

RECENT REFLECTIONS.

The new flag station on the Rock Island five miles north of Woodbine is called Pearl. Passengers and mail are accommodated at that point.

The Abilene Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle is said to be doing excellent work. The members are all following the prescribed course of reading with eagerness and will persevere until they secure diplomas of graduation.

There is no room anywhere in Kansas for a lazy man. No one has a right to loaf, anyway. Is he has no work, and can get none, he could put in his time to his eternal advantage by reading. The wisest man on earth is one of the greatest students.

Why cannot Abilene's postoffice be opened for a short time Sunday morning? The clerks are in the office and it would be a great convenience to the business men if at least those owning l. b.'s could be allowed to enter the lobby. There is not a little village of two hundred inhabitants that is not thus accommodated and there is no reason why Abilene should not be.

Some impressionable crank sent the following dispatch from here to the Cap-Com. yesterday:

The report is current that the Rock Island company has purchased the Santa Fe branch from Abilene to Barnard, and the right of way through the southern part of this county, and that building operations will be commenced in the spring at the latest.

The report is not only not "current" but probably nobody except the sender thereof ever heard of it. The Rock Island is not buying or building new railway lines to be operated at a loss—not this year.

A First-Class Paper.

Manchester Sun: The Abilene Weekly REFLECTOR has been enlarged and now gives its readers 70 columns of reading matter each week. It is now one of the largest papers in the State, and is a first-class family journal.

Huffman's Hard Luck.

George Huffman, "the farmer's friend," has had a hard run of luck this week. It began with a carload of colts sent to Illinois. The weather was so bad that there was no market for them. On Wednesday a fine steer fell into the river and was drowned. On Thursday night he lost a fine horse, which died suddenly. Yesterday he received returns from a carload of cows sent to Kansas City—he had lost \$116 on them. He has been watching the skies today expecting to be struck by lightning or hear that his house had been destroyed by a cyclone.

Texas Fever.

The Junction City Republican has the following bit of news regarding an outbreak of Texas fever among the cattle on Clark's creek in Davis county:

The farmers in the vicinity of Clark's creek are experiencing considerable financial loss to say nothing about a great amount of annoyance by what is supposed to be Texas fever brought in the neighborhood by cattle driven there to feed. Whether or not it is Texas fever we are unable to say, but over forty head of cattle have been lost. Fred Settgast lost eight head, and many of his neighbors have been called upon to contribute in like numbers.

There have been some losses among the cattle of Dickinson county this fall but none, so far as we have learned, have been attributed to Texas fever. We hope the scourge may not invade our territory.

Bookkeeping Class.

A class in bookkeeping will be formed at once at the Y. M. C. A. rooms for all members who desire to take a practical course under a practical teacher. The course will be free to all members, this being one of the privileges of membership. Mr. R. M. White, who will teach the class, is secretary and treasurer of the Abilene Water and Electric Light Co. and has had a long and practical experience as bookkeeper in several important positions. Any young man who desires to improve this exceptionally fine opportunity to get a knowledge of bookkeeping that will be of service to him in all his after life, and who is not a member of the association may become a member by making application through any member of the officers of the association. The membership dues entitling members to all the privileges of the association for one year is \$1 only. The class will meet two evenings each week.

A Progressive School.

A meeting was called this week by the clerk of the school board of the Highland school, four miles southwest, for the purpose of adopting a graded course of study for the use of their schools. H. C. Speer's Graded Course of Study for Country Schools was adopted unanimously by the board. It will be the regular course for a term of five years from date. A committee was also appointed to purchase astronomical charts, wall maps and other necessary apparatus for the use of the school.

The Highland school board recognizes the demand of a graded school system in the country as well as city schools, and it is among the first to take an action of this kind. The school already ranks among the best schools of the county and this action will tend to send it still farther toward the front.

A BIRTHDAY PARTY.

A Number of Friends Surprise Mr. B. F. Nelson and Enjoy a Pleasant Evening.

Thursday the 13th being the 48th birthday anniversary of our esteemed fellow citizen, Mr. B. F. Nelson, a few of his old soldier friends conceived the idea that it would be a graceful compliment to give him a little surprise party and at the same time present him with some light token of their esteem as a reminder of their visit.

In pursuance of this plan a few of the old boys, with the full knowledge and consent of Mr. Nelson's estimable wife, but entirely without the slightest suspicion on his part that anything unusual was going forward, gathered at his residence at about 8 o'clock in the evening, having first sent one of their number to the store to bring him home a little earlier than usual. This was easily done as he had not been feeling very well for some days and was disposed to go home early.

Imagine his surprise on arriving home to find gathered in his elegant parlors Messrs. David Matteson, R. A. Brown, A. S. Davidson, W. T. Davidson, George Thompson, C. J. McDivitt, W. R. Dunlap, E. G. Putnam, Wm. Messenger, Frank Peters, W. D. Robb and David Huggins, all making themselves very much at home. After congratulations all around Mr. A. S. Davidson called Mr. Nelson up and addressed him as follows:

"COMRADE NELSON: I beg, of you not to be surprised. I assure you we have not entered your pleasant home for the purpose of vandalism, nor yet to plunder. Our aspirations are of a higher and holier order than this. We are here as friends bound together by a bond of friendship, the origin of which was love of country; but those troublous times have passed, and in their stead you and your comrades are enjoying the fruits of lasting peace, so precious to be lost. We are here to testify to the pleasure it affords us to greet you upon this your 48th birthday, and to make this the occasion of one of the bright spots of an eventful life. We congratulate you upon your usual health, your business prosperity, and express the wish that your last days may be the most pleasant and happiest of your life. In order that in the future you may look back over the record of the past and call to mind pleasant instances, a few of your old friends and comrades have joined together and decided to present to you this gold pen and inkstand, with which to jot down from time to time the things you care to remember, which I, as the chosen spokesman, now hand to you in token of our friendship and esteem, and in remembrance of the many hardships we have all endured, battling for the cause of right and our commonwealth."

It is safe to say that Mr. Nelson was the most surprised man in ten States. The beautiful gift, the friends around him in his own pleasant home, all affected him very greatly. He, however, soon recovered, accepted the gift, returned words of heartfelt thanks and gave his old comrades and friends a hearty welcome, although confessing frankly, that he was more nearly captured and demoralized than in all his army experience. At this stage of the proceedings his good wife, ever on the alert, looking after his welfare and comfort and fearing he might be induced to surrender unconditionally, announced supper. This was a surprise for the boys; however, no old soldier was ever much put out in that way. The supper was elegant and all did it ample justice. The balance of the evening was taken up with songs, readings and stories, and at a late hour the visitors took their departure, having had a very pleasant and enjoyable evening. All wished their host many more equally pleasant birthdays.

Coal Found.

We were shown today specimens of coal found on the farm of Andy Wolf, nine miles north of this city. Mr. Wolf was sinking a well when he found a two-inch vein at 22 1/2 feet; he sank lower and found flattering indications which lead those proficient in mining to believe that there is a fine bed of coal beneath. Some pieces of coal were experimented with and found to burn freely, giving a good heat.—(Solomon Sentinel.)

Teachers' Institute.

The Southeast Dickinson county institute will be held at Woodbine on Jan. 5, 1889 at 9 a. m. The program is as follows: Rev. Estep Address of Welcome..... H. B. Scott Response..... E. G. Putnam Symposium—Primary Arithmetic—(a) "What Should be Taught," W. E. Austin; (b) "Oral Work," Miss Fannie Hunter; (c) "Written Work," Miss Lida Shank. Recitation..... O. L. Bates P. M. Intermediate Arithmetic—(a) "What Should be Taught," Cora Summers; (b) "Common Fractions," Teacher Dist. 87; (c) "Decimal Fractions," P. E. Nickel; (d) "Compound Numbers," Allie Bird. Discussion..... Miss McCarry Higher Arithmetic—(a) "What Should be Taught," Maud McMorris; (b) "Percentage," Robt. Gaffney; (c) "Proportion," E. G. Betts. Query Box opened.

The design of the symposium is to present methods. EMMA GILBERT, KATE CORRELL, GEORGE SMITH.

Teachers' Institute.

The Southwest Dickinson Teachers' Institute met at Banner City Saturday December 8, 1888.

The meeting was called to order by President J. H. Niesley. After opening exercises H. M. Beaugh welcomed the teachers in an appropriate address, which was responded to by C. E. Rugh. After music, the institute adjourned to partake of the bountiful dinner prepared by the good people of Banner and vicinity.

The institute convened at 1:30 o'clock and in the absence of the secretary, C. E. Rugh was chosen secretary pro tem.

HOLIDAY GOODS OF ALL KINDS

AT J. B. CASE'S.

Never have we been able to show you as nice a line of Christmas Goods as you can find displayed on our counters and tables this year. A glance over our assortment will convince you that we have suitable presents for all, and, we can assure you, at the LOWEST OF PRICES. Do not buy your Christmas presents until you have seen our line.

SILK MUFFLERS:--

Silk Mufflers in all colors at only \$1.00 each. These are regular \$1.50 goods.

CASHMERE MUFFLERS:--

Cashmere Mufflers in different styles at only 75c each. These are regular \$1.00 goods.

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS:--

We can say that without a doubt we have the best-assorted and cheapest line in the city. A nice, all-silk Handkerchief for 25c; and from that up to \$1.50. All are at especially low prices for the Holiday trade. Be sure and buy your Silk Handkerchiefs of us and save money.

FINE EMBROIDERED HANDKERCHIEFS:--

We make a specialty of this line. Fine Embroidered and Hemstitched Handkerchiefs at 5c, 8c, 10c, 12c, 15c, 20c, and so on, up to \$1.35.

PLUSH GOODS:--

Plush goods in beautiful shades. A beautiful Plush Album, large and beautifully bound and trimmed, for \$1.25 each; others at \$1.50. Plush Cuff and Collar Boxes at 1.25 per set. Morocco Leather Cuff and Collar Boxes at 1.00 each. Plush-covered oxidized silver Dressing Cases at 4.00. Plush Celluloid Dressing Cases at 3.00 each. Elegant line of Perfumery of all kinds at the lowest of prices. Plush Card Cases. Beautiful line of Christmas Cards at 10c and 25c, such as you generally pay 25c and 50c for. Fancy Stationery at staple prices. Bibles, elegantly bound, at 3.00.

BOOKS.

Books at special prices. 125 books at 10c each. These are cheap at twice that amount. We also have the works of Dickens, Scott, Holmes Burns, Wordsworth, and most of the leading novels and story books, at the lowest of prices. Buy your books of us and you will save from 15 to 20 per cent on your purchases.

APPLES.

Do not fail to come here and buy your apples; we are headquarters for them. Choice Genatings and Winesaps at 60c per bushel.

TOYS.

The old man Santa Claus himself; Scrap Books; Collar and Cuff Boxes; Stoves; Watches; Tables; Tops; Rattles; Wind Mills; Ships; Doll Chairs, Cribs and Cradles; Wash Sets; Surprise Boxes of all kinds; Assorted Animals, such as Sheep, Goats, Monkeys, Cats, Horses, Birds, Donkeys; Houses; Stables with Horses; Banks; Villages; Rubber Balls and Birds; Jack Straws; Blocks of all kinds and sizes; Whips; Trains; Steamboats; Marbles; Telescopes; Dancing Dairies; Carts at 25c each; Express Wagons in all sizes; Rocking Chairs; Bureaus; Children's Brooms and DOLLS of all descriptions.

Gents' and Ladies' Fine Slippers, Beautiful Fire Screens, Easels, Bean Boards, and other things too numerous to mention. We also have this day received a fine line of

CANDIES and NUTS.

Parties wishing to get supplies for Sunday Schools and Christmas Trees, will find it to their interests to buy of us. Lowest Prices and Freshest Goods Guaranteed. We call special attention to our line of

Hand-Made Cream Candies.

J. B. CASE.

UPSHAW FURNITURE & CARPET CO.,



UNDERTAKERS.

We are prepared to attend to this business in all its branches. We carry the finest and most complete line of Coffins, Caskets, Burial Robes, and everything pertaining to this department of our business, in this part of the State. We also have the Finest Hearse in the county.

This department is in charge of Mr. A. S. O'Dowd, a professional Embalmer and Funeral Director, who will attend all calls promptly day or night. Residence, first house west of store.

At present we are selling these goods at cost, furnishing our hearse, and the attendance of our undertaker FREE OF CHARGE.

UPSHAW FURNITURE & CARPET COMPANY,

Corner Fourth and Broadway. [d&w tf] Abilene, Kansas

The first subject for discussion was "Narcotics," which was opened by Levi Humbarger in a good practical talk. Question further discussed by Chas. Bear. Next on the program was a paper on "Reading for pupils" by C. E. Rugh, which was discussed by Messrs. Bates, Binder, Holmes and others. The subject of "Methods" was then discussed by D. A. Holmes in an excellent paper. In the necessitated absence of Prof. S. M. Cook, Mr. J. H. Niesley read his (Cook's) very ably prepared paper on the subject of "Literature," which consisted of a brief biographical sketch of Walter Scott and his writings, after which selections from the above author were delivered by Miss Maud King and W. I. Early. Miss Lizzie Smith next read a paper on "Elocution in Schools."

"How to Illustrate Electricity to Pupils" was then discussed by W. E. Binder and O. L. Bates.

The evening exercises were very entertaining, consisting of music, declamations, readings, songs and medleys, among which the duet by Miss Lydia and Joe Sommer deserves especial mention.

Music for the occasion was furnished by G. B. Allen and wife with their respective schools.

The usual resolutions were adopted, after which the institute adjourned to meet at Highland, Jan. 19, 1889.

SECRETARY PRO TEM.

OUR NEIGHBORS.

Special correspondence of the REFLECTOR. HOPE, Dec. 16th.

The Presbyterian Sunday School has added a fine, base viol and cornet to its choir, thus making it very complete.

Mrs. F. A. Yonkin is on the sick list at her home on Main street.

We noticed an unusual smile creeping over the countenance of R. G. Tonkin this morning. On inquiring we found that he was entertaining a young son at his house. 'Rah for Bob!

Mark Burton, while hunting yesterday on Turkey creek a few miles west of Dillon, shot a coon. It was of good size. This proves that the animal is not extinct in this part of the country.

The public schools will have Christmas exercises next Friday afternoon, after which will be a vacation of two weeks. All are cordially invited to attend the exercises.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Rhodes are entertaining a young daughter at their home on Park street.

George Teats, of this city, was an Abilene visitor Friday.

Miss Lillie Martin was the recipient of an elegant piano last week. It was

WE DON'T FOOL 'EM!

Oh, No! We Just Sell

Boots - and - Shoes

For Less Money than any of 'Em.

We don't run any gift enterprise, nor do we give you anything but what you buy—NOT EVEN TAFFY. We cannot afford to when we are selling goods so CHEAP. Oh, yes! we could throw in a Threshing Machine, if we charged enough for the Shoes. But this is one place where

You Only Pay for What You Get and Take Home With You.

No funny biz. here, but lots of BOOTS, SHOES AND ARCTICS for 25 per cent. LESS than you can buy them elsewhere. Remember the location,

ONE DOOR NORTH OF THE BENEFIT.

W. W. DAVIS,

The Closing Out Shoe Store.

DR. M. H. GROSS,

DENTIST.

Graduate of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery.

Office in Post-Office Block, over Kump, Fickes & Co.'s Grocery. (Formerly of York, Pa.) Oct 19 1888-daw

Farmers Take Notice.

Sacks as good as new at 5, 10, and 15 cents apiece. Lard cans nearly new at 25 cents each. A large lot of empty barrels for sale cheap at the Parlor Grocery of Kump, Fickes & Co. 12-1f

Change of Firm.

All parties indebted to the firm of Miller & Thomas will please read this: The firm of Miller & Thomas has changed, W. I. Miller, retiring. All parties indebted to the above firm will please call and settle at once, either by cash or note. The business will be continued by Mr. J. Thomas. 15-3t

\$100,000 TO LOAN.

We have \$100,000 to loan on farm and city property at the lowest rates. Loans closed promptly. No delay. ABILENE INVESTMENT CO., Rear room First Nat. Bank