

# Birmingham Eccentric.

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BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN.

### CURRENT TOPICS

Stair is much more plentiful than small change in this city. You do not think it, perhaps, looking at the average citizen of the southern prairie, but it is a fact. When you buy any amount of small change, you find that you will receive as change forty or more small cokes of soap.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has established an insurance department, loan and building association, and various other departments for the employment, such as provisions for pension and gratuity. It has also planned a technical school for the instruction of boys and young men in the mechanical arts so that they can be prepared to enter the service of the company as skilled workmen. This will have a succession of exporting to come to maturity year after year.

An over-enthusiastic contributor to the *Maubatch* proposes to have Shakespeare's tomb opened in the hope that a photograph of the bones may be found which would settle the question of why some of the Shakespeareans' tomb? Why not go back and open up the tomb of Moses and Adam. It may not be any matter for the first time, but it is the matter of Mark Twain stands ready to give travelers to the tomb of Adam, or do anything else that will help along his monument in the memory of the landlord of the garden of Eden.

Stoutness may be an injury, into all the stomachs of the world, but it is concluded that it is because there were twelve prophets of old. The apostles numbered twelve, there were twelve judges, twelve pillars in the temple, twelve patriarchs, twelve tribes of Israel, twelve sons of Aaron, twelve phases, two gates to Jerusalem, twelve months in the year, twelve signs in the Zodiac. We suppose it is for some such reason that this if it had been a matter of intelligence twenty four months in the year, it would have been just as right number.

A strange sight was witnessed at the Detroit House of Correction, one day, being nothing less than the arrival at that institution of a mother and son a boy over whose head to flourish but not parent, unacquainted together, who had been found guilty of murder and sentenced to three years imprisonment. The crime was committed that fall near Elkhorn, Indian Territory, and the mother, Mrs. Mary Murray. The man who was shot was a disreputable character who claimed the boy as his mistress, and the mother's heart was so broken that she picked up a gun and exterminated him, and for this reason she was caught through life branded with the mark of Cain.

Those who have been fighting the Scott Blair law in Ohio have won a partial victory. A decision has been rendered in two of the cases by the lower court. In one case the law is held to be unconstitutional, and in the other there was a reversal. The decision that the law imposed upon the traffic in intoxicating liquors is a lien on the property in or upon which the liquor is sold. This provision, and obviously it is an important one, is related to the case of *United States v. Wilson*. The court expressed no opinion as to the constitutionality of the law as a whole.

Another young man gone astray. This unfortunate man, Eric Deming, by name, had been in the city, where for some months he occupied a prominent position in the government employ, having been appointed postmaster of the city of Detroit about eight months ago. A short time ago it was discovered that he was short in his accounts and he was discharged. Further investigation revealed the fact that he had taken something like \$15,000 in several registered letters and blank money orders. After his dismissal the money was broken into and the safe was opened, and the money was found to be missing. The case was unknown to all save the postmaster and Deming, and suspicion at once fastened upon the latter. He left town, but he really came to Cass City, Mo., and brought before the United States court in Detroit, and sentenced to the Detroit House of Correction for a term of years. The full period of the law would have been 20 years, but owing to the prisoners' work and the fact that this was his first offense, the sentence was commuted to a term of five years. The story of the crime is given in the story of the high respectability. His father grew him by irrepressible force, and finally impelled him to commit the crime for which he must now occupy the Detroit House of Correction.

Miss Lizzie Switzer, the daughter of a prominent citizen of Fairbairn, Minn., was found early in the great fire from her home in Grand Rapids, and she was rescued from the burning building by a fireman. She was found in a room on the second floor, and she was rescued from the burning building by a fireman. She was found in a room on the second floor, and she was rescued from the burning building by a fireman.

### The Blue Grass Country Not Blue.

Sportsmen. The Blue Grass country of Kentucky is quite extensive in area, and it is in its popular sense applicable to the remarkable blue grass country in the center of the state, which comprises every advantage possible, and which is in every way fitted for the positions of responsibility. He frankly confesses that he was led into habits of dissipation by evil companions, and he acquired a love for the liquor which grew upon him with irresistible force, and finally impelled him to commit the crime for which he must now occupy the Detroit House of Correction.

### THE LATE BIG UP SIMPSON.

#### A Sketoh of His Life

Not only Michigan, but Christianity has lost one of its noblest and most patriotic and successful statesmen. John W. Simpson, who departed this life in June, 1874.

Matthew Simpson was born in Ohio, June 20, 1811, and his early education was obtained in the common schools of his native state. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he was a member of the Michigan State Bar. He was a member of the Michigan State Bar, and he was a member of the Michigan State Bar.

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### MICHIGAN MATTERS.

#### THE BRIDGE CONFESSION.

A Verily BRIDGE DEB DELIBERATELY BORG.

Admiral Jones, in jail in Iowa charged with the murder of a woman, has been found guilty of the murder of a woman, and he has been sentenced to the gallows. He has been found guilty of the murder of a woman, and he has been sentenced to the gallows.

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### THE CONVENTION.

#### The State Democratic Convention in Detroit.

Report of the Proceedings.

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### Salmon Fishing on the Columbia.

The West Shore, Portland, Ore.

From April till August the Columbia River below Astoria is covered with the white sails of fishing boats constantly passing between the fishing grounds and the net racks and docks at the canneries. At that season of the year, these boats may be seen beating down the river or coming in behind the wind with a load of fish, though they appear in the greatest numbers just before and after the season of the salmon. At that season, the change of the water is due to the fact that the water is so high that the fish are unable to get up the river, and they are forced to come down the river. The fish are so numerous that they are unable to get up the river, and they are forced to come down the river.

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