









Spring 1898 Spring

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MAIN STREET.

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FROM CHICAGO

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EXCELLENT BARGAINS

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Office—Roe Block, Front Street, Buchanan, Mich.

BUCHANAN RECORD.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1898.

Entered at the Post-office at Buchanan, Mich., as second-class matter.

Only 166 out of a possible 325 of the weekly newspapers in Michigan are recorded in circulation in actual numbers by the American Newspaper Directory for 1898, and the publishers of the Directory will guarantee the accuracy of the rating by a reward of one hundred dollars to the first person who successfully attacks it. Advertisers should note the fact that the Buchanan Record is one of the 166 that are not afraid to let their customers know just what they are buying.

RECORD ITEM BOXES

Are located at the following places: H. Bins, B. R. Desenberg & Bro. Hotel Stephens, Dr. E. S. Dodd & Son, M. C. R. depot. Drop any items of interest in any of these boxes, and they will reach the Record office.

DO YOU WANT A MAP?

Through a special arrangement, we can offer you an excellent map of Michigan, size 57 inches by 40 inches, with a map of the world on the reverse side, and a year's subscription to the BUCHANAN RECORD, for the nominal price of \$1.35. If you are already a subscriber for the Record, you can secure one of these maps for only 35 cents. Call at once and secure a map, if you are at all interested in this remarkable offer.

Our Clubbing List.

We have arrangements whereby we can save you money on your periodicals for the coming year. Call and get our prices and see what we can do for you.

Wasn't it dusty in the procession? The M. B. H. & C. R. began their Sunday excursions last Sunday.

Mr. Chas. F. Peers has been confined to his home by an attack of appendicitis.

The pupils of Miss Deering gave a musical at the residence of Mrs. F. S. Lamb, Friday evening.

Beginning with next Saturday the Record office force will have a Saturday half holiday during the summer months.

Dowagiac Assembly No. 1 had a very enjoyable time at their annual rally at Dowagiac, Tuesday evening of last week.

A pleasant birthday party was given Miss Cora Smith by her girl friends last Thursday afternoon at her home on Lake street.

The Michigan Mirror for last week has a handsome American flag in colors, on the first page, making a striking and appropriate picture.

The Elkhart & Western Railroad owned by Mr. H. E. Bucklen has been sold to the Lake Shore road and is now a part of the system it was originally built to oppose.

Last Thursday night Mr. I. L. H. Dodd was appointed as a trustee of the village to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. J. G. Corey. The appointment is a good one.

The Wolverine Base Ball club went to Niles on Saturday to play Saturday to play the Spartans of that place. The score was as usual—in favor of Buchanan, standing, 12 to 9. A return game will be played here on Saturday.

The Eighth Grade will hold their annual graduation exercises in the High School room on Friday morning of next week, June 10, at half past nine o'clock. An interesting programme has been prepared. The class colors are red, white and blue.

Harry Perrott is on deck again with strawberries. He has had ripe berries since last week Wednesday, and Tuesday morning he picked 100 quarts of fine berries for market. He left a sample box at the Record office which our frigid editor pronounced just fine.

Keep your name before the people. Let them know that you are still in business. It may be that just at this time some reader of this paper does not want the goods you advertise. But he will want them after a while. Then he will remember you because your advertisement has kept you fresh in his mind.

Mr. Will Sparks holds his head pretty high nowadays and he has reason to do so. Any one who has any doubts about it should just step into his barber shop and look at the elegant new fixtures he has just put in position. He has two fine bevelled plate mirrors with oak trimmings and the chairs are the celebrated "Columbia" manufacture and it is just like a dream to sit down in them and have one of those easy shaves for which Mr. Sparks or his assistant is so famous.

Roy Gilson, son of Editor Frank R. Gilson of Benton Harbor enlisted as a private in Co. E. of the 31st Michigan Volunteers. A telegram from Tampa, Florida conveyed the pleasing information that Roy has been appointed orderly to Brig. Gen. Henry, of the Tenth cavalry, United States troops, commander of the First division Second army corps. He will be furnished a horse and will accompany the Tenth cavalry. We congratulate our friend Gilson on his advancement.

The School Board held a meeting on Tuesday afternoon and decided upon the teachers for the coming school year as follows:

Supt., Mr. L. G. Avery; Principal, Miss Laura J. Haggart; 1st Ass't, Miss Florence Richards; 2nd " Miss Cora Robinson; 3rd Grade, Miss Elsie Kingery; 7th " Miss Anna A. Treat; 6th " Miss May Dispenette; 5th " Miss Lottie Thayer; 4th " Miss Mabel Lindsey; 3d " Miss Anna Simmons; 2nd " Miss Carrie Williams; 1st " Miss Elizabeth Gardner.

Patriotic Neckwear, Handkerchiefs, Flags,

FOR

MEN, WOMEN, BOYS and GIRLS

MORRIS THE FAIR

DEALER IN ALMOST EVERYTHING.

Buchanan, Mich.

FREE TEXT BOOKS OR UNIFORMITY. WHICH!

There is no question connected with our public school system, that demands more thoughtful consideration than the question of text books for common schools. The defects of uniform system, which is but a little, if any, better than the present system, and the advantages to be derived from the free text book system, have frequently been discussed and, will, in the future, continued to be discussed by teachers and patrons throughout this county and other counties for, says J. M. Gregory who can rightly estimate the inexpressible importance of our school: "To put a child on short allowances out of this skyfull air, is enough to make a miser weep." Yet, that is the very condition in which most of our common schools stand to-day, and will continue to stand so long as our system is not revised and made better than it is at present.

Our patrons see what is right, but they do not do what is right and, says Confucius, "To see what is right and not do it, is want of courage." About the only excuse that can be offered, is that the condition of the times will not permit anything better. So we will have to be contented with what we have at present; but, quotes the Presbyterian, "Yesterday's conscience will not do for to-day's needs, or to-day's for to-morrow's." This, we find in our system of text books to be absolutely true. "Our system of text books is not to be compared with those of other states and counties, merely to determine whether it may be a little more or a little less perfect than theirs, but it is to be contrasted with our highest ideas of perfection itself, and then the pain of the contrast is to be assuaged by improving it forthwith and continually."

That which we want and have not, is a system of books by which the poor are as likely to excel as the rich, thereby doing away with a monopoly of talent, of industry and acquirement.

The free text book system, and that alone is the one which will meet the emergencies and raise our schools to a higher level. Quoting Pattengill, ex-superintendent of public instruction, as follows: He says, "The question of text books for our public schools is one which has many times occupied the attention of the Michigan Legislature, and while many plans have been proposed leading to the enactment of some law, I believe that free text books is the most effectual and practical solution of the problem. In enumerating some of the many advantages which the free text book system has over other systems, I will say that: 1st, in one way it is uniformity itself, inasmuch as the work of the teacher in the school room is concerned. That is where we want a uniformity and not in the text books themselves. 2d, All are supplied with books, 3d, It insures a good attendance. 4th, It gives the teacher a better chance to classify pupils, thereby insuring better work in the school, both by pupils and teacher. 5th, Officers of schools, especially of a township school district, can make it more compulsory for parents to send children, as they (the parents) cannot say, 'I cannot buy books.' Further than that, there is always a certain element, or likely to be at least, that will not and would not buy books for their children were they amply able to do so. But if the district furnishes them, the child is certain to have plenty of books. If the parent pays a tax, he is certain to help pay for them. 6th, Books will last longer, when kept at the school house, with the exception of the 1st, 2d and 3d grades, which will get the roughest usage and will have to be replaced oftener than any others, but their expense is very light. Books from the 4th grade up will last from five to ten years. 7th, Children from other districts drop right into line, while in the other way there is often delay. 8th, Non-resident land helps pay for books. 9th, Nearly every new teacher has some favorite book, which he or she wishes to put in, and often succeed, which is the hardest thing schools have to contend with now. 10th, Practical economy and cheaper in every way. The cost per capita to supply pupils with books, the first year will average \$1.31. For every subsequent year thereafter the average cost per capita will be 43 cents. At that rate an eight year or common school course of books will be furnished the pupil for \$8.44. I dare say that there isn't one in this county, or this state for that matter, who can supply his or her children with the necessary books to complete the district course under any other system for that amount of money. The small, insignificant sum of \$8.44. I do not get all this from reference, I speak from actual experience. I taught the only school in this county that has adopted the free text book method. The best school in the county, as regards to economy, and best chance for unquestionable good by the teacher. I know something of the cost and what a teacher can do in a school under such circumstances. I know that a teacher can do all that the system claims he can do. I know that the average yearly cost for each pupil was only 40 cents. The district not only furnished books alone, but they furnished pens, ink, slate pencils, led pencils and writing material, including scratch tablets, paper for penmanship, and examination paper. The tax to support this system is only twenty-five one hundred thousandths of a cent on a dollar, or 25 cents on a thousand dollar valuation of property. So the tax is not burdensome at all.

The question of free text books, it seems to me, is all one-sided, and any person of average intelligence can see at a glance that it is superior to any other and really needs not any argument to sustain it; yet, it shows that our neighbors are not all asleep on this subject. I will quote some resolutions adopted by the Teacher's Association of Houghton and Keweenaw counties:

Resolved, That we, teachers of Houghton and Keweenaw counties, favor the passage of an act by the Legislature which shall make text books free throughout this state, except in districts where a majority of the persons qualified to vote at any school meeting shall by ballot, express a preference for the present system;

Resolved, That any district that shall refuse or neglect to comply with the provisions of the above proposed act, when the same shall have become a law, shall forfeit all right to any share in the primary school fund of this state.

Almost at the same instant that these resolutions were acted upon, one of similar purport went up from the Grangers of Berrien county, and I feel safe in saying, that the time will come when the majority, if not all of the schools of the State will be blessed with a system of free text books.

The ideas that some people have of a model system of education reminds me of the story of the Irishman who sent a coat to his brother and enclosed a note reading, as follows: DEAR BRO. RAY:—I cut the buttons off the coat to make it weigh lighter. You'll find them in the inside pocket. Yours, JAMES.

That is just exactly what the Legislature has done or tried to do with the present system. They have cut the buttons off to make it weigh lighter, and there you have the Uniform system. They reduced the price to better enable those to buy who can buy, and to give some certain book company a monopoly on the manufacture and sale of text books, but the defects are there just the same. The school can do no better work. The buttons are in the inside pocket.

In conclusion I will say, "That Uniform Text Book bill has been hauled in again and repaired. New sample books are named, prices raised, three county commissioners added to the text book board and more districts exempted from its workings. As it now stands, the measure would give neither uniformity nor books cheaper than they can be had by boards purchasing under the free text law. Three great book companies are favoring the bill, and their agent was in close consultation with the promoters of the measure just before the repairs were put on. These big book houses have few holdings in Michigan, and hope by a change in the law to get a better chance in a new deal. The trend everywhere is toward free text books. We'll be ready for it in a few years. It can furnish books to the district at a low figure as does State Uniformity, and by open competition keep the books far better." Let no change be made until we are ready to adopt the best plan of all, and one that has proven satisfactory wherever it has been tried, namely: Free text books. Let all parents and all who are voters in the school district, all who are interested in the welfare of their children and their prosperity, take decided stand on this question at the next annual meeting and vote solid for text books. We do not need a uniformity unless it can be a uniformity of free text books. That would be a decided improvement, but as for a uniformity alone, we have no use for it whatever. We teachers do not care to be compelled to teach one set of books all over the state for the next fifteen or twenty years to come unless we could have a change of text books every five or even years; but still even that would not do justice to the pupils for the other defects, many of which are existing at present would be obstacles in the path of education.

It is true that we need a change of text every so often and even under a uniformity would be hard to bring about, much harder than at the present time. What we want is a perfect system; but that is difficult to get and undoubtedly cannot be gotten. But surely we can obtain one that will meet most emergencies, one that will not cause the working of one district to conflict with those of another; one in which the child of well-to-do parents cannot tantalize the poorer one with the expression, "Your father is too poor to buy books and district has to buy them for you." For shame that we should have such children, still another shame that we have such a system of books that will permit it. We want a system that will treat all alike one in which the poor man's child has an equal chance with the rich man's child. The only system that is capable of granting such a peerless privilege is one system and one alone, viz: A system of free text books.

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Will be pretty well sold out by the middle of this month, that is, at least the more desirable styles. You can at any time find goods to make a dress of, but if you want those dainty, chick effects which we now display, you must buy at once.

ON SHIRT WASIT STYLES

We have but few words, but we will tell you something to remember. All the little excellences of cut and fit which go to make one waist better than another—ours have them. The fit is better, the style is perfect, the finish leaves nothing to be desired, and the waists are a little better all around and a trifle cheaper, with all this perfection, than any others in town.

SHIRT WAIST SILKS.

Perhaps you have tried to find pretty plaid silks elsewhere and have been told that they are not to be had any more, all sold out, etc. Well it's a fact, they are very scarce, but we have some very choice styles that are sold elsewhere for \$1.25 per yard, you can have them for \$1.00.

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The One Price Large Double Store.

Am closing out my line of

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We are contented with a small profit on the goods we sell in this department and should you desire the correct kind of hat at a correct price come down to this store and let us show you what we can do for you in this line.

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Hammocks, Base Ball Goods, Croquet Sets, Fine Stationery, Etc.

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Staple and Fancy Dry Goods.

Dress Goods from 3 cents up. Fancy Goods and Notions in great variety. Catch on and you will get there cheap. Yours for Fine Good and Fair Figures,

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Old, Reliable and Up-To-Date.

BUY Binder Twine OF E. S. ROE.

NEXT TIME TRY... GLENN E. SMITH & CO. THE SHOE DEALERS for a pair of good wearing shoes, summer underwear, box or shirts. YOUR MONEY BACK IF NOT SATISFIED. LADIES' OXFORDS 59c. THIS WEEK.

SODA WATER OPENING. THE FINEST LINE OF TOILET SOAPS IN THE CITY. W. N. BRODRICK

The Emporium is the place to get your FINE MILLINERY of all kinds. Call and see our styles.

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