
Same month last year,	27,441 94
Increase,	$2,802 43
Receipts for July, 1853,	$30,244 37
Increase, equal to 41 9 cent.	2,802 43

THE National Bank, of Boston, a new institution, has adopted the following plan to prevent counterfeits. The Boston Traveller says:

The blue of this bank are fine specimens of the art of engraving on steel, and the most stringent precautions, the simplest of its kind, are adopted to prevent alteration. The vignette on its two dollar bill represents a girl with a dollar, and not exhibit the figure of one man, or a single dollar mark. The vignette on the face of the cigarette two good dollars, and two figures of a man with a milk pail and two figures of two good dollars, and three male figures, a blacksmith, a sailor and a farmer. The figures between the figures with the vignette value quite fair fill its device, on the one hand a female figure with a sickle in her hand, and on the left an Indian with his native wigwam in the background. The figures are so arranged that they cannot be altered to the slight of time. The effect of the whole is grand and beautiful, and the counterfeiter, it is thought, will be at a effectual check to alteration.

The State Bank of Ohio tried a plan similar to this, when it commenced business, but afterwards abandoned it; why, we never learned.

RIVER INTELLIGENCE.

STEAM BOAT ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVED.

Col. Bard, Peebles, Elizabeth.
Tom Shore, Shirey, Bailey, Wheeling.
American Star, Brownsville
Magnolia, Hoopes & Co, Elizabeth

DEPARTED.

Col. Bard, Peebles, Elizabeth.
Tom Shore, Shirey, Bailey, Wheeling.
American Star, McClellan, Brownsville
Quaker City, Shunk, Louisville.
Hartford, Brown, Cincinnati.
Exchange, Rhodes, Wheeling.
Ben Franklin, Ankeny, St. Louis.
Clara Dean, Dean, Louisville.

THE RIVER.—Pittsburgh 3 feet 6 inches water in channel last evening at dusk and on a rising.

IMPORTS BY RIVER.

WHEELING, BY EXCHANGE.—18 bbls apples, J Sears; 105 sks wheat, Wm Bell; 2 bbls do, Wm Bell; 1 bbl do, Shigerly; 1 bxt tobacco, G W Swindler; 22 sks wool, 40 do do, Wm Bell; 1 bbl do, Wm Bell; 1 bbl do, Wm Bell; 1 bbl