BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC.

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VOL. VII, NO. 41 BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5 1885 WHOLE NO 406

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS

—A CHOICE SELECTION OF—

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I would call special attention to my

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Books, Papers and Magazines for sale.

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Call and look at our

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I WANT TO BUY

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Pounds of Wool and am prepared to pay the

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I also pay the best possible rates for

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FARM SALES A SPECIALTY.

All sales conducted in first class manner at rates suitable with the times. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Wants, Lost, Found, etc.

FARM FOR SALE—One of the best 80 acre farms in Michigan, with excellent buildings, 7 miles from Birmingham, and farm implements, at a very low price. For full information call upon J. H. Corson, jr. 39tf

WANTED—Man and wife, middle age preferred, with no family, to work on my farm. Must come well recommended as to energy, capability, honesty and as first class help. O. Poppleton. 39 3t

FOR SALE On L. Stanley's farm, one half mile south of Birmingham, 15 milch cows, 11 yearling steers and four calves 39 1m

I Sell for cash

All kinds of Lumber and Shingles very cheap for the next sixty days. J. W. Perry,

1m south of the Postoffice.

FOR SALE—House and lot in Birmingham situated on Martin street. House is a two story dwelling and has seven rooms, all comfortable for living, good cellar, pipes, cherries and grapes are on the premises. A good barn goes with the place. Price, $900. Barn cost $275. This is a bargain and someone is going to get it quick, as the owner has moved real estate in Birmingham than he wishes. For further particulars inquire of Whitehead and Mitchell or of the owner, Robert G. Reynolds, Birmingham, Mich.

FARM FOR SALE—Consisting of 130 acres, 1½ miles south of Birmingham, 1 mile west on gravel road; 70 acres improved, about 30 acres timber. Well tiled, good house, plenty of water, first class orchard, large brick house, 3 barns, with sheds and other necessary buildings. Terms reasonable. William Finn, executor 40 1mp

HOUSE AND LOTS for sale.—I offer my house and four lots on the corner of Pierce and Frederick streets, in the village of Birmingham, for sale on very reasonable terms and a low price. Plenty of bearing trees, small fruits, etc. Good house and barn, well and cistern. Inquire on the premises or address Edson James, Birmingham, Mich. 41 1m

NEW MILCH COWS for sale—Four new milch cows and fifteen springers, all fine and cheap. Enquire at L. Stanley's farm, ½ mile south of Birmingham. James Todd. 41 3t p

SHORT HORN BULL for sale.—I offer for sale for will trade for young stock, my young short horn bull, "General Keith," two years old this coming spring, a thoroughbred and one fine enough for registration. Will be registered free of cost to purchaser. John Allen, jr., Birmingham, Mich. 41 1m

FARM FOR SALE—Situated 3¾ miles northwest of Birmingham and 5 miles south of Pontiac, containing 80 acres; 50 acres timbered. Good stone house and stone barn, a frame barn, good well and cistern, good orchard. For further particulars call on or address Clark Vaughn, Birmingham, Mich. 40 6tp

FARMS AT AUCTION—I will sell at auction February 19 at two o'clock, p. m., on the premises, the farm on east end of Birmingham, two farms under a high state of cultivation, one of 80 acres and one of 60 acres. They will be sold separately or together. Terms easy. For particulars call on or address J. F. Foster, Pontiac, Mich., or James Shain, Birmingham, Mich. 40 3tp

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Mrs. Furman sells newspapers and magazines and would like to increase her subscription list; also sells Seaside and Franklin Square publications.

COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE. In the matter of the estate of Elizabeth James deceased. The undersigned, having been appointed by the Honorable Thomas L. Patterson, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims against said estate, and six months from the 8th day of January, A. D., 1885, having been allowed by said Judge of Probate to all persons holding claims against said estate, in which to present them to us for examination and adjustment, notice is hereby given that we will meet on the 7th day of February, 1885, and on the 16th day of July, 1885, at 10 A. M. of each day, at the post office in the village of Birmingham, in said county, for the purpose of receiving and adjusting such claims.

J. ALLEN BIGELOW, ALANSON PARTRIDGE, Commis'rs.

Jan. 15 to Feb. 5.

½

Price for one week on Ladies' and Children's Gloves and Mitts, Cashmere Gloves, lined and unlined, Kid Gloves, lined, both with and without fur tops. Come and secure BARGAINS. Cut prices on Woolen Hosiery at CORSON'S.

F. Blakeslee. V. Nixon

DRY GOODS CHEAP.

In order to make room for spring stock we shall sell for the next 60 days

Three quarters all wool dress flannels at 40 cents, worth 60 cents.
Five quarters all wool dress flannels at 80 cents, worth $1.00.
Six quarters all wool dress flannels at 95 cents, worth $1.10.
All wool shirting flannels at 28 cents, worth 40 cents.
All wool shirting flannels at 35 cents, worth 45 cents.
All wool scarlet flannels at 20 cents, worth 28 cents.
All wool scarlet flannels at 25 cents, worth 35 cents.
All wool five quarters Broadhead dress goods at 60 cents, worth 80 cents.
All wool four quarters Cashmere dress goods at 15 cents, worth 20 cents.
All wool basket flannels at 40 cents, worth 60 cents.

Our entire line of skirts, shawls, blankets, Hoods and hosiery at cost,

As we must close them out.

Our stock of yarns at 75 cents and $1.00 per pound.

Our line of underwear marked way down.

Gent's scarlet shirts and drawers at 75 cents, former price $1.00.
Gent's scarlet shirts and drawers at 85 cents, former price $1.25.
Gent's scarlet shirts and drawers at $1.25, former price $1 50.
Gent's scarlet shirts and drawers at $1.50, former price $2.00.
Gent's merino shirts and drawers at 60 cents, former price 75 cents.
Gent's merino shirts and drawers at 40 cents, former price 50 cents.
Gent's merino shirts and drawers at 25 cents, former price 40 cents.
Ladies' scarlet vest and pants at $1.00, former price $1.25.
Ladies' scarlet vest and pants at 80 cents, former price $1.00.
Ladies' merino vests and pants at 75 cents, former price $1.00.
Ladies' merino vest and pants at 60 cents, former price 75 cents.
Ladies' merino vest and pants at 40 cents, former price 50 cents.

Also our line of childrens underwear at cost.

Hats and caps at cost

To clear out.

We have the best assortment of bleached and unbleached cottons in five fourths, six fourths, eight fourths, nine fourths, ten fourths.

Argyle, unbleached	6¼ cts.	Lonsdale, bleached	8 c's.
Statue of Liberty	7 cts.	Fruit of the Loom	10 cts.
Atlantic, A	8 cts.	Best prints	5 cts.
Good gingham	8 cts.		

Remember we take the lead in fresh goods, low prices and best genera assortment at

F. Blakeslee & Co's.

Birmingham - - - - Mich.

HOME NOTES.

PERPETUAL NOTICE!

You will please notice date after your name on paper and wrapper; this tells you when your subscription expires. If your time is out please call and settle.

Miss Fronia Flinn's name appears on the sick list.

Glad to see our old friend James M. Hunt is able to be out again.

Miss Lizzie Chestnut of Davisburg is visiting friends in Southfield.

Loren Hatch of Detroit has rented Charles Moore's farm in Troy.

A mammoth boiler for the new county jail passed through here last week.

Miss Pearl Franklin of Croswell is the guest of H. A. Randall and wife.

Will Bell and family move into their new house on Fremont street this week.

Mr. Willette Ward and wife, late of the Forbes house, Marshall, are in town.

E. S. Wooster has gone to Clyde for a short visit. He goes and returns alone.

We saw "Dim will never know it" at the masquerade and recognized him at once.

By. Pierce of Farmington and his mother visited George Toms and wife last week.

Mr. A. D. Shadbolt is seriously ill with rheumatism and has been laid up for a number of days.

Fifty couple took in a dance at the Lewless house, Royal Oak, on the evening of the masquerade.

The members of the Bloomfield Centre lyceum have decided to meet on Tuesday evenings, hereafter.

The Rev. James Quick, formerly of Pemberville, Ohio, has removed to Kingston, Roane county, Tennessee.

Fine cashmere gloves for 25 cents; also a lot of silks, satins, etc., at 5 cents a piece for crazy work, at Mrs Furman's.

Elsewhere appears a cattle for sale advertisement from James Todd of the Stanley farm. Read it, ye farmers, that yearneth for cattle.

All kinds of notary public work and conveyancing done promptly, correctly and at reasonable rates at Whitehead & Mitchell's.

Miss Helen Shepherd of Detroit and Mr. Charles Jenks of Southfield visited Miss Minnie Shepherd at E. S. Wooster's last week.

Little Miss May Thurlby took a tumble at the roller rink last Saturday evening, breaking and loosening the most of her teeth. Next.

John Allen, jr., of Troy, has an advertisement of a fine thoroughbred short horn bull for sale, in our cheap column this week. Read it, ye breeders of fancy stock.

Wm. Brown and Past Grand Master Partridge attended the annual meeting of the grand lodge in Detroit last week. They were gone two days and had a very nice time indeed.

Mrs. Addie Lee of Fostoria, Tuscola county, Mrs. Prall of Elizabeth Lake and Mr. and Mrs. Edson Chase of Rochester were the guests of M. M. Toms and family last week.

The annual masquerade of the Ladies' Library society came off January 30, and was a social and financial success. Total receipts, $183.03, expenses, $95.16; net, $87.87.

We are pleased to learn that the temperance people of Milford gave our old friend J. R. Sowersby a rousing benefit supper at his hotel in Milford on Friday night last, netting him about $100.

Wanted: Man and wife, middle age preferred, with no family, to work on my farm. Must come well recommended as to energy, capability and first class help. O. Poppleton. 2t

Died: On Tuesday morning, February 3, at 4 o'clock, of consumption, Miss Libbie Flinn, aged 34 years. The funeral takes place on Friday (tomorrow) at 10.30 o'clock, a. m., at the house.

Again we have been severely sat down upon by a mad woman of Maple avenue. Verily variety is the spice of life and we get our share of the spice. Call again. We are a nice pair as the age said to his eyebrows.

David and John Blakeley are home from Bellevue, Idaho, for the winter. They have been steady hard-working boys in the far west and after recuperating through the winter they will return to their western home.

Mr. G. W. Lowe is steadily improving and we hope soon to see him around as usual. His sickness has been very severe and no one is more happy than the Rev. himself, over his recovery, and a large number of friends rejoice with him.

A surprise party for Mrs. Henry Kimball of near Pontiac went from this place Tuesday to celebrate the birthday of Mr. Kimball. They enjoyed a day's visit and a bountiful dinner, and all wished the hospitable couple many happy returns of the occasion.

Mr. Harry A. Sora, the genial, pleasant, interesting, entertaining travelling salesman for T. Hinchman & Sons, took in the L. L. A. masquerade last week, and had a jolly time among his old friends—in a horn.

The Rev. J. H. Potts of Detroit, editor of the Michigan Christian Advocate will preach at the Methodist church next Sunday. Mr. Potts is an able speaker and no doubt a large congregation will meet him. We hear on good authority that the Rev. G. W. Lowe will be present. We hope so.

The skates at the roller rink have been repaired and cleaned, and one can now enjoy himself to the worth of his money.

Long plumes from $1 to $2, reduced from $1.50 and $3. Feathers and tips very cheap. Mrs. Furman.

John Clark of Troy will sell at auction on the premises one-half mile north of Clawson, on Tuesday, February 10, at 1 o'clock, p. m., farming tools, potatoes, corn, etc. W. H. Camp will entertain the crowd in his usual happy manner.

A variety of useful articles will always be found in my five and ten cent departments. L. T. Furman.

C. E. Dewey of Four Towns was in town the past week. His father, John K. Dewey, is nearly 90 years old and still able to be around the house. He was made a master mason in 1817 and is one of the oldest masons in the state.

A great big sleigh load of people, about 30 couples, came out from Detroit one evening last week, captured the house of Theo. Bookham, made them a nice visit, took supper, had a jolly time and went home well pleased with their reception and hospitable entertainment.

Miss Ora Furman solicits orders for knitting beds. She is also prepared to do stamping for emb roidery.

The following acceptance has been received in response to the challenge issued by Will Stephans last week: I hereby accept Will Stephans' challenge to skate a two-mile race for the medal held by me. If agreeable to Mr. Johnston and Will Stephans, I appoint Friday, the 13th day of February for the race. Alex. McPherson.

Charlie Hoffman was determined to butt a freight train off the track one day last week and when his friends detained him he wanted to wrestle the whole wide world, catch as catch can. Come to sift the matter down we found that Charles had just acquired the ownership of a bouncing baby boy and we instantly ceased to wonder at his strange actions.

A lady on Maple avenue one morning last week started a fire in her kitchen stove by throwing in a teacup of kerosene oil with a startling result. The oil exploded with a great noise, blazed into her face, singed off a pair of eyebrows and a newly made lot of bangs. The good wife covered her head with a carpet, while the affrighted husband dashed from his bedroom and covered his frightened wife with all the bedclothes handy. Fortunately no serious damage was done. Moral: Let the husband build the morning fires.

A grand entertainment will be given at the M. E. church of Royal Oak on Monday evening, February 9, 1885, for the benefit of the Royal Oak M. E. Sunday school. Mr. H. Hitchcock of Detroit will exhibit his beautiful pictures, dissolving views, etc., representing statuary, paintings, and other artistic representations. Mr. Henry D. Warren of Detroit will furnish good music for the occasion. Readings will also be given by one of the best readers of Detroit. Those desirous of an evening of profit and enjoyment should not fail to be present. Admission 15 cents, children 10 cents.

James Bayley.

The following sketch of the life of James Bayley was read by William F. Hoyt on the sixtieth wedding anniversary of James and Dorcas Bayley on the 20th of January last.

James Bayley was born in the town of Scipio, Cayuga county, state of New York, on the 7th day of July, 1802, and is the second son of Isaac Bayley, formerly of Windsor county, Vermont. Mr. Bayley is an early pioneer and first saw Detroit on the last day of April, 1824, coming from Buffalo on the old steamboat "Superior," a plain, stout and rough craft, mostly built from the remains of the first steamer on the lakes, "The Walk in the Water."

His first night in Michigan was spent with an old friend, the late Diodate Hubbard, who kept a house of entertainment about a mile from Birmingham on the place now owned and occupied by James McBride.

Among the persons who lived on the road from Detroit to Birmingham was Henry Stevens and an eccentric woman commonly called "Mother Handsome," but whose real name was Chapell. Her locality and place of entertainment was about five miles from Detroit. This place was afterward called "Young's place." She kept a temperance house even at that early date, perhaps on the "striped pig" principle. She abhorred liquor, thought it was a great evil, but sold vinegar, which did no harm. There was a great demand for her vinegar by "old soakers," who said it was well seasoned with old rye. I know not, says Mr. Bayley, why she was called "Handsome," for she was not a beauty, but an ugly visage, which would occasionally exhibit its deformity when a "dead beat" was around, or when some old vinegar customer didn't pay up for his drinks. Mother Handsome went to heaven, or some other good place, many years ago, and left a name and reputation which will not be forgotten by the old settlers.

When Mr. Bayley first came to Birmingham he found three families residing here, John W. Hunter, John Hamilton, and Elijah Willetts. The latter then kept a tannery, and his worthy widow is now living here.

The same day Mr. Bayley landed in Birmingham he went to the house of Captain Robert Parks, then in Bloomfield, now Troy. Soon after he went to Farmington and staid over night on his way with Ziba Blakeslee, the father of the go-ahead George, who has succeeded in raising a large family and in accumulating worldly goods.

(To be continued.)

MERRY MASKERS.

Notwithstanding the roller skate craze which has made the dancing business extremely dull this winter, the merry maskers at the L. L. A. masquerade at National hall on Friday evening last was fairly well attended, nearly 100 couples participating and making a net profit for the ladies of over $87.

The costumes, taken all in all, were not quite up to the usually high standard of these entertainments, there being a noticable falling off, both in quantity and quality.

Some of the characters were well taken, however, and among them we have space to mention only a few of the most prominent: Mrs. S. T. Boyd and Mrs. Will Baum appeared in the "hoop" to-the-ankles costumes of 1861. Joe Rainey was resplendent in the cocked hat and knee breeches of a British officer, Brooks Randall had a very tasty costume of the jack of clubs. Tib Boyd was an Odd Fellow in every sense of the word. Miss Nettie Bloomberg wore an elegant costume of parti-colored velvet in the character of a "pansy blossom." Gertie Merrill looked like a young miss of about twenty summers in a very pretty riding habit. Irving Wilson was a fierce Bashi Bazouk, while his wife was a very charming Winter. Miss Hattie Pettit was very tastefully arrayed in pink and white; Ella Park, "queen of games;" Frankie Fredericks was a romping, hoydenish school girl; Jennie Keyes, a big sunflower; Bert Buell, an excellent Uncle Sam; Mrs. Emmett Brown, fancy dress; Henry Stafford, Harlequin; Lizzie White, white costume; Katy Caswell, cap and bells. Miss Pearl Franklin of Croswell wore one of the prettiest costumes in the room in the character of Evening Star.

The "seven wise Virgins" of scripture had their number mysteriously swelled to eleven and presented a wierd appearance with Mother Hubbard night dresses and night caps with lights trimmed and burning, and were ably represented by the Misses Frankie Fredericks, Georgia, Lena, Carrie and Eva Blakeslee, Eva Crouch, Zylphia Bayley, Mrs Wild of Detroit, Tena Swan, Josie Hutchinson and Rosie Allen. Miss Foot of Pontiac and Mrs. Volney Nixon were duplicated in red dominoes. Mrs. Luther Stanley fooled her husband in a white costume with black lace overskirt, and her erect and graceful form belied one's miss of 16, rather than the mature matron of upwards of—we won't say how many years. Mrs. G. E. Daines was perfectly "killing" as an old woman from way back in the woods, George Mitchell was the love sick Romeo to perfection and C. H. Hoffman took the bun as a Japanese.

The music was not as good as it was some years ago when there was a little civil war about the masquerade music. Then we had an excellent orchestra with flutes, piccolos, etc., at ditto. Now, the sheet music was not visible, and that indescribable "esprit du corps," otherwise called "git thar," was sadly lacking. If the boys had done the best they could it would have been good enough for any one, but they didn't. That's where the shoe pinches.

The entertainment was enjoyed by everyone, however, ourself included, and was just what the annual masquerade of the L. L. A. always is—a grand good time, and the one time in the year when we lay aside the sterner duties of life and go in for a little unalloyed fun.

Guarding Against Diphtheria.

1. If one is subject to catarrh or inflammatory affections of the throat, especial care should be paid to the condition of the general health and to the general hygienic surroundings. There is reason to believe that diphtheria originates spontaneously in such persons where the system is debilitated from any cause.

2. During the existence of diphtheria avoid crowded gatherings in badly ventilated rooms, as in theatres, public halls, and even churches. This is of special importance during cold weather.

3. Secure thorough ventilation and perfect cleanliness of nurseries, kindergardens, school-rooms and other places where children are cared for. Parents should make it their personal business to secure these in the home and nursery, and to see that those in charge of the school, etc., are mindful of these important matters. Children are more subject to diphtheria than adults, and the disease is more fatal with them; hence the necessity for these precautions on their behalf.

Off to the East.

Deputy Sheriff John P. Campbell left this afternoon, with an insane person for Portland Oregon. After getting rid of his charge Deputy Campbell will visit San Francisco and Sacramento, and go to New Orleans via Southern Pacific. From New Orleans he will go to New York and on to Oakland county, Michigan, where his parents live, and return here about the first of May, by way of the Northern Pacific.

Mr. Campbell has proved an efficient officer as could be desired, and his friends will be pleased to hear that Sheriff Furey yesterday reappointed him deputy for the ensuing two years.—Wood River Times, Hailey, Idaho.

Card of Thanks.

To the old neighbors and friends who so kindly and substantially proved their sympathy for us since the loss of our husband and father, we tender our most grateful thanks.

Mrs. D. M. Seymour.
Miss Eva Seymour.

From the People.

This week we received the following from an old time subscriber:

In glancing over the columns of last week's ECCENTRIC I came across an article headed "Detroit Revisited," in which W. C. H. says, "Many of my old friends whom I well knew were 'over the river.'" Being of an inquiring turn of mind, I would like to ask W. C. H. in my bland way, and with two stray tears silently coursing down my cheeks (for I am very sympathetic as well as bland), what his friends were doing before they "skedaddled" to Windsor? I understand that Canada is full of coachmen, bank clerks, cashiers, bookkeepers, etc., but perhaps the friends of W. C. H. were engaged in an entirely different business—something like draw poker, three card monte, bucking the tiger, etc. Will W. C. H. rise and explain and relieve the weary mind of

INQUISITIVE.

YPSILANTI, Jan. 30, 1885.

To the Editors of the Birmingham Eccentric.

DEAR SIRS—A short time since our attention was called to the following article: "Mr. Goodel of Ypsilanti, who has been spending the holidays with Pollack McDonald, has been very successful in mashing some of the girls; be careful, Lizzie, he is a flirt."

It is an established truth that one "should not kick at a barking dog." There was not the slightest ground for the above criticism. It is a direct insult to a stranger, as well as to his friends. We do not reply merely to retort, but to prevent any misunderstanding that may arise from the reading of such an article. The drift of the article plainly shows the character. "It is by their fruit ye shall know them."

We consider the contributor of the article of narrow calibre and lacking a little of good common sense-ative-ness so essential to a true lady or gentleman.

P. J. McDONALD.

Your Skule.

Mr. Edytur, I am an old man an kant spell az well az I used to when I went to skule, an that brings me bac to what I writ this letter fur. Bein in your town a fu days since, just lukin roun an sein the sites, I konkluded I de go an see the skule. I allus did take a interest in such things. I luv children, speshully the girls, an the more theys growed up the better I luv em, or used to dont u tell Mariar what I writ). Well, as I was sayin, I visited the skule, My! Its a fine bildin—made the old log skule hous, where I went to skule, take a a back seet. Well, I went up the wank, an up the steps into the vestybull (I believe thats what they call it). I went lukin roun, not nowint kwite where I go, when a purt little fellur stepped up an sez, mity pleasnt like, "Cum to visit our skule?" I lowed I had. "All rite," sez he, "just step up and visit the high skule first." I lowed on the Hull I wood. Well, we went up stairs an fore I noo it, he had marched me up on the platform, an gin me a cheer. My, but weren't there a lot of nice boys an girls there; here they blinked an winked an laffed to see an old fellur like me settin up there as big as life and just as natural. Theres wun Young man they call Richard's son, I thought; But at aint the a tall wun, tho, rite smart fellur, I guess; but he wood smile clear back to his ears, well, about twice in a while. I guess the yung men in that rume will have to like mity sharp or else theen girls will leave 'em so far behind in their bukes that you cant see 'em with a tellyscoop.

Purty sune the same feller as showed me the high skule (herd sum wun call him purfessor—most likely of Cannon practis, maybe that's a Miss-take, though), well, he asked me if I wouldnt like to visit the grammar department. I sed I gessed I would and by Jinks (scuse the expression), there is where you see things in order. A sharp-eyed, flaxen-haired miss kept them up to time. 'Twas wunderful kwiet there an my big butes made so much noiz that I dared not mufe, an when I tried not to make enny noiz, them skolars kinker laffed but that teachur she just luked at em an that wuz enuff. They all looked as if they'd just been to a funural.

Without no offense of pride I went down stares an seen another rume. I declare, what a lot of little fellurs they wuz there. But the first thing I seen wuz one of em had a epylet on his shoulder an if he didnt feel ez grand as Napoleyun I dont want a cent. Twas a purty cold day, tu, an wun little fellur cum in cryin with the cold, an it did my old hart good to see the way that teachur tuk kare of him. I want long before he wuz warm an comfitable. Purty sune the same little chap cut up sum rusty an in just about ten seconds he wished hede kept still. But all them little chaps semed to be enjoyin themselves an I seen sum of em writin an figgerin, an readin, an spellin, an they all semed to luv their teachur.

So leavin em in good hands we went inter another rume. Cannon to rite of them, Cannon to left of them, Cannon all round them; an yet these little fokes wuz ez happy ez cood be. Their bright eyes an smilin faces spok well fur their teachur.

From hear we went into another an the last rume I seen. Work was dun hear an dun Brown, tew. No fulen hear. Ez I watched them little fellurs sayin their lessons an hearn an spell the long jogriffy names I thought I'd straned my head so when I wuz a boy, I shood hev bin in an asylum crazy ez a bobtaled stere in a corn field. I never wuz so tuk back in my life afore, ez I wuz when I wuz asked to say sumthin to the skule. "Land o' nod," sez I, "what'll I say?" Then that little fellur, he luked at me outen the corner of his eye an said, "Oh, say sumthin encouragin like;" an so I ris up, but my nee jints shook ez tho I had the ager. Howsumever, I begun at onct an sed: Childrin, you must, ahem, remember yur are the risin genyrashun. Your parents an frends hev bilt this skule hous. They hev electid men tur luke after it, hire teachurs, and see that your mentul, moral an fiziecl welfare, fur no matter how good an edcashun you may succeed in gettin, ef your bone an sinner has played out, you had better stay at home instead of goin to skule, and so your frends an parents pay these officers an teachurs to luke after these things—just here I wuz intyrupted. A little fellur wanted to go to the stove to warm his feet, but the skule marm said he couldn't go. Bless your hart, mam, said I, let him go, 'twont disturb me a mite; then besides, the fiziecl welfare of the little chap is kwites that his feet shood be kept warm. The bone an sinner of these little uns must be looked after just as much, if not a little mucher, than their intelleck. Why, keepin him back there is just like drivin him out in the cold, whether he wanted to go or not—rite here I forgot what else I wanted to say an so I wished 'em good afternoon an tuk my departchure. That leetle fellur, he went tu the front doar and when I bid him good day and hoped I hadn't been enny trouble, seems ter me every bristle of that mustash kwiverd as he said, "Not at all. Come an see us agen when you can, Mr. Dusenbury."

Advertised Letters.

List of letters remaining unclaimed in the postoffice at Birmingham, Mich., for the month ending Jan. 31, 1885:

Austin, Mr. Thomas,
Byrne, Mrs. D. O.,
Berry, Mr. William,
Hutton, Almon,
Mackinnie, Mr. Walter,
Powell, James H.

Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say "advertised."

A. WHITEHEAD, P. M.

The Approaching Humorist.

The following letter has been received by me, and as it encloses no unsmirched postage stamp to insure a private reply, I take great pleasure in answering it through the columns of the press:

Christian, Ks.

Dear Sir—I am studying for a Humorist. Could you help me to some of the Joliest Books that are written? with some of the best Jokes of the day, &c., &c., &c.

Also what it would be best for me to do to become an Humorist.

I am said to be a Natural Born Humorist by my friends and all I need is Cultivation to make my mark.

Please reply by return mail.

Kindly yours,
HERMAN A. H.

For some time I have been grieving over the dearth of humor in America, and wondering who the great coming humorist was to be. Several papers have already deplored the lack of humor in our land, but they have not been able to put their finger on the approaching humorist of the age. Just as we had begun to despair however, here he comes, quietly and unostentatiously, modestly and ungrammatically. Unheralded and silently like Mand S. or any other eminent man, he slowly rises above the Kansas horizon and tells us that it will be impossible to conceal his identity any longer. He is the approaching humorist of the nineteenth century.

It is a serious matter, Herman, to prescribe a course of study that will be exactly what you need to bring you out. Some people might do well to take a Kindergarten course in spelling and the rudiments of grammar; still, that is not absolutely necessary. A friend of mine named Billings has done well as a humorist, though his knowledge of spelling seems to be pitiably deficient. Grammar is convenient when a humorist desires to put on style or show off before the crowned heads, but it is not absolutely indispensable.

Regarding the "Joliest Book" necessary for your perusal in order to chisel your name on the eternal tablets of fame, tastes will certainly differ. I am almost sorry that you wrote me because we might not agree. You write like one of those "jolly" humorists such as people employ to go along with a picnic and be the life of the party, and whose presence throughout the country has been so depressing. If one may be allowed to judge of your genius by a few autograph lines forwarded, you belong to that class of brain-workers upon whom devolves the solemn duty of pounding sand. If you are really a brain-worker will you kindly inform the writer whose brain you are working now, and how you like it as far as you have gone?

American humor has burst forth from all kind of places nearly. The various professions have done their share. One has risen from a dyspeptic; and another was blown up in a steamboat before he knew that he was a humorist.

Suppose you try that, Herman. M. Quad, one of the very successful humorists of the day, both in a literary and financial way, was blown up by a steamboat before he blossomed forth into the full flush and flower of success. Try that, Herman. It is a severe test but it is bound to be a success. Even if it should be disastrous to you, it will be rich in beneficial results to those who escape.

Prepare a few dying words, and forward them to me, so that in case of accident we might be prepared for the worst; then escort up and down the Great Parent of Waters, on its father's side until the boiler bursts. Then will our morbid curiosity be gratified.

You will either come down one of America's most grotesque humorists, or you will land in such a diversified and concess ed condition that it will be no great disappointment to you, anyway. Try this, Herman, and, if you desire, I will procure the signatures of a large mass of people throughout the United States who would be perfectly willing that you should try the experiment.—*Bill Nye in Detroit Free Press.*

George Winfield Scott Hancock Garfield Pattison Yerks is an unfortunate infant in an interior county of Pennsylvania.