The Someset Herald.

GEORGE R. SCULL, Editor.

WEDNESDAY.....June 8, 1892.

Pimples are over dew this season.

Go to Benford's drug store for wall paper.

Wall and ceiling papers at Benford's drug store.

Eye glasses for old and young at Snyder's drug store.

The bread of dependence is warranted never to produce dyspepsia.

Are you going to paper your walls this season? If so, go to Benford's

Wall paper of all the latest patterns and newest shades at Benford's drug store.

A turnip seed increases its own weight fifteen times a minute when growing.

New Millinery Goods coming almost daily. They are cheap.

MRS. A. E. UHL.

"The rare days of June" have a curiously heavy and sodden atmosphere this season.

Every month the school children of Pottstown deposit about $750 in the savings bank.

Pennsylvania has 406 postmistresses, which is the largest number of any state in the Union.

If June keeps it up as it has done so far, the month will be as marked for deluges as was May.

"Ah, there! I'm stuck on you," remarked the fly, as he struggled in the boarding-house butter dish.

Burglars stole all the carpet from the Episcopal church in Lancaster, and the supposed culprits have been caught.

The most handsome line of Millinery Goods in the County and the largest variety at the lowest prices.

MRS. A. E. UHL.

An Arkansas cook recently used arsenic in place of soda. It was a miserable act, but it brought the whole house down.

Having been refused food a tramp for revenge, set fire to and burned Grunville Torry's barn near York, this week.

When a man declares that he's feeling down will he probably means he is enjoying what is known as rude health.

The Johnstown teamsters have organized themselves into a society and will charge four dollars per day for a two-horse team.

Deputy State Superintendent of Public Schools, Henry Houck, of Lebanon, was badly hurt in jumping from a train at Gilmerville.

Lancaster county assessors have completed their returns and place the county's real estate at $85,000,000, and money at interest nearly $23,000,000.

The author of "Ta-ra-ra-boom de-ay" has been discovered in Arizona. The Sheriff is using all his persuasion against a mob of citizens and a rope.

"You might just as well be out of the world as be out of the style," is an old saying. You can only get the latest styles at Mrs. Kate B. Coffroth's.

There is some fear expressed among the farmers that there will be a small crop of corn this year owing to the continued heavy rains during the past month.

The State Teacher's Association will hold its annual meeting at Beaver, July 5, 6, and 7. Governor Pattison will preside the second day and make an address on popular education.

The Buzzard, one of the celebrated gang made up chiefly of the Buzzard brothers, of Lancaster, has been released from the Eastern Penitentiary after serving a term of 12 years.

Sarsaparilla belongs to the smilax family of plants, and is found very generally over the American continent; but the variety that is richest in medicinal properties is the Honduras root, of which the famous Ayer's Sarsaparilla is made.

Readers of the HERALD should not forget that J. N. Snyder, the druggist, can fit their eye with glasses as well as any optician. He has had five or six years experience in handling Dr. King's.

Some time during last Saturday night burglars gained entrance to a boarding house at Crabtree, Westmoreland county, and chloroforming the inmates, succeeded in carrying off a trunk in which was some $650 in money belonging to the proprietor.

Mrs. Harriet A. Marble, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., was for years a martyr to headache, and never found anything to give her more than temporary relief until she began to take Ayer's Pills, since which she has been in the enjoyment of perfect health.

Go to Geo. W. Benford's drug store and take a look at the handsomest line of wall paper ever brought to Somerset, before you make your purchases this spring. He has a complete stock of all the very latest designs and his prices are the lowest in town

Good roads cannot be built for nothing and they cannot be maintained without intelligent supervision. But wherever they have been constructed they soon pay for themselves twice over, putting two or three dollars in the farmer's pocket for every one they take out.

"Where did you get that hat?" is often heard among the boys on the streets who are up to all the slang of the day. The same exclamation is quite common among the most refined ladies when they see a hat from Mrs. Kate B. Coffroth's. It's style takes their eye, don't you know.

It is hardly necessary to inform the ladies of Somerset county that warm weather has arrived. All who put their heads out of the house this week can see that for themselves but it is necessary to inform them that the best place in Somerset county to buy their spring and summer millinery, and ladies' furnishing goods, is at Mrs. Kate B. Coffroth's.

Two companies of the famous "Bucktail" regiment in the Union army came from the lumber regions along the West branch of the Susquehanna river. They built two large log rafts, hoisted a flag at both ends and sailed down to Harrisburg upon those primitive craft. A small portion of one raft is still at Harrisburg and it may be exhibited at the World's Fair.

A Hungarian named Koresch was drowned in the Standard reservoir at Mt. Pleasant, Tuesday evening. He went into the water to bathe and was seized with cramps. His companions were too badly frightened to lend him any assistance until too late. Bathing is forbidden in the reservoir, but the Huns had gained an entrance by tearing some palings from the high fence enclosing the water.

A. K. Snyder, proprietor of the Washington House at Alsace, Berks county, a few days ago demolished an historic bake oven that stood on his premises. It had been built in Revolutionary days, and there is a well-grounded tradition which says that part of the flour contributed to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge by Robert Morris, the Philadelphia philanthropist, was baked into bread for the soldiers in that old oven.

### Blown up By Dynamite.

PITTSBURG, June 4.—About 1 o'clock this morning an explosion of dynamite occurred at Kensington, Pa., in the house of J. K. Turner, a jeweler. Two persons were killed outright. They are J. K. Turner, jeweler, and Miss Emma Scheffer, of Emlenton, Pa. The wife and two children of Turner were badly injured.

That the house was blown up deliberately seems certain, as Mr. Turner was never known to have dynamite in his dwelling or store. The explosion was of great force, breaking windows and doors at some distance. A has posse been organized, and is now endeavoring to find some clue to the fiend who caused the explosion.

Quite a number of Johnstowners spent Sunday in Somerset.

Messrs. S. F. and W. W. Picking, of Chicago, are spending a few days in Somerset.

Dr. Bell, of Sipesville, had a valuable cow struck by lightning in Thursday night's storm.

Judge Longenecker will hold a special argument court in Somerset Wednesday of next week.

Mrs. Robert Walter, of Wellington, Kansas, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Robert R. Roberts.

Mr. John F. Blymyer, of Philadelphia, is spending a few days in Somerset, the guest of Mr. W. H. Platt.

Mr. Abner McKinley, of New York, accompanied by his wife and daughter arrived in Somerset Sunday morning. They will spend the summer months here.

The Pittsburgh social tests of last week record the announcement of the engagement of Miss Marion Giddings, a favorite in Somerset, and Dr. W. F. Robeson, a well-known occulist of Pittsburgh.

At April term of Bedford court Patrick Dooley, a young man of 23, was found guilty on a charge made against him by Ella Collins. Being unable to pay the fine imposed upon him, he was committed to jail. He died there on Monday.

Messrs. John R. Scott, F. W. Biesecker and R. S. Scull left for Minneapolis Saturday morning. At Confluence they were joined by Messrs. Ross and Jasper Augustine, the latter being one of the alternates to the National Convention from this district.

Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Shoemaker's eight-year-old-son, James, has fallen a victim to diptheria. He died at the family residence in this place at 9 o'clock Thursday night. This is the second visitation of death to the Shoemaker family during the past three weeks.

Messrs C. C. Schrock and D. B. Zimmerman will ship a carload of horses from Kentucky and W. Va., this week. Mr. Schrock has been out selecting them for the past ten days. They consist of drivers, roadsters and saddlers. This will be a good opportunity for anyone wishing to purchase a high headed stepper.

Cards have been issued announcing the marriage of Noah George Kelm to Miss Clara Butler, on June 1st, at Cumberland, Md. Mr. Kelm is a Salisbury boy and was a very popular principal of the Somerset borough public schools several years ago. His bride is one of Cumberland's prettiest and most accomplished young ladies. They will make their home at Elkins, W. Va.

Mr. Walter Heffley, who left for Kentucky the fore part of last week with a view of buying a number of saddle horses, writes his father, Mr. Peter Heffley, that he has bought several very fine ones and will be home with them the latter part of this week. They will be taken to the Highland Farm where any one wishing a good saddle horse can see them.

The high water at Everett, Bedford county, last week, damaged property to the extent of $7,000. The steam tannery of M. D. Barndollar will lose about $1,500. Houses belonging to the employees of the tannery were moved from their foundations. The stores along the line of the flood all suffered considerably, as some of the lower floors were under several feet of water.

The Democrats of Cambria county nominated the following ticket at their convention held at Ebensburg Monday: Congress, L. D. Woodruff; State Senate, George E. Conrad; Assembly, E. T. McNeelis, James J. Thomas; Prothonatary, James C. Darby; Register and Recorder, Daniel A. McGough; District Attorney, Frank J. O'Connor; Poor Director, Raphael Hite; County Surveyor, Henry Scanlon.

Miss Ella Musselman will be married at the Musselman home east Main street this, Wednesday, afternoon to Mr. Edgar L. Street, Traveling engineer of the "Debenture and Assurance firm of Great Britain and America." As Mr. Street's business makes it necessary for him to travel most of the time he will take his bride with him at once as a traveling companion and it is not likely that they will settle in a permanent home for some time to come.

The rainfall of the past month, more especially of the past week, has been unprecedented in these parts. Thursday afternoon there was a cloud-burst about half-way between Lavansville and Bakersville and the water is reported to have risen to a height of twelve feet in a small run crossing the pike at that point in less than a half-hour's time, and did considerable damage to the fences and growing crops along its banks.

On the same day a freshet is reported in Jenner township. It is said to have washed potatoes and corn out of the ground.

The late Thomas Lohr, of Shade township, was the owner of a remarkable horse, or rather the horse had a remarkable record. The animal was what is known as a roan in color and his gait was what is called a pacer. He was foaled on the 6th day of April, 1861 and carried Mr. Lohr to the polls at the time of Lincoln's second election as President, and to the election house at every subsequent election, spring and fall, until January 6th 1885, when his owner died. Upon the death of Mr. Lohr his widow took the horse at an appraisment of her husband's personal property. She gave the animal to her son Thomas, having first exacted a promise from him that he would keep the horse so long as he was able to masticate his food, and that when that unlucky day arrived he would shoot him, as these were the instructions left by her husband in his last will. Thos. Lohr, Jr., accepted the trust, and he rode the venerable pacer to the election house at every spring and fall election from that time until the 4th day of Nov. 1891, when it was discovered that the faithful old animal had lost the last tooth in his head and was unable to masticate his food. The horse was accordingly shot.

The elder Mr. Lohr left ten sons, seven of whom are still living and vote the Republican ticket.

Thomas Lohr, Sr., cast his first vote for General Harrison and named his eldest son for him.

### Listonburg and Vicinity.

Our little town was thrown into quite an excitement on Saturday evening on account of a painful accident that happened Mrs. Jesse Liston and her little girl. Mrs. Liston was driving a very vicious horse, when he became unmanageable and dashed down a steep hill and then threw both out of the buggy and ran off.

Mrs. Liston had to be carried to her home but the little girl was not hurt so bad. We are glad to learn they are improving as fast as can be expected.

Mr. Samuel Pullin, of this vicinity, met with quite a loss by the heavy rainstorm that passed through this section last Friday. Four head of his cattle were killed by lightning while standing under a tree.

REPORTER.

### Teachers' Local Institute.

Programme for teachers's localinstitute of Stonycreek township, to be held at Shanksville, Pa., on Friday evening June 10, 1892.

What should the teacher's library contain?—Albert Lambert.

Recitation.—A. P. Kimmel.

Character of the teacher.—C. E. Ringler.

Essay—Miss Ida B. Speicher.

Does teaching compare favorably with other skilled labor, financially?—J. B. Lambert.

Impromptu Class—H. H. Kimmel.

Programme to be interspersed with music and queries.

All friends of education, especially teachers and directors, are cordially invited to attend.

COM.

# NO MURDER! ALL MOONSHINE!

## "Bob" Miller Withdraws His Plea of Not Guilty, and Substitutes a Plea of Manslaughter,

### WHICH THE PROSECUTION AGREES TO ACCEPT.

### SENTENCE WILL NOT BE IMPOSED 'TILL JUNE 15TH.

### "General Siegel" and "Bob" Will Both Spend Some Years in the Pen.

ROBERT C. MILLER.

No sooner was the verdict of "guilty of murder in the second degree" rendered in "General Siegle's" case, Saturday morning, than the counsel for his son "Bob" proposed to the attorney's for the Commonwealth that if agreeable to them, the plea of "not guilty," entered at the begining of the trial, would be withdrawn and one of "guilty of voluntary manslaughter" would be entered in its stead. The proposition was agreed to with alacrity and the change of plea was promptly made. The prisoner was remanded to jail to await sentence and the famous moonshine murder trials were at an end.

A motion having been made for a new trial in "General Siegel's" case sentence was postponed in both cases until the motion shall have been decided. Judge Longenecker has set Wednesday 15th inst., the time for hearing the motion argued and it is more than probable that on that day both the "General" and "Bob" will be sentenced to the penitentiary for a long term of years, as the motion for a new trial was filed merely for the purpose of delaying the sentence and not that a new trial is desired. The "General" and "Bob" both got off in a boat and well they knew it and well their counsel knew it. It was owing entirely to the adroit and skillful manner in which their case was managed that a verdict of guilty of murder was not found against both of them and not because they were not guilty or that the evidence did not warrant the finding of such a verdict.

SELECTING A JURY TO TRY "BOB" MILLER.

At 11:45 a. m. Saturday, May 28, Robert C. Miller was brought into court by Sheriff Good and the Court at once directed that he be arraigned. While District Attorney Colborn read the indictment charging him with the murder of Jonathan C. Hochstetler, the prisoner stood erect, with his head thrown back, looking the District Attorney squarely in the face, and to the question: "To this bill of indictment how say you, guilty or not guilty?" he replied in a firm and distinct tone of voice, "Not guilty."

The work of securing a jury was then commenced.

The first juror called was Jacob Judy, a farmer of Brothersvalley township. As he took his position at the bar railing Clerk Sanner said: "Juror look upon the prisoner; prisoner look upon the juror; how say you, challenged or not challenged?" The juror was then sworn and examined on his *voire dire*, the result of which was his being stood aside by the Commonwealth.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Court convened at 2 o'clock. John Statler, laborer, Meyersdale, heard about the case, but did not form an opinion. Challenged by defense.

Isaiah P. Crise, farmer, Jefferson township, excused on account of being related to the defendant.

John Keifer, laborer, Somerset borough. Stood aside.

George Glotfelty, merchant, Larimer township. Accepted.

A. J. Miller, farmer, Stonycreek township. Excused on account of having conscientious scruples against capital punishment.

J. J. Bowman, farmer, Quemahoning township. Challenged.

Herman Barron, farmer, Hillcreek township. Excused on account of deafness.

Henry Kidner, laborer, Salisbury Borough. Accepted.

Herman A. Walker, farmer, Conemaugh township. Challenged by defense.

Wm. H. Miller, farmer, Brothersvalley township, expressed an opinion. Accepted.

Charles Lohr, farmer, Quemahoning township. Excused on account of sickness.

George H. Ellman, farmer, Brothersvalley township. Accepted.

John A. Glessner, farmer, Summit township. Excused on account of five of his children being sick with scarlet fever.

Edward . Walker, farmer, Summit township. Stood aside.

Wm. McClintock, laborer, Addison township. Accepted.

Hiram Tedrow, farmer, Middlecreek township. Excused on account of being related to the defendant.

Aaron Cover, farmer, Summit township. Excused on grounds of having conscientious scruples against capital punishment.

J. Wesley Barkley, farmer, Jefferson township. Accepted.

Henry Long, farmer, Somerset township. Accepted.

Henry Ringler, laborer, Elklick township. Accepted.

W. H. Hay, merchant, Meyersdale borough. Stood aside.

Ed. B. Spangler, laborer, Rockwood borough. Challenged by defense.

Wm. W. Brown, farmer, Somerset township. Stood aside.

John G. Steinbaugh, laborer, Quemahoning township. Accepted.

Ernest Eifert, farmer, Black township. Stood aside.

James Murray, carpenter, Larimer township. Accepted.

Paul Werner, farmer, Greenville township. Accepted.

George Horner, farmer, Jenner township. Challenged by the defense.

Simon P. Geisel, merchant, Quemahoning township. Accepted.

"BOB'S" JURY.

| | |
|---|---|
| George Glotfelty, | Henry Long, |
| Henry Kidner, | Henry Ringler, |
| Wm. H. Miller, | J. G. Steinbaugh, |
| George H. Ellman, | James Murray, |
| Wm. McClintock. | Paul Werner, |
| J. Wesley Barkley, | Simon P. Geisel. |

Court convened at 1 o'clock p. m. Friday and Judge Longenecker at once proceeded to charge the jury. The Judge reviewed the testimony of the principal witnesses and at great length explained the law governing the case. The charge was an exhaustive, fair and impartial one. A little over an hour was taken in its delivery and at its close the jury retired to their room to deliberate upon their verdict and the jury in the "Bob" Miller case took the seats in the jury box just vacated.

At half-past 2 o'clock "Bob" Miller came into court accompanied by Deputy Sheriff Barron. He was cleanly shaved and neatly dressed and is rather a fine, innocent looking lad of about twenty-three years of age. He took the seat that had a few minutes before been vacated by his father at the counsel table. The same counsel who defended his father were retained by him and the same attorneys who prosecuted the father prosecuted the son. "Bob," it will be remembered, told the story of the killing of Hochstetler and voluntarily surrendered himself to the officers of the law. The District Attorney opened the case for the Commonwealth and while he was detailing to the jury what the prosecution expected to prove the prisoner became somewhat nervous and restive and fumbled a newspaper which he held in his hand. The two month's confinement has told severely on the prisoner. The sun-burned, heavy-set, healthy, ruddy-faced mountain boy who was placed in the county jail during the first days of March, is now a pale, nervous and delicate looking lad.

The District Attorney occupied about twenty minutes. The first witness called on the stand was Wesley Hochstetler, the sixteen-year-old son of the murdered man. He was a bright, intelligent lad and answered all questions put to him readily and intelligently. He told how his father had left home for Trent postoffice on that fatal March evening and that when he next saw him he was lying in Crab run, dead. No cross-examination.

A. H. Brugh affirmed: Hochstetler came to my store the evening he was murdered; he left on George Chopson's wagon; he had no arms on his person that I saw.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kooser: I did not search him to see whether he had any arms.

Wesley Hochstetler recalled: My father did not have any arms when he left home that day; he didn't have any revolvers but had two rifles; he did not take either of the rifles with him.

George Chopson sworn: Was at Rockwood on 30th of March last; left Trent a little after 4 o'clock; Jonathan Hochstetler and Josiah Nicklow were on the wagon with me; Hochstetler did not have any arms that I saw; they got off the wagon up the road and started in the direction of Hochstetler's house; I had to pass "Bob" Miller's house but did not see him at home; I don't think you can see Bill Miller's house from the road.

No cross-examination.

Josiah Nicklow sworn: Left Trent a little after 4 o'clock on March 30th on Goerge Chopson's wagon; Jonathan Hochstetler was also on the wagon; he was unarmed as far as I know; we went up the county line road; we rode about a mile with Chopson and then Hochstetler and I walked the balance of the way; when we got to my house he went on in the direction of his home; this was the last I saw of him.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kooser: Did not search Hochstetler for any arms but if he had any I didn't see them.

James Beal sworn: Live in Pernassus, Westmoreland county; on the 30th of March last I was visiting in this county. (This witness then detailed the story of the murder as he did in the trial of Wm. C. Miller).

Cross-examined by Mr. Kooser: I was coming from Fayette county into Somerset; it was about 8 miles from my uncle's to this point; I left my uncle's directly after dinner.

Harvey Hochstetler affirmed: I am 17 years of age; was living at home 30th of March last; went down to Trent that day for a load of straw; met my father at "Bill" File's on my way down; on my way home I saw "Bob" Miller; he was at his stable; I asked him, "did you see my father to-day?" He said, "yes"; I asked him if he spoke to him; his answer was: "I didn't give him that chance"; when the alarm was given I got on my horse and went down to Nicklow's and got them on the track with a lantern; I then went for Mr. Beal; Jerry Whipkey, Mr. Putman and others came up from Trent and joined our party in the search; after I joined the party we went over to Jocob Gary's, we found father lying in Crab run, dead, the next day; his head was badly crushed, body bruised, pants pulled down over his boots.

Allen Forespring affirmed: Live on the County line road in Middlecreek township about one and one-half miles west of Jonathan Hochstetler's place; the murder of Mr. Hochstetler occurred about one-half mile from my place; we organized a searching party; found tracks along Crab run; they were the tracks of three men; sometimes they were on the bank and at other times in the water; we organized a party and went to Gary's but didn't find him at home; from there we went to 'Squire Miller's, where James Beal made a statement; we went to Wm. Miller's the next morning; did not find William at home but Robert was there and accompanied us to Abraham Pletcher's; after we left "Abe" Pletcher's I went over to my place for dinner; I came up from Trent with Robt. Miller the day of Saylor's sale; we were on our way home; I think it was March 24, 1892; Jonathan Hochstetler was at the blacksmith shop cursing and swearing; I said to "Bob" Miller, "old Yoney is talking pretty loud to-day again" and "Bob" said: "Yes, by G—, he'll get it some day."

Cross examined by Mr. Kooser: It had been snowing pretty much all the afternoon of the tragedy and it was pretty dark; there was snow in the road which was pretty badly tracked up; there were tracks of three men; Crab run is a very little stream which sometimes dries up during the summer, scarcely more than a spring gutter; some distance down along the Crab run there is considerable laurel; more there than where the killing took place; Robert took us to the right place.

Jeremiah Whipkey affirmed: Live within one-half mile of Trent; was there the evening of March 30th last when the alarm of the murder was given. (This witness testifies substantially the same as in the trial of Wm. Miller.) From the run west there is quite a steep bank; the scuffle took place on top of this bank; I was one of the jurors; we found a stone lying there which fit in the hole in the top of the head; there were only a few blood spots on the ground; from the road down to the run we could see distinctly where the body had been drug; the body was lying on its right side partly in the water; the face was right at the edge of the water; there were five wounds on the corpse; his clothing was pulled down and his pants stripped down over his boots.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kooser: When I reached the scene of the tragedy the next morning 'Squire Miller and one of Hochstetler's boys were there; there were a number of tracks there about that time below the road but only two tracks above the road; the stone we found had short angles and fit in the wounds on the head of Jonathan Hochstetler; the same stone would not have fit in wounds produced by a gun barrel or in some other way.

Silas Putman affirmed: Live within fifty rods of Trent; on the evening of the tragedy I went to Trent to the store after supper; Harvey Hochstetler arrived on horseback and informed us that a man was killed along Crab run; I joined a searching party that night, etc. (Same as in the trial of William C. Miller.)

Austin Weimer affirmed: Live about one mile from Trent; learned of the murder on the 31st of March just before day light; two men rapped at my door and informed me that Jonathan Hochstetler was killed; I took breakfast, joined a searching party and went to Robt. Miller's but found the house locked; did not get in; went to William C. Miller's; found Robt. there and took him in charge but Wm. Miller was not to be found. (Witness then describes the finding of the body of Jonathan Hochstetler, also measurements of the scene of the tragedy).

Dr. Moore affirmed: Live in New Lexington. (Gave description of wounds, also an explanation of the draft. Testimony same as that given in the trial of Wm. C. Miller.)

"To William Pritts, sometimes called "Bill." Quit hiding in the mountains and come in and take your medicine. It's not so very d— bitter any how. Pob and I are over the worst.

Yours
SIEGEL."

Failing to secure a first-degree verdict in "General Seigle's" case District Attorney Colborn agreed to take a verdict of "not guilty" in the case against "Jake" Gary and "Abe" Pletcher, indicted as accessories before and after the fact.

Jacob Santemeyer, "Bill" Pritts' son-in-law, indicted as an accessory after the fact was released from jail, where he had been for the past month, on his own recognizance.

Jacob Friedline and William Dunmyer, convicted of assault and battery, and disturbing a public meeting, were called up for sentence Saturday afternoon. They were sentenced to undergo imprisonment in the county jail for a period of sixty days and pay the costs of prosecution. The sentence as to imprisonment was afterwards suspended.

### FOR THE SCHOOLS.

#### State Superintendent Waller Appeals to Directors Throughout the State for a Longer School Term and Higher Wages for Teachers.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
HARRISBURG, PA., MAY 17, 1892.

*To School Directors:*

What was the length of the annual school term in your district last year?

Were your schools open seven, eight, nine or ten months, or were they closed by the action of your Board at the end of the minimum term of six months?

If your Board made provision for only a minimum term of six months last year, or at any time since you have been a director, what was the motive that governed the majority of the members in taking such action?

Was the education of the children duly considered and emphasized as an imperative duty on the part of the Board and the District before deciding to close the schools at the end of a short term?

What excuse was offered for closing the schools of your district at the end of a short term of six or seven months with a low tax rate for school purposes?

Do you favor a policy, on the plea of economy, that virtually deprives the children of school privileges half the year and places a barrier in their way to advancement and which prevents them from obtaining such an education as the public schools afford, or are you in favor of a progressive policy in the administration of the office of school director, a policy that will result in having good schools and *longer school term*, and well qualified teachers honestly compensated for their services?

These are pertinent questions for your consideration in view of the fact that your voice and vote will determine the policy to be pursued by your Board in the operation of the schools of your district for the ensuing year.

The State has generously increased the appropriation for the *support of the public schools* to five million dollars.

If all directors have a proper conception of the responsible duties which they are called upon to discharge and a due regard for the welfare of the children, and the Commonwealth, every boy and girl of legal school age in Pennsylvania will have the privilege of attending a good public school a *continuous school term* of not less than *eight months* during the school year beginning on the first Monday of June, 1892.

Very respectfully,
D. J. WALLER, JR.,
Superintendent of Public Instruction.

TEACHER'S EXAMINATIONS, 1892.

Shade (Breastwork S. H.) Friday, June 10.
New Lexington, Friday, June 17.
Berlin, Saturday, June 18.
Ursina, Monday and Tuesday, June, 20 and 21.
Rockwood, Friday, June 24.
Salisbury, Saturday, June 25.
Shanksville, Monday, June 27.
Stoystown, Tuesday, June 28.
Conemaugh. (Miller S. H.) Wed., June 29.
Jenner Cross Roads, Thursday, June 30.
Lincoln (Edie S. H.) Friday, July 1.
Milford (Cross Roads S. H.) Saturday, July 2.
Allegheny (Mt. Zion S. H.) Monday, July 11.
Somerset, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 12 and 13.
Bethel, Tuesday, August 23.
New Centreville, Wednesday, August 24.
Meyersdale Thursday and Friday, August 25-26.
Berlin (special) Friday, September 6.
Somerset (special) Saturday, October 1.

Examinations will begin at 8 o'clock.

Applicants for Professional certificates will be examined at Ursina, Somerset and Meyersdale in connection with the regular classes.

Only such as expect to teach in the common schools of the county during the next year will be admitted to examination. The examinations for graduation held at the close of each public school term will accommodate all others.

Applicants must come prepared to write with pen and ink. Paper will be furnished.

All the examinations will be open to the educational public. Directors are especially invited to be present.

J. M. BERKEY,
County Superintendent.

Berlin, Pa., May 18, 1892.

A HANDSOME CONTRIBUTION.

The following letter to County Supt. Berkey explains itself:

LANCASTER, May 17, 1892.

CO. SUPT., J. M. BERKEY.

MY DEAR SIR:—Accept our grateful thanks for check for $54.13, received this day to full of amount handed to you by the generous teachers and pupils of Somerset county. We are glad to know that the portrait of our genial friend, Dr. Higbee of sacred memory, are in so many of your schools. The cost of this great Memorial has been about $5,000, and your check brings the total of receipts still nearly to that of outlay. It has been a memorial to an educator unexampled in the history of the State or indeed in the history of education in America. We may well be proud of Pennsylvania for what she has here done in honor of one of her chiefest scholars foremost State Superintendents, and best of men.

Again thanking you, and with best wishes for yourself and the schools under your care, I am.

Very truly yours,
J. P. MCCASKEY,
Chairman Dr. Higbee Memorial Committee.

### Babyland.

The June BABYLAND is as bright and sunny as the month foretells. With its pretty frontispiece, crowned by a charming full-page picture at the close, and the dainty stories and rhymes between the covers, Baby will wear a smiling face the whole day long, and Mamma will say over again her oft-repeated words: "What would we do without Babyland—the Babies' Magazine!"

Price 50 cents a year; 5 cents a number. D. LOTHROP COMPANY, Publishers, Boston.

### The Family Record.

That's John—he is a doctor, and William kinder laws,
An' Reuben, he's a traveler in the missionary cause;
An' Moses runs a grocery store, an' Zekiel he's the may or;
An' Bob, he deals in real estate, whe the cash is clear;
An' Jim, he's tradin' hosses, an' Ben, he runs the mill;
An' Jeremiah deals in corn and moonlight at the still;
An' Jackson—well, he ain't no 'count—jest keeps 'em on the stir
To make a livin' fer him; Jack's a politicianeer!—*Atlanta Constitution.*

### Half Rates to Chicago via Pennsylvania Railroad.

For the benefit of delegates and visitors to the Democratic National Convention at Chicago, on June 21st, 1892, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets to Chicago, from all principal stations on its lines, at a *single fare for the round trip.* The rate from New York is $20.00; Philadelphia, $19.25; Baltimore, $17.00; Washinton, $17.00, and other stations in proportion. The tickets will be sold from June 19th to 20th, inclusive, and the return coupons will be good to leave Chicago until July 8th, 1892. Tickets will be accepted for passage on the Pennsylvania Limited in either direction in connection with proper extra fare checks.

# FLOOD AND FIRE.

## Titusville and Oil City in a Wave of Ruin.

## TWO HUNDRED LIVES LOST.

### A Cloud Burst on Oil Creek Starts the Disaster.

For 18 miles along the famous Oil Creek in Pennsylvania a fire-crested flood swept Sunday from Titusville to Oil City. It is known that at least 80 persons were drowned or burned to death. Estimates of the loss of life are increasing, and the death roll may swell to from 150 to 200, if not more. A dam seven miles above Titusville gave way in the night. Oil tanks were swept away, the stream leaped its banks and, bearing on its back a wide-spread layer of oil, dashed into Titusville a roaring, tumbling mass of flames. There was a stampede. Scores of persons were swept away in an effort to find safety. One-third of the town was burned and at 10 o'clock Sunday night 40 bodies had been recovered. Along the creek are a dozen villages, whose inhabitants number from 100 to 500. Nothing is known of the fate of these, save the fact that the strip of flood and fire extended a distance of 40 acres on each side of the stream.

In Oil City several thousands of persons, nearly ten hours later, were out to see the on-coming rush of the flood. It was oil-laden and streaming with escaping gas. There was an explosion, a terrible stampede to the hills and at least 40 persons are known to be dead there. In three minutes an entire ward was in flames and the town in an awful panic.

The loss in property may reach from $2,000,000 to $4,000,000.

OIL CITY, PA., June 6.—Eighteen miles of death and desolation is the story in brief of the awful catastrophe which has decimated the borders of Oil creek from Titusville to this point. On both sides of the creek flood and fire have left ruin and woe, and it will take days before the record of death, and destruction can be completed.

This is the most awful disaster which has ever come to this vicinity, and has no rival in the United States except the Johnstown flood. A raging torrent, a tank of oil undermined and toppled into the flood, a coal from a locomotive passing over the bridge in the city, a series of explosions along the surface of the creek, and houses, men, women and children were instantly wrapped in flames. These are the causes and effects so far as this place is concerned.

The inmates of the houses had but to choose how to die—either drown or be burned to death. There was no escape, and many chose the easier death and jumped into the water, but even there the fire found them, and everybody so far recovered shows that fire did the work of destruction. At 6 o'lock this morning the fire had burned itself out and the burning oil had passed away. The creek and river, however, are rising, and much of this place, will still be flooded, but there is little left along Oil creek which the flood can damage. The fire has left nothing on which the water can prey. The rising waters, however, interfered with recovering the bodies of the victims in Oil City proper.

The fiery flood destroyed one mile of property along the creek on the west side. Across the creek from the main portion of the city, not a house is standing between the creek and the hill, and not a vestige of life can be seen except the many searchers for the dead. Along the east side, from the mouth of Oil creek for a distance of three-quarters of a mile, every building except one along the creek has been destroyed. This strange monument to the death-laden flood is a frame dwelling house standing among the ruins. It was in the midst of the flood and fire, and yet it was passed by. The curtains are on the windows, and the noon meal still stands on the table, but the former occupants are among the dead. They attempted to escape and were caught in the sea of flames. On the east side the great damage is along the street.

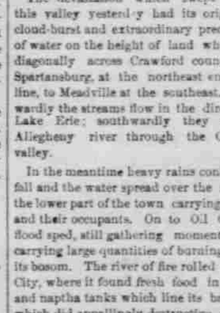
The devastation which swept through this valley yesterday had its origin in a cloud-burst and extraordinary precipitation of water on the height of land which runs diagonally across Crawford county from Spartansburg, at the northeast end of the line, to Meadville at the southeast. Northwardly the streams flow in the direction of Lake Erie; southwardly they seek the Allegheny river through the Oil Creek valley.

In the meantime heavy rains continued to fall and the water spread over the streets in the lower part of the town carrying houses and their occupants. On to Oil City the flood sped, still gathering momentum and carrying large quantities of burning oil on its bosom. The river of fire rolled into Oil City, where it found fresh food in the oil and naptha tanks which line its banks, and which did appallingly destructive work in spreading the flames throughout the thickly built up portions of the city.

The search for the dead was stopped at midnight, but was resumed at daybreak. At 7 o'clock Saturday forty-seven bodies had been found, of which thirty have been identified. They are lying in the City Hall and a temporary morgue on the South Side. The scene is almost too much for endurance. Burned out of all semblance to human bodies, in positions showing the terrible agony before death came, are a few of the victims.

From various estimates it is safe to say the loss of life in this city alone will reach two hundred. Many have been swept away and will never be found. When the flood subsides it will reveal scores of bodies. At one point alone ten are known to have gone into the burning flood, but not one of them have been found. These, with two others, were standing on the railroad bridge when the hot coal from the passing locomotive ignited the oil and caused the explosion. Only two escaped; the balance were thrown into the flood. There is little left but the charred bodies and smouldering timbers to tell the awful story of how the flood and fire came and went and left nothing in its course.

The destruction of property was more complete than even at Johnstown. The financial loss to this place is hard to estimate at present, but it will be over $300,000. Among the heaviest losers is the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railway Company. The tracks between here and Titusville are practically ruined, the ties burned, the railroad bridge here badly burned, and $50,000 will not more than cover the loss.



*Mrs. William Lohr*

Of Freeport, Ill., began to fail rapidly, lost all appetite and got into a serious condition from

**Dyspepsia**

She could not eat vegetables or meat, and even toast distressed her. Had to give up housework. In a week after taking

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**

She felt a little better. Could keep more food on her stomach and grew stronger. She took 3 bottles, has a good appetite, gained 22 lbs., does her work easily, is now in perfect health.

HOOD'S PILLS are the best after-dinner Pills. They assist digestion and cure headache.

### Look Here

Would inform the progressive farmers of Somerset County that I am again in the field with a full line of Fertilizers, and my self or my agent will call to see you to solicit your orders for the coming season. My agents this season are S. B. Yoder, Pugh, Pa., Joseph Reiman, Stanton's Mills, Pa., W. H. Landis, Meyersdale, Pa., Solomon Davis, Normalville, Pa., and Peter Fink, Somerset, Pa., who is also delivering and shipping agent at Somerset, where goods will be kept in stock throughout the season.

I would thank all for their most liberal patronage during past seasons, and hope all will favor myself or my agents with your orders for both spring and fall crops.

Should we miss seeing you, just drop us a line early and you will have our very best attention.

On behalf of the
Susquehanna Fertilizer Co.,
A. J. KOSER,
Guernsey, Pa.

### Pomona Meeting.

The Somerset County Pomona will hold a meeting at Trent on Saturday, June 18th, 1892, beginning at 9:30 a. m.

FORENOON SESSION.

1. Opening of the Pomona.
2. Unfinished business.
3. The quickest and cheapest way to restore our exhausted soils.—S. A. Putman.
4. Queries and closing exercises.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

1. Opening of Pomona.
2. Sectionalisms.—J. H. Shaffer.
3. Special address by F. P. Saylor.
4. Queries and general discussion.
5. Closing services.

COM.

### For Extra HERALDS go to Fisher's Book Store.

You can buy at FISHER'S BOOK STORE the Execution and Confession numbers of the HERALD of the Nicely murderers, well illustrated, also full sets of Somerset papers containing the Nicely case, the Yoder case and history, trial and sentence of the McClelland town gang, also photographs of Joe & Dave Nicely, Werner's Nicely Book and Criminal History of Somerset County, Houpt's remarkable Nicely Ballad, also extra copies of Somerset papers of this important criminal court week, containing the Miller-Hochstetler Moonshine case, Niland Murder and other important criminal cases. Daily papers and all kinds of reading matter.

### For Buckwheat.

I have South Carolina Rock Phosphate, same mixed with Kainit, fine ground Bone Meal, same with Potash, dissolved A. M. Bone and Super Phosphates, for delivery and shipment every day.

A. C. DAVIS,
Somerset, Pa.

### Fisher's Book Store Always Ahead.

Photographs of Gen. Seigle Miller, Bob Miller, Abe Pletcher and Abe Garey, the renowned Laurel Hill Moonshiners, for sale at

FISHER'S BOOK STORE.

### The Largest.

I not only have the largest and best Stock of Millinery Goods, but sell the most Trimmed Goods in the County because I sell the cheapest.

MRS. A. E. UHL.

### Road and Bridge Views.

Petition of citizens of Somerset township for a public road to lead from a point on a public road leading from Husband to Lavansville, near the house of Herman Barron, to a point on a public road west of G. V. Hedlley's. Albert Rayman, Surveyor; John D. Baker, Oliver Critchfield, viewers.

Petition of citizens of Summit township, for a public road in said township, from a point on a public road leading from Summit Mills to Rockwood, near the residence of Samuel M. Fike. H. D. Moore, Surveyor; Singleton Kimmel