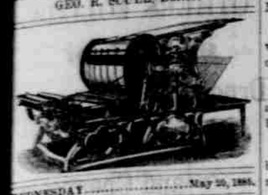
The Somerset Herald.

GEO. R. SCULL, Editor.



WEDNESDAY.....May 20, 1885.

Soda Water at Boyd's.

Fishing Tackle at Boyd's.

Fresh Garden seeds, C. N. Boyd.

Steel nails at J. B. Holderbaum's.

Fishing tackle at J. B. Holderbaum's.

The finest Cigars in town. C. N. Boyd.

Ready-mixed paint at J. B. Holderbaum's.

Justices, and other legal blanks for sale by Miller.

Paints, oils and varnishes at J. B. Holderbaum's.

Nails, Iron and Steel, at J. B. Holderbaum's.

Children's hats from 25 cents up, at Mrs A. E. Uhl's.

Oranges and Bananas of fine quality at Shafer's Store.

The Charm Soap is all-the-go. Sold only at Shafer's Store.

Paint brushes and painters' supplies, at J. B. Holderbaum's.

Have you seen the 5 and 10 cent counters at Shafer's Store.

King Syrup still ahead. 70 cents a gallon. Sold at Shafer's Store only.

Whitewash, dusting and shoe brushes at James B. Holderbaum's.

Try Alabastine for walls and ceilings; does not rub off. Sold by C. N. Boyd.

Try the "Bon Voyage" toilet soap, a 5 cent cake. Sold only at Shafer's Store.

Millinery goods will be sold cheap at

Mrs. A. E. Uhl's.

Paints, Oils and Varnishes, good goods at low prices.

C. N. Boyd.

Paints mixed ready for use, all colors, Gallons, Quarts, Pints and Pounds, C. N. Boyd.

Window glass by the box or light, and cut to any size or shape, at J. B. Holderbaum's.

Have you tasted of the Fine Flavored Fresh First class French Candies at Shafer's Store.

Bank Books, Memorandum and Pass Books in great variety will be found at the New Book Store.

Walley has a large assortment of good standard books at his New Store which will be sold at popular prices.

Papers and Magazines as well as plenty of other good reading matter will be kept a Walley's New Book Store.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. G. J. Beachy is now in Somerset, and can be seen at his Dental Rooms at the Glade House.

The largest and most complete assortment of fine writing papers and envelopes in boxes will be found at Weifley's New Book Store

Carpenter tools, blacksmith tools and blacksmiths' tools of all kinds. Only the best makes and best quality at J. B. Holderbaum's.

A full line of Chromos and German Oleographs, in heavy gilt frames just received at Walley's New Book Store. They will be sold cheap.

At Walley's New Book Store may be found all articles in the line of stationery. These goods have been carefully selected and are all fresh and new.

LIME PLASTER.—When the plant sees the light of day, apply the plaster and the good results will far exceed the cost. Tons of it in stock—cheap.

Cook & Berkits.

Table and pocket cutlery, carving knives and forks, butcher's knives and steels, razors scissors, shears, cork screws, etc. A fine line await your inspection at J. B. Holderbaum's.

FERTILIZERS.—Our stock consists of three grades Baugh & Son's goods, together with the "Homestead" of Detroit, Mich., and Fox & Way's manufacture. Now is the time to use them.

Cook & Berkits.

CASTORIA.

When baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a child she cried for Castoria. When she was a Miss, she clung to Castoria. When she had children she gave them Cast'a.

Scales, shovels, hoes, forks, rakes, scythes, snaths, sickles, pruning-knives, shears, and everything of the sort needed. Only the best of its kind, and prices to please you at J. B. Holderbaum's.

FOR SALE.—A number of valuable town lots, at the West end of Somerset, will be sold in sizes and on terms to suit the purchaser. Address

JOHN H. WEIMER,
Somerset, Pa.

NEAT MARKET.—Main Street.—We have just added a large Refrigerator to our Meat Market in which all meats can be kept cool and clean. Mutton, Beef, Pork, &c., kept constantly on hand. Open daily. Parties buying meat can have it kept in the Refrigerator until wanted.

ROSS DAVIS & CO.

Custom Suits of Men's Clothing, ranging in prices from $15 to $50. Measures taken; 600 samples to select from; a perfect fit guaranteed, by

H. G. HOLDERBAUM,
Manager Somerset Clothing House.

No. 4, Baer's Block, Somerset, Pa.

BARGAINS IN WATCHES.—Having bought at immense sacrifice a large stock of American Watches at the depressed prices, I am selling them at prices never before quoted. Waltham, Elgin, Springfield and Rockford movements in Solid Silver cases at $8, $10, $12 and $14. Every watch guaranteed.

E. MCDOWELL, Jeweler,
Somerset, Pa.

I have on hand at all times a complete assortment of the celebrated Studebaker wagons, either steel-skein or hollow-iron axle. This wagon was contracted for by Uncle Sam during the late rebellion, and the splendid service rendered during the war has placed it where it stands to-day all over the United States, away ahead of all others. Call and see them, or try one, at J. B. Holderbaum's. Every wagon fully warranted.

Base ball goods at Weifley's New Book Store.

All the Libraries for sale at Weifley's New Book Store.

Croquet sets, all prices, from a dollar up at Weifley's New Book Store.

Most of the Justices' Blanks in use in Somerset county having been pronounced defective in form by the Court, Justices attending Court who desire to have their blanks in proper form will do well to call at my New Book Store in Somerset, where they will find a full line of Blanks which have been carefully printed for use in Somerset county, and which will be guaranteed to meet the requirements of the law in all respects. Mail orders will receive prompt attention.

W. H. WEIFLEY.

RAIN TIME.—A report has been put in circulation by certain parties who know better, that I have quit the millinery business. The report is not true. I now have, and will have during the season, the largest variety and best selected stock of millinery goods in the county, including all the newest styles and shapes of hats and bonnets for ladies, misses and children, at the lowest price for the same quality and style of goods. Hats and bonnets received almost daily.

MRS. A. E. UHL.

Justices and Constables coming to Court, will recollect that Fisher's Book Store is the only establishment in the County that has for sale a full and complete line of Justice's and Constable's Blanks. My Blanks have been carefully prepared for this County, the summons after suggestions by Judge Baer. I have everything that Justices and Constables require. Continue your patronage to this old and reliable establishment, where your interests will be promptly and satisfactorily served.

CHAS. H. FISHER.

S. U. Trent, Esq., will deliver the Memorial Day address in Somerset.

John H. Jordan, Esq., will deliver the Memorial Day address in Bedford.

The criminal business is very light at this week's Court, there only being four or five cases for trial.

Representative Colborn spent Saturday and Sunday at home, returning to Harrisburg Monday.

The old Cummins house on Main Street is being torn down to give place to a new and more pretentious dwelling.

L. M. Woolf & Son, Johnstown's popular Clothiers and Furnishers, have an important change in their "ad" this week. Read it.

A. B. Groff, who is attending the Millersville State Normal, will assist Prof. D. C. Eichnor in the coming Meyersdale Normal School.

Mrs. Kiernan, and Mr. and Mrs. S. U. Trent, returned to Somerset Thursday noon. Mrs. Trent is slowly, but surely, regaining health and strength.

The contractors for the Negro Mountain tunnel, one day last week received instructions to increase their force and hurry the work as fast as possible.

Mr. Bernard Holbrook, of Omaha City, Iowa, spent several days last week visiting relatives in Somerset. He paid a pleasant call at the HERALD sanctum while here.

Quite an extensive forest fire is raging on the ridge two miles below town, lighting up the horizon for miles at night. Much valuable timber has already been destroyed.

Judge Baer told the Grand Jury in very plain words what their duties were in regard to inspecting the public buildings. Their report is awaited with considerable interest.

Nails, screws, bolts, beads, tacks, etc. A full line of everything needed in making necessary repairs around the house or farm, and it will be to your interest to buy them at J. B. Holderbaum's.

A meeting of the Directors of the South Penn. railroad is to be held at Harrisburg to-day, at which it will be decided whether the road will be pushed to completion west of Somerset, or connection made at this place with the Baltimore & Ohio.

We had the pleasure of a call Monday morning from Mr Charles Trent, a graduate of the HERALD office. Since leaving Somerset the Professor has traveled pretty well over the United States, and been in business in a number of the large cities. He is now located in Minneapolis, having gone there from New Orleans, where he was engaged in the hotel business. We are glad to know that he has been well and prosperous.

Court convened at 10:30 o'clock Monday morning. The only case tried during the day was that of the Commonwealth vs. Frederick Zimmerman, who was indicted for committing an assault and battery upon his mother-in-law, a woman eighty-three years of age. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, but defendant to pay the costs. Sentence was at once imposed by Judge Baer, who said that he deeply regretted that the jury had not returned a verdict of guilty, as it would have given him great pleasure to have imposed the maximum penalty had they done so. In default of payment of costs, the defendant was taken to jail

The old stone paper mill at Roberts Station on the Somerset and Cambria Railroad was burned on Monday evening. This building was originally built by Mr. Isaac Husband in 1801, and for many years used as a felling and carding mill, Mr. Husband finally tearing out that machinery and fitting it up as a paper mill. The manufacture of paper was discontinued years ago, and the building has since been used as a dwelling house. It was one of the if not the best built stone building in the county. The loss will be between $3,000 and $4,000 on which the owner Judge Collins has a small insurance. The fire is thought to be of incendiary origin.

A very serious accident befel Mr. Isaac Jones, of the Somerset Planing Mill, and Mr Noah Casebeer, of this Borough, on Monday afternoon last. Both men were engaged working on the eaves of the house building for William H. Stahl, five miles northwest of town, when by some mishap the scaffolding broke, precipitating them to the ground some thirty feet below. Mr. Jones struck a nail, which passed entirely through his upper lip, immediately under the nose, knocking out two teeth; he was also terribly bruised about the body. It is not yet known how serious his injuries may prove to be. Mr. Casebeer was a good bit bruised about the body, and had his right leg broken at the ankle. Both men were brought to their homes in Somerset.

About nine o'clock Saturday night the three families living in the house of Mr. Jacob Deitz, on the line of the new railroad two miles north of town, were sitting in the lower rooms of their home, when a crash as of something falling on the floor above attracted their attention. One of the men hurried up stairs to learn the cause and on throwing open the door of a room was met by a volume of smoke and flame that had already enveloped the entire upper half of the building. Only a few articles of household furniture and clothing were saved; the building burning to the ground in a few minutes. The fire originated from a defective flue. The house was worth $1200 and was insured for $800. The loss of household furniture is estimated at $600.

ANNUAL MEETING OF DUNKARDS.—The National assemblage of Dunkards which opens on the 22nd inst., four miles east of Mifflintown, Pa., to continue one week, will be the largest ecclesiastic meeting that has ever been held in Juniata Valley. Extensive preparations are being made for the meeting and shed hotels, tents and meeting-houses are being erected capable of accommodating 35,000 persons. Representatives will be present from all over the United States, but more especially from Ohio, Pennsylvania and Illinois. At a like meeting last year in Ohio, over 30,000 persons were in attendance.

The tabernacle, or meeting-house, is to be 100 feet long, 75 feet wide, and have a capacity to seat 5,000 people. The dining-hall is to be 200 feet long and 70 feet wide. A restaurant building 150 feet long and 20 feet wide, is also being erected. There is to be a baggage-room, a commissary department and hospital. All the means and details for the erection of the buildings and for the boarding of the multitude have been provided for by the brethren of the Conference of the Middle district of Pennsylvania. The meeting will be a National one, and 1,500 delegates will be in attendance to represent the Brethren Churches of the United States of America.

Thirty steers, weighing 1,200 pounds each have been secured, and are now in the course of fattening. In addition to the beef, the bill of fare for the meeting comprehends 500 weight of ham, 1,500 pounds of coffee, 70 pounds of tea, 3,000 pounds of sugar, 600 pounds of bologna sausage, 300 pounds of cheese, 40 barrels of crackers, 300 dozen eggs, 10 barrels of pickles, 200 gallons of milk daily, with many other articles of food.

According to recent statistics this sect has over 600 churches, with more than 50,000 communicants. The Church government is nearly the same as the Baptist, except that every brother is allowed to exhort. When they find a man who is apt to teach they choose him as their minister, and ordain him by the laying on of hands, attended with fasting and prayer and giving the right hand of fellowship. They also have deacons and deaconesses. From among the teachers who have been tried they appoint bishops. The annual meeting in May is attended by the bishops, teachers and other representatives chosen by the congregation. Important cases brought before these meetings are in general decided by a committee of five of the oldest bishops.

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION.

Walter T. Beach Blown Into Atoms.

THE SOMERSET CHEMICAL WORKS KNOCKED H. W. AND C.

EIGHT HUNDRED POUNDS OF NITRO-GLYCERIN DOES THE BUSINESS.

The Somerset Chemical Works are, or rather were, located one and a half miles east of Somerset, in a beautiful grove on the farm of John Lane. They were erected in the summer of 1884 by E. E. Wolf & Co., for the manufacture of nitro-glycerin and other grades of high explosives. From twelve to fifteen men were employed, and from eight to twelve buildings used.

On the 14th day of January last an explosion occurred at this place, in which Scott Schaeffer and Henry Turner lost their lives, and the works were almost entirely wrecked. Last Thursday evening, May 14th, just three months to the day from the time of the first accident, another

FRIGHTFUL EXPLOSION

occurred, about half-past six o'clock in the evening. It being Ascension Day the men were not at work, but in the afternoon Mr. W. T. Beach, one of the proprietors, concluded to make a run of nitro-glycerin. Mr. Beach and Mr. F. A. Edwards, the machinist, took supper together at their boarding house close by, at a little after 6 o'clock. After supper Mr. Edwards went to the packing house, while Mr. Beach returned to the factory, or nitro-glycerine agitating house, and had scarcely entered the building till a most terrific concussion was heard, and the entire building sailed skyward. Mr. Beach was literally

BLOWN INTO ATOMS.

The largest piece of his flesh or clothing that could afterwards be found was not larger than a silver dollar. Small pieces of flesh and clothing, and small tufts of hair, were picked up on the ground and on trees and saplings for hundreds of yards around.

The factory building, with its contents, was scattered to the four winds, fragments being picked up miles away. The ground on which the building stood was dug out as for a cellar. The hole is fully sixteen feet deep, and that much across the top. The boiler house, engine house, and nitro-glycerine store house were knocked into smithereens. The roof and one end of the packing house, in which was Mr. F. A. Edwards, was blown off, and Mr. Edwards was thrown

AGAINST THE CEILING

and fell to the floor stunned and bruised, but not seriously injured. Several of the other buildings were more or less damaged. The nitro-glycerin store house was swept entirely away, but its contents, two hundred and fifty pounds of nitro-glycerin was unmolested and is there yet, making it a somewhat dangerous place. The concussion spent its force in a southeasterly direction, as most of the fragments of the buildings and pieces of the unfortunate young proprietor were blown that way.

A SILVER TEN CENT PIECE,

supposed to have been in Mr. Beach's pocket, was found several hundred yards distant, bent almost double. In close proximity to where the factory stood the ground was covered with fine earth, and the particles of the buildings found there were in small pieces and fine splinters, while whole boards and large pieces of timber were found on trees and sticking upright in the ground, fully three-quarters of a mile away.

SOMERSET SHAKEN.

The detonation was terrific in Somerset. Many buildings were shaken so that the door flew open, and the windows rattled till the residents were frightened and ran into the streets, not knowing what had happened, and at a loss to account for the general shaking up. Several persons who were reading papers, allege that they were knocked from their hands. The window glass in Mr. John Lane's house were shattered, while his son and another lad who were standing in front of the house were thrown several feet in the air. All the farm houses within a mile or more were thaken as by an earthquake, and in several of them furniture was overturned and glassware broken. The report and shock were plainly felt and heard

25 MILES AWAY.

At Mr. A. E. Fyan's, in Bedford county, twenty-two miles distant, it was very perceptible; so it was in Garret, Berlin, Centreville, Stoyestown, and almost every place within a radius of twenty miles, at some points much more distinctly than others. At Baer Bros' store, five miles down the Bedford pike, goods were knocked from the shelves and the building rocked as though shaken by a strong wind. Owing to the fact that a few days previous a large quantity of refuse matter had been exploded by the employes, and many of our citizens had rushed out thinking to hear of a terrible accident, they were slow to believe that a really horrible casualty had occurred, and it was nine o'clock in the evening before the fact was really known and believed. At that hour a large crowd of men and boys, with lanterns and torches, went out and searched for the remains of poor young Beach, and on the following day, and on Saturday and Sunday almost the entire population of the town and surrounding country visited the scene of the wreck.

The direct cause of the explosion can only be conjectured. Nitro-glycerin which was first discovered in 1847, but did not attract general attention until 1874, when its capacities as an explosive agent became known, is compounded of pure glycerine and equal parts of strong sulphuric and nitric acids. It is a colorless, or slightly yellowish liquid, and has marvelous explosive capacities. It is of a sweet, pungent, aromatic taste; very slightly soluable in water but readily soluable in ether, alcohol and methylated spirit. In the liquid state it does not inflame by the mere contact of flame, but by concussion or by touching it with a red-hot iron it explodes with great vehemence. By keeping it undergoes a partial decomposition; and in confined vessels the presence of accumulated gases, which result is sometimes so great as to cause its explosion upon the slightest concussion. It will not freeze above 4° Fahrenheit when quite pure.

As stated before, Mr. Beach was engaged in making a run of glycerine when the explosion occurred which is done in this wise: The acids are placed in a tank or trough, called the agitator, of cold water, into which the glycerin is poured with constant stirring, great care being taken to prevent any sensible heating of the mixture, as at this state it will explode of itself, when if allowed to reach a certain temperature; the whole mixture is then left for five or ten minutes after which it is run off into another trough containing five or six times its volume of cold water, to which a rotary motion is given. The nitroglycerin precipitates rapidly in the form of a heavy liquid, which is separated by decantation. It is then washed in cold water. Whether the mixture had reached the temperature at which it explodes, or whether Mr. Beach let something fall that caused the concussion will never be known and can only be surmised. The run he had been engaged in making, had it been completed, would have made

800 POUNDS OF NITRO-GLYCERIN

which exploded and wrought such terrible havoc. This amount of glycerin when mixed with the other ingredients would have made 3000 pounds of dynamite. Dynamite may be made out of a hundred and one different things, such as sulphur, saltpeter and brimstone. But here nito-glycerin was exclusively used with wood pulp as the principal absorbent, although fullers earth, magnesia and other absorbants are also used. It looks precisely like wet sawdust and one could not tell the difference till tasting it when they would find the glycerine imparts a sweet flavor. It is worth from 35 to 75 cents per pound. It is put up in cartridges, as a general thing, eight inches long and from three quarters of an inch to four inches in diameter. These cartridges are made of heavy brown paper and when filled the ends are folded and the cartridge dipped in paraffine oil, to keep it air and water tight. It is then placed in neat boxes and shipped to its destination. The cartridges and boxes are all made in buildings on the ground by employees of the company. From twelve to fifteen men were employed in the different departments and the works had a daily capacity of from three to four thousand pounds. The greater part of their output was sold to contractors on the South Pennsylvania railroad, although they made shipments to many other places. The works are now a complete wreck, but Mr. E. E. Wolf proposes to rebuild and expects in a short time to resume operations. The loss falls heavy on him, amounting to from four to six thousand dollars. All the remains of Mr. Beach that have yet been found would not fill an ordinary sized cigar box. Not a particle of his bones were found. He was a young man, being but 22 years of age, of strict business habits, pleasing, gentlemanly manners, and was a great favorite with the employes and all who knew him. He was a native of New York State. He had rented a house in Somerset which he had expected to occupy with his mother and two sisters who were to have come here for that purpose this week. The news of the sad calamity being telegraphed them they came on Sunday morning and were driven to the scene of the disaster.

LIME, CALCINED PLASTER, CEMENT.—The attention of builders and contractors is directed to the fact that these goods are bought in car load lots, and our prices for them are less than for local shipments, freight added.

COOK & BERKITS.

SOUTHAMPTON ITEMS.

Weather—nice and warm.

In demand—bark peelers.

Corn planting is the order of the day.

Your Scribe took in Somerset last week attending Court.

Mr. J. H. Martz has a number of hands employed peeling bark on Savage mountain. He intends to peel about 75 cords. Jim says he has "boss" times with the boys, now and then.

Rev. Knepper will hold his communion services in the Lower Church, on Whit Sunday; preaching to commence on Friday previous.

"Truth" will write from some other place ere long, and will be able to chronicle more interesting news.

May 18, 1885. TRUTH.

PAYMENT BY CHECK.—Persons who are accustomed to receiving checks in payment of debts, are given a "pointer" by Judge Stowe, of Pittsburgh. One year ago a firm in that city gave to the Pennsylvania Company a check on the Penn Bank in payment of a freight bill. The company deposited the check on the following day, and on the day succeeding the check was thrown out of the clearing house on account of the failure of the bank. The company brought suit to recover the amount of the check, and Judge Stowe, in instructing the jury, said the drawer of the check was relieved from liability of payment by reason of the delay on the part of the plaintiff in presenting the check; that the rule of law was that a check must be presented at the bank upon which it was drawn on the day of its date, and if the bank failed the next day it relieved the drawer from payment.

The North American Review concludes its seventieth year with its June number. It never had so large a circulation, nor greater influence, nor a more brilliant staff of contributors. This number discusses seven topics of vital public interest by no less than fourteen eminent writers, not including the short contributions in "Comments." "Shall Silver be Demonetized?" is answered pro and con, by three distinguished economists, Sumner, Laughlin and Walker, representing Yale and Harvard Colleges, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "The Tardiness of Justice" is discussed by Judge W. L. Learned, and "Prohibition in Politics" by Gail Hamilton; "The Swearing Habit" by E. P. Whipple, and "French Spoliation Claims" by Edward Everett. The policy of the Roman Catholic hierarchy toward our Public Schools is assailed in a learned essay by a new polemic, Mr. M. C. O'Byrne, of North Carolina, and defended by Bishop Keane, of Virginia, with equal erudition. It is a most interesting double presentation of an impending issue. "How Shall Women Dress?" is answered by Chas. Dudley Warner, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Dr. W. A. Hammond, Dr. Kate J. Jackson, and Mrs. E. M. King, the English leader of the dress reform movement.

BERKLEY'S MILLS ITEMS.

Cherries blossoming.

Corn and potatoes sprouting.

Apple blossoms ready to burst.

Last week one night some unknown scamp destroyed a lot of fence for Harvey Miller; he says he can conjecture who the guilty party is, but does not want to be personal. Give them a dose of shot, Harvey.

E. M. Berkley, of this vicinity, recently sold to George Donges a bull which weighed 2,200 pounds; the bovine was taken to the Allegheny tunnel for slaughter, Fred Shafer riding the animal from here to the tunnel.

The Lack Run fishing excursion turned out to be a fizzle. Following is a record of it: Number of miles walked to creek, 9; number of bites, 0; number of fish, 0; number of hours without anything to eat, 16; number of miles walked home, 9. The "corners" should vote them a leather medal for the clean record which they made.

On Monday of last week as Irwin Brougher was driving a vicious team through the barnyard of Justus Walker, his horses became frightened and ran down over an embankment, completely demolishing the wagon; fortunately neither driver nor horses were seriously injured. On the same day a team ran away for N. B. Countryman and Truman Sanner, the wagon passing over Mr. Sanner's legs; the wagon being small and empty, he escaped with a few bruises. No damage to the team. Monday was a bad day for runaways.

XENOPHON.

EDITOR HERALD.—As your local columns are always open for crumbs I send these items. I arrived at Lincoln yesterday, found business as I did elsewhere "booming." I have been taking in many places of interest since I left Somerset; the principal points being Pittsburgh, Chicago, Dixon, Clinton, Iowa City, Burlington, Chariton, and many minor points along the line. I will not attempt a description of the aforesaid places as chapters might be written on each in portraying the magnitude of their business interests, the beauty and magnificence of buildings, the perfect system of railroads, water, gas and fire works, etc.; suffice it to say: It is time well spent for those who think they know all to lay aside all prejudices and spend a few days at each of these places; gain all information they can, and they will find it to be of lasting benefit.

Leaving Burlington I crossed one of the best corn growing states in the Union. All along the line of the railroad you have a display of Agricultural wealth, the surface being undulating in districts remote from the rivers, while along the banks the surface is bluffy. The soil is a dark, rich loam, free from stone, and varying in depth from three to nine feet. I meet Pennsylvanians at almost every turn. Those who emigrated to this country about twenty years ago are well established, and are making money with ease. At Red Oak I ran across H. K., formerly a resident of Somerset county, who owns a well-improved farm, while his surroundings show thrift and prosperity.

Farming is carried on extensively here. With the improved machinery they plant, work and harvest fifty acres of corn to the team, annually. Leaving Iowa I crossed the Muddy river at Plattsmouth, then on to Lincoln. Seventeen years ago this place was but a village; to-day it represents a population of over twenty thousand inhabitants, while her public buildings compare favorably with those of our eastern cities. But I am bound for the west, and off I go.

J. A. G.

LINCOLN, NEB., May 12, 1885.

MINUTES OF THE SOMERSET COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.—The Convention met in the Disciples' Church on Monday, May 11th, at 2 p. m. Rev. H. King led the devotional exercises. After singing "What a Friend we have in Jesus," he read John. 16th Chap., and Rev. J. N. Pershing led in prayer. "I will guide thee" was then sung. Bro. O. Knepper being absent, Bro. C. N. Boyd was called to the Chair, Ed. Peter Vogel acting as Secretary.

Bro. E. Payson Porter, State and International Secretary, then discussed "The Sunday School Convention—its Work and Power." Psalm 48; 12-13 was read; then he took a survey of the field, to ascertain what has been done and what needs to be done. Philadelphia was taken as a sample. It had, in 1882, 352 Sunday-Schools; 164,782 scholars, in 1883, 30 schools organized, 27 died; net gain of scholars 5,000; in 1884, 29 schools organized, 8 died; net gain of scholars 12,166. Those schools that were open during summer vacation gained permanently. Berks county, once opposed to winter schools as impractical, has found it practical. Even so cold a place as Carlton county, N. B., that with 54 schools used only to keep four open in winter, with three years trial of winter schools, kept 34 winter schools open, and swelled the number to 76. That bad roads do not necessarily hinder success, is shown by Clay county, Ill., with proverbial bad roads.

2. Stimulate to more and better work. It pays.

3. Have an open Bible. Use lesson leaves only as helps in home study.

4. More inspiration is needed.

The following committee on nomination of permanent officers was appointed by the Chair, to report in the evening: Rev. Jacob Smith, Rev. J. N. Pershing, and W. B. Shafer. The following delegates were then enrolled:

Miss Sadie Trent,	Brethren S. S.	"	Snyders.
M. W. Hunter,	"	"	"
L. C. Colborn,	Disciples'	"	Somerset.
Miss Belle Kimmell,	"	"	"
" Kate Snyder,	"	"	"
" Florence Snyder,	"	"	"
Peter Vogel,	"	"	"
J. N. Pershing,	Methodist	"	"
Mrs. A. W. Knepper,	"	"	"
" J. N. Pershing,	"	"	"
Miss G. P. Nibiser,	"	"	"
Floyd A. Nibiser,	"	"	"
W. B. Shafer,	Evangelical	"	"
D. K. Lavan,	"	"	"
Jacob Smith,	"	"	"
Miss Maggie Duncan,	Presbyt'n	"	"
Mrs. A. S. Jackson,	"	"	"
C. N. Boyd,	"	"	"
Rev. W. A. Jackson,	U. B.	"	"
" J. H. Pershing,	"	"	Rockwood.
John L. Barchus,	Brethren	"	Elk Lick.
Miss Jean King,	Reformed	"	Somerset.
Rev. J. King,	"	"	"
Oliver Knepper,	Lutheran	"	"
J. S. Burkman,	Samuels	"	"
T. Gindlspenger,	Lutheran,	"	"
Rev. D. Statt,	"	"	"
Rev. J. H. Knepper,	Brethren S. S.		Berlin.
W. S. Livengood,	"	"	Elklick.
John Russell,	Methodist	"	Berlin.
Rev. J. M. Schick,	Reformed	"	Meyersdale.

"The Superintendent's Work" was then ably discussed by Mr. Porter. 1. He must be a practical Sunday-school man, acquainted with all its details. 2. He must be a spiritual man. 3. He must have executive ability. 4. He must open and close orderly and systematically.

An interesting general discussion followed, engaged in by Russell, Smith, Jackson and Porter. Benediction by Rev. Jackson.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention opened at 2 p. m. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. N. Pershing; Scripture read—2 Peter 1:1-11; After singing Rev. J. H. Knepper led in prayer, followed by singing.

President Boyd then took the chair and announced a paper "The Teacher in the Sunday-school," by Rev. Jacob Smith. The address crystaled about the motto, "Teachers, our object is to save souls." It showed the teacher's need of thorough acquaintance with the Bible as his book, and the necessity of his being a living exposition of its virtues and a breather of its spirit. The teacher's preparation for his work in general and of the lesson in particular, was strikingly set forth. By way of encouragement the future success of the Gospel was graphically sketched, and the ratio of the lost to the finally saved was set down as about equal to that of those now in jail in comparison with those out of it.

After singing, Rev. C. C. B. Duncan considered, "The Teacher's Week-day Work." He recognized the fact that the average teacher must have a secular calling for a livelihood, but should see to it that it is an honest one. All honest callings are honorable. He will thus have, that he may give to the needy. He should visit his sick pupils during the week. He should reprove the wayward and advise their parents of improprieties and sins requiring their attention. Of course, he should during the week days prepare his lessons for Sunday.

"I Gave my Life for Thee" was then sung, and the two preceding topics were discussed.

Thirty minutes were next given to "How Can Temperance be best taught in the Sunday-school?" Smith, Porter, Miss Belle Kimmell and Mrs. Walter engaged in the discussion. "Yield not to Temptation" preceded this discussion, and "Jesus Lover of my Soul" followed it.

Mr. Porter then gave a normal exercise, based on the Westminster series—"The Bible in its organic construction."

1. The Bible is an Organism. It may be thus exhibited:

66

That is, 66 volumes, 36 writers, 16 centuries.

1. From God as revelation.
2. Through man by inspiration.
3. In carefully preserved writings.
4. In accurate translations.

As on our coins we have the eagle with an olive branch in one talon and the arrows in the other, with the motto, *E Pluribus Unum*, so there seem to be opposite elements in Unity in the Bible.

II. Diversity.

1. Time—1600 years. Written during diversity of civilization.
2. Languages—two, Hebrew and Greek.
3. Religions—two, Hebrew and Christian.
4. Books—66. Yet they have a beginning, a middle and an end.
5. Writers—36. Belonging to all classes—kings, poets, herdsmen, fishers, physicians, etc. Out of so much modern diversity, could you get unity?
6. Style—Every writer has his individuality, yet one thing is said.

III. Unity.

1. Purpose—one; the plan of salvation.
2. Theme—one; the Messiah, the Christ. The British navy has a scarlet thread in every rope, cut it where you will. Christ is the scarlet thread of the Bible.
3. Harmony—perfect; prophet agrees with prophet, teacher with teacher.
4. Development—through all, increasingly plain. Like the ruins of the Cologne Rhine Castle, three hundred years in building, but built after a plan: symmetry—one mind.

After singing "Wonderful Words of Life," J. N. Pershing pronounced the benediction.

EVENING SESSION.

Praise meeting was conducted by President C. N. Boyd. "All hail the power of Jesus' name" and "I've reached the land," being sung. Rev. Lavan led in prayer. After singing "Hallelujah of my Redeemer," C. N. Boyd led in prayer and then read Psa. 65.

Rev J. M. Shick then delivered a fine address on "The word of God our Guide and Guard." He said:

We do not always realize how great a factor the word of God is in our Christian life. It is the meal of our growth and the means of our sanctification. Sanctify them by thy truth: thy word is truth. We ought never to make a great distinction between the written word and the living word in the life of Christ. But I am not here to speak of the whole word of God, but, as limited by the committee, of that word as our "guide and guard"—that word by which we are begotten.

The figure of a guide pre-supposes a wanderer. We are strangers in a land of enemies and full of dangers. All around us are pitfalls. It is a land of darkness, though we are children of light—lights to enlighten others. As in the days of our Lord, "the darkness does not comprehend it." We need some guide till we shall be able to see the dangers. "Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." All the way through it is a guide directing us—finger posts pointing to Jesus. In the gospels we have a directing record of the life of Christ, and in the Epistles a pointing back to him, but forward as in the shadows of the Old Testament. But not only in this general way is the word our guide. It points out the specific dangers in our pathway and shows us how to surmount the dangers that seem to thicken around it. There are to-day, as there ever were, dangers, powerful enemies, and makers of snares, as intemperance, profligacy, etc.

Is it not strange that this word it so strangely kept for us? Yet so many would be willing to shut the light again, to lose this priceless heritage, to take it from us! Isn't it strange that it is a closed book to so many—that even one should be willing to dispense with this unerring guide and guess his way? But I am glad that there are those who can say with the Psalmist, God is "sweeter than honey."

There is another side to God's word. It is not only our guide, but our guard. There are enemies seeking to drag us down. There is that "roaring lion seeking whom he may devour." The word is a sure defense against sin and satan. How can it be a guide for us? If I had any less gospel than that of our Saviour I would despair. Three times tempted by Satan. He met him with that word, striking him with "the sword of the Spirit, saying, 'It is written.'" Then why should we prefer any other weapon? We may try strong resolution, sympathy, will, etc., but fail. We should be offener conquerors if we took the Word. We are an army of raw recruits. There are many who are versed in the word of God, they are the drill-masters. Ridiculous as David in the improved armor of Saul are those christians who have never proved God's word. I once saw cavalry drilled who struck so awkwardly as to have cut their horses. Teachers, instruct your pupils to hit the foe.

In conclusion, one word with teachers. What mistakes are made by teaching for the word of God something about the word? Any teacher can teach the word itself. How sadly is the neglecting of it neglected! The word, and not an exposition of it, is our guide and guard. It is a temptation to explain. It is flattering to our self-esteem. Teach the Word. Teach it to the infant and to the adult. Teach the Golden Text. May God make us all to realize the importance of His Word.

After singing "Precious Promise," a collection of $4.88 was taken up. Then a question drawer was conducted by Mr. Porter. "We'll work till Jesus comes" was sung, and the following pledges were made by the Sunday-Schools. Lutheran, $3; Presbyterian, $2; Disciple, $2; Evangelical, $4; Methodist, $2; Reformed, $2; and all but the first immediately paid.

The Committee on Organization completed its report by naming the following additional Vice Presidents:

Addison—M. A. Ross.
Allegheny—Eli Fenner.
Brothersvalley—S. A. Pillson.
Conemaugh—Henry Lenhart.
Elklick—Levi Lichliter.
Greenville—Solomon Engle.
Jenner—John Ankeny.
Jefferson—Fred. Shaulis.
Larimer—Christian Minkemire.
Lower Turkeyfoot—B. F. Snyder.
Middlecreek—Cyrus Moore.
Northampton—Wm. Poorbaugh.
Paint—B. Strauch.
Shade—L. B. Manges.
Somerset—Oliver Knepper.
Southampton—Michael Long.
Stonycreek—Conrad D. Spangler
Stoystown—John H. Snyder.
Summit—F. Enos.
Upper Turkeyfoot—Wm. Zufall.

Rev. E. M. Hubler, of Scalp Level, was appointed delegate to represent Somerset County at the Fifth Pennsylvania District Convention, meeting at Altoona, May 14 and 15, 1885.

After singing the doxology, Ed. Vogel pronounced the benediction.

C. N. BOYD, President. PETER VOGEL, Secretary.

The following properties, advertised in the HERALD, were disposed of at Sheriff's sale at the Court House, Friday afternoon. The crowd in attendance was unusually large:

The John A. Hostetler farm, containing 140 acres, in Elklick township, was sold to Samuel M. Fullens for $6,700.

No. 2, a certain tract of land situate in Elklick township, containing 242 acres, was sold to C. M. Miller for $185.

The property of David Kimmell, in Quemahoning township, containing 6 acres and 137 perches, was sold to Hiram Grady for $125.

The property of Stephen Jones, in Meyersdale, was sold to W. H. Ruppel, Esq., for $175.

The Daniel D. Hoover property, in Garrett, was sold to Phebe Stahl, for $251.

The Henry Valentine tract, in Confluence borough, containing 3 acres and 92 perches, was sold to J. B. Davis and John G. Sanner, for $125.

The sale of a number of the other properties advertised was continued to to-day, Tuesday.

MEYERSDALE NORMAL.—The Meyersdale Normal School will be opened in the latter part of July. The session promises to be an interesting and successful one. Any information desired will be furnished by addressing the principal.

D. C. EICHNOR,
Meyersdale, Pa.

STONYCREEK ITEMS.

Farmers are making speed with their work.

Mr. Wm. H. Walker is building a new barn.

A Union Sunday School was organized in the Star Valley Schoolhouse on the 3d of May.

Mathias Walker, who had been in the Eastern Hospital for several months, returned home some time ago and afterwards strayed away and it is now reported that he is in the Regular Army. It seems rather strange that he passed the test, but evidences make it only too true.

NOW AND AGAIN.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, Philadelphia, May 6, 1885.

COMRADES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC: Another year in life's campaign brings us again to Memorial Day with its sad memories and tender associations, and as the Nation bends over the graves of its heroes and pays to noble dust the tribute of its love, let us remember that we are not only to cast our floral offerings on the graves of former comrades-in-arms, but standing in their presence to re-dedicate ourselves to the unfinished work they have left us to do.

We shall stand on this Memorial Day at the graves of Comrades who marched with us one year ago. At these graves we are reminded that our ranks here are rapidly thinning, and with each vacant place come new and weightier responsibilities.

Their work is done, their mission ended. To us, their comrades, is given the duty of keeping fresh and green their memories, of perpetuating and transmitting intact to posterity the country perfected by their sacrifices and sufferings. Resting from their labor