

The Farmer.

STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

[From the late Report of Super of Com. Schools.]

As a subject to which the Superintendent of Common Schools may properly invite the attention of the Legislature, I desire to submit a project of an institution, allied to them in its nature and importance.

A State institution for special instruction in the theory and practice of agriculture, and for general instruction in all the branches of a high school course.

It is worthy of remark, that while the least useful arts practised in towns, have reached a point of perfection which seems to limit further advances, the art of agriculture, the most ancient, noble, and necessary of all arts, is the least generally understood in proportion to its susceptibility of improvement.

The Board of Regents.—It is necessary for the original organization of the institution, and for the proper direction of it, that there should be an acting body, superior in authority to its resident officers, having the same relation to it which controllers have to common schools, or trustees to colleges.

2. The Land.—The body of land purchased should be not less than one thousand acres, affording to all the pupils a sufficient area for the practice of tillage, after deducting space for woodlands, orchards, pleasure grounds, yards, and buildings.

3. There should be a principal house, sufficiently extensive for the domestic and school accommodation of the pupils, and a certain number of the teachers, officers, and domestics; neat, but not costly dwellings, for the professors; stables and the out-houses generally of a well improved farm, and requisite for every purpose of the establishment.

4. Books, et cetera.—Beside the books requisite for school studies, there should be a library founded, and cabinets formed in the various departments of science.

5. Teachers.—It is assumed that not less than eight professors, with sixteen assistants, would suffice for the various branches of instruction, and for the maintenance of discipline among the number of pupils proposed.

6. Officers.—A farm overseer, house steward, and matron, it is assumed, would require twenty-two assistants and domestics for the mechanical and menial labor of the establishment.

The Financial Features of the Project.—In estimating the original and current expenses of the Institution, care has been taken to obtain reliable data.

ORIGINAL OUTLAY.—One thousand acres of land, at fifty dollars an acre, \$50,000 00. One thousand acres of land, at fifty dollars an acre, \$50,000 00.

ANNUAL INCOME.—Two hundred paying pupils, at \$100 per year each, \$20,000 00. Total net annual cost to the State, \$44,000 00.

sufficiently large and varied in character for the exemplification of every species of husbandry.

3. The laying out of the land, and the erection and furnishing of suitable buildings for the accommodation of the pupils, professors, officers, and domestics of the institution, and for all the purposes of a great model farm.

4. The purchase of books, philosophical apparatus, farm stock, and implements of every description.

5. The appointment of eight Professors, and the requisite number of assistant teachers, in the various departments of instruction.

6. The appointment of a farm overseer, a house steward, and a matron, having the power of employing the requisite domestics in their respective departments.

On these six heads I will remark in their order—

1. The Board of Regents.—It is necessary for the original organization of the institution, and for the proper direction of it, that there should be an acting body, superior in authority to its resident officers, having the same relation to it which controllers have to common schools, or trustees to colleges.

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These are some of the expected fruits of this design. I may add further, that if the site chosen for the institution be not too distant from Harrisburg, the members of the Legislature, a large number of whom are always farmers, might witness, themselves, the highest achievements of sys-

tematic husbandry, and emulate them at home. They could be thus assured that the bounty of the State was well employed, and, from time to time, enlarge the establishment to meet the wants of increasing population.

It is necessary to show in what manner the organization of such an institution as the one proposed may be effected, since its feasibility, with due authority and means, must be conceded.

The project, as here set forth, contemplates its wants and capabilities, when in full operation; and only in this light can its merits be fairly judged.

As it would receive only the choice spirits of the local schools, it should be worthy of them as well as they of it. As all its seed would be sown in rich soil, the quality of it at seed should be the best, its quantity the most abundant.

No attempt has been made in the foregoing exposition of the plan in question to indicate what should be the qualification for admission, the order of studies, the proportion of time devoted to agriculture proper, or the rules of discipline.

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THE CHRONICLE.

H. C. HICKOK, Editor. O. N. WARDEN, Publisher.

At \$1.50 cash in advance, \$1.75 in three months, \$2 paid within the year, and \$2.50 at the end of the year. Agents in Philadelphia—V. B. Palmer and E. W. Carr.

Lewisburg, Pa. Wednesday Morning, March 12

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Executive, Administrators, Public Mechanics, Business Men—all who wish to procure or to dispose of anything—will do well to give notice of the same through the "Lewisburg Chronicle." This paper has a good and increasing circulation in a community containing as large a proportion of active, solvent producers, consumers, and dealers, as any other in the State.

Union County Democratic Delegation Meetings—Saturday, 10th May; polls open from 2 to 6, P. M. Union County Democratic Convention—New Berlin, Monday, 12th May, to elect Delegates to Judicial State Convention.

Union County Court—Monday, 15th May. South County Meeting—Tuesday, 20th May. Agricultural County Meeting—Wednesday, 21st May. Democratic State National Convention—Reading, Pa., 22nd to 25th May. Democratic State Judicial Convention—Harrisburg, 15th June.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The lines with which "Marie Roscau" has favored us are cordially welcome, and shall appear next week.

Cheap Postage Law.

This law will go into operation the 1st of July next. It reduces the average rate of postage, both upon letters and newspapers, nearly one half. The section providing for the three cent coinage, takes effect immediately. The new rate on letters not exceeding half an ounce, is three cents pre-paid, or five cents if not pre-paid, at all distances under three thousand miles.

Over three thousand miles, double these rates. The following schedule shows the rates on newspapers under the new law, compared with the old:

Table with columns: Newspaper Name, Weekly, Semi-W., Tri-W., Daily, and rates for various quantities.

All weekly papers free within the county where they are published. Papers of less than 14 ounces, half the rates, and papers not over 800 square inches, one-fourth these rates.

The rates on monthly and semi-monthly newspapers, the same, in proportion to the number of sheets issued, as on weekly papers.

IMPROVEMENTS.—A new board-walk is in progress from Kline's stable to the north end of Second street, and thence to the Boat-Yard. Messrs. Christ and McFadden have also erected a plank causeway from the mill race to their Foundry—both, timely and serviceable improvements.

Messrs. J. & J. Walks have commenced the foundation of their new store-room on Market street; and the building operations of this season bid fair to be unusually active.

A supplement to the Borough charter has been passed, giving the authorities larger jurisdiction over the streets and pavements, and requiring six Councilmen to be chosen at the coming election; two to serve 1 year, two 2 years, and two 3 years, and hereafter only two to be elected annually.

The Sexton of the Lewisburg Cemetery reports to us the number of persons buried in the Cemetery the past year, ending 9th inst., as follows:

Table showing number of burials: Adults 23, Children 30-53.

Died in the Borough in the same time: Adults 23, Children 22-45.

Of the adults, 8 averaged 72 years. Deducting deaths in childhood and those over 60, leaves 17 deaths of persons in active life.

An illustration of the benefits of advertising is furnished in the fact that the card of the Editor of this paper as Pension Agent, brought two old soldiers all the way from Clinton county, to have their Bounty Land applications made out; and from a neighborhood, too, where we happened to have but a single subscriber. Their documents are now before the proper Department, awaiting their turn to be examined and passed upon.

Public Sales.—We have advertised Auction Sales during the month yet to come, as follows: Friday, 21st—J. H. Tolbert, Kelly Tp. Saturday, 22d—James Harris, East Buffalo do. Tuesday, 25th—J. Motz, Hains Tp. Cen. Co. Thursday, 27th—Col. S. Reber's, E. Buffalo. Saturday, 29th—Benj. J. Rishel, Lewisburg do.

The water was let in the Canal, on Saturday last—except the North Branch, which will not be in navigable order for some time yet. The Packet Boats are now running. The Main Line is in active operation.

The reputed owner of the cow in Buffalo township, (referred to last week,) requests us to say there is no truth whatever in the reports that have been circulated with regard to her powers of speech.

Gen. Scott and Gov. Marcy recently met at Washington, and became reconciled—both agreeing to let the "fifty cents" and the "plate of soap" be forgotten.

From California.—The Empire City reached New York from Chicago on the 8th inst., with 220 passengers, and \$450,000 in gold dust.

The "Gold Bull" on the Pacific still attracts much attention, but is very difficult of access.

The Indian troubles continue. At Rattlesnake Creek, it is reported, seventy-two miners were murdered by the Indians, and in a battle at Aguto Frio, 60 Indians were slain.

It was supposed the U.S. Senatorship lies between Col. Fremont and T. Butler King.

State Agricultural College.

We this week give, in our Farmers' Department, that part of the able report of A. L. Russell, Esq., Superintendent of Common Schools, which contains his plan of a State Agricultural College—a project of great plausibility, and one which Mr. Russell advocates, with a cogency and zeal that betoken on his part strong confidence in its ultimate success.

Without intending now to discuss its merits, we may briefly suggest an arrangement by which the main results sought to be attained may be accomplished, with less expense, and at an earlier day, than by the plan proposed in the Report. For instance: the University at Lewisburg when fully organized, as it will be at no distant period, would be able—with the addition of a Professor of Chemistry, and one of Botany, and a few more acres of land—to accommodate a full proportion of the agricultural students that it is supposed would be drawn to the State institution, and do them full justice, if an annual appropriation of one hundred and fifty dollars were furnished by the Commonwealth for each student sent by the State.

The appointment of the additional Professors could be made by the Governor or the Superintendent of Common Schools, and the beneficiaries be selected from the various Representative Districts in the manner designated in the Report. This would give the Commonwealth a due proportion of controlling influence, ensure the faithful application of the funds, and maintain a just freedom from sectarian influence.

The Colleges at Meadville, Washington, Canonsburg, Gettysburg, Carlisle, Lancaster, Easton, &c., would doubtless undertake similar arrangements upon the same terms; and efficient and prosperous agricultural schools would be thus established in various convenient parts of the State, accomplishing substantially the same practical results contemplated in the plan of the Superintendent, and at a comparatively small expense to the Commonwealth.

There would seem to be some possibility, too, that this imposing central establishment would be too extensive and cumbersome for effective operations—a difficulty that would be obviated by adding to the resources of several existing institutions in convenient locations; and which could in the aggregate accommodate many more agricultural students to advantage than the number proposed for this single establishment. They would, together, be likely, also, to secure a greater number of pay students, from the well known fact that the greater proportion of students at any college are generally from its immediate vicinity, or adjacent counties. An argument, on this point, of considerable force, is furnished by an article in the American Journal of Insanity, page 282, et seq. in which it is demonstrated that proximity to any such public institution is the cause of more numerous attendance from any particular locality, and this without reference to the number of persons in the respective geographical divisions, who would be expected to attend. The county in which a college is situated will always send more than its proportion of undergraduates; and this will doubtless continue to be the case, notwithstanding the increased facilities of travel and communication, by railroad and telegraph. It is advisable to secure the greatest good of the greatest number in this as in other things, and if six agricultural colleges would, as seems probable, accommodate more students, as well, and at less expense than one, it is a conclusive reason for giving them proper encouragement and support. We may refer to this subject again.

The February No. of the "United States Law Magazine" has been received, (and barring some sad typographical errors) fully sustains the deservedly high reputation of this periodical. This No. contains a portrait of Chief Justice Taney; the whole of Jeremy Bentham's admirable treatise on Fallacious Argumentation; Notes of recent decisions in the States of New York, Delaware, Arkansas, and Indiana; a digest of all the cases in the last Volume of South Carolina Reports; Notes of new law books; and the list of cases contained in this number. Published by John Livingston, 54 Wall Street, New York, at \$5 a year.

We observe a bill has been introduced into the Legislature, granting a divorce to the notorious Dr. William Wedderburn, of Philadelphia. We had supposed the developments made at the last session, would put this matter at rest, but it seems we were mistaken. We presume the bill will not pass; but money is omnipotent, and there is no telling what a Pennsylvania Legislature will or will not do, or how much time they will waste, to the detriment of the public interests, upon matters of which they ought not to take cognizance. If any members of either House wish to earn an immortality of infamy, let them vote for this bill.

A bill passed the late session of Congress, introduced by Senator Hunter, of Va., which, as carried out by Secretary Corwin, it is thought will add about \$500,000 per annum to the national revenue, from iron alone, and give much satisfaction to that interest. The additional tariff on iron is said to be equivalent to \$1,75 per ton, and 60 cents on coal.

The bill to confer on Gen. Scott the title of Lieutenant General, failed in the House, not quite two thirds of the members voting to take it up.

George Curtis, of Boston, it is stated is the new Commissioner of Patents, vice Tho's Ewbank, removed.

Tho's Butler King is confirmed by the Senate as Collector at San Francisco.

We have received an advertisement from one of the many infamous impostors who infest the Atlantic cities, with a request to name our terms of publication. We answer again, that we will not suffer such advertisements to appear in our columns at any price. We decline lending ourselves to such impositions on the community, and becoming parties crimina in the swindling operations of these miscreants, who, if the laws were duly enforced, would soon find their proper level in the cells of the Penitentiary. We should suppose no respectable Newspaper Agent in the cities, would knowingly permit such customers to have access to their files, to thus obtain a knowledge of names and places without which they would be unable to impose on the public. Our citizens are often and heavily taxed with unpaid "lottery," "washing mixture," and other similar circulars, in letter envelopes, from persons who could have obtained their names in no other way. It once was, and still ought to be, the law, that people thus imposed upon, should have the right of returning such documents to the P. M., and be relieved from the postage. We hope the next Congress will reduce the rates of postage still further, and require pre-payment in all cases. This will afford some remedy for the evils complained of, as well as a multitude of others.

Since writing the above, we see that one of these establishments in New York has been broken up by the police, and the "Secretary" put in limbo. It purported to be a kind of "Art Union," purchasers of numbers in which were to have a free passage to the World's Fair, or draw a splendid picture at any rate. The Managers had already received some \$15,000 from green eyes in the country, and numerous letters with remittances have since arrived at the N. Y. post office. We observe that an over-the-river scotchman has been slightly taken in by this sharper, and imagine he is satisfied by this time that his logic has only resulted in a "distinction without a difference."

The Committee of the State Agricultural Society met at Harrisburg, 27th ult., Judge Jessup in the chair. They appointed 22d-24th Oct. next for the Fr A Annual Exhibition of the Society—the rules, and place of exhibition, to be hereafter designated.

Dr. A. L. Elwin, Corresponding Sec., Philad., requests the address of all agricultural societies; and all persons wishing to become members, are desired to forward \$1 to the Treasurer, G. H. Bucher, Harrisburg.

Some one more observant than ourselves, states that the Borough of Northumberland, with half as many inhabitants, has had twice as many weddings as Lewisburg the past season. How is this? Wont some of our young folks pair off, so as to enliven our matrimonial records? Cake is of little consideration, compared with having the next census right.

Read the extracts in another column, showing the waking up of the people to the importance of the completion of the Sunbury & Erie Railroad—the surest and most beneficial way of securing the trade of a large portion of our own and other States to Philadelphia.

"The Working Farmer," New York, has just commenced its 3d volume, and we rejoice to see it working its way to honor and independence. Published by A. Longett, 25 Cliff St. New York, at \$1 per year in advance.

We are indebted to Wm. A. Porter, Esq., Philadelphia, for a printed copy of his able argument, in reply to Henry Clay, in the case of Isaac Shelby, of Ky., vs. the Trustees of the U.S. Bank, delivered before the U. S. Sup. Court, 16th Dec. 1850.

H. L. Dieffenbach, of Clinton Co., and C. D. Eldred, of Lyeoming Co., both genials of the typo genus, have been chosen Senatorial Delegates to the Democratic State Conventions.

We learn that the "Sullivan Eagle" is about to try the hint we gave it about a year ago—take "wings" to Laporte, the county seat.

A small parcel of flower seeds was received in town yesterday from California, postage only \$1.60.

The new edifice of the German Reformed Church at Milton, will be dedicated on Saturday next.

The "Times" has a singularly indiscriminate way, sometimes, of making assaults.

The River and Harbor bill failed in Congress, but the Appropriation bill is all passed.

The Mexican Instalment Bill is among those which failed to pass Congress though there was a large majority for it in the House. Congress also failed to make an appropriation for the publications of the Census returns.

The Hon. George Evans declined the Chairmanship to Nicaragua. His name has consequently been withdrawn by the President, and that of the Hon. John B. Kerr substituted.

The bill to confer on Gen. Scott the title of Lieutenant General, failed in the House, not quite two thirds of the members voting to take it up.