

Raftsmen's Journal.

BY S. B. ROW.

CLEARFIELD, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1856.

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ANNUAL REPORT

Of Common Schools of Clearfield County Pennsylvania ending June 1st, 1856.

Clearfield county has 25 school districts—two of which are boroughs, 23 are townships. There are 125 school houses. 115 schools in session last winter. The school houses without exception, are built near the road side or cross roads—have no play grounds, except the woods or open fields—no small trees planted, no out-buildings, wood sheds, coal houses, &c., only in three or four places. Water is obtained from five to sixty rods from the houses. Dimensions of houses—from 16 to 20 by 24 a 26 feet. Height of ceiling, from 7 to 9 feet. Materials—plank, frame or logs. Those recently built, are some of them from 8 to 11 feet in height to the ceiling—weatherboarded out side—lined inside with boards. Plank houses have strips on the out side and lined inside. There are only four or five that are plastered. Windows—from six to eight, 12 lights; one has four six light and others four nine light windows, with ceilings 7 feet high; cracks daubed with mud out and inside, which is constantly falling off; slab seats, and no black boards; heated invariably with wood or coal stoves placed in the centre of the house—no means of ventilating except by open doors or raised windows. FURNITURE—none worth the name. Small clocks were in three schools. No globes, maps or other apparatus to demonstrate anything. No arrangement for hats, bonnets, books, &c. Old houses all in bad repair. Houses recently built, are good but low—desks for two—seats well arranged—teachers desk elevated and fronting the entrance door.

In all large schools there are from three to six reading classes well classified. Books uniform in some only. All the branches named in the State certificate are taught in almost every district—no uniform series of books has been adopted throughout the county. A selection has been made in many places and generally adopted, which is not only a great convenience to the teacher but a benefit to the scholar. The pupils are generally attentive and studious and with good teachers make rapid progress.

TEACHERS.—There are but few permanent teachers residing in our county, and the time of teaching being only four months few are induced to come from a distance for so short a period. A majority of the teachers have read no periodical or educational books on the art of teaching. I can say however, to the credit of the resident teachers, that they will compare favorably with most teachers from other counties and States. They have seen and felt the necessity of being qualified for the position they are to occupy and by their own exertions have advanced on an average of twenty-five per cent. and will progress. They take more interest in the schools; are anxious to give satisfaction and be successful, and the scholars receive a greater benefit. Intermissions are given of five or fifteen minutes each half day. Some temporary certificates have been granted to applicants very deficient, because better could not be had. There are not half enough teachers to supply the schools in the county, consequently some are employed who are deficient but anxious to learn and acquire knowledge for the purpose of teaching.

DIRECTORS.—Directors and parents, though often solicited, seldom think it their duty to visit the schools or show that they really feel interested in the education of their children. The public sentiment with regard to education and the school system is favorable. But little opposition is made except by some who have high taxes and no responsibilities to educate. Education is progressive. In many districts the people are disposed to have good teachers and good schools, cost what they may.

SUPERINTENDENT'S VISITS.—In my visitations I gave such advice and directions to the teachers as I thought most beneficial to the school. It is true that a superintendent cannot do much teaching in the short time he has to remain in each school, (though some are so preposterous as to expect it,) but his visits are useful in many ways. 1st. He can obtain valuable information for his own use and that of the school department concerning the schools, school houses, teachers, &c., that will be of practical benefit for improvement. 2nd. He can introduce the best modes of teaching; learn the condition and wants of the school, as well as the ability of the teachers for government; and award merit where it is due. 3d. His visits stimulate to action both teachers and pupils, because they see that their labors are appreciated and made known to the public and the schools are supplied with teachers of a better grade than heretofore. It induces young men and women to attend Normal schools, Seminars, &c., to acquire more light and knowledge and strive to improve by reading and private study.

SCHOOLS.—There are more schools this year than last, yet the number of pupils in attendance fall short about 600. This I can account for in no other way than that the inclemency of the season prevented many from attending school at all.

EXAMINATIONS.—I have appointed times and

places to examine teachers in public and in presence of the Directors as much as possible, for the reason that this method of examination has advantages over that conducted in private. 1st. It gives better satisfaction to the Directors who employ them. 2d. Parents have an opportunity of being present, (if they will) to ascertain the character and qualifications of those who are to take charge of, and educate their children. 3d. It affords an opportunity to explain the school law to directors and teachers, and proves the fairness of examinations by the presence of persons not interested. 4th. It exposes the ignorance of unqualified teachers and elevates the standard of professional ones. I do not expect to please every body, or that every body will please me. Some think I am too thorough and particular; others that I am too lenient and should reject all who do not come up to the full requirements of the law. There is a medium way, and I shall try to be as near the mark as I can, and do justice as far as my ability will permit.

SCHOOL HOUSES AND FURNITURE.—Clearfield county has 125 school houses, which at an average of \$250, will amount to \$31,250. Forty of these houses are good and adapted to the purpose of instruction. Forty-five may be so altered and improved as to become very good—under eight feet in the ceiling, and have no means of ventilation except by open doors or windows. The remaining forty might, with some repair, do for pig pens or chicken coops; but are totally unfit for the purpose they were intended. The best houses are 24 by 26 feet, and 9 to 11 feet in the ceiling—medium, 22 by 24, and 8 feet or less in the ceiling—34 by 18, and 20 by 20, and less than seven feet ceiling. The best and medium houses have from six to eight 12-light windows. The others—some four 6-light windows and four 9 lights. The best houses are plank or frame, with stationary seats or desks for two to sit at. All are heated by wood or coal stoves, placed in the centre of the house. The medium houses are hewn logs—desks too high—movable slab seats; and every way inconvenient, and injurious to the health and physical powers, as well as the mental. There is but one brick school-house in the county, viz: the Town Hall in the borough of Clearfield—two stories high—rooms below for school purposes—desks for two, and can accommodate 100 pupils. The black boards in many places are too diminutive for practical purposes. No globes, maps or other apparatus, belong to any district in the county.

LOCATION.—But little attention has been paid to the construction of school houses, and less to the location, which in most cases is determined by central position, regardless of all other considerations. The forest or open fields are the only play grounds—no shade trees except those planted by nature, and seldom anything about the school-house to make it an attractive place of resort for the young children, who have a great taste for variety and something to interest and please.

TEACHERS AND NO. OF PUPILS.—There are 4250 pupils—2435 males, 1815 females—110 school teachers, 90 males, 20 females. Five of each sex have State certificates, the other 100 temporary ones. A number have improved so much in the past year that they may obtain first class certificates on the next examination. Sixty of the teachers gave general satisfaction; thirty-five are medium and employed for the want of better; fifteen are unfit for the occupation of teaching. There are no graduates from normal schools or any college, employed; can't get them; no, sir! that would not do, for I heard one Director remark several years since, "College larn't men couldn't larn his children; he wanted somebody plain so they could understand 'em—that's it!" 70 teachers have been teaching less than one year, 20 less than three years, 10 from 3 to 6 years, five from 6 to 10, and five from 15 to 20 years. Birth place—Pennsylvania 82, New York 11, Virginia 2, Ohio 1, Maryland 2, Vermont 5, Ireland 3, England 2, Scotland 1. Age—six are over fifty years, 13 under 40, 24 under 30, 46 between 20 and 25, 16 between 17 and 21, and 5 under 17 years. The number who intend to make teaching a profession are not over 25.

VISITATIONS by directors and parents, like angels, are few and far between, being neither regular nor frequent, but have resulted with great benefit where attended to regular and in a proper manner.

With these preliminary remarks, I will proceed to give in alphabetical order each district, No. of pupils, attendance, order, &c.

BURNSIDE has 8 schools in operation, 192 males, 146 females; average attendance, 200; No. reading, 216; writing 175; arithmetic 81; geography 43; grammar 15; history 9; two or three only thro' Davies' Arithmetic, 20 to fractions and interest, rest beginners. Only one or two visits by directors, and none by parents. Teachers good—one went to the expense of \$10 to get outline maps for the benefit of his pupils, when their parents opposed the study of geography. This infused new life into the juveniles and made them anxious to attend school and make progress. Burnside pays a high tax and has good houses.

Books throughout the county—Readers, Cobb's, Sander's, English Reader, McGuffey's and Testament; Cobb's and Sander's Spellers; Smith's and Kirkham's Grammar; Arithmetic,

ties, Davies, Rose, Ray, Greenleaf, Pike, Adams, Stockton, and others.

BELL has 4 schools; 82 males, 52 females; reading 86, writing 51, arithmetic 29, geography 5, grammar 16, algebra one; several thro' Ray's arithmetic, eight or ten good in grammar, reading and writing, middling; deportment and order good, as well as the progress of the pupils. Teachers good.

BECCARIA has seven schools; 107 males, 104 females; attendance irregular—and I may say the same, to avoid repetition, of every school except three or four in the county, on account of distance and deep snows. As a general thing, two-thirds the number in attendance will be a full average, but in some one-half is an average number. No. reading 160, writing 123, arithmetic 50, geography 17, grammar 10—five good; in arithmetic, part advanced to rule of three, fractions and interest. Some schools, one visit, others none, by directors. Scholars studious and attentive. Books—Cobb's Speller and Readers, with Sander's, and Testament; Mitchell's and Smith's Geography in all schools in the county.

BOGGS has three schools; 70 males, 49 females; reading 62, writing 55, arithmetic 25, grammar 1; best in arithmetic, to interest and discount. Houses bad and badly located. One visit by Director.

BRADFORD has 8 schools; 183 males, 75 females; reading 116, writing 93, arithmetic 52, geography 7; best in arithmetic, to discount. Deportment good, except by one or two in one school. One director, an old man of 70, visited all the schools with me, and speaks by his actions that he feels interested in them, and is willing to spend his time and money for the benefit of those who follow after. I could seldom obtain the company of directors in visiting the schools—as they live from 6 to 8 miles apart, I could not go to hunt them, or send word in advance of my visits.

BRADY lies on each side of the Erie pike, next Jefferson county; is settled mostly with Pennsylvania Germans; has an agricultural community. Some good school houses, and some poor ones—not been very fortunate in having good teachers heretofore—is willing and able to pay well for good ones, and will have no others if they can help it. Has 8 schools; 227 males, 179 females; reading 168, writing 140, arithmetic 62, geography 15, grammar 10; not more than ten in arithmetic are thro' the rule of three and fractions, the rest mostly beginners; some good in grammar and geography. Nearly all the best scholars are in one or two schools. Deportment good, scholars attentive, and all they need is more school and good teachers. Books—Cobb's Spelling, Sander's Readers, and class in History. Directors seldom visit the schools.

CLEARFIELD BOROUGH has two schools; graded; 38 males, 47 females; average attendance 48; are very irregular in attendance; can't say whose fault it is, for I think scholars should in all cases attend more regular in towns than in the rural districts. Classification good. It cannot be expected children will learn when absent from school one-half the time. No. reading, 74; writing, 56; arithmetic 26; geography, 12; grammar, 4; some good in reading and writing; only 4 advanced to fractions, in arithmetic; poor in geography and grammar; teachers good; directors visit frequently. Books, Cobb's spellers, Town's definers, Sander's reader, Davies' arithmetic, Mitchell's geography. Progress and deportment middling.

CURWENVILLE BOROUGH has two schools; 45 males, 40 females; reading 67, writing 50, arithmetic 32, geography 22, grammar 15, algebra 1, history 19, Park's philosophy 15, physiology 7; good black board and light to expel darkness from the mind, notwithstanding, they have a miserable old school house, heated with coal stoves; seats and desks poor; teachers competent; books uniform and an exhibition at the close of the school, that gave general satisfaction and reflected much credit on teachers and pupils.

A large brick school house is under way by individual enterprise. This looks like light from the right source.

COVINGTON has 4 schools; 107 males, 89 females; reading 46, writing 41, arithmetic 15, geography 10, grammar 1; pupils all French and just beginning, but learn well; rather poor readers but good writers; two teachers for the four schools. Directors visit monthly.

CHEST has 4 schools; 60 males, 49 females; reading 51, writing 34, arithmetic 25, geography 2, grammar 3, all rather backward; have had poor chance of schools, like many other sparsely settled districts; one good teacher for 2 schools; progress and deportment good.

DECATUR has 6 schools; 102 males, 69 females; in one school several colored children; average attendance 100; houses bad and bad seats, desks, &c.; some good teachers and a good exhibition at the close of the school that was very creditable to teachers and pupils; number reading 84, writing 50, arithmetic 38, geography 10, grammar 13; nearly all the advanced pupils were in one school; wages \$25 per month.

FERGUSON has three schools; males 56, females 32; reading 53, writing 53, arithmetic 30, seven to rule of three and three to interest and square root; reading and writing good; no black board; visit by directors once.

GOSHEN has two schools; 25 males, 29 females; average 26; reading 12, writing 10, a-

ithmetic 4, geography 1, all backward; books, Cobb's and Sander's series.

GIRARD has four schools; males 67, females 30; reading 49, writing 38, arithmetic 8, geography 3, grammar 1, mostly beginners; deportment and progress, average; books, Cobb's series.

HUSTON has three schools; males 56, females 59; reading 50, writing 36, arithmetic 16, geography 7, grammar 4; progress and deportment good and good teachers; Sander's spellers and readers, Mitchell's geography, Kirkham's grammar, Davies' arithmetic.

JORDAN has three schools; 78 males, 51 females; reading 75, writing 51, arithmetic 29, geography 17, grammar 17, mostly beginners; no uniformity of books; deportment and progress good.

KNOX has four schools; 107 males, 63 females; reading 75, writing 50, arithmetic 29, geography 17, grammar 17; some very good in arithmetic and geography; eight or ten nearly through Davies' arithmetic; deportment and progress good; Directors visit some schools, not all.

KARTHANS has three schools; 60 males, 46 females; reading 70, writing 58, arithmetic 27, geography 10, all rather backward but studious and attentive; deportment good; no black boards; books uniform; visited once by directors.

LAWRENCE has ten schools; 247 males, 184 females; reading 260, writing 298, arithmetic 184, geography 45, grammar 53, algebra 2. Books not uniform, but mostly Cobb's and Sander's; arithmetic Ross, Davies', Greenleaf. A few good houses. Progress and advancement will compare well with the best in other places. Some schools not visited, others frequently by parents and directors; wages good; taxes high; school but 4 months in the year. Difficult to obtain good teachers for all the schools. More schools and more light needed.

MORRIS has seven schools; 131 males, 86 females; reading 100, writing 99, arithmetic 47, geography 8, grammar 6, mostly beginners; none advanced in any branch; need better houses and more light; have set the ball in motion; built one of the best frame school houses in the county, well finished, painted and pleasantly located near Kylertown; one German school in the district; progress and deportment good; attendance irregular; no uniform books; no visits by directors or parents; wages \$25 per month, schools small.

PIKE has 8 schools; 189 males, 172 females; reading 206, writing 175, arithmetic 82, geography 45, grammar 25; progress and advancement good; directors visit all the schools; deportment and attendance good; books uniform and parents visit some schools, occasionally; salary \$25 to \$30 per month; schools mostly large; teachers very good. All in favor of schools and want good teachers, for which they will pay well.

PENNS has 3 schools; about 80 males, 70 females; reading 94, writing 90, arithmetic 45, geography 19. The people, mostly Friends and prefer the useful to the ornamental; are intelligent, temperate and frugal. In arithmetic several have been through Davies' and the majority through fractions, interest and proportion, and have been taught to think and reason for themselves and understand what they do. Teachers competent and persevering. In one school the parents objected to geography being taught, and refused to get books. The teacher procured a large Atlas and cut the maps out, put them up against the walls, took a portion of time each day to instruct a class of 15, and the whole school, even those who could not read, learned by hearing others.—Directors and parents visit the schools; several colored children in one school and no objections made; deportment good; pupils attentive and studious; salary, \$25 per month.

UNION has three schools; 50 males, 35 females; reading 47, writing 26, arithmetic 14, geography 4; only two or three advanced in arithmetic; deportment and progress of the pupils good. German population and very anxious to have good schools and good teachers. Have a summer school. Tax 13 mills on the dollar.

WOODWARD has 6 schools; 71 males, 70 females; reading 64, writing 49, arithmetic 15, geography 2; schools small; attendance very irregular, houses bad and bad seats; schools not visited by parents and directors as often as they should be. In some schools only three to six in attendance, the days I visited. Progress poor; deportment middling.

STATISTICS.—According to the assessment, 1856, Clearfield county has 3971 taxables.—Seated property \$782,616, unseated \$490,433, money at interest \$25,228, total value \$1,508,476. 17 innkeepers; about 65 licensed merchants; 8 or 10 steam saw and grist mills; 4 wool-carding machines and several foundries; 18 or 20 grist mills, 50 saw mills and 6 tanneries.

AGRICULTURE.—All the cereal grains are cultivated, but not in sufficient quantity for home consumption. Large quantities of flour and wheat are annually brought from Blair, Huntingdon, Centre and Indiana counties. The land in all parts of Clearfield county (except the mountainous and barren parts), produces good crops when properly tilled. Lime is found along the Susquehanna river and many other places, but lies too deep to be obtained in quantity sufficient for building and fertilizing purposes and is brought from Huntingdon

and Centre counties, at a cost here of 50 or 60 cents per bushel.

LUMBER.—The townships of Burnside, Bell, Chest, Jordan, Beccaria and Knox, lie along the waters of the Susquehanna, Chest and Clearfield creeks. Vast quantities of lumber in the shape of boards, staves, shingles, hoop poles, spars, square timber, &c., are manufactured and taken to the eastern markets by water on the spring floods, either in rafts or arks. Then comes the harvest for toys to gather up the dimes and shew what stuff they are made of, as it requires stout hearts, willing hands and an iron constitution, to go through all the rough and tumble of a rafting excursion.

MINEALS.—Stone coal is abundant in every hill and almost every stream in the county. Iron ore is found in many places, but for want of rail roads, these valuable materials are of little use at present. Gold and silver is found in the pine and oak regions, but not quite so plenty as in California.

FACE OF THE COUNTRY.—The land is hilly and broken, but not mountainous or much barren, and most of the land is susceptible of cultivation, and there are many good farms. Decatur and Morris, Boggs and Bradford, lie between Clearfield and Moshannon creeks; not very hilly; land mostly arable and has a farming and lumbering community. I may say the whole county is a lumber county, for every township is so situated as to do more or less at the business. The timber of most value in the county is pine, oak, hemlock, chestnut, poplar, linn, cherry, locust and sugar. Penn, Pike and Lawrence lie along the Susquehanna, in the heart of the county, and are among the best and most populous townships. Soil, good; land hilly; plenty of stone coal. A farming and lumbering community. Brady and Union lie on the west, next to Jefferson county, and export a large amount of shingles and boards; face of the country, broken and hilly; land mostly arable. Clover is used as a fertilizing agent in the county generally. Huston, on the waters of Sinnamahoning, has a lumbering community; land, hilly and broken; great need for a railroad to get there. Covington, Goshen, Girard and KARTHANS are hilly and mountainous; lie along the Susquehanna; hills come in very steep, and little or no bottom land along the river. Soil poor; some barrens, not many good farms; but any quantity of stone coal, lumber and iron ore will be of great value in a few years. Fire-brick clay is found, of a good quality, from which brick has been made for the eastern market, in times past.

The northern townships are sparsely settled, and the schools not so progressive as in the more densely settled districts. People are noted for general intelligence, industry and enterprise.

IMPROVEMENTS.—The Erie Turnpike runs thro' Decatur, Morris, Boggs, Pike, Lawrence, and Brady townships—East and West. A turnpike is in progress from Luthersburg to Punxsutawney in Jefferson county. A plank road from the Central Railroad at Tipton, Blair county, intersects the Bald-eagle & Glen Hope Turnpike, at Muddy run, near Mount Pleasant, Beccaria township, and will eventually be continued to intersect the Erie pike five miles east of Luthersburg. The contemplated railroad, from Tyrone to Clearfield, by way of Phillipsburg, will no doubt be made in a few years.

WEALTH.—The wealth of Clearfield will never be fully developed until the iron horse finds fair footing through the forests and hills, to convey away the long-hidden treasures, which are of little use to the inhabitants, in a state of nature, but invaluable when brought to light, and the means of transportation ever at hand, ready to carry away the surplus minerals and lumber.

We need more light, more knowledge, more good teachers, and eight months schooling annually in place of three or four months. To bring about these desirable results, we need a uniform school tax on every citizen in the State, rich and poor, according to valuation, and a State normal school, or county high school in each county, to train teachers in the profession of teaching, so that they may have a love for the calling; be qualified to guide the mental powers in gaining knowledge; be impressed with the dignity and importance of the calling, and possessed of the right kind of knowledge in the branches to be taught. The teachers business is, to make every part of knowledge interesting to the learner, to strengthen and develop the powers of the mind to adorn and elevate the character.

A. T. SCHRYVER,
Co. Supt. Clearfield.

ONE of the certificates of death, written by a "physician of large practice," received at the N. Y. city inspector's office, reads as follows: "Mrs. Karolyne Johnsons daughter aged five months and ate days dies with delirium of life to day under my attendance."

It is stated that the number of English and Scotch settled in Ireland is now more than double what it was only ten years ago. A Galway paper says: "The West of Ireland seems destined to be silently revolutionized to the Scott and Saxon."

A man who cheats in a small measure, is a measureless rogue.

THE THRONE OF SOLOMON.

The following account (says an exchange) of a remarkable piece of mechanism is taken from a Persian manuscript called "The History of Jerusalem." It purports to be a description of the Throne of King Solomon, and if the details are correctly given, it undoubtedly surpasses any piece of mechanism produced in modern times. The sides of it were pure gold, the feet of emerald and rubies, intermixed with pearls, each of which was as large as an ostrich's egg. The throne had seven steps—on each side were delineated orchards full of trees, the branches of which were of precious stones, representing fruit ripe, and unripe; on the tops of trees were to be seen figures of plumage birds, particularly the peacock, the stamb, and the kurgas. All these birds were hollowed within artificially, so as to occasionally utter a thousand melodious sounds, such as the ears of mortals never heard. On the first was delineated vine branches having bunches of grapes, composed of various sorts of precious stones, fashioned in such a manner as to represent the various colors of purple, violet, green and red, so as to render the appearance of real fruit. On the second step on each side of the throne were two lions of terrible aspect, large as life, and formed of cast gold. The nature of this remarkable throne was such that when Solomon placed his foot on the first step, the birds spread forth their wings and made a fluttering noise in the air. On his touching the second step, the lions expanded their claws. On his reaching the third step the whole assemblage of demons and fairies and men repeated the praise of the Deity. When he arrived at the fourth step, voices were heard addressing him in the following manner: "Son of David, be thankful for the blessings which the Almighty has bestowed upon you." The same was repeated on reaching the fifth step. On his touching the sixth, all the children of Israel joined them; and on his arrival at the seventh, all the birds and animals became in motion, and ceased not until he had placed himself in the royal seat, when the birds, lions, and other animals, by secret springs, discharged a shower of the most precious perfumes on Solomon, after which two of the kurgas descended and placed a golden crown upon his head. Before the throne was a column of burnished gold, on the top of which was a golden dove, which held in its beak a volume bound in silver. In this book were written the Psalm's of David, and the dove having presented the book to the King, he read aloud a portion of it to the children of Israel. It is further related that on the approach of a wicked person to the throne, the lions were wont to set up a terrible roaring, and to lash their tails with violence. The birds also began to bristle up their feathers, and the assembly also, of demons and genii, to utter horrid cries; for fear of them no one dared be guilty of falsehood, but all confessed their crimes. Such was the throne of Solomon, the Son of David.

Windows.—They are the very mischief.—There is nothing like 'em. If they make up their minds to marry it's done. I knew one that was terribly afraid of thunder and lightning, and every time a storm came on she would run into Mr. Smith's house (he was a widower), and clasp her little hands, and fly around till the man was half distracted for fear she would be killed; and the consequence was, she was Mrs. John Smith before three thunder-storms rattled over her head.

A HOOP CATASTROPHE.—Sam: "Bob, what makes you limp so?"

Bob: "Limp," I guess you'd limp if you had walked between two rows of barrel hoops as long as I have. Why, the outside of my legs are as raw as a piece of beef; but I have got an invention to cure that difficulty. I'm going to take them military pants of mine, and run a piece of bar steel right down through the stripes, and then if any hooped female, or walking cooper's shop, invites me out, I shan't have my leg saw'd off.

AN INTELLIGENT JURY.—In a case of sudden death recently, in Warren county, (Miss.) a coroner's inquest was held, and the verdict was that "the deceased died by will of God, or some other disease, unknown to the jury."

How to Know a Fool.—A fool, says the Arab proverb, may be known by six things—anger without cause, speech without profit, change without motive, inquiry without object putting trust in a stranger, and not knowing his friends from his foes.

THE CATHOLIC VOTE.—Gen. Gallowader, of Phila., in a speech made to the Bogus Democracy of Cecil county, Maryland, a few days ago frankly acknowledged to his hearers that the Catholic Vote was the only thing that gave the Democratic party any strength.

"HONESTY is the best policy," said one Scotchman to another who had narrowly escaped hanging for robbery. "I know it," said the other, "for I have tried both sides of that question."

A Schenectady editor, describing the effect of a squall upon a canal boat, says: When the gale was at its highest, the unfortunate craft keeled to larboard, and the captain and another cask of whiskey rolled overboard.