

The Fulton County News.

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FROM IOWA.

George B. Shoemaker Writes Entertainingly.

Another George needs no introduction to the people of twenty-five years ago. He is a son of the late David Shoemaker, was born and spent his life in the house now occupied by the editor of the News, entered the ministry of the M. E. church, married Blanche Baldwin, a niece of Hon. A. Smith, went west, and ranks among the most able and popular members of the prairie states.

IOWA FALLS, IOWA,
November 27, 1900.

Dear friend Nace, the merchant sends to me occasionally of the McConnellsburg paper. I find much to interest me in them. A copy of the "Democrat" and the "Democrat" come to me tonight. I proceeded to read them through, and the advertisements, and I read the reading very much. I am sorry that you are having a hard time, and hope you will have abundance of rain before the winter freezes to any depth.

When I was in McConnellsburg in the spring, the people seem so much more real to me than they do now. My wife says I am "homesick," but that is not the reason for Iowa is the greatest state in the Union, and good enough for anybody; but when I read the news from my old town, I feel as if I were a young man again, and I enjoy reading about the people who have such familiar names.

I was interested in the sketch of the man who had driven the stage driver so long and had resigned. Do you know anything after time, during the last twenty years I have known in Iowa, I have been hungry for news of the mountains; and I saw them last spring, they were as fresh to my eyes, and a joy to me as well. While I write, I think of the jingle of the merry bells. It is poor sleighing, but does not make any difference to Iowa young people, more than it did to Teeter and Dunlap and Baldwin and Shoemaker and others, five years ago in Pennsylvania.

When I write, I am kept warm by the fire made of Pennsylvania coal, for which I pay \$8.50 per bushel. Potatoes are \$1.10 per bushel; butter, 22c per pound; Coffee at any price, \$1.10 for sack of forty-nine pounds. New York apples sell at 70 a barrel of 2 1/2 bushels, and the peck at 30 cts. Corn is cheap with us, and meat is available in price, although not now than a year ago.

Summer, or fall, we canned some shipped from California, Idaho, and later, from Michigan. Our grapes came principally from New York—the principal raisins some grapes—and apple butter (the old fashioned Penn'a kind) is made from Dutchess apples. We do not cider to make it, but put in one and one half bushels of one quart of good cider instead. We had some pepper; and, if you had been and had tasted it, you would have asked me whose name it was. I have asked from Pa. If any one would like our recipe, I will gladly send it to you. I read about you; recent news I was a boy again. A young man, squirming, republican, excited over a bonfire as in McConnellsburg is

I saw the name of Stoner in your paper, I was a clerk in the stores; and let me say that, if Bill Stoner sits in your store until nine at night, and, when he is ready to blow out the lights, shut up the shop, and see your girl, says, "I got me some mackerel for breakfast," do like I did, and walk down to the cellar and into the brine and fish out

some fish for him; but, say, get him the smallest, leanest, rustiest ones you can find.

I was pleased to see mention in your paper of dear old father Rev. Lewis Chambers. I want him to know, as he nears the end of life, and awaits God's messenger to carry him Home, that a sermon he preached in the basement of the M. E. Church in McConnellsburg, has been a blessing to me ever since I heard it. Especially has the closing part of the sermon been with me. The redeemed hosts, he represented, as marching, led by the Saviour, toward Heaven; and as they drew near to the gates of the City, they cried aloud, "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in." The inquiry came from the angelic hosts, "Who is this King of glory?" And the redeemed responded, "The Lord strong and mighty. The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory." I thank God for that sermon and the man who preached it, and hope yet to see him before he sees "the King in His beauty."

South Dublin.

Remarkably fine weather for December 1st. Our nimrods have had pretty fair luck in securing game this season. For a few weeks the continuous report of firearms reminded us of the opening and closing of a battle. Now that the close of the season approaches, there are but few reports heard.

Thanksgiving is over and there are fewer turkeys than a week ago. The squeal of the porker is daily heard in this vicinity.

We can hear each working day the whistles of at least four saw-mills. There is a report current that Andrew Carnegie will build the South Penn railroad. We heard a prominent citizen of Taylor, state that we did not have anything in our county to pay a railroad. We who were born and lived all our lives in the county know that there are large quantities of various kinds of minerals as well as vast quantities of timber. The writer has always contended that a railroad from north to south through our county would be of more benefit to our people than the South Penn.

Mrs. D. H. Myers has been on the sick list with Pneumonia for over a week, but under the care of Dr. Shoemaker has become convalescent.

D. H. Myers has erected an addition to his dwelling.

Grant Baker, our genial stockman, is on the go constantly.

Supervisor Hess made a much and long needed improvement on our road near School House Hill. Miss Maud Myers of Knobsville, will leave for Pittsburg on Monday, where she has secured employment through her cousin Susan E. Myers. The young folks will enjoy a holiday week, the schools will be closed next week on account of Teachers' Institute. We hope that both teachers and pupils may enjoy themselves and return to their labors with renewed determination to succeed in their work.

Laura M. Myers at present employed in Warfordsburg, accompanied by Amos McCullough paid her father D. H. Myers a visit last week.

We are in hopes that the railroad meeting advertised in the paper may prove a success.

Miss Margaret Foreman who has been at Pennington, New Jersey several months returned to McConnellsburg last Wednesday.

Elmer Trogler whose home is near Mercersburg spent Saturday and Sunday with the Misses Knouff of the Cove.

LOST.—Some time in August, three sheep, all ewes. Any information should be sent to
GEORGE BRADNICK,
Knobsville, Pa.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

The Men Who Have Served, the Salaries They Have Received, and a Brief Sketch of Each.

That the workings of the public school system should be more effective, the office of county superintendent was created by Act of Assembly, May 8, 1854; and it may be interesting just now to glance at the men who have held that position in this county.

Fulton county's first County Superintendent was Rev. Robert Ross. He was elected in 1854, he served three years, and in May 1857, he was re-elected.

Mr. Ross was a Methodist preacher; and, besides officiating as pastor of the congregation at McConnellsburg, and other Fulton county appointments, he preached at Loudon.

He was a native of Virginia, and a good citizen. With his family he lived several years in the house now owned and occupied by John Linn, and several years where Michael Lehman lives. Besides being a good preacher and a good superintendent, he was a crack shot with a rifle and very fond of hunting; and when he went out for game, he usually brought some in.

He used to tell a story about hunting down in Virginia. One day he was making his way quietly through a dense forest, when the indistinct form of an animal, high in a tree, half hidden by the foliage, attracted his attention. His trusty rifle was brought to his shoulder—a moment's aim—and the report of his gun was drowned by a most unearthly scream! and at the same time there came something crashing toward him from the tree top. Had he not instinctively stepped to one side, he would have been crushed beneath the weight of a monster panther which he had shot and which fell dead at his feet.

Yes, Rev. Ross was a good fellow; but it is remembered of him here that he would persist in greasing his buggy on Sunday.

As has been stated, he was re-elected county superintendent in 1857; but as the salary attached to the office during his incumbency thus far had been but one hundred dollars a year, it is not surprising that he should look for something better; and in the fall of 1857, he went into the fight for the office of Prothonotary &c., and defeated Wm. C. McNulty by 25 votes.

Notwithstanding the fact that the school directors at his second election had voted him the extravagantly large salary of \$200 a year he resigned, and John S. Robinson, an attorney, was appointed; but after serving about a year he concluded to go to Virginia, resigned, and George A. Smith, who was then a young law student, became the third person to fill the office. In 1860, William A. Gray was elected and served one term. Mr. Gray was born in 1822, at the Melvaine place, on Rays Hill, and afterwards grew to manhood in the home of an aunt in Wells Valley. His salary was \$300 a year. He afterward went to the army and is now a resident of Nebraska.

At the fourth triennial election in May 1863, John F. Davis of McConnellsburg was elected and the salary fixed at \$500 a year. After serving about half the term he resigned, and went to Williamsport, Pa., and Rev. John A. Woodcock of Wells Valley was appointed and served during the remainder of that term.

In 1866 the contest was between Amos Smith, an attorney and brother of Geo. A., and Hiram Winter of Brush Creek. Smith was elected. For reasons best known to himself, he resigned, and Winter received the commission. It was managed so that the salary was made \$1000 a year, and this helped to make both Mr. Winter and the office of county superintendent unpopular.

When Mr. Winter came up in

May 1869 for reelection he was defeated by W. P. Gordon, but it being found afterward that Mr. Gordon was not eligible, the commission was issued to Mr. Winter who served a second term, this latter at a salary of \$500 a year.

During Mr. Winter's first term an act was passed making those ineligible to the office of county superintendent who did not hold at least a professional certificate or had held the office of county superintendent. Had that act been passed three years earlier Mr. Winters himself would not have been eligible.

In May 1872, the contest lay between Jacob W. Mellott and H. H. Woodal. Mr. Woodal was elected but like Mr. Gordon was not eligible according to the act to which we have just referred.

Through the influence of friends the State school Department, permitted Mr. Woodal to take a private examination; and with the understanding that he should go to a State Normal school, take a course of work, and graduate, he was commissioned.

Mr. Woodal proved to be a popular and efficient officer, and held the office for three consecutive terms at a salary of \$800, a year.

Joseph F. Barton a graduate of the Cumberland Valley State Normal school at Shippensburg was elected in 1881, and re-elected in 1884, serving two full terms at \$800 a year. Joe was the Jimmy Buchanan of superintendents—entering the office as a bachelor and withstanding the charms of the fair sex even unto the end thereof. He was popular and efficient, and immediately upon his retirement from the office accepted a position in his Alma Mater which he has held since. He is Vice Principal of the institution, and is considered an indispensable adjunct to the school.

B. W. Peck, a graduate of the South Western State Normal, at California, succeeded Mr. Barton in 1887 and served two terms. Salary \$800 a year.

On the first Monday in June 1893 the present incumbent Clem Chesnut, took the oath of office, and has been twice re-elected. Mr. Chesnut is a graduate of the Cumberland Valley State Normal and has proven a very efficient officer.

Coupled with more than average natural ability much of his success is due to his indefatigable labor and indomitable pluck, by which he has been able to secure a maximum amount of work from his teachers.

Just prior to Mr. Chesnut's election, an act of the legislature made the minimum salary of county superintendents \$1000, hence he has received that sum each year from the beginning of his official work.

Like Grover Cleveland, Brother Chesnut, after his elevation to official preferment, thought it best that man should not be alone, and a very estimable lady became the partner of his joys and sorrows.

After filling the office of prothonotary one term, Mr. Ross went back to Craig county, Va., where he was living some twelve or fifteen years ago. The last we heard of Mr. Winter he was teaching in Iowa. Prof. Davis lives in Williamsport, George A. Smith lives in Tennessee, and Poor Woodal is dead.

L. H. Wible, Esq., of this place who has recently purchased the farm of the heirs of Abram Wagner of Tod township deceased showed us an old document he found among the title papers. It is a patent for the tract of land and a few acres in addition, written on parchment dated October 9, 1787, and signed by Benjamin Franklin in his own hand. This patent was issued just twenty-two days after our present constitution was adopted.

THE COUNTY INSTITUTE.

Eighty of the Eighty-Two Teachers Present.

For the thirty-fourth time since the establishment of teachers' county institutes by Act of Assembly, the County Superintendent, teachers, and friends of education are in session at the Court House this week.

When the roll was called Monday afternoon, it was found that 80 of the 82 teachers were present; and the two absent were kept away by sickness.

An organization was effected by making L. H. Wible, of McConnellsburg, Vice President, and W. G. Wink, of Taylor, Secretary—the former a justice of the peace and the latter an ex-justice; hence any legal questions that may arise this week will receive prompt attention, to say nothing of any matrimonial business that may go that way.

One of Mr. Chesnut's instructors, Mr. Murphy, gave notice at a late hour that he could not be here this week, and it left Mr. Chesnut a little short of help Monday afternoon; but Prof. Gresh, the Milton music man, was on hand, and as full of vim as ever, and Mr. Chesnut turned him loose just long enough to get everybody to singing, and to make the institute feel that it was ready for work.

It is with a degree of pride that we say that an institute in Fulton county would be a success even if every imported instructor should fail to put in an appearance; and, yet, our teachers know how to appreciate good work done by an instructor, and they are quick to take advantage of a helpful suggestion.

After a few earnest words from Mr. Chesnut, the discussion of "Discipline" was opened by E. B. Cline, who suggested that a teacher should not be too severe—only firm. W. E. Stein—A teacher should first learn to govern himself. E. E. Kell—Discipline doesn't necessarily mean punishment. Every movement in school should be with a view to securing wholesome discipline. Gilbert B. Mellott—Train your pupils to habits of carefulness and painstaking in their work. L. H. Wible—Teachers should not pass judgment upon offenses in too great haste. S. E. Martin—Needless punishment is often inflicted by the teacher acting too hastily. B. Frank Henry—Most failures in teaching come from want of a digested plan. Prof. Palmer—The teacher should have in his mind an ideal school, and then bring his work up to this as closely as conditions will permit. B. C. Lamberson—Well begun is half done. It is easier to hold your position as master than to regain it when once lost. N. E. M. Hoover—Win the confidence and esteem of your pupils, if you would make government easy. To do this, show yourself worthy.

Want of space forbids anything more than a hint at the thoughts expressed so well by each speaker. With Mrs. C. B. Stevens at the organ and Prof. Gresh as conductor, the institute spent a few minutes very enjoyably singing some bright songs.

Prof. Charles E. Barton, a member of the faculty of the Cumberland Valley State Normal was now introduced, and without wasting any time in nonsense went directly into the discussion of his subject—"Language Work." Charlie is one of the many Fulton county boys of whom we are all proud; and the way he handled the subject, showed that he was master of the situation. There is in his manner such an absence of anything like personal consciousness, that he wins his audience at once, and holds their attention and admiration.

The train being late, it was nearly nine o'clock in the evening before the lecturer, Mr. Swoope, mounted the rostrum; and, notwithstanding the fact that the audience was not in the most amiable mood after so long a wait, we believe the lecturer gave general satisfaction.

On Tuesday Mr. Lybarger, of Union county, reached the institute. He was brought here to fill the vacancy occasioned by the failure of Mr. Murphy to appear. He had been before the institute but a very few minutes when everybody present was satisfied that "he would do." He is scholarly and earnest, and is doing good work.

The work done during Tuesday, both by teachers and instructors was practical; and while it was interesting to those present it would fill all the columns of a paper even as big as the News if we were to attempt to tell all that was said and done.

Suggestion: Inasmuch as the teachers next year will not be at any expense for music books, would it not be well to assess each teacher, say, fifty cents, towards securing a stenographer who would make a verbatim report of every talk made before the institute, and to have these reports printed in book form and distribute among the teachers? Such a work would be of much value not only to teachers, but to directors, and to all friends of education in the county.

Saluvia.

Mr. Piper Barton, and Miss Blanche Barton of Brush Creek, were the guests of Mrs. Speer's family Thanksgiving evening.

Mr. Frank Minick, and sister Miss Louie, of Hyndman, are visiting their grand parents Mr. and Mrs. John Minick.

Allison Hauman, is suffering from an attack of pneumonia.

Mrs. Joseph Everts, is seriously ill at this time.

T. Ross Sipes, of Harrisonville, who has been suffering from an attack of typhoid fever, continues in a very critical condition.

On account of the fire at Asbury M. E. church Thanksgiving morning, the sermon "especially for the old folks" will be preached next Sunday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

Howard Mellott, who has been employed in Ohio, the past summer is visiting relatives in this vicinity.

H. P. Skipper, who had been at home since election day, returned to Clearfield, last week.

There was a very interesting local institute held at Saluvia Friday evening.

David Deshong, who is teaching in Bedford county was visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Deshong, over Sunday.

Thanksgiving morning, as Mrs. James G. Kline was on her way to Thanksgiving services at Green Hill, she discovered when quite a distance away that the roof of that church was on fire, and hastened across the fields and quietly gave the alarm to the sexton. Reverend Seifert, had just opened the services. He dismissed the congregation and in a very short time a bucket brigade had plenty of water on hand while some of the men passed water to the loft, Rev. Seifert, discarded coat and shoes and mounted the roof. The ladies passing buckets of water up the ladder to him. In a short time the flames were under control. Fortunately there was very little wind, and plenty of water the roof was badly damaged, and the interior received a good wetting. The fire is supposed to have originated from a spark falling on the roof.

The loss is fully covered by insurance. On account of the damp condition of church the afternoon services were dispensed with.

Postmaster E. R. Austin has opened a grocery store at this place.

David Sharp, who had been spending several weeks with friends at Needmore, has returned home very much improved in health.

Fulton County Boys.

The following from an Illinois newspaper gives some information concerning three of our boys.

Charles Houck is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Houck at Webster Mills; Mr. Andrew Glenn is formerly of Webster Mills, and Charlie Mock is a son of Mr. and Mrs. George Mock, formerly of Tod township, but now of Franklin county.

"Charles Houck finished work for Wm. Stanley, last Saturday. Tuesday he went to Savannah to visit an aunt, after which he will begin work for Miles Wallace, December 1st, intending to stay with him for a year.

"We understand that to-day at noon, James Glenn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Glenn, of this village, will be united in marriage to Miss Amelia Behrens, by the Rev. J. H. Grimm. Mr. Glenn is a steady young farmer who is popular with all. Miss Behrens has for some time been engaged with domestic duties at the home of E. C. Overholser. She too is well thought of. In March they will move to the Ferguson farm a mile and a half north of town, which Mr. Glenn has rented for the coming year. We wish them their full share of happiness.

"Thursday, November 15, at high noon, Charles Mock and Miss Emma Shank were united in marriage by Rev. Eisenbise, in Mt. Carroll. They returned home that day and in the evening at the home of Jacob Myers, the bride's grandfather, the wedding supper was served to about thirty-five of the nearest relatives. The bride wore a beautiful white dress and the groom never appeared to better advantage dressed in black. After many useful and handsome presents had been given, congratulations were in order. The groom is an eastern young man, having been here three years, and during that time worked at the home of Hugh Shannon and that of C. A. Brown. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Ellen Shank of south of town. They will live with the bride's mother until spring, when they will move on the Shank farm, three miles southeast of town. Both have scores of friends who extend their best wishes."

For the Arithmetic Class.

A flock of wild geese flew over a barnyard up in Tod township the other day. In the yard were some tame geese including a smart young gander who called out to the wild ones "Hallo! where are you hundred geese going?"

The leader piped down, "We thank you—we are not a hundred; but if our number was twice what it is, increased by one half of our number and nine more, and had you with us, we would then number a hundred. How many wild geese were there?"

The following is found in one of the arithmetics used in our schools half a hundred years ago: "When first the marriage knot was tied Betwixt my wife and me, Her age did mine as far exceed As three times three does three. But after ten and half ten years We man and wife had been, Her age to mine was then As eight is to sixteen."

What was the age of each at marriage?

In the fourth line the meaning is, their ages were in the proportion of three times three to three.

Misses Nellie and Jessie Nace of Chambersburg are spending this week with their uncle and aunt Mr. and Mrs. A. U. Nace of this place.

Roy G. Bohn of this place secured employment in Pittsburg and went last week to enter upon his new work there.

The Mercantile business of the late Thomas W. Huston at Clear Ridge will be continued by his son Harry under the style of H. E. Huston successor to T. W. Huston deceased. The profit sharing policy will still be continued. See ad next week.