

Published Weekly. \$1.00 per Annum in Advance.

ADVERTISING RATES. Per square of 10 lines 1 time, \$15.00. Per square each subsequent insertion, \$10.00.

School Reports.

Morton's Point school—Levi P. Morton, teacher, third month—Number enrolled, 33; attended every day, Grace Wink, Louie Morton, Sadie Forner, Blanche Wink, Jessie Wink, Bertha Truax, Minnie Strait, Maggie Mellott, Stella McInay, Ida Bard, Nellie Morton, Harry Wink, Howard Strait, Irwin Garland, George Wink, Ira Forner, John Morton, Thomas Morton.

Forest Dale school—Lorenzo Truax, teacher—third month—ending December 18, 1900. Enrolled, 32, average attendance, 26, Honor roll:—Verdin Decker, Russel Decker, Cora Strait, Palmer Strait, Lenora Mellott, Hixon Strait, Edna Mellott, Lee Decker, Grace Hann, Clyde McLaughlin, Daisy Strait, Lois Decker, Wm. Mellott, Harry Wible, Ellen Deshong, Speer Strait.

Locust Grove school—D. C. Hart, teacher. Third month ending December 17th. Number of pupils enrolled 21; average attendance 19; per cent. of attendance 92; pupils not missing any days: Achsah Plessinger, Retta Hixon, Jessie Layton, Julia Mellott, Mattie Garland, Roy Plessinger, Leslie Hart, Logue McKee, Ross Garland, and Willard Plessinger.

Just Saved His Life.

It was a thrilling escape that Charles Davis of Bowerston, O., lately had from a frightful death. For two years a severe lung trouble constantly grew worse until it seemed he must die of Consumption. Then he began to use Dr. King's New Discovery and lately wrote: "It gave instant relief and effected a permanent cure."

Superintendent of Public Instruction N. C. Schaefer, citing as authority several court decisions, announces: First, that books cannot be changed while the schools are in session. Second, that it is not allowable to purchase books not legally adopted. Third, that books cannot be legally bought unless they have been legally adopted within the time set by law.

The people of Iowa, at the last election, adopted a constitutional amendment, providing that they will have elections only every two years. If the promised primary election laws pass the Legislature this winter, Pennsylvania will have four elections each year. Quite a difference.

Now is the time when croup and lung troubles prove rapidly fatal. The only harmless remedy that produces immediate results is One Minute Cough Cure. It is very pleasant to take and can be relied upon to quickly cure coughs, colds and all lung diseases. It will prevent consumption. Trout's Drug Store.

A correspondent to Printers' Ink gives this advice to merchants: Write a letter to some distant friend, telling him about your store, your goods, prices, etc. After writing change your mind and have it printed as a newspaper advertisement instead. You will be surprised at the result.

The most effective little liver is made are DeWitt's Little Liver Pills. They never gripe at's Drug Store.

Nothing in a draught probably kills most of the pills that flesh

A WARM DISCUSSION.

JERICHO AGITATED ABOUT A SCHOOLHOUSE LIGHTNING ROD.

Pop Perkins, the Postmaster, Tells About the Plans That Were Made on Both Sides and How the Building Itself Settled the Question.

It was a lightning rod man who started the schoolhouse discussion. He came along the other day and saw that the schoolhouse was without a rod, and he went to the town board and offered to put one up for so much. The town board wrestled over it all day without coming to a conclusion, and when it got to be known all over Jericho a big crowd assembled at the postoffice in the evening to talk the matter over. It was Deacon Spooner who called the crowd to order and said: "As it appears to me and to a majority of the citizens of this town that an epoch in the history of Jericho has arrived, I call upon the lightning rod man to state his case."

"There ain't much to state," replies the man. "I've offered to put up two rods on the schoolhouse and warrant it a good job for \$40. Bein as a schoolhouse is an emporium of knowledge and bein as the cause of education may be said to be the bulwarks of liberty, I've knocked \$15 off the regular price."

"I take it that he's made a pint," says the deacon as he tunks on the floor with his cane. "Emporium of education and bulwarks of liberty seem to come in jest right and hit the schoolhouse on all sides at once. I fur one am standin neutral in this bizness, and I'd like to hear both sides of the question. Mebbe Silas Lapham, who lives next door to the schoolhouse, would like to make a few remarks."

"As fur me," says Silas as he rises up, "I'm ag'in the idea of a lightning rod. That there schoolhouse was built 13 years ago, and durin them 13 years we've had 72 thunderstorms. If she's dodged 72, why can't she dodge 200? Why can't she keep right on dodgin till she tumbles down of old age? Forty dollars fur a lightning rod means more taxation. That's sich a thing as an emporium of education, but that's also sich a thing as an emporium of taxation. Jericho is out of debt and no one kickin, but let the hand of excessive taxation clutch her throat, and how long would it take to strangle the life out of her? I'm askin you to pause and ponder afore it's too late."

"Silas, you've made a pint and a strong one," says the deacon when the applause has subsided. "If the schoolhouse has dodged 72 thunderstorms, that's no reason to think she won't keep up the record. Yes, it's a pint, and mebbe the lightning rod man would like to answer it."

"I don't think much of the pint," says the man as he gets up ag'in. "That's \$90,000,000 people in these United States, and because none of 'em fall down stairs last year it don't follow that a heap of 'em won't tumble down this year. I've known a man to go on dodgin a mule's heels fur 16 years and then get 'em both in the stomach at once. Mebbe your schoolhouse will dodge a hundred more thunderstorms, and mebbe we will skally hev sought our virtuous couches this night before a thunderbolt as big as a he'll will go drivin through her and leave nuthin but a heap of splinters to mark the spot where your emporium of education once reared its proud roof to the blue vaults of heaven. I said \$40 to the town board today, but in order to show my interest in the cause of education and to prove to you that my hand is ever stretched forth to uphold the prestige of a nation of freemen I'll make the price \$38."

"He's made a pint, gentlemen—he's made a pint," says the deacon as he whacks on the stove and looks around. "Yes, sir, when he talks about our schoolhouse rearin it's proud roof to the blue vaults of heaven he's made a pint, and I'm more favorable to the lightning rod than I was. I think this crowd would like to hear from Enos Williams."

"I'm with Silas Lapham," says Enos as he shets up his jackknife and gets his feet under him. "I'm fur lettin sartin things dodge or bust. They wanted to insure the meetin house 24 years ago, but my advice was to let her dodge. She's thar yit. I've got a harn 30 years old, and she's never had a lightning rod or been insured—jest had to dodge or bust all these years—and she's thar yit. Seventeen years ago, when I built my house, I put a bell on the front door. Nobody has rung that bell to this day. It would be the same if we put a lightning rod in the schoolhouse—you wouldn't see a thunderstorm around here fur the next 35 years. I'm all right on the emporium of education bizness, and I can see that thar schoolhouse rearin it's proud roof to the blue vaults of heaven as plain as if it wasn't 9 o'clock at night, but I don't see no call to pay but \$38. Let her dodge or bust!"

"Thar's a pint thar, Enos—thar's a pint," says the deacon as he hits a cracker goodl with his cane. "Yes, sir, thar's a good deal in your theory about dodgin. When all the cows around here was hev'in the lump jaw, a feller offered to protect mine ag'in it fur \$3. I said I'd let her take her chance, and she come through all right. I observe Moses Forbush among the audience, and as Moses built the fence around the schoolhouse, mebbe he's got sunthin to say."

"I ain't ag'in lightning rods," says Moses in his slow way. "I'm not ag'in 'em fur what they are. It 'pears to me, however, that w'd better begin at the bottom instead of the roof. Thar's

home, and thar's about 20 holes in the floor. I surter like the idea of a lightning rod, and I surter like the idea of a new floor and drivin the bugs out. One idea surter balances the t'other, and I don't want to cast my vote either way."

"You hev'n't made a pint," says the deacon, "but nobody expected you to. I take it, however, that you go in fur an emporium of education, bein you got the job of buildin the fence and hev seven children goin to school."

"Yes, I think I do," replies Moses. "I've allus felt that it was my duty to uphold the Magna Charta of liberty, and when it comes to boostin the wheels of progress and civilization I'm good to lift a ton."

It was then suggested that the lightning rod man might want to say sunthin more, and he went at it and made a regular Fourth of July oration. He pictured George Washington, John Hancock, Thomas Jefferson and half a dozen more goin to school to learn how to spell such words as "liberty," "freedom" and "bulwarks." He pictured them schoolhouses bein struck by lightning fur the want of rods, and he had tears in Jobb Warner's eyes in less'n five minits. Then he pictured the happy children of Jericho crowded into the schoolhouse on a summer's day. Among them was future lawyers, doctors, editors, statesmen and poets. They was drinkin in deep drafts of education when a black cloud appeared over Jim Taylor's barn, a rumble of thunder was heard, and a minit later a thunderbolt shot out and struck the schoolhouse, and thar was a tragedy to convulse the world. The town had saved \$38 on a lightning rod, but whar was the schoolhouse, the schoolm'am and 44 scholars? Some was shoutin and some was wipin their eyes when the man sot down, and after Deacon Spooner had declared it the strongest pint he ever heard he made ready to put the question to a vote. Jest then in comes Lish Billings, and the deacon turns to him and says: "Lish, we hev'in a meetin about that lightning rod on the schoolhouse. As you painted the buildin mebbe you'd like to say sunthin. Are you fur it or ag'in it?"

"Neither one," answers Lish after awhile. "Are you standin neutral?" "Not exactly." "Then, how do you make it out?" "Why, the durned old buildin fell down about an hour ago of its own self, and I don't reckon thar's any call to waste any breath about the matter." M. QUAD.

Talismans in China. The belief in the potency of charms, etc., is very widespread among the lower class Chinese and the Sians in parts of Yunnan. The latter in particular have all kinds of amulets to ward off evil, the gem of their collection being one which confers invulnerability on the wearer. This useful quality may also be obtained, I was informed, by undergoing a very painful process of tattooing. During my trip I was shown a "dragon's nest," which looked like a bit of the horsehair stuffing from a foreign saddle, guaranteed to render the purchaser's house safe from fire, and a "female deer's horn," which would enable the fortunate owner to walk a great distance without fatigue.

Not being a landed proprietor or a professional sprinter, I had no use for these things, and though I entered into negotiations with several people for the talisman which would render me invulnerable none of them was willing to stand the test of western skepticism—a revolver at 20 paces—even though I offered them an enormous sum and a handsome funeral in case of accident.—Geographical Journal.

The First National Convention. What may be called the first national convention was not held by either of the great parties. It was conducted by what was known as the Anti-Masonic party and was held in Baltimore in September, 1831. Delegates attended from every state not chosen, however, on a basis of electoral strength, a president and vice president were nominated, and a platform was adopted. The Democrats held their first national convention in Baltimore in May, 1832, 313 delegates being present. As this year, the only contest was over the vice presidency, General Harrison having a walkover for first place. His opponents convened in Washington and named Henry Clay, 17 out of 24 states being represented. Since then nominating conventions have been the rule.—New York Sun.

Living on the Bylaws. Rufus Choate once by overwork had shattered his health. Edward Everett expostulated with him on one occasion, saying: "My dear friend, if you are not more self considerate, you will ruin your constitution." "Oh," replied the legal wag, "the constitution was destroyed long ago. I'm living on the bylaws."

Some of the greatest fishing grounds of the great lakes are in the Georgian bay district. From the cold, deep and clear waters of Georgian bay thousands and thousands of rocky islets rise.

Optician's Latin. Hiram had returned home from college, where he had won high honors as a student of the ancient languages, but he "fell down" one day when his sister, a demure young girl in her teens, asked him to translate a sign she had seen in front of an optician's office which read thus: CON SULTU SABO UTYO UREY ES. Hiram struggled manfully with it for several minutes and gave it up. "It ain't good Latin," he said. "There are some words in it that are Latin, but the others are either wrong in termination or are barbarisms from other languages, and taken as a whole, it doesn't make sense."

J. K. JOHNSTON. Overcoats for MEN as low as \$3.25; with capes for BOYS, only \$1.95. Men's Overcoats in light gray and fine blacks. Men's STORM OVERCOATS with big collars. We still have some MEN'S SUITS at \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.75, &c. Underwear. Men's Underwear—extra heavy, fleece-lined. Women's Underwear, fleece-lined, and Union Suits. Children's Underwear, in Single, and Union Suits. Overshoes. Men's Overshoes in fine Buckle-Arctic, Alaska, Cloth lined and self-acting Sandals. Blankets. 10-4 Gray Blankets, heavy weight—65 cents. All wool blankets in gray, red and white. HORSE BLANKETS from 75 cents up. LAP ROBES from \$1.25 to \$5.00. Men's and Boys' heavy winter Caps, and a thousand and one other articles at very low prices.

J. K. JOHNSTON.

Murder and Suicide in Hopewell. Scaring Its Close. Emmaville. CHURCH DIRECTORY.

Hopewell, Bedford county, was the scene of a tragedy on Monday night of last week when A. S. Metzger of Newark, N. J., shot and killed his wife, nee Annie Carruthers, an actress, and then turning the weapon on himself, took his own life. The murdered actress, whose stage name was Elsie Dinsmore, was the leading woman in the Frank Davidson Theatrical Company, which began a three night engagement at that point Monday. Mrs. Metzger had been traveling with the company for the past twelve weeks, and Metzger joined the company at Bedford on Thursday last, because he could not be reconciled, he said to his wife's traveling alone with a theatrical company. On Monday morning he received a telegram urging his return to his business, that of a manufacturer of stained window glass, at Newark, at once. He decided to leave in the afternoon, and accompanied by his wife, he went to the station. There his companion bid him good-by. Metzger arrived at Huntingdon about 6 o'clock, and instead of continuing his journey eastward, took a train back to Hopewell. Reaching that point, he made his way to the hotel and concealed himself in his wife's room, while she was absent at the entertainment.

The days of 1900 are nearly to a close, and the year will soon be a part of the past, and as a tale that is told. It has brought its light and its darkness, its seed time, its harvest, its joys and its sorrows, like all the years that went before and as all will that are to come. Its memories, its influences, have gone into millions of souls, and will be living and fresh when the historic page, and the marble by which art tries to prevent human records from decay, have mouldered back to dust. The ushering in of another year in a few short days will be consummated, and again the same round of months and weeks and days will be gone over, but not by all who are now enjoying the blessing.

Clara Hixon, after undergoing treatment in the Methodist Hospital of Philadelphia for more than a year returned to her home last Friday. This is the girl that had the scalp torn from her head by catching her hair on a revolving shaft in her father's mill. W. B. Hanks spent a few days last week in Philadelphia. Mrs. Eli Peck is able to be brought home after an illness of several months. Jasabed Lodge spent last Saturday in Emmaville. Charles Truax made a business trip to Everett last Friday. John A. Garland of Whips Cove passed through the village on Sunday. George Miller was the guest of his father James last Sunday. Edward N. Lodge spent Saturday in the vicinity of Rays Hill. Mrs. Frank Diehl visited her parents in this place last Friday. Aquilla Lodge who has been sick for two months, is slowly convalescing. Thompson Peck went to Hancock last Saturday. William Spade, a soldier boy is home on a furlough. Morgan Winter of Whips Cove made a business trip to our town on Saturday.

Presbyterian—Rev. W. A. Wolf, Pastor. Sabbath school, 9:15. Preaching service—each alternate Sunday morning counting from 12th, at 10:30, and every Sunday evening at 7:30. Junior Christian Endeavor at Christian Endeavor at 6:00. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:00. Methodist Episcopal—Rev. J. Ash, Pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Preaching every other Sunday evening, counting from August 12th, 10:30 and every Sunday evening at 7:00. Epworth League at 6:00 p. m. Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 7:00. United Presbyterian—Rev. J. Wolf, Pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Preaching every Sunday morning 10:30, and every other Sunday evening counting from August 19, at The alternate Sabbath evening used by the Young People's Christian Union at 7:00 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:00. Evangelical Lutheran—Rev. J. Wolf, Pastor. Sunday school 9:15 a. m. Christian Endeavor at 6:00 p. m. Wednesday evening prayer meeting at 7:00. Preaching morning and evening every other Sunday, dating from October 9, 1900. Reformed—Rev. C. M. Smith, Pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Christian Endeavor at 6:00 p. m. Wednesday evening prayer meeting at 7:00.

Buck Valley. C. O. Wachob, of Indiana county, and Edward Simpson, of Mattie, passed through our valley last week. Lewis Lehman, of Lock Haven Normal, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaiah Lehman. Master Guy Hixson is sick. There will be preaching at the M. E. church next Sunday. John Rhea of C. V. S. N. S. is spending his holiday vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Rhea. George Rhea and wife represented our valley in Everett last week.

Quite a number of our young folks have been attending the meeting at Pleasant Grove. Charley Ringe is visitig in the family of Henry Sharp. Caleb Mellott is painting his house. A birthday supper was given at Mrs. Henry Sharp's Saturday evening. Mr. Emory Diehl returned home from Harrisburg last week. Mr. D. A. Baker has returned to his home in Maryland.

Rev. S. A. Martin, president of Wilson College, Chambersburg, and Miss Mary Augusta Ricker, were united in marriage, at the bride's home, Kirkwood, Missouri, on Wednesday afternoon. Miss Ricker was the dean of Wilson College for a number of years. Dr. and Mrs. Martin sailed for Europe last Saturday and beabsent until about Feb. 1.

An imperfect skin is always caused by bad blood. Remove the cause! Improve your blood. How? By taking the blood purifier that has stood the test for thirty years. Johnston's Sarsaparilla. QUART BOTTLE. It has thousands of happy friends. Quart bottles sell everywhere at \$1. THE MICHIGAN DRUG COMPANY, Detroit, Mich. Liveries for Liver Pills. The Famous Little Liver Pills. Preparing by E. C. DEWITT & CO., Chicago.