

COUDERSPORT, FEBRUARY 23, 1860.

The Atlantic Monthly for March we have just received. Too late to speak critically of its contents. But the bill of fare, on the inside of the cover, looks inviting. There is a continuation, of course, of the Professor's humorous story, a dissertation on French character; an amusing essay called the Nursery; Blarney Stone; a new tale, the Pursuits of Knowledge under Difficulties; a poem entitled In-lara Face, a specious answer to the question, Is the Religious Want of the Age Met? and the usual excellent book notices.

Order Ruffianism in Potter County.

Mr. Editor.—At the recent township election in Wharton, there were three candidates running for Inspectors of Elections, each on separate tickets; but when the votes came to be counted, it was found that one Republican and one Conservative had majorities; but, notwithstanding, the Board refused to give a certificate of Election to the Conservative on the ground that he was a Republican, and that two Republicans could not act as Inspectors of Elections; and consequently gave the certificate of Election to J. L. Nelson—being four votes in the minority, as the tally papers in the Prothonotary's office will show. WHARTON, Feb. 13, 1860.

We learn, with pleasure, that Frank L. Jones, Esq., formerly Sheriff of this county, has been appointed Sheriff of Tioga county, N. Y., by Gov. Morgan to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of Daniel Jenks, who was removed for taking a prisoner to the poll to vote at the recent State election. Jenks was an over-zealous democrat, and thought he would give the hybrid ticket a boost—hence his removal. Mr. Jones is well known to the people of this county, and was the first county officer ever elected in this county in opposition to hunkerism—having received 26 majority over D. F. Ellsworth, his hunker opponent for Sheriff in 1851. The compliment from Gov. Morgan is well-deserved, and the county has secured an excellent officer.

To the Editor of the Potter Journal.

Sir: We desire to make the following statement through the columns of your excellent paper. Directed, as we believe, by the spirit of God, we visited this place one week ago. We found but one or two professors of religion in this entire community; but the people came together to hear the gospel; sinners were converted; backsliders were reclaimed, and great good had been done in the name of the Blessed Redeemer. Twenty-three have been baptized and a number more intend to be soon. Truly the prediction of the prophet—"the wilderness shall bud and blossom as the rose"—is here fulfilled.

At the donation held on Monday evening at the house of J. L. Phenix, Jr., the inhabitants generally, we acknowledge the receipt of Fifty-four Dollars and six cents, besides some ten dollars given a few days before, and a little since, making in all \$66.54. Language fails to express the emotions of our hearts. JOS. SANTEE, JOHN WALDEN, JR., Center, Potter Co., Pa., Feb. 8, 1860.

Among the proceedings of the Legislature of the 13th inst., we find the following affecting this and the neighboring counties:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Petitions, Remonstrances, &c. Mr. MANN, four petitions from citizens Potter county, asking for a personal bill. Also, one from citizens of Lycoming county asking for an Act creating the New Shore Bloom company. Also, one from citizens of Potter county for a law allowing widows to inherit control property acquired by the joint efforts of husbands and wives, to the same extent that the husband controls said property on the death of the wife. Also, one from eighty-nine citizens of Lycoming township, Potter county, asking for a law to increase the road tax in said township. Also, one from citizens of Potter county for the repeal of the act of April 20, 1858, regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors. Also, two from citizens of Potter county asking for a change in the road laws. Also, two from citizens of Potter county for the passage of an act creating a county out of parts of Potter, Clinton, and M'Kean.

Mr. BENTON, four petitions from the citizens of M'Kean county, asking for the passage of an Act creating a new county of parts of M'Kean, Potter, Clinton and Elk counties. Also, two remonstrances of citizens of M'Kean county, against creating a new county out of parts of Potter, Clinton and Elk counties. On the 14th, an act giving justices of the peace power, with a jury of six, to hear and finally determine charges for private certain character within this commonwealth, and to lessen the expenses in final proceedings, having passed first reading. Mr. Williston asked and obtained leave to insert Tioga county, and Mr. Jones for Potter county—the bill being local character.

We find the following acts in the private calendar, passed first reading, and ordered to be prepared for second reading:

No. 233. An Act to prevent the hawking or peddling of alcoholic, malt or brewed liquors in the county of Potter. No. 234. An Act to repeal the act approved the 20th day of April, 1858, supplementary to an act, approved the 31st of March, 1856, to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors, so far as said supplementary act applies to the county of Potter.

In the Senate, on the 14th, Mr. Benson called up House bill No. 117, to authorize the commissioners of Tioga County to borrow money. The bill passed its several readings, and with the signature of the Governor, became a law.

School Teachers' Certificates.

Mr. CHASE.—Dear Sir: Most of your readers probably now know the regulations of our common school system provided for the granting of graded certificates to those wishing to teach. The Superintendent's estimate of the qualifications of the candidate is marked by figures on the certificate. No. 1 is very good; No. 2, good; No. 3, middling; No. 4, poor; No. 5, very poor. Now, when this grading is understood, and proper attention paid to it before hiring a teacher, Directors are furnished with a safe-guard against poorly qualified teachers (if the examiner be a competent man.) The fact that an applicant for a situation, as teacher, has a regular certificate from the County Superintendent is not of itself sufficient grounds for employing him. For instance, the certificate may be marked No. 4 in nearly all the seven or eight branches mentioned in N. By this marking, the Superintendent virtually says, "This person is poor in all the branches taught in common schools, and is poorly qualified to impart to others what he may know. I therefore advise School Officers not to employ him." I say then, the certificate itself may be the very opposite of a recommendation. Now, Directors are sometimes inadvertently led into error by a misunderstanding, or by ignorance on this point. To guard against this and to remove the individual responsibility of making refusals in cases where poor certificates are offered. The Ullysses Board of Directors passed a resolution in Feb., 1859, that "No teacher shall be hired in our schools for the ensuing year, whose certificate does not average as good as No. 3." Whether our friends, the teachers in the county, or others, think this a good move or not, it has unquestionably operated well with us, and our schools show it. The same Board of Directors (not all the same men) at their meeting on the 18th inst., (all being present) passed a resolution raising the required standard to No. 2. I may here say, the present Directors are Geo. S. Olmsted, C. H. Armstrong, Perry Brigham, Isaac Byam, Willis Young and Duick Whipple, Jr.—all working men. We leave this action open to criticism, courted inquiry as to the progressive condition of our schools.

I propose to write several short articles—if acceptable—bearing upon the County Superintendentcy, pay of teachers, &c.—all of which shall be in good feeling, and open to fair criticism and courteous reply from any person. Yours truly, I. BIRD, Brookland, Pa., Feb. 20, 1860.

The Last Word.

Mr. Editor—I did not intend that my name should again appear in the columns of your very respectable paper, in the matter of the debating club; but in consideration of the demand made by "B," I feel myself in duty bound to make a few statements in reference to the position taken by me in the article signed "N." found in the JOURNAL of Feb. 9. I feel to regret very much that the zeal of "B" has risen to such a pitch that I am warned of the civil code. He demands a public retraction from me. This I can not make—what I then said, I now say is true, to the best of my knowledge; and not one word or syllable can I retract. Yours, respectfully, MASON NELSON, Lymanville, Feb. 17, 1860.

To the PUBLIC.—With the high regard that I have for Messrs. Bird and Nelson, I must say that I was a member of the debate in controversy, and to the best of my knowledge, there was no such argument produced as Mr. Bird claims in his article in the JOURNAL of Feb. 2nd. N. J. MILLS.

The undersigned, having been present at the debate above-mentioned, would respectfully state that they fully endorse the above statements of Messrs. Nelson and Mills. (Signed), ALMERSON NELSON, M. OSTRANDER.

Mr. Editor—I am sorry to see so much ill-feeling exhibited by Mr. H. L. Bird, in regard to a recent debate in Lymanville on slavery. I happened to be a member of that debate; I am a Republican, and was chosen on the negative side; and I must say, out of justice to the judges and members of the debate, what the affirmative failed to point out the immoralities and vices practiced in the slave States, separately and distinctly, as they should have done, as that was highly necessary in debating this question. [The balance of this note being irrelevant to the issue and extremely personal, we decline to publish it.—Editor.] (Signed), T. B. ASHPORT, Lymanville, Feb. 20, 1860.

For the Potter Journal.

Mr. Editor: In the last JOURNAL I notice an article from "A Republican," saying that our strong Republican town had been defeated by a split ticket, got up by the Democrats, that our Republican strength had departed from us, and

that the Democrats had a jubilee by firing guns, anvils &c. Now, as one story is good fill another is told, I now propose to tell you my version of the matter. In our town, we ignore conventions and caucuses, as we know all the men in town, and calculate to exercise our judgment as to all candidates for office. Messrs. Larrabee and Baker were both candidates for the office of Justice of the Peace, either by the advice of their friends or of their own accord, and Mr. Larrabee received a handsome majority. That is all in regard to our town being defeated. The rest of the town officers are such as the people wanted. I presume; there is but one, (an inspector of elections,) as far as I know, who is a Democrat. Now, a word about the jubilee: Four boys, the oldest not 20, got the anvils by an act of burglary—crawling in at the window of the blacksmith-shop—contrary to the wish of any voter in town.

Messrs. Larrabee and Baker are both members of our Republican Club, and according to our constitution are expected to vote for whoever may be the Republican candidate for President next Fall. I will now give you my opinion in regard to the democracy of Mr. Larrabee; I think he would not qualify if, when he dropped the "Mr." and assumed the "Esq." it was expected he would vote for the Democratic candidate. One word more and I have done. Our Republican Club is striving for but one thing, which is the National Executive. Ullysses, Feb. 7, 1860. CHAYTON LEWIS.

For the Potter Journal.

Friend Chase: An article in the JOURNAL, by "Q. C." thinks the Republican party not materially injured by our town election, but doing better than last fall. Well, this is true, if the party that supported Wm. F. Burt for Sheriff last fall was the real Republican party, for that party failed to carry their town for Burt by 21 majority against him. In our town election the same party have elected their ticket by 35 majority. So you see, if this is the Republican party as "Q. C." would have it, they are on the gain. But the facts are these: there were four Democrats elected by that ticket, and every Democrat worked as hard for the ticket as they did to elect Burt, and claim it as their victory. A REPUBLICAN.

[Whatever may be the merits of the case, or of the statements made on this subject, we cannot admit any more communications relative to it—both parties having had their say twice.—ED. JOUR.]

DIED:

DOLBEER.—In Michigan, January 22d, 1860, while on a visit to his friends, Col. BENJAMIN D. DOLBEER, of Owasayo, Potter Co., Pa.; aged 67 years. [Col. Dolbeer was a kind, handsome, an affectionate father and a good neighbor. He was the active friend of the poor, the distressed and the forsaken, who will long remember, gratefully, his many and various kindnesses.—R. H. M.]

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IN THE POTTER JOURNAL.

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