

A Railroad Engine on its Travels.

The most remarkable leap on record!—At Cincinnati, on Wednesday morning, a locomotive of the Marietta Railroad started down the track, about half a mile, when the man in charge seeing a locomotive of the Little Miami Road backing toward him, and fearing a collision, reversed the engine, and jumped off. A minute after, the two engines came together, when the impetus given to the Marietta engine, together with the force of the reversed power, started it toward the depot with the velocity of a rocket. The Gazette says: "The down grade gave it additional headway, and it bounded along the track like a wild incarnate, belching forth fire and smoke to the distance of twenty or thirty feet from the track, and literally bounding from the rails, threatening destruction to everything that impeded its progress. Experienced judges of the speed of railway trains who saw this engine on its lightning travels, say that it could not have been going at a less rate than seventy-five to one hundred miles per hour! Its final bringing up shows that their calculations could not have been far out of the way.

"Upon the track in the depot the morning train, consisting of some four or five cars, had been made up, and about 100 passengers had already taken their seats. On came the engine with the speed of a destructive whirlwind, directly upon the track leading to the train, until within about four or five rods of the depot, when the fortunate accidental change of a switch drove it upon the other track.

"Almost before the persons standing by could realize that an engine had entered one end of the depot, the iron steed had bounded through the entire length, demolished an eighteen inch brick wall, umbers and all, at the rear, leaped across two road tracks—none about ten feet below the other—without touching either, and imbedded itself in a huge pile of coal in the yard of J. Cochnower. The distance leaped, from the wall of the depot to the lamp of the engine, could not have been less than seventy-five feet. All this distance, through the demolished wall of the depot, it dragged the tender loaded with wood, without breaking the couplings.

"But for the fortunate change in the switch, which threw the engine upon the opposite track to that on which the Cleveland train was standing, the loss of life must have been terrible. The force which rent a brick wall, eighteen inches thick, for a circle of fifteen or twenty feet, would have smashed the cars upon the track into fragments, and a fearful destruction of life and limb must have followed. The damage to the locomotive is estimated at \$3,000 to \$4,000, and to the Little Miami depot, \$1,000 to \$1,200."

Down and Up.

In the year 1849, a young man, who was rich, and engaged in a lucrative business in Cincinnati, became enamored of a beautiful and lovable girl, the daughter, by the way, of wealthy parents—and after a brief courtship, married her. He loved her dearly. She loved him dearly. A fortune of happiness seemed in store for them; but evil days came, and after a brief but violent struggle, the fortune of the young man became bankrupt. He was left without a dollar, but not without a hope. The gold mines of California were open to the adventurous and to the industrious. He would leave his beautiful wife and seek his glittering shores, where he could remain until his fallen fortunes were revived. The resolution once taken was soon executed. He came to California—but the cloud still hung over him. He was active, enterprising and persevering; yet, while others around him were gathering the golden harvest in abundance, his every project failed. For eight years he continued his "Herculean sick, weary and disheartened, but his pride would not allow him to return home for assistance. He was at last induced to sell newspapers upon the street for a living.

A few weeks ago he was at Folsom street wharf, upon the arrival of the mail steamer, and among the passengers who came ashore, he caught a glimpse of a richly dressed lady whom he thought he knew. He followed her to a hotel, got a fair view, and recognized her as his wife whom he had not seen for eight years. He was poorly dressed, but his affection conquered his pride, and he immediately made himself known to her. The recognition was followed by a beautiful exhibition of unabated and unflinching love. The lady's parents had died, leaving her an heiress of great wealth. She had not heard of her husband for eight years, and, fearing for his safety, she resolved to visit this State and make inquiries for herself. The lady closed her conversation with her husband by putting her arms about his neck, and saying, "Now, dear George, we can go home and be happy as we used to be." They did go home on the steamer which left here last Monday. The story is strictly true.—*Cal. Spirit of the Times.*

The City of Erie sustains eight breweries and about sixty or seventy beer shops and drinking saloons, and cannot give a living support to one daily paper. Our people pay an annual revenue of near one hundred thousand dollars to the liquor and beer sellers, and cannot by the most energetic efforts be induced to pay \$4,000 or \$5,000 a year to sustain a daily paper which is an actual necessity in every large town. They contribute with liberal hand to uphold and render prosperous the Rum traffic, and dole out with stings reluctance a mere pittance for general intelligence. Enterprise and intellect stand no chance in a contest with Appetite and Dissipation. It is a solemn truth which reflecting Christians should lay to heart that our people pay more money every year to the rum shops, beer shops and gaming establishments, than to all the churches, schools, academies and newspapers combined. This is a stunning fact which can be fully substantiated by figures. Can such things be and our city become prosperous, enterprising and reputable? Reader, look around you and see whether we exaggerate in the least. Our institutions of drunkenness are as five to six to one against the institutions of learning, religion and intelligence.—*Eric Constitution.*

THE AGITATOR.

M. H. Cobb, Editor & Proprietor. WELLSBOROUGH, PA. Thursday Morning, Dec. 2, 1858. All Business and other Communications must be addressed to the Editor to insure attention. E. M. PETERSON & Co., 119 Nassau St., New York, and 30 State St., Boston, are the Agents for the Agitator, and the most influential and largest-circulating Newspaper in the United States and the Canada. They are authorized to contract for us at our lowest rates. We cannot publish anonymous communications. See advertisement of Sewing Machine. A gentleman has left with us a box of Andersen's Norwegian Salve. It is highly recommended for Fever Sores, sprains, chilblains, &c. For sale by Merchants generally. The Wellsboro Literary Association meets at the Court House this evening, to discuss the following question: "Ought Capital Punishment to be abolished?" See communication elsewhere.

To Correspondents.—We are in receipt of poems by "Allie," "Meta Melgrove," "M. L. D." and others, for which we are obliged, and which shall appear at the earliest moment. Prose sketches have been received from "Agnes," "Galen," "M. L. D." and others, all of which are gratefully received and shall appear as soon as possible.

T. B. PETERSON & Brothers, 306 Chestnut-st., Philadelphia, publish the most reliable Counterfeit Detector and Bank Note List in the Union. The last number has come to hand, with minute descriptions of 66 new counterfeiters which have come to light within four weeks. Peterson's Detector is not the organ of bank note shavers and black-mail brokers, and we take great pleasure in commending it to our business men. Terms—Monthly, \$1 a year; Semi-monthly, \$2.

We are in receipt of a proof impression of The Village Blacksmith, from the Cosmopolitan Art Association. It is much the finest engraving ever presented to the members of that Association, either subject, or execution, or both considered. There are some points in the picture which, though they may be equalled, cannot, we think, be surpassed. Each member of the Association receives a copy of this large engraving, the Art Journal and a chance in the annual distribution of Paintings and Statuary to take place January 1, 1859. Any one may become a member on payment of \$3 to I. D. Richards, Esq., Agent, at the Post Office.

The Mansfield Seminary building has been carried up to the height of two stories. The building when finished, will consist of a main building and two wings, occupying an area of 151 by 51 feet. The main building will be carried up four stories and the wings three stories. It will have four towers, of brick, in one of which the bell will be hung. The walls are of brick, eighteen inches in thickness and most substantially built.

The plan of the edifice is by Mr. S. B. ELLIOTT, and seems very excellent indeed. Mr. Elliott, it will be remembered, is the architect of the People's College, now building under his supervision at Havana, N. Y. He is likewise superintending the erection of a Seminary at Danville. It gives us pleasure to record these triumphs of the genius of a Tioga boy in competition with older and more experienced architects; and, judging from the little acquaintance we have with the gentleman, he has but just entered upon a career destined to reveal greater successes than any he has yet achieved.

A Princely Humbug.

WERE all to be of one mind, existence would become unbearably monotonous and tame, human progress would be checked and the brains of statesmen and philosophers would consume with rust. So, it sometimes happens that enterprises seen from the standpoint of one, appear as laudable and magnificent undertakings, while from the position of another the same enterprises appear in the light of stupendous humbugs.

The Mt. Vernon Association—formed for the purpose of purchasing the Washington estate—the ashes of that good man included—has ever appeared to us in the light of a humbug. The engagement of that prudish political old maid, Edward Everett, by New York Ledger Bonner, to write a series of Mount Vernon Papers for the Ledger at the fat salary of Ten Thousand a Year—said Ten Thousand Dollars to be donated to the Mount Vernon Purchase Fund by the said Everett—is very generally lauded by the press as "Princely Donation." We, on the contrary, cannot see in it anything but a princely humbug. We see nothing in it worthy of praise or blame, but something provocative of "pish!" "tush!" "p-h!" and the like interjections. Any severer emotion seems unnecessary, as this, to some, may seem irrelevant.

The resting-place of the dead, is of all earthly places, the most sacred. The savage, even, never passes the burial-place of his kindred and fellow-braves but with emotions of awe and reverence. It is fit that the tombs of departed worth, public and private, should be respected; and when their mortal remains have received Christian burial and the hand of love, friendship, or national gratitude has reared the marble and beautified the spot, everything that either affection, friendship or public gratitude can do in honor of the departed has been done. The example of departed excellence cannot be interred with its bones; that remains above ground.

The mortal remains of Washington received a Christian burial, as was appropriate, upon his own estate. His tomb was built and his monument reared by the hand of affection. The tomb is appropriately plain and unostentatious, for Washington was a plain, unpretending man. The estate is now the property of a distant relative of the illustrious man. It is not likely that the present owner of the Mount Vernon Estate will dispose of the mouldering bones of his great relative by piecemeal; nor do we apprehend that he will plant corn upon the ruined tomb. It is not the time to fear an irruption of the Goths and Vandals; therefore, it is reasonable to suppose that the tomb of Washington will be preserved as well by the hand of affection as it would be by public gratitude. If the present owner is unable to keep the estate, let it be sold to some one of those Southern patriots who can render the estate profitable through the sweat of his human chittels. The ashes of Washington would be carefully preserved by such a man, since that class of patriots long ago transferred whatever veneration they may have had for the teachings of Washington to the handful of dust for which an undignified scramble is already begun.

But we object to this desecration of great men. The world can see that Jove had his Olympus, and how Olympus became an object of worship by association. Mahomet had his Mecca, and the Prophet's Tomb fills a greater place in the Muslim heart than the moral code of the Koran. See how nations have deluged the East with blood—trampling on the entire moral code of the Gospels—for the possession of the twelve square feet of ground where the body of Jesus is supposed to have been laid! Think of thousands perishing on their pilgrimages

to the tomb of Moses, of whom it is written that of the place of his burial "no man knoweth, even to this day." But why multiply instances in point? We object, therefore, to this undignified scramble for the ashes of Washington. We object to this attempt to place Mount Vernon in the catalogue with Olympus, Mecca, Mount Nebo and the Holy Sepulchre. When men begin to worship the ground once pressed by the foot of a prophet, or the world's heroes, or the spot where their bones moulder, they soon lose sight of the great moral lessons taught in the lives of those prophets and heroes; and thus the good they came to do is trodden in the mire of mistaken worship, of idolatry. "The American people need no other shrine than that of Equality. There let them worship, if they must worship ought earthly. Washington lives in history, not in Mount Vernon. If we desire to do him honor, there is his example; let us copy that. There are his precepts; let us heed them. Here are the liberties he helped to conquer; above all let us rescue them from the captivity into which they are being sold away daily, and at the instigation of such hypocrites as Edward Everett!

No. Not a penny have we to give to the Mount Vernon Association for the public uplifting of women who deck their persons with the proceeds of slave-auctions, yet find tears to shed upon the tomb of George Washington! But the labor of a life we promise to the work of urging men to revere and learn well the great lesson of political equality embodied in his life. Virginia is welcome to his ashes—well would it be for her people would they but imitate his justice and let their oppressors go free.

A precious pair of humbogs are Hon. Edward Everett and Mr. Robert Bonner, yet differing in kind and in degree. The former is a humbug in the Pickwickian sense; he makes great show of patriotism; Winkle talked loudly of his accomplishments as a skater. Bonner is a humbug à la Bar-num—a Princely Humbug. If Everett has most brains and scholarship, Bonner has more cash and enterprise. But Bonner has got the small end of the bargain for once. Bonner will find it necessary to duplicate Sylvanus the Younger and Emerson Bennett, in order to counteract the spirit of dullness which will pervade the Ledger during the publication of the "Mount Vernon Papers." We like the indefatigable Bonner, not more for his perseverance than for his unparalleled daring; for what editor in the country, other than Bonner, would have risked losing his patrons by employing a man to traduce the character of Washington?—we say "traduce," because to over-praise a man is quite as bad as it is to underrate his excellences; and if Mr. Everett's estimate of Washington is not fully as extravagant as Abbott's estimate of Napoleon, then the reports that we have seen of his celebrated lecture are most outrageous libels.

If the chivalrous F. F. V.'s are wise they can eclipse the Bonner donation and put much money in their fumbling purses beside. For instance, let each owner of a hundred negroes advertise to sell ten of the most marketable to the Honorable Edward Everett at \$1500 each, with the stipulation on the part of the vendor that the extra \$500 shall be donated to the Mt. Vernon Association immediately on its receipt. This will give Mr. Everett a fine opportunity to patronize the "institution" and ventiliate his patriotism at one and the same time. Of course this suggestion will not be considered exactly orthodox, coming as it does from a Black Republican source. No matter, it costs nothing.

When a bitter potion is put to the lips of a sick man, it is neither manly nor wise in him to make wry faces and refuse to swallow, thus making it necessary to hold his nose with one hand and pour the drug down his unwilling throat with the other. We are reminded of this moral philosophy by the lusty struggles of our friend Beardslee in the last Honesdale Herald. As, one by one, his Malat-ti counterpoises had down the Administration flag and run up the Douglas pennant, our friend begins to shake his head and mutter small thunder. He vows that he won't take the Douglas pill. He says dark sayings, threatens mutiny and hinteth that the Douglas will perish between two fires ere the battle of 1860. We counsel him to open his mouth and shut his eyes, then swallow. Why make it necessary for the Charleston Convention to hold his nose and force the dose? We entreat him by that early experience which endures forever in the memory of every man—the futile rebellion against catnip tea, castor oil, elixir Pro, squills, verjuice, and all the nauseous tonics to which infirmity is heir—to cease kicking and swallow manfully. If he cannot understand how it is claimed for Douglas that he has contributed to the utter defeat of the Democratic party in the late elections, yet remains a simon-pure democrat and worthy of all acceptation, why, that makes no whit of difference. He can't comprehend the philosophy of vegetable growth; yet he swallows his daily rations of potatoes, bread and beans, without discussion. Why be particular to know the "why and how and wherefore" of political phenomena, when the acceptance of the phenomena is made a test of orthodoxy?

Our friend has, it seems, yet to learn that even a child may ask questions which the profoundest philosopher cannot answer. He propounds his questions with a naive truly refreshing. As if the leaders of a great party were bound to satisfy the scruples of the poor, unsophisticated devils who edit papers in the rural districts! Our doomed contemporary is old enough to know better. But when will he be wiser? Let him be instructed by experience.

Attention is directed to the advertisement headed "A Homestead for \$10," published elsewhere. To those who wish to emigrate to a country combining the advantages of fertility and a mild and healthful climate, in our judgment, the enterprise of Mr. Bauder especially commends itself. We have made inquiries concerning the plan of the enterprise, the result of which has induced us to invest a small sum in these lands, for which we have received a Warranty Deed, duly attested. The fact is undeniable that some of the finest lands in the Union lie unimproved in Virginia; and of these the Rappahannock Valley lands bear a high reputation for fertility. In another point of view it is well for Northern men seeking new locations to turn their steps toward Virginia. The people of that State are now prepared to learn the great lesson of Free Labor. Example can do much to rescue central and western Virginia from the blight and mildew of unrequited labor. In this direction we seem to deprecate the way to a peaceful solution of the difficulty which is rending the country in twain. Believing the settlement of the waste lands of Virginia by Northern men desirable, in a humanitarian not more than in a pecuniary point of view, we commend the enterprise of Mr. Bauder to all persons desiring to improve their worldly condition.

THE INSTITUTE.—We are enabled to give a pretty full report of the proceedings of the Teachers' Institute held in Mansfield last week, for which we are indebted to Wm. GARRETTON, of Tioga. We had the pleasure of attending the afternoon and evening sessions of Thursday and the morning session of Friday. Thursday evening we listened to a lecture on The Advantages of Education by Prof. Kenyon, of Alfred University. The lecture was one of the most substantially practical to which we ever

REPORT

Of Proceedings of the Tioga Co. Teachers' Institute, held in Mansfield, Pa.

Special Correspondence of the Agitator.

The Tioga County Teachers' Institute held its semi-annual session at Mansfield last week, commencing on Monday evening and adjourning finally on Friday evening. The number of teachers attending was over one hundred and fifty, and the average attendance about one hundred. The M. E. and Baptist Churches were freely devoted to its use, the meetings of the Institute being held in the former, and meetings of committees (mostly) and of teachers, for examination by the Co. Superintendent, in the latter. Your correspondent was not present on Monday evening, but was informed by those who were, that on their arrival they found the meeting house warm and well lighted, and other arrangements made for a hospitable reception by the people of Mansfield. I was also informed that the meeting was organized by electing Rev. R. L. STILWELL, *President pro tem.*; and A. J. WEBSTER, of Mansburg, *Secretary, pro tem.*; and selecting a committee on "business and exercises"—consisting of V. A. Elliott, Albert Clarke and A. J. Webster; and that a lecture was delivered by N. L. Reynolds on "Language in general," which was very instructive and interesting.

TUESDAY, Nov. 23d.—The Institute met at 8 A. M. Report of Com. on Business, &c., providing exercises for the day received and adopted. A. N. Elliott, Caroline Gaylord and Dianthe M. Drew, appointed a committee to confer with a committee of the citizens of Mansfield in relation to the boarding of teachers while attending the Institute. Rev. R. L. STILWELL resigned the Chair, and SIMON B. ELLIOTT, was elected *President, pro tem.*

Methods of teaching spelling described and discussed. The morning exercises closed with a short address by the President, S. B. ELLIOTT, in which he related his first school experience in the old log school house, when the "beech club" was a regular institution; and drew a hopeful conclusion from a contrast between the present and former condition of common schools and school houses.

Met again at 1 P. M.

Resolved, that the *Secretary* make a list of the names of members attending the Institute, and further report from the Committee on Business, &c., adopted.

Demonstration of rule for finding the cube root, by I. R. Spencer.

Lecture on English grammar, by V. A. Elliott.

Drill on elementary sounds by County Superintendent—N. L. Reynolds. Adjourned to 6 1/2 o'clock in the evening.

Met at 6 1/2 o'clock, P. M. Teachers explained their respective methods of opening school and classing pupils. This was followed by a general discussion on the same subject, on the management of scholars, and on the necessity of corporal punishment, in which several gentlemen not members of the Institute were invited to participate. A large majority deeming such punishment necessary at times, in most schools.

Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 24 h. Met at 9 A. M. The Superintendent being absent, (engaged in examining teachers) Discussion on methods of teaching Geography.

Lecture by S. B. Elliott on Astronomical Geography, followed by a general discussion of several points under that head.

Illustration of the true remainder in division with component factors, by ———

Explanation of multiplication of vulgar fractions, by Miss D. M. Drew.

Adjourned.

Met at 1 1/2 P. M. Mr. E. S. Hubbell of Sullivan, an ex-teacher, invited to participate. A Committee on Resolutions appointed, viz: Miss D. M. Drew, Miss Sarah Tinkham, S. B. Elliott, Marcus Brooks.

Lecture on Phonography, by Wm. Garrison.

General discussion upon the subject of Grammar, and methods of teaching it.

Resolved, That Counsellors be elected for those school districts not now represented in the Board. [These were elected but I have obtained no use of their names.]

Mr. R. M. Pratt of Wellsboro, offered the following resolution, which was largely discussed, and negatived, viz: "That text books on Grammar ought not to be used in Common Schools."

Adjourned.

Met at 6 1/2 P. M. Lecture by S. B. Elliott on the ventilation of school-houses—explaining very clearly how the air becomes unwholesome in close and crowded rooms, and showing how this may be prevented by suitable contrivances (which he described) for regulating the ingress and egress of air.

A resolution, "That Drawing ought to be taught in Common Schools," was presented and laid on the table.

A resolution, "That in the examination of teachers, allowance ought to be made for embarrassment," was presented, discussed and negatived by a majority of two votes.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, Nov. 25th.—Met at 9 A. M. Demonstrations &c., in arithmetic by N. L. Reynolds Superintendent. Subjects, simple and local values, in numerical notation—Different methods of notation—Greatest common divisor.

A method of alligation explained and illustrated by Albert Clarke.

A resolution—"That the Institute ought to hold but one session per year," was discussed and negatived; and it was resolved that the next meeting be held immediately preceding the next summer school-term.

The Board of Counsellors report in favor of holding next meeting at Tioga. Adopted. Prof. William C. Keoyon, President of

Alfred University, having arrived, he was unanimously requested to drill the teachers present, in English Grammar, during the afternoon, and to deliver a lecture in the evening.

Adjourned. Met at 1 1/2 o'clock P. M. Lecture on English Grammar and drill of teachers by Prof. Kenyon—mode of teaching beginners to classify words—mode of illustrating definitions. [The teachers, pupils now, were invited to "ask questions," and they proposed many difficult inquiries relating chiefly to sentences of anomalous construction, which were disposed of in a manner that showed Mr. K. to have a thorough acquaintance with the subject. He seems remarkably free from pedantry—the besetting vice of mere grammarians; but, in the opinion of some of the teachers present, he is rather too fond of reforming the language of the author before parsing it.]

After having a good time of it on Grammar, the Institute adjourned to 6 1/2 o'clock P. M.

Met at 6 1/2 P. M. Superintendent Reynolds, offered a resolution, "That teachers, who on examination, are marked number one, in all the branches, ought to receive permanent certificates."

Discussed by Morgan Hart, R. C. Bailey, V. A. Elliott, F. M. Elliott in the affirmative, and R. M. Pratt, R. R. Austin, and A. J. Webster in the negative; and laid on the table.

On motion of N. L. Reynolds, Sup't. A. J. Webster and S. B. Elliott, Rev. R. L. Stillwell of Mansfield, Wm. Garretson of Tioga, and Prof. Wm. C. Kenyon of Alfred University were elected honorary members of the Institute.

An able and interesting lecture was delivered by Prof. Kenyon on "The Advantages of Education."

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, Nov. 26th.—Met at 8 A. M. On motion of N. L. Reynolds, Sup't. A. C. Clarke and S. B. Elliott, J. S. Hoard, President of Mansfield Classical Seminary was elected an honorary member.

Committee on Resolutions report the following, viz:

Resolved, 1. That our faith in the efficiency of our Institute has greatly increased.

Resolved, 2. That we deem it detrimental to Common Schools to be kept open more than five days in each week; on account of non-attendance on Saturdays; and also detrimental to the health of pupils.

Resolved, 3. That district Institutes ought to be sustained.

Resolved, 4. That we deem it the duty of directors and parents to visit the schools, at least monthly.

Resolved, 5. That we earnestly request the school directors throughout the county, so to arrange the school houses that they may be suitably warmed and ventilated.

Resolved, 6. That the County Superintendent ought not to grant permanent certificates to teachers.

Resolved, 7. That in the person of Prof. N. L. Reynolds, we recognize the man eminently fitted, by natural and acquired ability, and by his indomitable energy and untiring zeal, for the performance of the arduous and responsible duties of his office.

Resolved, 8. That we tender our sincere thanks to Prof. Kenyon for his clear and practical demonstrations in English Grammar, and for his elegant and instructive lectures.

Resolved, 9. That female teachers whose certificates bear the same marking as those of males are entitled to the same wages.

Laid on the table.

Lecture by Prof. Kenyon. Subjects—special daily preparation of teachers for each class exercise—necessity of interesting the pupil in his task, Grammar, &c.

Recess of ten minutes.

Lecture by Prof. Kenyon on "The necessity and means of moral education." [This was a most able and interesting lecture.]

Resolved that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for \$15, on account of compensation to Prof. Kenyon.

Report from Mrs. Maynard former Treasurer accompanied by balance in her hands, \$8.50.

Adjourned.

Met at 1 1/2 P. M. Report from Committee on Officers presented, and the following officers elected.

MORGAN H. HART, President. R. R. AUSIN, Secretary. D. E. CLARKE, V. A. ELLIOTT, ANNA KEMP, ELLA SEARS, A. J. WEBSTER, Vice Presidents.

MISS MARY E. PITTS, Treasurer. MISS CASPER McCABE, Cor. Secretary. The present Board of Counsellors all re-elected.

On motion of N. L. Reynolds, Sup't. A. C. Clark and M. Hart, N. F. Handy Esq. of Mansfield, was elected an honorary member.

Unanimously resolved, "That the teachers of Tioga county ought to use their influence to build up the Mansfield Classical Seminary."

A resolution, "That children in school should be taught mental arithmetic as soon as they can read," adopted by a majority of one vote.

The resolution concerning permanent certificates was taken up, discussed, and adopted by a majority of fifteen votes. [This resolution created much interest, and gave rise to a lively and somewhat spicy discussion, especially on the affirmative side. The serious arguments urged on either side, so far as remembered may be summed up thus: In favor of permanent certificates; that they might be justly claimed by teachers of the first class as a stimulus and reward to industry and perseverance, and as a convenient recommendation in communities where the holder is not known; that it is a great hardship to the teacher to be compelled to come before the Superintendent for examination once a year, foregoer, or forfeit his right to teach a common school. Against the resolution; that permanent certificates would burden the school system with an unnecessary cause of trouble and vexation, there being quite enough of such vexations already in the distinctions necessary to be made between teachers of different capacities; that a permanent certificate would generally become the ultima

rule of the teacher's ambition, as such, that the just withholding of it would in many cases, be more vexing to the candidate and his friends, than a failure as to any of the present grades; that the justice of such a holding would in most cases be no adequate defence to the school system against the sentiment of the disappointed, who would be more or less blinded by self-interest and esteem; that the practice of granting them would tend to foster on the part of the holders laziness in study and mental culture in general—unreasonable pretensions to superiority, and, above all, would give rise to an unjust claim of equality with teachers who shall graduate several years later, when the standard for a first class certificate will probably be much higher; that a first class certificate, while in force, is as good as a permanent one, when it is understood that no permanent ones are ever granted; That it is a general rule, necessary for the good of the teacher as well as of the school, that they submit to examination, as often as occurs, year to the end that he shall keep up to the progress of the system; that if he retrogress with the standard, as he ought to do, he will not find any serious expense, or difficulty in the way of allowing the Superintendent to discover that fact.]

The general resolutions (previously copied) were then taken up, considered and adopted, excepting that relating to teacher's certificates, which was rejected, having been substantially decided before.

Adjourned.

Met at 6 1/2 P. M. Mr. Webster, Secretary absent; R. M. Pratt was elected Secretary, pro tem.

Resolved, that an order be drawn on the Treasurer in favor of ——— for \$10, contingent expenses.

R. M. Pratt was requested by vote, to furnish a digest of the proceedings for the December, and thanks were voted to M. H. Coan, editor of the Agitator, for furnishing a reporter for his paper.

The resolution, "That drawing ought to be taught in Common Schools," was taken up, considered and adopted.

Mr. Reynolds, Sup't., addressed the teachers at some length, and stated among other things, the interesting fact, that the number of pupils in the County who attended Common Schools during the year last past exceeds those of any previous year by ten thousand.

Mr. V. A. Elliott introduced a resolution of thanks to the people of Mansfield, for the interest they had manifested in behalf of the Institute, and the generous hospitalities they had afforded to its members; which was advocated by the Superintendent; responded to by J. S. Hoard on behalf of Mansfield, and unanimously adopted. Mr. Hoard also spoke the good will of the teachers in behalf of Mansfield Seminary.

The meeting was addressed by Rev. R. L. Stilwell, H. F. Handy Esq., Rev. W. S. A. Den and others, and after a vote of thanks to the President, S. B. Elliott, and benediction by Mr. Alden, adjourned to meet at Tioga by the call of the Superintendent.

It is not possible in a report, not unreasonably extended, to give the reader an adequate history of the interesting features of the session, to wit, the lectures, speeches and discussions. I must be satisfied with saying in the interest never flagged, but increased to the end; and that your correspondents for further opinion of the educators of Tioga County, and of the County Superintendent, and of our Common School system, should have had just one week ago. Yours, truly, G. November 29th, 1858.

The Legislature of Indiana has decided on conclusive majorities in either House, that a pretended election, two years ago, of Messrs. Bright and Fitch to the U. S. Senate, was fraud and a nullity, and that those gentlemen are not Senators from Indiana. An election is of course to follow immediately. We understand that the Hon. Henry S. Lane (Republican) and the Hon. John G. Davis (Leocompton Democrat) will be chosen. Mr. Lane was in Congress (the House) seven years ago, and held a high rank there. Mr. Davis is the present Member from the First Haute District, re-elected to the next term by a very large majority. We do not hear what Messrs. Bright and Fitch will do in the premises, but presume they will hold on. In that case, an exciting contest is inevitable.—*N. Y. Tribune, Nov. 29.*

MR. SEYNER.—The National Era says that it is the purpose of Senator Sumner to return to this country in the latter part of the month and resume his seat in the Senate.

Communications.

The Wellsboro Literary Society.

Do the good people of Wellsboro know that there is a literary society now in operation in this village? There has been as much noise made about it as might be deemed proper, but still I must confess that the matter appears to be ignorant of the fact. There certainly no lack of literary taste, or of a precision of intellectual exercises. It is a needless indifference that the inhabitants have fallen into, and which should be removed, duty to the young who are growing to manhood and forming habits for life. Give a former spirit in these matters. Give a heart! It would seem so, from the present interest shown in literary enterprises. We do not support a reading club, a Shakespearean club, or an association for the maintenance of both home and foreign lectures. Are we not an enterprising people? Do we not love the entertainment and improvement of such exercises? I trust so! But what stranger to happen in a session of this society now in operation and struggling for existence, he might doubt the love of the people for the literary taste for which the people of Wellsboro already have a high reputation. The association now formed may be as good just what the inhabitants may wish; a reading club, at which selections from the most approved and classic literature now extant, to be read, or home and foreign lectures, the proceeds of which shall go to increase the library and apparatus of our academy. Do not the good people of this village manifest their wishes, and encourage the few struggling to support such a society? Vol. 10.