

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR, HENRY M. HOYT, OF LUZERNE COUNTY. FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, CHARLES W. STONE, OF WARREN COUNTY. FOR SUPREME JUDGE, HON. JAMES P. STERRETT, OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY. FOR SEC'Y INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AARON K. DUNKEL, OF PHILADELPHIA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

TERMS.—Our terms for announcements are as follows: Congress, \$20; Senate, \$10; Assembly, \$10; Prothonotary, \$8; Sheriff, \$8; Commissioner, \$5; Co. Superintendant, \$3; Auditor, \$2; Jury Commissioner, \$1. Primary election tickets extra. No announcement will appear unless the cash accompanies the name. This rule will not be broken in favor of anybody.]

CONGRESS. We are authorized to announce GEN. HARRY WHITE as a candidate for Congress, subject to Republican usages.

ASSEMBLY. We are authorized to announce DR. W. C. COBURN, of Tionesta Boro, as a candidate for Assembly, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce S. C. ROUPE, of Green Township, as a candidate for Assembly, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce E. L. DAVIS, of Tionesta Boro, as a candidate for Assembly, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce N. P. WHEELER, of Hickory Township, as a candidate for Assembly, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce W. R. COON, of Clarington, as a candidate for Assembly, subject to Republican usages.

PROTHONOTARY, &c. We are authorized to announce T. J. VAN GIESEN, of Tionesta Boro as a candidate for Prothonotary, Register and Recorder and Clerk of the Courts, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce JUSTIS SHAWKEY, of Tionesta Boro as a candidate for Prothonotary, Register and Recorder, and Clerk of the Courts, subject to Republican usages.

SHERIFF. We are authorized to announce W. W. THOMAS, of Green Township, as a candidate for Sheriff, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce C. A. RANDALL, of Tionesta Boro, as a candidate for Sheriff, subject to Republican usages.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. We are authorized to announce JOHN H. WHITE, of Barnett Township, as a candidate for County Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce D. G. HUNTER, of Tionesta Township, as a candidate for County Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce ELI HOLEMAN, of Tionesta Township, as a candidate for County Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce JOHN RECK, of Tionesta Boro, as a candidate for County Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce S. J. ZENTS, of Barnett Township, as a candidate for County Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce H. W. DEEBUR, of Green Township, as a candidate for County Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

COUNTY AUDITOR. We are authorized to announce NICHOLAS THOMPSON, of Tionesta Township, as a candidate for County Auditor, subject to Republican usages.

JURY COMMISSIONER. We are authorized to announce C. H. BURCH, of Hickory Township, as a candidate for Jury Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce JOHN KEATH, of Barnett Township, as a candidate for Jury Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

We are authorized to announce WM. MATTERSON, of Kingsley Township, as a candidate for Jury Commissioner, subject to Republican usages.

REPORT OF THE Superintendent of Forest County.

To Hon. J. P. Wickersham, Supt. of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, Pa.: SIR:—Another school year has passed, and in looking back over the field marks of progress may be noted. These are by no means as numerous as one might desire, yet they are such as indicate neither retrogression nor stagnation. The teachers were, as a class, much better qualified, and manifested more energy than formerly. I feel safe in saying that the teaching of last winter was much better than at any time before. But while nearly all of our schools did well, there were some instances of failure too plain to be overlooked. In some the fault was with the teacher, while in others it is well known who was to blame. Near-

ly all failures were by inexperienced teachers. Directors manifested more anxiety than formerly to secure the best talent offered; and some districts base the salaries upon the grade of certificate. Although we regret that a few boards of directors in the county appear to be influenced, in the choice of teachers, by the indomitable cousin, nephew or niece, and sometimes by the Almighty Dollar, and being clothed with almost absolute power, it appears to them perfectly right that their special preference should be respected. Others have respect to personal appearance. Their teacher must be exactly five feet eight inches in height, fair complexion, so as to fill the descriptive list, or he must belong to the right church, and if he does not, he can't teach our school. Individuals and communities and boards of directors have their particular hobbies. These views must be respected, and he who is too short must have his boots heels built higher; and he whose complexion does not fill the requisition must resort to modern discoveries. Away with such judgment! Let the test be intellectual and moral qualification.

New Houses.—Two new houses were put up during the year, one in Kingsley and the other in Green Independent. The one in Kingsley is well located, substantially and tastefully built, and supplied with improved patent desks. Out-Buildings.—I feel a delicacy in calling attention to this important subject, which was in the past so memorably and ably polished off a few years ago by the late lamented editor of the Forest Press. It is a fact, and a lamentable one, too, that about one-half our school houses, some in very public places, are still without the necessary out-buildings. In many places where they have been erected they have become public nuisances. They should be kept clean. It is as much the duty of the teachers to teach decency and cleanliness as arithmetic and grammar, and out-doors as well as in-doors. They should be better taken care of. It is certainly not worth while to put up such buildings for the mere gratification of certain parties in tearing them to pieces. If these buildings are essential to the cultivation of habits of propriety and delicacy at home, among the children of the same family, how can they be dispensed with at the public school house, where they are necessarily without the guardianship of parents, and surrounded by twenty or thirty children of different families? How parents, who send their children to school, can be so indifferent in this matter is a mystery. It should be held up before the fathers and mothers of every child in the county, until public feeling would compel directors to act and act efficiently. Every feeling of decency and modesty demands it.

Salaries.—On this topic I cannot report progress. Nothing is more detrimental to the cause of education than the unjust plan still practiced in nearly all of the districts, of paying the same wages to all alike, whether good or bad; or through favoritism to employ teachers without regard to the kind of certificate in possession. At the present salary, no one whose abilities are of an order to warrant success, can afford to devote his life to the profession of teaching; consequently every year a swarm of young persons not out of their "teens," apply for and obtain a number of the situations in the school room, while an equal number of experienced teachers either leave the profession, or go to other counties where they receive better pay for longer terms, or what is sometimes worse, run off and get married. The assertion that the salaries paid are, in many cases, commensurate with services rendered, is doubtless true, yet how can directors reconcile their action with duty when they know that experience and ability can be had for a few dollars per month in addition to the salary paid for poor scholarship and inferior teaching? My experience in visiting schools confirms the belief that good teachers are generally to be found where good pay and long terms are combined.

Text-Books.—Nearly all of the districts in the county are without uniformity of text-books. Directors in these districts would find it advantageous to their schools to adopt a uniform system. It would greatly facilitate the labor of teachers, and add much to their efficiency. As long as parents are compelled to purchase books at the highest retail price, we need look for no reform. The law wisely leaves to directors the selection and control of text-books, and if all school boards would purchase them at the best wholesale rates, there would be a saving to the county of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) annually. If directors will properly consider the cost of books, they will find this estimate very moderate. It might be sound policy to withhold the State aid from such districts until the directors comply with the law in this particular. The law is so plain and the wisdom in it so manifest, that no intelligent board should hesitate one moment in fulfilling it to the letter. It were better, far, that some of the books adopted and used in our schools were made to assist in lighting the morning fire, and the pupils made to depend upon oral instruction. In many schools the teachers wrote the copies as they used to do in the good old days of "God made man and man made money," "Honesty is the best of policy," and "The good boy and his good old dog Tray."

Attendance.—Irregular attendance is certainly one of the greatest hindrances to success in teaching. The attendance in some districts I find is like the conjugation of some of the verbs in the old grammar, "regular, irregular and defective." We are still of the opinion that the teacher has much to do with securing of good attendance. Certain it is that the general surroundings, houses, grounds, furniture, &c., have their due influence, but when the exercises of the school room are made as interesting as those out-doors, good attendance is generally the result. Our teachers, knowing this, have generally co-operated with me in trying to increase the regularity of attendance. Directors.—Directors, your duties are numerous and grave. You are the immediate guardians of the schools and educational interest of the county. In you is vested all the controlling authority. Such being the fact, my suggestions, in local matters are addressed to you, hoping that you will give them due attention and labor to promote the best interests of our schools. County Institute.—The County Institute was held at Tionesta, beginning December 17, with thirty-two teachers in attendance. The principal instructors and lecturers were Superintendent N. R. Thompson, of Warren, Prof. S. D. Owen, of Pittsburgh, Dr. W. C. Coburn, Prof. T. D. Dunn, S. D. Irwin, Esq., W. E. Lathy, Esq., and Miles W. Tate, Esq., of Tionesta. Visitation.—Ninety-five visitations were made the past year. With two exceptions, all the schools were visited; average length of visits, three hours. This was doing not only what the law contemplates, "to visit as often as practicable," but indeed all that seemed anywise possible. Visiting schools day after day during the most inclement season of the year, through drenching rains, piercing wind, or a violent snow-storm, and over rough roads, is far from being that pleasant pastime which many people consider it to be. The peregrinations of the Superintendent are frequently fraught with incidents of pleasant; such as involuntarily sliding down snow-crust hillsides, among the slopes of the Tionesta Creek and Allegheny River, to the infinite danger of the fence by the collision; a sudden disappearance of snow, and dragging our sleigh home through the mud, are yet fresh in our memory. Yet with all these annoyances this part of our work has its agreeable features. Teachers and pupils are glad to receive the visits, and seem encouraged by them. Closing Remarks.—In the preceding paragraphs I have spoken plainly. The nature and importance of the subject certainly demand fair dealing, or, as has been said, "we cannot safely begin to make a thing better until we know wherein it is bad." To the teachers we look with anxious solicitude for the onward march of intellectual and moral improvement. In conclusion, permit me to return thanks to the teachers, directors and citizens of Forest County for their aid and hospitality; to the Editors for publishing items calculated to aid the cause of education, and to the School Department for valuable advice and information. H. S. BROCKWAY, County Supt.

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Allegheny Valley Rail Road. Pittsburgh, Titusville & Buffalo Railway, and Buffalo, Corry & Pittsburgh Railroad.

ON AND AFTER Sunday, Dec. 10, 1877, trains will run as follows:

Table with columns for STATIONS, Northward, Southward, and train times for Pittsburgh, Titusville, Buffalo, Corry, etc.

Trains run by Philadelphia Time. DAVID McCAIG, Gen'l Supt. J. MORTON HALL, Gen'l Passenger & Ticket Agent.

THE PARKER GUN. SEND STAMP FOR CIRCULAR. PARKER BROS. WEST MERIDEN, CT. Image of a gun.

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