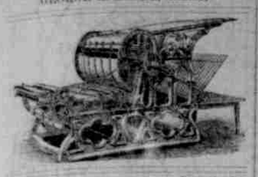
The Somerset Herald.

GEORGE R. SCULL, Editor.



WEDNESDAY.....June 15, 1887.

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION.

In pursuance of the rules governing the party, the Republicans of Somerset County will assemble at the usual places of holding general elections in each district, on

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1887,

and in the manner provided by said rules proceed to vote for candidates for the several following offices:

One person for Sheriff.
One person for Prothonotary.
One person for Register and Recorder.
One person for Treasurer.
Two persons for Commissioners.
One person for Poor House Director.
Two persons for Auditors.

The Committeemen will open the polls in all election districts at 8 o'clock a. m.

Attest— A. F. DOMER,
GEO. R. SCULL, Sec. Chm. *pro tem.*

Republican County Committee.

Following are the names of the Republican County Committee for the ensuing year:

Addison—Jeremiah Augustine.
Allegheny No. 1—Wm. Hillegas.
Allegheny No. 2—W. E. Boyts.
Berlin Borough—B. D. Morgan.
Brothersvalley—A. G. Kimmell.
Black—J. C. F. Miller.
Conemaugh—Isaac Yoder.
Confluence Borough—V. M. Black.
Elklick No. 1—Abraham L. Lowry.
Elklick No. 2—Sherman Peck.
Garrettville—J. D. Arnold.
Jefferson—David Gardner.
Jenner—F. G. Neff.
Jennerstown Borough—J. A. Kaylor.
Larimer—A. O. Real.
Lower Turkeyfoot—H. H. Rush.
Meyersdale Borough—A. F. Domer.
Middlecreek—Jacob Heckler.
Milford—John Hanna.
Northampton—E. G. Bowman.
New Centreville Borough—S. P. Tedrow.
Somerset Borough—Joseph Hankinson.
Paint—J. F. Ream.
Quemahoning—Wm. H. Miller.
Rockwood Borough—M. H. Hartzell.
Salisbury Borough—J. W. Ringler.
Shade—M. D. Reel.
Somerset Borough—J. S. Shafer.
Somerset No. 1—C. Dickey.
Somerset No. 2—M. Beam.
Southampton—Ismael Emerick.
Stonycreek—Albert Wright.
Stoystown Borough—C. W. Pugh.
Summit—S. M. Saylor.
Upper Turkeyfoot—Thos. L. Williams.
Ursina Borough—J. B. Jennings.
Wellersburg Borough—John G. Hiner.

GEO. R. SCULL, Secretary. A. F. DOMER, Ch'm. Pro. Tem.

June came in weeping.

Summer resorts are opening.

June 21st will be the longest day.

We've passed through the rainy season.

Alabastine for walls and ceilings, at Biesecker & Snyder's.

Fishing tackle at rock bottom prices, at Biesecker & Snyder's.

Cabinet Photographs are $1.50 per dozen at Weifleys Photograph Gallery.

You can get good Cabinet Photographs for $1.50 per dozen at Weifleys Photograph Gallery.

Go to Weifleys Photograph Gallery and get a dozen of Cabinet Photographs for a dollar and a half.

The man who couldn't tell the difference between a mule's ear and a lemon, can plainly see the advantages of buying his drugs of Biesecker & Snyder, after learning their prices.

We have on hand a large number of good brick which we will sell in quantities to suit the purchaser. Prices very reasonable. Yard opposite the planing mill.

HOLBROOK BROS. & PARSON.

The fact that M. M. Tredwell & Co. purchase the larger part of their stock from Hill Bros., the largest dealers in Millinery in New York city, is a guarantee to our customers as to styles and prices.

Wanted!

Hides, Furs, Bark. I will pay the highest cash prices for all kinds of hides, pelts and furs. I also want 500 cords of Rock Oak and Spruce bark.

H. G. CUNNINGHAM.

There has been such an unusual demand for Sailor Hats this season that some of the largest houses have exhausted their stocks. We were fortunate enough to secure an invoice which we will open early this week.

M. M. TREDWELL & CO.

MEAT MARKET.—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.

We have had such a rush in our Millinery Department that we were compelled to employ extra help, but with all that we make it a rule to disappoint none of our customers. Your orders will be filled on time.

M. M. TREDWELL & CO.

Great Reduction In Prices.

I will for the present time take a good Cabinet Photograph at $1.50 per dozen—But each of my patrons who desire to secure them at this very low price will do well to call soon, as these figures may only hold good for a limited time.

The latest Rapid Dry Plate process used for all work.

W. H. WEIFLEY, Somerset Pa.,

To the Farmers.

We have a large and exceptionally fine stock of fertilizers, prepared for the buckwheat season. We are fully prepared to accommodate one and all. We defy competition, and can positively undersell all other firms. Don't fail to give our goods a trial, our factory is open every day.

SOMERSET FERTILIZER COMPANY.

For Sale.

A house and lot corner Main Cross and South street, Somerset, for sale on payments to suit the purchaser. A desirable home for a family; a large roomy house and a full lot of ground, with choice fruit upon it. Price $1800. For particulars inquire at the residence, or write to Samuel Gaither Esq., Greensburgh, Pa.

Go to Fisher's Book Store

If you want to buy any handsome pictures to ornament your house. Go to Fisher's Book Store if you have any Pictures, Marriage Certificates, Diplomas, or anything else you want framed, take them to Fisher's Book Store. If you want to buy any Frames of any kind, go to Fisher's Book Store. Always recollect that the place to buy Pictures and Frames, and have Framing done, is at Fisher's Book Store.

The fullest and latest Summer styles are now in. There is everything beautiful and bright in the shape of Hats, Bonnets and Trimmings to select from. We are convinced we can please you in styles and prices. Give us a call.

M. M. TREDWELL & Co.

The clouds are leaky.

Even court house officials complain of the dullness of business about their offices.

It is estimated that the damage done to the Somerset & Cambria railroad by the late flood will agregate over $100,000.

Miss Leora C. Hay, who has been a student of the Akron, (O.) Art School for the past year, returned to her home in Somerset, Monday evening.

The HERALD is fifty years old to-day. With this issue it enters upon its fifty-first year and the thirty-sixth year under the control of its present editor.

Many of the candidates who were making a canvass of the county were penned up in different localities for from twenty-four to forty-eight hours by the flood.

Miss Marian Frease, daughter of Wm. B. Frease, who has been attending the Hagerstown, (Md.) Female College for the past three years, returned home Thursday last.

The graduating exercises of Prof. J. D. Meese's Preparatory School, will take place at Sliver's Hall, Meyersdale, Thursday afternoon. F. J. Kooser, Esq., will deliver the annual address.

The necessary blanks and tickets for holding the Republican primary election have been printed and are being placed in the hands of the Committeemen in the various voting precincts.

Mr. J. O. Stoner, Chairman of the Prohibition County Committee, has issued a call for a County Convention, to meet at Berlin on August 29th, for the purpose of nominating a county ticket.

The Attorney General has decided that the recent act exempting pleasure carriages, watches and household furniture from all taxation goes into effect at once, and relieves them from taxaton for 1887.

The county commissioners started out on Tuesday morning to visit the flooded district with a view of ascertaining the amount of damage done to county bridges by the flood and to arrange for repairing and rebuilding wherever needed.

Among the "sweet girl graduates" this year are Miss Emma Baer, daughter of Judge Baer, and Miss Maine Uhl, daughter of John H. Uhl, Esq. Both young ladies have been students at the Wesleyan Female Institute, of Staunton, Va., for two years past and graduated with high honors last week.

Mr. Joseph Imhoff, of Berlin, while engaged with a number of other men in scoring timber on Simon P. Fritz's farm last Tuesday, was accidentally struck between the eyes by an ax in the hands of a fellow-workman. The wound inflicted was a painful and serious one.

Those who have trade dollars and have not yet had them redeemed should attend to the matter of redemption at once. After the first of July they will not be honored by the Government and all out after that date will be worth only their weight in bullion. This is important.

The New York *Tribune* says: "Pine-apples are plentiful, and always a favorite fruit. People who cut them for the table with a knife, however, defraud themselves. Tearing the inside into shreds with a fork, and sprinkling the shredded fruit with powdered sugar sometime before eating, is the only way to enjoy a pine-apple in its perfection."

A large force of hands have been at work on the Somerset & Cambria Railroad ever since Wednesday morning repairing the damage done to the road bed and bridges by the flood. A construction train was sent from Connellsville via the Pennsylvania Railroad, so they have forces at work at both ends. The work is kept up day and night and it is thought trains can pass over the entire road by to-morrow evening and that passenger trains will be running as usual by Friday.

Marriage Licenses were granted to the following named persons by Clerk Shafer since our last report:

John H. Shaffer, of Somerset, and Julia A. Lehman of Bedford county.

Alfred W. Kinsey and Mary M. Wolford, both of Ligonier, Westmoreland county.

Lincoln A. Martz and Laura Berger both of Westmoreland county.

Charles B. Glessner and Rebecca K. Lowry both of Stonycreek township.

Wesley B. Griffith and Martha Berkey both of Jenner township.

William Dahl and Mattie Matchison both of Cumberland, Md.

What might have proved a shocking accident was unaccountably prevented last Saturday evening, when the children of the Methodist Sunday-school were assembled in the church rehearsing for the next day's floral exercises. The pastor, Rev. Appleton Bash, had just lit the last lamp in the large chandelier hanging from the ceiling when the chandelier, with all the flowers and ferns with which it had been draped for the occasion, came tumbling down into the aisle below, breaking into ten thousand pieces. Rev. Bash, who was standing almost directly under it was struck on the head by one and on the shoulder by another arm of the chandelier and was slightly bruised. Fortunately every one of the dozen lights was extinguished in the fall, and a conflagration averted. The pews on either side of the centre aisle were filled with children, and in the midst of them crashed the iron rod, an inch in diameter and fifteen feet long, that had suspended the chandelier from the ceiling above, escaping all of them in its fall. The accident was the result of carelessness on the part of the persons who put up the chandelier, only a common bolt and nut being used to hold it in place.

At the Democratic primary election held Saturday, Mr. Charles W. Williamson, of Shade township was nominated for County Commissioner, and John Gehring, of Milford township for Auditor. There were only 1393 votes polled of which Williamson received 439, Uhl 338 and Stahl 222 for Commissioner. For Auditor, Gehring received 524 votes, W. A. Miller 279, J. D. Miller 402. At the County Convention held in the Court House Monday afternoon the following ticket was placed in nomination: Prothonotary, F. B. Collins, of Berlin; Sheriff, G. W. Baush, Jr., of Quemahoning township; Register and Recorder, F. J. Gillespie, of New Baltimore; Treasurer, Jacob Hoffman, of Jenner township; Commissioner, Charles W. Williamson, of Shade township; Poor House Director, Jacob S. Phillippi, of Milford township; Auditor, John Gehring, of Milford township. A. H. Coffroth, Jr., was re-elected Chairman of the County Committee and H. L. Baer, Esq., and C. H. Fisher, were elected delegates to the State Convention, which meets in Allentown in August.

The loss to the County in the destruction and damage done to bridges by the late flood will not be less than $25,000.00 and may be $35,000.00. The Commissioners have received notice of the following bridges having been entirely destroyed:

Covered bridge at Bethel, 170 feet long. Built in 1865 at a cost of $1244.00.

Iron bridge at Duff's, Quemahoning township, 115 feet long. Built in 1882 at a cost of $3150.00.

Covered bridge at Trostle's mill, in Quemahoning township.

Trostle Mill Branch bridge in Quemahoning township, length 68 feet. Built in 1875 at a cost of $735.00.

Mostoller covered bridge in Quemahoning township, length 150 feet. Built in 1858. Cost about $3000.00.

Gardner bridge in Jefferson township. Cost about $500.00.

Jacob Zimmerman bridge in Quemahoning township.

James Kimmell bridge in Quemahoning township.

Covered bridge at David Penrod's, in Quemahoning township.

In addition to the above there were a number of other bridges destroyed while a great many others were badly damaged.

THE DELUGE.

THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD THAT EVER VISITED SOMERSET COUNTY.

Hooversville and Bethel Completely Submerged—Immense Damage to Property Along the Banks of the Stonycreek—The County Loses Heavily in Bridges.

JOHNSTOWN SUFFERS SEVERELY.

In last week's HERALD we gave an account of the immense rainfall and of the unprecedentedly high water, but at the time of writing the article Tuesday afternoon, we had no idea of the extent of the flood, or of the great destruction of property then going on in different sections of the county, especially in the northern end, along the banks of the Stonycreek. The first intimation we had was about half-past six o'clock Tuesday evening, after the HERALD had gone to press, when a telegram was received from Johnstown stating that a portion of the Kernville bridge had been washed away and that a large portion of the city was under water. The telegraph wires were down along the line of the Somerset & Cambria Railroad and no news could be obtained from the north of the county. The north-bound train on the S. & C. R. R. arrived here on time Wednesday morning and a number of persons took passage for Johnstown and other points—little dreaming at the time that it would be weeks before a passenger could be carried over the S. & C. between Somerset and Johnstown. The train got as far as Geiger's station when it encountered a landslide and had to return to Rockwood. A repair gang was at once put to work to remove the ground from the railroad track and to put the telegraph wires in position. The trains from the east and west were all greatly delayed Tuesday and no mail was received at Somerset till late in the evening. The telegraph wires were gotten into position Wednesday when it was learned that almost every railroad bridge between Somerset and Johnstown had been carried away or badly wrecked and that it would take at least ten days to get the track in condition to run a train over it. For several days there was no mail service between Somerset and Friedens, Stoystown, Hooversville and other towns in the north end of the county. The HERALDS for that section were sent out Wednesday by special carriers. Postmaster Coffroth has since made arrangements for mail service for that end of the county.

From all sections North, East, and West of Somerset stories of high water and bridges being washed away came in. In Jefferson township a large county bridge that had been standing for many years was swept away. In Somerset, Jenner, Quemahoning, Stonycreek, Conemaugh and Paint townships the greatest damage was done, but between Somerset and Bethel, particularly along the Stonycreek, the destruction was the greatest.

At an early hour Friday morning a HERALD correspondent accompanied by several other gentlemen started to drive over the flooded district and the following is a part of what they saw and heard:

The bridge on the Somerset and Stoystown road that spans the small stream at Philip Cupps had been carried away, and the fields and meadows bordering the stream had been under several feet of water and the growing crops badly damaged.

At Friedens the S. & C. Railroad was badly washed out and a small bridge carried away.

At Mostoller's station the large covered county bridge was carried away. At this place was located the Johnstown Lumber Company's saw mill and boom. The boom was filled with hundreds of logs, and when it broke they dashed down the stream with such force as to completely carry away one of the iron railroad bridges a short distance below and to move two others from their piers. The saw mill was badly wrecked. The loss of the company is very heavy.

At Spruce town Mr. Joseph Specht was the heaviest loser. His pig-pen, chicken house and other outbuildings were carried away together with a new blacksmith shop which had just been fitted out with new tools the evening before. Sixty chickens were in the coop when it floated away. He managed to drive his pigs out of the pen and save them. His new store room, and cellar under it were flooded, and many valuable goods destroyed. His grist mill was badly damaged and by reason of the fore bay breaking it will be some time before he will be able to operate it again. He estimates his loss at $2500.00.

The David Penrod bridge, a covered county bridge eighty feet long, about one-fourth of a mile east of Stoystown was carried off as was also the bridge at Trostle's mill. The Trostle's branch bridge was knocked from its abutments but is still standing.

The county bridge at Jacob Zimmerman's, near Stoystown, was destroyed as was also the county bridge at James Kimmell's, about three-fourths of a mile east of Stoystown.

The large iron railroad bridge between Spruce town and Hooversville was considerably damaged. Several of the large stones were washed out of the piers and the middle section of the bridge was moved from four to five feet.

Hooversville suffered the greatest loss and damage, and the once beautiful and thriving little village presented to the view of the reporter a scene of such utter desolation as he rarely if ever before witnessed. The town is built on a sandy bottom, flanked on the west by an abrupt hill and bounded on the north, south and east by the Stonycreek, which at this point is a stream of considerable dimensions. The railroad runs along the foot of the hill, and is a considerable distance above the level of the town. The houses, from sixty to seventy-five in number, were mostly well built frame structures, neatly painted and surrounded by pleasant yards and well kept and cultivated gardens. To-day there is scarcely a dwelling house in the town that stands securely on its foundation. There is not a stable in the town. The smaller outbuildings are tumbled around in every conceivable shape and direction. Almost every vestige of garden, yard, tree and shrub has been swept away. There are great holes or gulleys washed in the streets, especially those in the neighborhood of the river, rendering them impassable. In many places the street and division lines are completely obliterated, the sandy soil being washed away clear down to the rock.

The water rose so rapidly and rushed over the town so suddenly and with such resistless force that the inhabitants did not have time to remove anything from their houses and it was with great difficulty that many of them got to places of safety. Most of them rushed across the bridge to high land. The water was at its highest at 10 o'clock and began to subside about twenty minutes afterwards.

A number of thrilling and narrow escapes from death were made. Mr. Isaiah Crissey, in attempting to cross the street from the shop in which he was working to his uncle's house, which stood on high land, was carried off his feet by the force of the water and was rescued by Mr. Grant Rodgers, who occupied a position on a high fence and grabbed him by the hand as he was being carried by; together they managed to get to a place of safety.

Mr. S. S. Swank, in attempting to get a pet shot-gun from his shop as the building floated past his dwelling house was thrown into the water and came near drowning. He saved the gun, but that is about all he did save.

A horse belonging to a Mrs. Rodgers was hurried to the stable of Mr. Jacob Koontz and tied in a stall. A few moments afterwards the stable floated off and went crashing against the iron railroad bridge with such force as to break it in many pieces. Everything disappeared under the bridge, and it was thought of course the horse was drowned. Towards evening a small boy came riding into the village on the animal and stated that he had found him about a mile below the town, on the river bank, calmly eating hay from a portion of a hay rack to which his halter was tied.

The following are among those who suffered the greatest loss at Hoover-ville:

Mr. A. B. Clark's blacksmith shop and ware-room, a building about 22x80, with all the tools in the shop and goods in the ware-room were carried away, as was also another building owned by him, about 10x20 feet, in which he had stored a large quantity of agricultural implements, such as mowers, drillers, hay rakes, etc. The water flooded the floor of his hardware store to the depth of several feet and destroyed great quantities of goods. The damage done to his buildings and goods amounts to about $2500.00.

Mr. I. P. Dull, grocery store, $650.00.

P. J. & A. Blough, dealers in general merchandise, $2500.00. A warehouse building 20x30 feet filled with goods owned by this firm was also carried away.

A two-story frame dwelling house owned by Mr. John J. Miller and occupied by the families of P. J. Blough and Noah Crissey was carried off, with everything in it. It was well and comfortably furnished. Among other articles of furniture in it was a handsome cabinet organ owned by Mr. Blough.

Lieut. S. S. Swank's loss is about $3000.00. His blacksmith shop, stable, and all of his outbuildings, with their contents, were carried away. Every tree, vine and bit of shrubbery in his large yard was destroyed, as well as most of his household furniture. On his lot were two wells; one of them was filled with stones, sand and rubbish even with the ground and the other one within a few feet of the ground. The above are only a few of the citizens of this town who lost heavily by the flood.

The iron railroad bridge below the town was badly damaged, but was left standing on its piers.

The fury of the flood struck Holsopple (or Bethel) at 9 o'clock. The water rose five feet in ten minutes. At one time there were sixteen feet of water over the entire village between the railroad and the river. The following is a list of the property destroyed: The U. B. Church, loss $1,000, including Mr. Wilson Cramer's organ, which he had in the Sunday school; B. F. Stull, store, stable, wagon shed, harness, etc., loss $1,500; the mill property (Berkey & Stull), damaged $1,000; Lewis Hensel, store goods and household goods, $300; Emanuel Eash, house occupied by Lewis Hensel, outbuildings, warehouse, and stable, $400; Henry Rish, blacksmith and wagonmaker shop, $300; Isaac Paul, cabinet-maker, $300; Henry Custer, stables, lot of cut lumber, etc., $1,200; Whistler property, occupied by Harvey Findley and Wilson Cramer, damaged $300; Harvey Findley, wagons, etc., $200; Wilson Barmer household goods, $100; J. A. Boyer, two wagons and other property, $300; E. M. Berkey, stable, etc., $400; C. C. Holsopple, lot and outbuildings, $300; D. J. Leham, stable and outbuildings, $200. All stock, chickens, outbuildings, fences, etc., were swept away. Jacob Roudabush, lot damaged $50. The damage as given above is about $8,850. The covered county bridge of this place was carried away and the railroad bridge was badly damaged.

The race that feeds Berkey & Stull's large grist mill is supplied from the river at a point north of the town of Bethel, and running directly through the centre of the town empties into the river south of the town, thus making an island of a considerable portion of the town. Between the race and the river the ground slopes toward the river. When the race overflowed, as it did soon after the waters began to rise, those living south of it were completely hemmed in between the race and river. Mr. Sam Berkey, the stalwart and jolly miller who lives on the upper side of the race, ran to his house and secured a pair of stout leather lines and with them drew the citizens south of the race across it one by one to a place of safety. Mr. Lewis Helson was one of the unfortunate ones who were hemmed in; he had a gold watch and chain on his person. Before attempting to cross the race he tried to throw the watch and chain to a friend on the other side. It fell short, and was carried away by the water.

At both Bethel and Hooversville everything edible was destroyed and the pangs of hunger were making themselves keenly felt on Wednesday morning, when kind hearted farmers from the surrounding country drove into the towns with wagon loads of provisions.

Every mountain stream that drains into the Stonycreek seems to have been converted into a torrent, sweeping bridges from their piers and overleaping their banks, leveling fences and growing crops in all directions.

Mr. James M. Cover, of Jenner X Roads had about 1000 railroad ties along the banks of the different streams in Jenner township, that flow into the Stonycreek, intending to float them to Johnstown. They were all carried away but he succeeded in recovering most of them along the banks of the river between Hooversville and Johnstown.

During the entire drive from Somerset to Bethel, by way of Stoystown and Hooversville, and home again by way of Davidsville, and Jenner X Roads, the same scene presented itself. Wherever there was a stream of any kind, bridges and fences were gone, and crops damaged. The roads were in a terrible condition, but the township supervisors had gone to work with commendable zeal, and were rapidly repairing the worst damaged places, and rendering them at least passable. Farmers were making and repairing fences on all sides, or removing logs, ties and driftwood from their fields and meadows.

THE FLOOD AT JOHNSTOWN.

The following account of how the flood struck Johnstown is taken from the *Tribune* of that place of Tuesday, June 7th:

The flood from up the Stonycreek in Somerset county reached Johnstown about noon, the water rising steadily and rapidly for several hours. Before noon the roadway leading to Cambria was flooded, and for the time being the rule requiring tickets of admission to the mill yard was abrogated, that being the only available route to and from that borough, and many people taking advantage of it.

There it was, it appears, that the flood was first felt in this vicinity. Between 12 and 1 o'clock, however, the water began to flood the Seventh, Fourth, First, Second, and Third wards, and about quarter till 1 o'clock the south sidewalk of the Kernville bridge was carried away. There was then a depth of about fourteen feet in the channel, and the water was still rising fast.

Shortly before 1 o'clock the water began coming down Bedford street to Main, rendering the crossings impassable, and at the same time began to run out Franklin street in considerable volume, which was steadily augmented until about 3 o'clock, when the flood began to subside.

The tremendous volume of water and its burden of driftwood, logs, bridges, etc. swept down upon the Johnstown Lumber Company's boom, just south af town, about noon and the boom, which up to that time had withstood all the assaults made upon it, broke, and away the whole mass went, sweeping, rushing, crushing down the stream. The advance of logs in the boom scattered as they got into the open stream, and they floated under Kernville bridge without doing it any damage.

Then came one bridge after another, until the three large ones and several small ones spoken of above had all gone by, and still the Kernville bridge was not moved. But presently a large mass of logs, trees, stumps, and sections of bridges drifted down against the structure, the water which was then surging and beating up against the bridge floor carried them under it, and crash! went a section of the bridge floor and a portion of the iron frame-work. Other timbers, buildings, etc., as they were swept under the bridge, did further damage to it, and for a time it seemed as if the entire structure would be dislodged and destroyed.

The logs from the boom and driftwood of every sort that had gathered in it kept sweeping down in a consecutive mass for at least an hour and a-half. There were beds and baby cradles, barrels, buckets, chairs, tubs, bundles of straw, a small haystack, outhouses, sections of paling fence, and almost everything else that one can think of, dancing and bobbing on the yellow flood.

About half-past 1 o'clock the number of logs and other things passing down began decreasing, and the flood seemed to have reached its highest, the water becoming nearly stationary. Then people began to have some ground for hope that the worst was over.

In this city cellars without number were flooded and many houses inundated. It is impossible to-day to form any correct idea of the extent of damage done either here or up the Stonycreek. The section of this city over which the flood spread to any considerable depth lies below Franklin street. Some parts of the South Side also suffered considerably.

After the Kernville bridge became impassable the people from the South Side who wanted to cross the rivers used the P. R. R. iron bridge, until about 4 o'clock, when the water had sufficiently subsided to render an investigation of the Kernville bridge, which investigation proved that the footway on the upper or south side of the structure was safe enough for use.

The Cambria bridge was submerged. The Company run loaded cars on it to hold it down.

The residents on Iron street suffered materially, the water being half-way up the windows of the first stories. The same state of affairs existed on Water street, South Side.

A wagon loaded with little children was upset, but none of the little ones were drowned.

A double-decked chicken-cook with a monster rat on guard, attracted a great deal of attention. The rat ran from one end to the other of the roof, and occasionally squatted like a squirrel at dinner or an old man at prayer and wondered what the Bible meant when it said there never would be another deluge. Thousands of eyes were on the rat when the coop struck the bridge and the rat disappeared beneath the raging torrent. Simultaneously, as if in response to a touch from the wand of Harlequin, off goes the roof and up jumps a brood of chickens which had floated off while asleep on the roost and had taken a dry swim down the creek from their up-country home. The crowd yelled and the chickens ducked their compliments in return.

Among the remarkable escapes during the flood was that of Rev. DeLong and family. About 1 o'clock P. M. the water was running around the U. B. church and parsonage, on Vine street, to the depth of two or three feet. Dr. Beam, John Thomas, and others, seeing the imminence of the danger threatening the parsonage building, waded into the house, and, having secured a hack, loaded the helpless invalid and his family, who were taken to the residence of John Thomas, where they are now being cared for.

Items from Over the County.

Mr. Albert Brant, of Gebharts, says he is happy—it's a boy.

Valentine Blough, of Somerset township, is building a new addition to his house.

R. R. Roberts, of the firm of Lane & Roberts, Rockwood, reports business improving.

S. R. Critchfield, of Rockwood, says he is doing a big business in tan bark. Ready sales and ready cash.

M. R. Bowman, Champion agent for Jas. B. Holderbaum, reports about fifty sales of Champion machines.

Mr. Samuel Buckman, Rockwood's hotel man, has gone to Cumberland to rent a hotel. If he does not succeed, he contemplates buying the B. & O. Railroad.

The funeral services of Sarah Mowry, quite an old lady of near Sipesville, were conducted by Rev. Sell, of Stoystown, on Friday last. Her remains were interred in the burial ground at Casebeer's church.

C. C. Schrock, treasurer of Somerset county, is laying the foundation for a new barn. Jere Rhoads, Daniel Miller, Norman B. Penrod and John Custer are the masons. Mr. Lincoln H. Stern is the boss carpenter.

Mr. John Hay, of Rockwood, last week had a very sick horse, it being his favorite pony. Mr. Samuel Bowser, the venerable horse doctor, was sent for, and Mr. Hay thinks that his pony will be all right in a few days. Samuel understands his business, and any one in need of a horse doctor should give him a call.

On Friday last Mr. Jacob Pile, of Sipesville, raised his large new barn, 40x80 feet, Mr. John J. Darr being the architect. Quite a large crowd was in attendance, and they manifested the greatest enthusiasm in the work. The ladies performed their part of the work in a manner of taste and style highly creditabe to them. The tables fairly groaned under the weight of good things placed upon them.

Mr. William Brubaker, residing four miles north of Somerset, raised his new barn 40x86 feet, last week. Mr. Lincoln H. Stern, of Sipesville, who is the architect and builder, is entitled to much credit for the complete manner in which he performed his work. The proprietor, Mr. W. Brubaker, showed that he possesses the happy faculty of being just where he was needed in every emergency, and a more willing set of hands we have never seen anywhere. And we must not forget to say a word in praise of the ladies for the manner in which they performed their part of the work. The tables fairly groaned under the weight of good things provided for the inner man, which were gotten up in a style to suit the most fastidious. There were about one hundred men and fifty women on the ground. Only three candidates, and one machine agent.

NOT OFTEN.

Black Township Items.

Plenty of rain and mud, and high water.

A. H. Oler last week lost his fine Percheron colt.

All hands seem to have reconciled themselves to the hard facts on the license question.

Crops look fine in this township, but we account for it because we are a new township.

The candidates are the pleasantest looking people who visit this section, but they always forget to set up the cigars.

Bob Parker has quit the mason's trade, and contemplates erecting a summer resort at his beautiful sand spring. We wish him abundant success.

Bark pealing is over, and trout fishing has commenced. Noah Phillippi wears the belt; on Monday he caught sixty-two, measuring from eight to twelve inches in length.

Bernard Heinbaugh and family have returned from Kansas, and he has resumed his old trade of farming. He says farming is too hard work here, and he will return to the west again.

Mr. Johnson, of Braddock, has been spending a few days along our mountain streams, fishing for "speckled beauties." The high water was against him, but he succeeded in capturing quite a large number.

OCCASIONAL.

The State Teachers' Association will this year be held July 5th, 6th and 7th, 1887, in Clearfield, a beautiful town nestled in the western foot-hills of the Alleghenies. Heretofore the Association has been held in the cities, but the extreme heat suggested the cool retreat of the mountains.

This Association comprises the leading College men, State Normal Principals, Superintendents and Teachers of the State, and its discussions are always able and dignified and in the interest of improved legislation and methods of instruction.

The excursion up the Bell's Gap Railroad and on to Cresson Springs will be a delightful one. It will be had on Friday, July 8th. All persons desiring to visit Clearfield during this meeting should address J. Fletcher Sickel, Ticket Agent, Germantown Pa., and secure orders for special rates of excursion.

Hearing Restored after Ten Years Deafness.

Edward, son of Mr. Jerome Knable of Johnstown Pa. had scarlet fever when three years of age, resulting in purulent discharge from both ears and great deafness.

For the past two years the discharges have entirely ceased, and his hearing has been permanently restored, under the treatment of Dr. Sadler the Oculist and Aurist of Pittsburgh. His son Milton was also cured of catarrh and deafness by Dr. Sadler, 804 Penn Avenue.

Our Schools.

In view of recent legislation affecting the common schools of our county, it may not be improper, at this time, to state, briefly, the changes that seem to be necessitated by the new laws, so that there may be intelligent and harmonious action on the part of those who are directly interested in the management of our local, normal and public schools.

STATE APPROPRIATION.

The Legislature has appropriated *One and a Half Million Dollars* to the common Schools. This is an increase of *Half a Million* over former appropriations, and the districts will receive fifty per cent. more money from the State treasury than heretofore: This is evidently a step in the right direction, and we believe the people will make such additional provisions for the schools as the circumstances of the individual districts will permit and make such advancement in the cause of popular education, as this substantial aid on the part of the State merits.

A SIX MONTHS' SCHOOL TERM.

The Legislature has also passed, and Governor Beaver has approved, the bill to increase the minimum school term to *Six Months*. The law is of course mandatory within the conditions and limitations specified in the act, and Directors are required to see that it's provisions are carried into effect.

The question has been asked, whether the six months can be devided into two terms and teachers employed for each term, independently of the other. The Department of Public Instruction answers this question definitely by saying: "The law contemplates one continuous term under the same teacher." This does not, however, interfere with the granting of such vacations as may be deemed for the best interests of the schools.

The increase of the State appropriation will go far towards meeting the expense incurred by the additional month, so that the increase of local taxation will be very slight. Teachers may be paid the same, or even higher salaries, and the tax-payers will hardly know the difference; while they secure a longer school term, and its natural results more efficient teachers, better schools, and increased facilties for the education of the boys and girls *at home*.

In support of the new enactment, State Supperintendent Higbee says: "There will "be more money in the State treasury after a "while, and the best argument that can be "offered to induce still larger appropriations "hereafter, will be an intelligent and cheer-"ful compliance with the law, as a recogni-"tion of the liberal spirit in which the pres-"ent increase was made."

"The respective School Boards have this "matter largely in their own hands, and it is "for them to show how much public spirit "they possess and how much interest they "feel in the cause of education. If they re-"duce taxes by just the amount of the in-"crease of appropriation, and do nothing to "improve the schools, nor add to teachers' "work the incentive of better pay, then a "most powerful argument will be furnished "to the next Legislature, to take off the extra "half million instead of doubling it."

THE INSTITUTE LAW.

By the provisions of the act approved April 13, 1887, Directors are authorized and required to pay the teachers employed in the common schools for attendance upon the county Institute. Such compensation shall not be less than the *per diem* pay for actual teaching, but shall in no case exceed two dollas per day, and shall be allowed and paid for each day's attendance reported by the county Superintendent. The law further provides that a school month shall consist of twenty days actual teaching, as heretofore.

This is a public recognition of the importance of county institutes in schoolwork, and a legal endorsement of their practical benefit to teachers. Nothing has marked more clearly, the progress of educational interest in Somerset county, than the rapid and substantial development of our Institutes during late years. Probably no one week in the whole school-year has been spent to better advantage, and from which teachers, directors and patrons, have received directly and indirectly, a greater benefit, than the week spent in annual sessions at the county seat. And now that the State recognizes their value and gives financial aid it is earnestly expected that the Institutes will continue to be solid weeks of useful, practical instruction and profitable entertainment. To this end, we believe that every effort will be put forth by those who have a part in its work, or a share in its benefit.

TIME FOR OPENING SCHOOLS.

All districts that heretofore have had a term of less than six months, will, as a matter of course, open their schools earlier, or continue them later, or both as may be deemed for the best interests of the individual districts. There is no special need or demand for uniformity in this matter. As a rule, however, a six month's term, ought to begin not later than the first week in October, and in many localities, it may be advisable to begin two or three weeks earlier

The Superintendent suggests that the time of opening be determined as early as possible and that he be informed of the time agreed upon, so that the examinaitons of teachers in the various parts of the county may be held in due time.

EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS.

A number of local Normal Schools are now in progress in the county, and in harmony with an established custom, an examination will be held at the close of each, as follows:

Rockwood, June 17; Meyersdale, June 18; Stoystown, June 23; Somerset, June 24; Ursina, July 1.

These examinations, as all others regularly announced, will be opened to the general public, and all persons interested are invited to be present.

The regular fall examinations will necessarily be held earlier than heretofore, as the time for opening the public schools will doubtless require such a change.

It is too early to give exact dates, but it is safe to presume that most, or all, of the examinations will be held between the 1st and the 20th of September. Full and definite announcements will be made in due time.

For the information of those who expect to be candidates for examination, it may be well to state:

1. The examinations will be chiefly written, and applicants will be prepared accordingly.

2. The regular hours will be from 8 to 11:30 A. M. and from 1 to 4:30 P. M.

3. As a rule, only such as have teaching in view, either immediately or remotely will be admitted to examination.

4. All who shall be found to possess the proper qualifications, with regard to scholarship, age, and professional attainments, will receive *Teachers'* certificates; all others certificates of *Scholarship*, only.

5. All certificates issued will be graded on the same scale.

NORMAL SCHOOLS.

Quite a number of local Normal Schools will be open during the months of July, August and September. It is earnestly expected that all who intend to be examined in the fall will attend one of these schools. The term will likely be a short one, yet much good work may be done by those who attend the full term and put forth their best efforts.

It may be advisable to hold all our County Normals, in the future, during the spring months—April, May, and June. This would give to students and teachers the benefit of a longer term, and better facilities for going beyond the common branches. It would give the Superintendent more time to hold examinations; the teachers, a longer period in which to secure schools; and Directors, a better opportunity to employ the best available teachers. This is a matter, however, that can probably be better determined after another term of public school.

PREPARATION OF TEACHERS.

Teachers will receive much of the benefit of the new school legislation, and it is for them to make it of equal benefit to those for whom and with whom they may be called to labor. This is an age of progress—educational progress—and if teachers would worthily hold their places in the ranks, they, too, must advance. They are the leaders of the educational forces, and therefore it is their part to lead the way to a higher appreciation of the value and the power of good teaching, and good schools. Let their first duty be to make themselves efficient as teachers, and worthy of employment, and good positions, at fair wages will await them.

To spend a week or two every year to get ready for the examination is hardly sufficient; for that does not indicate progress. But constant study, thorough scholarship, liberal culture, and a professional zeal that ever points onward and upward—these are the characteristics of a true teacher. *Then let us hope and work for advancement, first in ourselves as teachers, then in the wages and in the schools.*

Let young persons who would seek to enter the profession be encouraged, for we will need them by and by, and with faithful study and diligent effort, they may attain to an honorable place in the teachers' ranks. Let those who have taught continue to improve themselves, that they may be prepared to meet the ever growing demands that will be made of teachers everywhere.

CONCLUSION.

And now, having presented these few suggestions, as present circumstances seemed to require, I would add that they are given not in the spirit of official direction or dictation, but rather to suggest the proper line of action by those for whom they are intended. But whatever advancement we may be required or permitted to make in the school-work of our county, let us take the steps promptly, willingly, cheerfully—always forward—never backward.

Whatever new laws we may be called upon to put into operation, even though they may *seem* to be in advance of our needs, let us accept and endorse them, with the same educational interest that prompted the people's representatives to give them to us. And thus by united and harmonious action of all the educational forces may we hope to secure the fullest benefits of the public school system.

Respectfully submitted
J. M. BERKEY.

BERLIN, PA., June 10, 1887.

NEW LAWS

Signed by Gov. Beaver Since Our Last Report.

Permitting the stockholders of corporations to determine the number of directors and the time for holding annual elections of officers; supplement to an act of April 4, 1868, authorizing the formation and regulation of railroad