

OTOE COUNTY INSTITUTE.

Proceedings of the Institute Now Being Held at Syracuse, Neb.

Prospects That the Session Will be a Good One.

An Excellent Programme Prepared for the Present Week.

Correspondence of the Bee.

SYRACUSE, Neb., August 22.—The institute of Otoe county commenced its first session at 1:30 p. m. to-day. It was opened with an appropriate address by the energetic county superintendent, J. C. Boyd, after which the institute was temporarily organized.

The instructors employed here are well known throughout this state, and judging from the work done by them in various institutes in other parts of the state we feel that we are sure of having one of the best institutes in the state, as such efficient instructors as Mrs. Munger, superintendent of the Nebraska schools and Prof. Rakestraw will be sure to make the institute a "banner one."

As Mrs. Munger was unavoidably detained, the lectures for the afternoon were as follows: Orthography—"Preparation of session"—Prof. Rakestraw. Philosophy—"Composition of the Body"—Prof. Rakestraw.

RECESS. Physical Geography—"Distribution of Sand and Water—Size and Position of Continents and Oceans"—Prof. Payne, of Tabor college, Iowa. Didactics—"Preliminaries"—Prof. Rakestraw.

After which the institute adjourned to meet at 9 a. m., Tuesday, August 16th.

9 A. M.—TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1881. The institute was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Worley, of Syracuse, and after singing by the choir, the following lectures were given by Prof. Rakestraw:

Mental Arithmetic—"Best Methods." Orthography—"Study of Lesson." Physiology—"The Tissues of the Body."

Mrs. Munger arrived during the morning and the institute was permanently organized by adopting the following:

PROGRAMME FOR AFTERNOON. Physical Geography—"Outline of Continents, Different Kinds of Relief Structures"—Prof. Payne.

RECESS. Didactics—"Mistakes in Teaching Arithmetic"—Mrs. Munger. Bookkeeping—"Introduction and Bills"—Prof. Rakestraw.

After which the institute adjourned to 9 a. m.—WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1881.

Opening Exercises—Invocation by Rev. Mr. Worley. Singing by choir. Roll-call.

Minutes read by the secretary, Mrs. Lemon. Arithmetic—"Best Methods of Teaching Notation and Numeration"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Civil Government—"President and Vice-President, How Elected and Duties"—Mrs. Munger.

RECESS. Orthography—"Recitation and Various Methods"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Grammar and Composition—"Sentences"—Mrs. Munger.

Physiology—"Arrangement of Bones, and showing location in skeleton"—Prof. Rakestraw.

1:30 P. M.—WEDNESDAY. Opening Exercises—Singing by choir.

Physical Geography—"Structures of North America"—Prof. Payne.

RECESS. History—"The Discoverers"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Didactics—"Mistakes in teaching Geography"—Mrs. Munger.

Bookkeeping—"Accounts"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Question-box—Important questions were asked and discussed by different members, after which institute adjourned to 9 a. m.—THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1881.

Opening exercises—Invocation—Rev. Morley, of Syracuse. Singing by choir. Roll-call by conductor.

Minutes read by secretary, Mrs. Lemon. Arithmetic—"Addition and Subtraction"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Civil Government—"Powers of Congress"—Mrs. Munger.

RECESS. Orthography—"Suggestions"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Gram. and Comp.—"Sentences" continued—Mrs. Munger.

Physiology—"Classification of Bones"—Prof. Rakestraw.

1:30 P. M.—THURSDAY. Opening exercises—Singing by choir.

Physical Geography—"Structure of South America, Asia and Europe"—Prof. Payne.

RECESS. Penmanship—"Analysis of Letters"—Mr. H. M. Worley.

History—"The Aborigines"—Prof. Rakestraw.

RECESS. Didactics—"Government"—Mrs. Munger.

Bookkeeping—"Day Book," single entry—Prof. Rakestraw.

Question-box—Contained many important questions, which were discussed, after which institute adjourned.

9 A. M.—FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1881. Opening exercises—Invocation. Singing by the choir. Roll call by Prof. Rakestraw.

Minutes read by the secretary, Mrs. Lemon, of Nebraska City.

Arithmetic—"Short Methods"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Civil government—"Taxes, property, capital and labor"—Mrs. Munger.

RECESS. Orthography—"Composition Analysis"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Grammar and Composition—"Sentences, continued"—Mrs. Munger.

Physiology—"Muscles"—Prof. Rakestraw.

1:30 P. M.—FRIDAY. Opening—Singing by the choir.

Physical geography—"Structure of Asia, Australia and Ireland"—Prof. Payne.

RECESS. Penmanship—"Analysis of Letters"—Mr. H. M. Worley.

History—"Study of Colonies"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Bookkeeping—"Day Book and Double Entry"—Prof. Rakestraw.

The subject of "Didactics" as conducted by Mrs. Munger, this afternoon, was especially noticeable, as being exceedingly interesting and instructive, as it was upon that very important element in the government of schools—punishment—and the lady gave a great amount of most excellent advice.

Prof. Rakestraw's "Study of Colonies" was also a noticeable feature in this afternoon's session and seemed to be of great utility; and the outline given both on "Study of Colonies" and "wars" was highly recommended to the teachers of the institute, by Mrs. Munger and others.

The "discussion box" brought out quite a discussion upon the subject of "Prizes as Incentives to Study." "The Marking System" carefully and judiciously used, was recommended as a "proper incentive." Mrs. Munger, Mrs. Lemon, Prof. Rakestraw and others advocated that effort and not result should be rewarded.

After discussion on numerous other questions the institute adjourned until 9 a. m.—SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1881.

Opening Exercises—Invocation.

Singing by choir. Roll-call. Professor Rakestraw. Minutes read by Secretary, Mrs. Lemon.

Arithmetic—"Subtraction and Multiplication"—Prof. Rakestraw.

Civil government—"duties and powers of president"—Mrs. Munger.

RECESS. Grain and comp. "Sentences"—Mrs. Munger.

Physiology—"The Heart"—Prof. Rakestraw.

1:30 P. M., SATURDAY.

Opening—Singing by choir.

Physical Geography—"Distribution of Medals"—Prof. Payne.

Didactics—"Recitation"—Mrs. Munger.

Bookkeeping—"Bill-book"—Prof. Rakestraw.

To-day's session seemed to be of great interest. Mrs. Munger's valuable suggestions to teachers in regard to methods of conducting recitations were well worthy of note.

Prof. Payne's lecture on the "Distribution of Metals" contained much valuable information and was highly appreciated.

Prof. Rakestraw's outline of "The Heart," and the neat and accurate manner in which the professor dissected a beef's heart before the class, not only showed him to be perfectly familiar with his subject, but also an adept in the "dissecting line."

REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S WORK. Thus far the institute has been exceedingly interesting and beneficial. Mrs. Munger has awakened a great interest in the subject of civil government and is doing good work in every branch which she has in charge.

Prof. Rakestraw has "stirred up" the teachers; the more especially in the subject of physiology, as he believes that this branch can and should be taught in our district schools. If teachers have no human skeleton to use in schools, the professor shows how the subject may be taught by the use of a rabbit or cat.

Prof. Payne, of Tabor college, Iowa, has been doing good work as instructor in physical geography.

The professor seems to be ready to answer any of the answerable queries in the natural sciences.

Mrs. Lemon, principal of the Third ward school in Nebraska City, is the efficient secretary and although busy in taking "notes of proceedings," she is ever ready with her valuable suggestions.

On Wednesday the smiling face of W. H. V. Raymond, agent for Harper Bros., put in an appearance and he gave the institute some valuable suggestions in regard to the "use of words."

The teachers all seem to be awake to their interests and are taking notes of the lectures, so that they may use the suggestions in their future school rooms.

Next week's work will accomplish more, if possible, than this week. Thus far everything has been highly satisfactory and instructive to all.

THROUGH MARYLAND.

Scenes Along the Baltimore and Ohio Road.

The Boats on the Canal—Spots Remembered by Striking Events During the Civil War—Cumberland in the Revolution.

Special Cor. of Philadelphia Press.

CUMBERLAND, MD., August 15, '81.—Last night about midnight I took the train for this place. It was a lovely night, and to one acquainted with the localities through which the Baltimore & Ohio railroad runs replete with interest. The road follows the windings of the Potomac. Going westward that beautiful river is on your right. Some times it dashes along over the rocks with such impetuosity that the foam upon its agitated bosom by the pale moonlight looks like driven snow; at other places the channel is deeper and the stream appears so placid that the flocks of clouds in the sky and the stately trees upon its bank are faithfully mirrored upon its surface.

The shallows murmur where the deeps are silent.

Looking across it you can see the Chesapeake and Ohio canal on the Maryland side. There is only a narrow margin of land between the river and the canal, but the trees grow plentifully on this narrow strip and it added to the picturesqueness of the view see the lights upon the canal boats continually gleaming through the dark foliage. After we passed Martinsburg we saw a great many boats, or rather the moving specks of light which denoted their presence. Almost all of them were going eastward laden with dusky diamonds of the Alleghenies. That remarkable and interesting hybrid, the mule, is the motive power and a very important factor in the industries of Western Maryland. I think it was a Virginia politician that remarked of the mule that it was the most democratic animal in the world "because it had

no pride of ancestry and no hope of posterity.

SHEPARDSTOWN AND KELLY'S ISLAND. The train ran very rapidly, but I could readily mark many places rendered memorable by events during the civil war. We whirled past the road leading to Shepardstown ford, where Lee crossed the Potomac after the battle of Antietam. Many of the old Corn Exchange regiment will remember this place, for it was here they first got their baptism of fire, two days after the battle of Antietam where they suffered heavy loss. Young Captain Sanders of that regiment, son of Rev. E. D. Sanders, of Philadelphia, a ripe scholar and a Christian gentleman, was killed in this action.

Near Martinsburg I recognized the spot where in 1863 I saw a great many soldiers lying dead, killed in a cavalry fight between the Union cavalry and Fitzhugh Lee's troopers. Then we whirled along by Kelly's island, where during the early days of the war a fierce hand-to-hand conflict ensued between a small body of Wallace's Indiana Zouaves, the 11th Indiana, and a scouting party of southerners commanded by Captain Dick Ashby, brother of Col. Turner Ashby. Captain Dick Ashby was mortally wounded in the fight and died a short distance from the railroad. Then we came to Green Spring station. What a peaceful, placid scene it now presents! The meadow scene of the road is the very picture of tranquil beauty—"meathluna's gentle rays," but a little over sixteen years ago it saw another sight. Just as the sun had slightly tinged with red the eastern sky in that same meadow was suddenly heard the wild rebel yell, swarming a sleeping camp of the 11th New York cavalry. Instantly the sharp crack of revolvers and carbines followed. All was over in less than ten minutes, but when the sun had fully risen it shone upon a dozen corpses, with pale faces turned to the sky, and a score of wounded weltering in blood. Now we glide past Peterson Creek station, the theatre of a dozen bolder skirmishes, where Major Harry Gilmore demonstrated the fact that a pack of cards is a something as good defense placed in the pocket over the heart as a pocket bible. His form was struck by a shot fired at nearly point blank range just over the heart, but the bullet was stopped by a stout new pack of cards after penetrating every card up to the last, (the ace of spades). Gilmore remarked, "I am told that spades were trumps that morning." The man who fired the shot was buried the same day very near the railroad.

TUMBERLAND IN WASHINGTON'S TIME. We are now near Cumberland; we recross the Potomac, and soon a long shrill whistle announces that we are entering into the city and are once more back in Maryland. Cumberland derives its name from the Duke spoken of by Campbell.

Proud Cumberland prances, insulting the slain. General Braddock, whose disastrous defeat is remembered by every school boy, was a protégé of this duke and served for years in his favorite regiment, the Cold Stream Guards. Braddock ordered the erection of a fort here, and gave the name to it. General Washington in younger days was frequently here, and it was upon this place that after Braddock's defeat and death his army retired. I doubt not that one of the first letters ever written from here is one by General Washington to his brother. Through the careful investigations of Colonel W. H. Lowdermilk I am enabled to give you readers a portion of this letter:

FORT CUMBERLAND, 14th May, 1755. DEAR BROTHER: As wearing boots is quite the mode, you must be provided with you to procure me a pair that are Major Carlyle, who, I hope, will contribute to forward them as quickly as my necessity requires. I see no prospect of moving from this place soon, as we have neither horses nor wagons enough. * * * * * The general has appointed me one of his aides-de-camp, in which character I shall serve this campaign agreeably enough, as I am thereby freed from all commands but his, and give his orders, which must be implicitly obeyed. I have now a good opportunity, and shall not neglect it, of forming an acquaintance which may be serviceable hereafter if I find it worth while to push my fortunes in a military line. I have written to my two female correspondents by this opportunity, one of whose letters I have inclosed to you, and beg your deliverance of it. I shall expect a particular account of that which has happened since my departure. I am, dear Jack, your most affectionate brother, GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Washington was a very young man at this time, and it is interesting to observe that he had two female correspondents and evidently took considerably interest in the fair sex. General Braddock's orderly books are now in the Congressional Library. They belonged formerly to Peter Force, Esq. I transcribe the following extract from them:

CAMP AT FORT CUMBERLAND, Saturday, May 10, 1755. Parole, Connecticut. Mr. Washington is appointed aide-de-camp to his Excellency General Braddock. Field Officer's room—Major Sparks. The Articles of War to be read to-morrow morning, at which time the servants, women and followers of the army are to attend with the respective corps and companies that they belong to.

The site of Fort Cumberland, a high bluff overlooking the junction of the Willa creek and the Potomac river, now occupied by a large and handsome built Episcopal church. The scenery around this city is very striking; it is in a basin, surrounded on all sides by high mountains and steep hills. South of it on the other—the Virginia—side of the river is the Nobles ridge, densely wooded and advanced nearly to the bank of the river. East is a succession of high hills. North are Wills' mountains and Schriver's hill, and westward range after range of the giant Alleghenias raise their lofty heads to heaven.

In politics it is nearly equally divided, but during the war the Union sentiment very decidedly predominated, though quite a large number of its young men went south and joined the southern army. The business of the city is largely dependent upon the coal trade. The coal fields lie west of here in a basin formed by the Great Savage Mountain on the northwest, and the Davis Mountain on the southeast, and running northeast and south-

west from the Pennsylvania line through Allegheny county into Mineral county, West Virginia. The annual shipments of coal amount to nearly 2,000,000 tons. The city is the western terminus of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, and, of course, a large portion of the coal is shipped by this important part in Maryland and politics. It is controlled, of course, by democratic leaders, and they by the great "Boss Gorman," Maryland is the "Boss"-ridden state, and at some time I will give your readers some details of how things are managed by Senator Gorman & Co., but at present I have not time. J. L. V.

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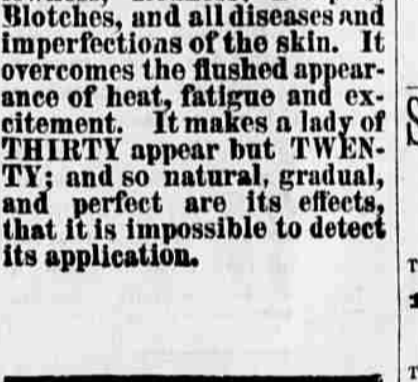
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