

Democratic Convention. The Democratic convention of Livingston county to elect delegates to the state, congressional and senatorial conventions, etc., was held in Pontiac Tuesday. There was a good attendance, all towns being represented except Sullivan and Germantown. The convention was called to order at 2:30 p. m. by the chairman of the central committee, Eugene Baker and the call read by Secretary Bryda.

Educational Column. On Friday and Saturday of last week, eight young pupils from the rural schools of this county came to Pontiac for their final examination on the eighth grade work. The question has been asked us repeatedly "Do they do as good work as the eighth grade pupils in the towns?" For answer I quote here an essay on the Value of Education written as it is given to the students in grammar, by one of the graduates of the county school. How many eighth grade pupils in the towns can equate this writing under pressure of a rigid examination?

The value of education can hardly be estimated. It is the key to knowledge and power, education is the key to the frontiers of life, it not only gains the heights by great men reached only by slow and patient steps, it also shows the man his position in the world and shows him his relation as one of the great human figures in the history of the world. Education is to the man that which polishing is to the stone. It brings forth and strengthens all the quiet virtues and shows him in his true light. It gives a man an education and you give him the key to the frontiers of life. It opens a way into society and fits him to maintain and continue an upward progress, elevating himself and others. It is the power of education used for wrong ends, it is a means to great harm. It enables us to see our way more clearly and is instrumental in bringing about all the great reforms of the civilized world. It is the only way a man overcomes the many otherwise insurmountable obstacles which constantly beset him. With it all man can do. A good education is property which is constantly useful, can never be stolen, lost or attached. The time of the annual institute has now been definitely fixed for the week beginning July 28. It is with considerable regret that we postpone the weeks of June 25 and 26 from this year. It is possible to be with us then, so postponement became a necessity. July 28 is the earliest date when we can be sure of securing Dr. Krohn, therefore is the date chosen.

We expect all teachers and prospective teachers of the county who are not attending a summer review term or in attendance from the first day. We expect that the institute of this year will be the best ever held in this county. We expect the teachers and others present to profit more by their attendance at this institute than they have done at any former one. We expect, as do the people, far better work of teachers the next year than we have seen in any school in this county. Shall we be disappointed.

Directors reports are due at the office of the Township Treasurer not later than July 25. Bear in mind the fact that each inhabitant under 21 years of age is entitled to draw from the State Fund about 87 cents.

Directors of each district should not enumerate the persons of less than 21 years, whose home is in another district, who are in their district only temporarily. Care in this particular will avoid confusion and many corrections. Let this be your rule in making your census. Enumerate all under 21, whose home is in your district, whether they are away temporarily or not.

The Township High School building at this place is being pushed towards completion. The Board will at an early date fix the terms of tuition. We have been asked to answer to queries concerning it that we do not know.

Mr. Geo. Weldon has been chosen as Superintendent of the City Schools. From all we can learn of Mr. Weldon, he is a man of high ability and high rank he made at the examination here, we feel assured that he and his able assistants will be able to bring the schools of this town to a high standard which they ought to occupy.

The men who are chosen to direct educational affairs in this town next year are men of high caliber and their excellent testimonials of former good work will be a great help to them in their work. We feel that we are fortunate to have such a single step backward in our schools.

HUNTING THE BOAR. Dogs for This Purpose Lately Imported Into the Country.

The importation of several bear-hounds into this country from Germany and the preservation of the dogs' natural enemies in several places here seem to promise the renewal of a sport which medieval Europe keenly relished. The bear-hound, writes George E. Walsh, in Goldsworthy's Magazine, are trained to meet the wild animal in the open field, and to keep the hunter on its heels. It is swift and strong in its movements, but it is only his superior intelligence which saves him from being ripped open by the foam-flecked tusks. The hound takes his position in front so that the bear cannot get at his bay, and the wild animal immediately becomes madly excited and angry. It is equally a critical moment for hunter and hound. With speed and impetuosity he turns either upon the annoying hound or upon the horseman. In the former case a well-trained bear-hound will take care of himself, bravely availing himself of the sharp tusks, and yet determinedly heading the bear off if he attempts to escape in any direction. Should the infuriated beast turn upon the hunter, all his skill and strength is to be needed to avert the disaster by a well aimed thrust with his bear-spear.

The nature of the wild boars makes them different from all other wild animals for which dogs are trained. They have been almost completely developed in oak and forest wastes, with a still bristling crest over their backs which alone can often repel enemies. Two long, sharp tusks point upward upon the lower jaw, and one blow from these would kill man or beast. The wild boar is very sensitive to sounds and odors, and he can detect the presence of an enemy at a long distance. Added to all of these favorable qualities are others which are no less important, such as willfulness and tenacity. He is unquenchable in his enmity, and hard determined powers of fighting.

To encounter such a warrior the bear-hounds have to be thoroughly disciplined for field work, and an acquaintance with the ways of the bear enters their lives when brought to face with one of the wild boars.

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SCALPED THEIR CAPTORS.

Thrilling Escape of White Prisoners from the Indians. Many thrilling tales are told of the capture of early colonists by the Indians and of their occasional recapture or escape. One of the most famous of all escapes in the East was that of Hannah Dunbar, Mary Noy and a boy, named John Leonardson. These three were carried off with many others, in 1697, in the attack on Haverhill, Mass. When the captors had separated, the Dunbar brothers and the boy were assigned encamped on an island in the Merrimack River. At midnight, the captives secured hatchets and killed ten Indians—two men, two women and six children—one favorite boy, whom they mean to spare, and one badly wounded woman, escaping. After they had left the camp, the fugitives remembered that nobody in the settlements would believe, without evidence, that they had performed so creditable an action, they therefore returned and scalped the Indians, after which they scuttled all the canoes on the island but one, and in this escaped across the Merrimack, and finally reached Haverhill. This was such an exploit as made the actors immediately famous in that bloody time. The Massachusetts General Court gave Mrs. Dustin £25, and granted half that amount to each of her companions. The story of their daring deed was carried to the southward, and Gov. Nicholson, of Maryland, sent a valuable present to the escaped prisoners.

A SCENE OF SLAUGHTER.

Frightful Ravages by a Slave-Raiding Tribe in Western Africa. By a British visitor recently gained at Baghwea, on the West African coast, one of the most cruel and bloodthirsty of the slave-raiding tribes of the Dark Continent has been practically destroyed. Extending over several months a band of Sofas, 600 in all, have committed fearful ravages in parts of Sierra Leone. It was while the British were operating against them that the collision between the Sofas and the French occurred at Waima. Then the British troops advanced upon Ka-Yima, one of the Sofa strongholds, but they found the post deserted. The scene, however, was horrible. Between the first and second camps was a row of headless bodies of men, whom the Sofas had taken prisoners, but whom they were obliged to kill or set free owing to the British pursuit. At other camps numerous dead bodies strewed the ground. But it was at the fifth camp that the scene of carnage was most terrible. Near the gate was a pile of the bodies of women and children nine feet high and containing 100 corpses. Most of the bodies were headless. The spectacle inflamed the British troops and the pursuit of the Sofas was not continued. Next day the Sofas were encountered at Baghwea and were practically exterminated.

Forcing the Royal Train to Stop.

Sir Robert Burnett of Leys, who died last week, had lived in seclusion since his health broke down about three years ago, just when he was about to be married to the eldest daughter of Lord Sempill. Sir Robert, who passed many years of his life in America, succeeded to the family estate (which extends to about 15,000 acres) in 1876, on the death of his father, Sir James Burnett, Lord Lieutenant of Kinross-shire. He took a very prominent part in county business and was a liberal landlord, and presented a public park to the town of Banchoy, which adjoins his estate. Sir Robert came into notice about ten years ago by his litigation with the Deeside Railway respecting the special "messenger" trains which run daily when the Queen is residing at Aberdeen and Aberdeen without retaining an order from the Court of Session that all such trains were to stop when required at Crathes Station, which is near his place. It had always been the practice to run these specials between Aberdeen and Aberdeen without retaining an order from the Court of Session that all such trains were to stop when required at Crathes Station, which is near his place. It had always been the practice to run these specials between Aberdeen and Aberdeen without retaining an order from the Court of Session that all such trains were to stop when required at Crathes Station, which is near his place. It had always been the practice to run these specials between Aberdeen and Aberdeen without retaining an order from the Court of Session that all such trains were to stop when required at Crathes Station, which is near his place.

Indebted to Joseph.

Buffon rose always with the sun and he used to tell by that means he had accustomed himself to get out of bed so early. "In my youth," said he, "I was fond of sleep, it robbed me of a great deal of my time; but my poor Joseph (his domestic) was of great service in enabling me to overcome it. I promised to give him a crown every time that he could make me get up at 6. The next morning he did not fail to awake and torment me; but he received only abuse. The day after he did the same with no better success, and I was obliged at noon to confess that I had lost my time. I told him that he did not know how to manage his business; that he ought to thank my promise, and not to mind my threats, and I took up the crown, employed force and I begged for indulgence. I bid him begone; I stormed; but Joseph persisted. I was therefore obliged to comply, and he was rewarded every day for the abuse which he suffered at the moment when I awoke by thanks, accompanied with a crown, which he received about an hour after. Yes, I am indebted to poor Joseph for ten or a dozen of the volumes of my work."

Strange Tale of a Virginia Swamp. Three and a half miles west of Aldie, Loudoun County, Va., is the locally famous black swamp, and a strange story has been current thereabouts for the better part of this century. Jesse McVeigh lived long ago in an old stone house on the edge of the swamp, and there came to him once a stranger asking shelter. The stranger was taken in and he lived there for five years. He never went beyond the pond at the edge of the swamp, and he took precautions at night to guard against surprise. When he died a stranger from a neighboring village came and claimed the body, professing to recognize the dead man as an acquaintance. The stranger who claimed the body was the dead man's son, and he afterward became Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. The father, a wealthy and well educated Marylander, had a quick temper, and had slain a guest at his own table by breaking his skull with a decanter. The homicide's place of hiding was hardly more than fifty miles from the scene of his crime.

Horse Bills or Cards.

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