Birmingham Eccentric.

MICHIGAN NEWS.

GENERAL NORTH ITEMS.

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BIRMINGHAM, - MICHIGAN.

CURRENT TOPICS.

RECENTLY David Hickson of Atlanta, Ga., died, leaving an estate of half a million. He had no children but a large number of relatives who expected to be handsomely remembered. His will, which has just been probated, reveals the fact that he has cut off his relatives with niggardly pittances and bequeathed $400,000 in property to a Negress, making her the richest Negress in the world. There is deep disgust over the affair.

BOSTON is discussing the subject of a new state house. The old one was erected in 1796 upon land purchased of the heirs of John Hancock by the town of Boston for the sum of $4,000, and conveyed by the town to the state in May, 1795. The corner stone was laid July 4, 1795, by Gov. Samuel Adams, assisted by Paul Revere, Master of the Grand Lodge of Masons. The building is now estimated to be worth $400,000, and the 70,000 feet of land on which it stands, $600,000.

A FRUIT-GROWER of Saugatuck says: The outlook for a peach crop in this vicinity remains unchanged, or, if there is any difference, it begins to look brighter. Almost all of the fruit growers have made careful observations of their orchards, and report a smaller amount of damage than they had anticipated. A number of them say that the sound buds of even the most tender varieties number considerably more than 50 per cent. The outlook for small fruits is reported as being exceedingly fine, and all look forward to a large crop.

A DEATH occasioned near Cambridge City day or two ago in this singular manner: William Galbreath and James Arnold were chopping trees, and each had a tree ready to fall at almost the same time. By some chance Arnold's tree fell first and in a contrary direction from what was expected, and as it fell it struck Galbreath and knocked him from the ground just as his tree, shaken by the crash of the falling tree, toppled, splitting from the stump up. Galbreath's head struck in this split, and in the rebound it was crushed to a jelly.

The Chautauqua Circle has recently added a school of journalism to its many educational privileges, but its latest adjunct is a course in agriculture. This branch will be known as the Chautauqua Cultivator's Circle and is for anybody who will pay a yearly fee of twenty-five cents, agree to read a few books, and adopt something from the program of work. This program covers a wide range of subjects, including work on the farm, in the greenhouse, poultry yard, window garden or dairy, and each may make his choice of an occupation. The work must be faithfully carried out and reported upon; there will be an examination on the reading and at the end of the year's work each graduate is entitled to a diploma. Now, Michigan boys and girls, who live in country towns where school terms are short, here's a school, and one of the new manual schools, that are so much talked about at present, right at your own door. Don't neglect the opportunity to learn book and handicraft at the same time.

A NEW YORK special to the Detroit Post says: The sharp reduction in the rate of steerage passage, due to the competition of the Hamburg-German lines, has opened the eyes of the authorities on the other side, and for the present the immigration commissioners are rejoicing to find out that the boot had been transferred to the other leg and the peppers are trying to secure homes in Europe, instead of imposing upon the charity of the United States. The German authorities have been compelled to issue a proclamation that paupers will not be allowed to land, and the Hamburg-American packet company has issued a circular to its agents in which it says the prevailing low rates of passage have been an incentive to a large number of persons to return, who, having neither the means of support nor funds to reach their destination, have fallen a burden upon the community. In view of this the police and sorities of Hamburg have established a vigorous surveillance of incoming passengers and will not permit them to land, and compelling the company to take them back to New York. The same course will be taken with passengers found to have unsatisfied ends in view. Newspaper cans is therefore enjoined upon agents and notice is given that the company itself will scrutinize steerage passengers before admitting them to the ship lest they may be classed in either of these categories.

The First Days of Shoddyism.

Cor. New York World.

The re were no manufactured stockings in the days of Lady Macbeth. A strip of plain woolen stuff was wrapped around the feet and up to the knees, and held in place by strings or straps, laced like our shoe strings. Actors of a theatrical company giving somesuch legging when personating Macbeth. A remnant of these old impromptu stockings may be seen on the feet of newly-arrived Chinamen. The first manufactured stockings of the ancients were of coarse material and clumsy fabrication. The first silk stockings known in England were knitted by a lady of the court of Queen Elizabeth for her Majesty, who was so delighted with their softness and flexibility that she kept the donor knitting silk stockings so long as the august legs needed worldly covering.

A singular freak of nature is shown in the case of Mrs. Polly George, a lady well known to many citizens, who lives two miles from Milburn in this county. Mrs. G. is 76 years old, the mother and the grandmother of a large family in the county. During her life she has had two and shed her teeth twice, and now has commenced to cut her third set, having cut four teeth within the past month—two above and two below. She is also, a little over a year ago, shed her hair, which was white with age, and is now replaced with a suit of black hair, an occasional silver thread only.—[Wickliffe, Ky., Journal.

MICHIGAN NEWS.

Adrian is to have the electric light.

Ex-mayor D. V. Bunnell of Jackson died.

A $10,000 roller process flouring mill will soon be erected in Lapeer.

Mrs. Harriet Lamb, aged 80, for over 45 years a resident of Ypsilanti, is dead.

Apple trees in the vicinity of Big Rapids have been burst open by the frost.

The thermometer was 12° below zero at Cheboygan on the 10th of March.

The record house of the C. & W. M. railroad at Newaygo, burned March 10.

Arrangements are being made for a summer normal school at Adrian college.

Jerry J. Haight, one of the wealthiest farmers of Kalamazoo county, is dead.

A Saugatuck peach-grower says the outlook for peaches in that vicinity is brighter.

Gov. Alger has issued requisitions on the governor of Louisiana for the arrest of Navin.

The First National bank of Traverse City will begin business April 1 with a capital o $50,000.

The flouring mill of W. A. Pettingill & Son in Wayne, burned on the 4th inst. Loss $7,000.

Seven buildings in Luther, Lake county was consumed by fire March 14, entailing a loss of $7,000.

Mrs. Hamilton, one of the oldest pioneers of Oakland county, was buried at Royal Oak on the 6th inst.

Little Mary Kellogg, the girl who was kidnapped from her mother in St. Johns, died on the 3d inst

By virtue of a new charter the First National bank of Corunna has another 20 years lease of life.

Capt. R. C. Dennison, formerly a captain in the First Michigan Cavalry died in Kalamazoo on the 1st inst.

Frank Wilcox of Jackson, has received at New Orleans $970 in premiums on his Essex-Saffolk hogs and sheep.

A prominent Kalamazoo peach grower asserts that the crop will be a total failure in his county the present year.

Walter Baxter, son of Hon. J. W. Baxter of Jonesville, died from an overdose of laudanum a few days ago.

A. L. Thomas supervisor of Montcalm county, was found short only $228, which will be paid by his bondsmen.

The Monroe authorities and the railroads will unite in bowing up the ice in the river in time to prevent a flood.

Mariners at Cheboygan predict that navigation will open about the same time as last year, the middle of April.

A little girl of Ed. Johnson's of Clare was fright ully burned while playing with matches. She died in a few days.

Mrs. Mary Hall of Grand Rapids is the mother of a seven-weeks' old midget weighing only three pounds and a half.

The managers of the second Advent Review office, at Battle Creek, will not allow their employes to visit the skating rinks.

Constable Bohan, one of the sheriff's deputy declares the killing of the two Indians near the Straits by the man Coughlan, was justifiable. He was armed and had taken a drink of whiskey in a saloon that city a few days ago, and 10 minutes thereafter was dead.

John Kohl, deputy sheriff of Marquette county, was fatally shot while trying to arrest Jack Benan, a disreputable character, in Negaunee.

Over 3-0 persons at the state house of correction are to be set to work on the farm. This does not include those who take "French leave."

While Wesley Swan, who resides in Brookfield township, Eaton county, was absent from home some one entered his house, and stole $200.

James VanKeek, the newly appointed commissioner of immigration, thinks the immigration question is not a worthless as it is and has been conducted.

The following is the February mining output: Gardner, 1,973; Aurora, 1,366; Franklin, 183; Quincy, 180; Atlantic, 130; Huron, 112; Copper Falls, 80; Hancock, 35.

Mary Bates, an aged lady living in Jefferson township, near Hillsdale, took a flat iron to bed with her. The bed clothing was set on fire and she died from the effects.

Prof. Prescott of the university says the brine taken from the mines at Manistee contains a greater per cent of salt than that taken from any other field in the country.

Sam. White of Grand Rapids petitioned Uncle Sam for a pension. Records in Washington show that he served in the war 1861, and which statement Sam is considerably mystified.

The State Board of Health has issued a little pamphlet chockfull of statistics and illustrated by diagrams on "Typhoid Fever and Water as Wells," by Dr. Henry B. Baker.

John R. Egerman of Cheboygan, has invented a new process for killing hogs, which he claims will take all the blood from the animal, leaving the carcass perfectly white and clean.

Supervisor McKay of McMillan township, Chippewa county, converted all his property into ready cash, bought horses and cattle and with funds belonging to the township, absconded.

Wm. Hall of Lewis Purdy for the murder of Geo. Kenedy at Port Huron, has been postponed until the May term. He counsel has announced that there is much prejudice to secure a fair trial, at present.

A few miles from Sault Ste Marie Timothy Carpenter and Lizzie Bowen, a half breed girl who had followed and threatened him because he owned one of them. He gave himself up. Jealousy still rules.

Wolves are said to be destroying deer, a hunt for Brier recurring the finding of four half eaten deer carcasses in one day, the wolves eating from one to the case and leaving the flesh frozen.—Montmorency County Index.

A horse driven by Charles Fletcher of Yankee Springs was struck by a Grand Rapids express while driving home the other evening. The horse was instantly killed and the buggy demolished. Fletcher escaped with a bruised limb.

George B. Murray, one of six convicts who escaped from the Michigan state prison and was recaptured in Canada, has written for the murder of officer Mosher Burnham at Lansingburgh, New York, in October, 1881.

A two year old child of a family named Whitmore, living about 10 miles west of Newaygo, was burned to death a few days ago. The child was left alone in the house while the father and mother were away at work.

Wm. Parrish plowed up a gold watch on the Parrish farm in Hamilton township, Lapeer county, recently, which was left by one Samuel Brown, since deceased, 21 years ago, while working in the same field.

Stock raisers in the vicinity of Marshall are greatly troubled over a disease which has broken out among cattle. Several valuable herds have been depleted. A post-mortem held revealed the fact that the liver had decayed.

George Murray, Frank Deacon and James Lawson, aged respectively 16, 15 and 14 years, from Jackson, were recaptured in the neighborhood of Jonesville, on the 7th inst. Wilcox, Hall, Sanderer and Ryan, the burglars are still at large.

The governor has ordered commissions issued to S. V. A. Jones of Ionia, county; Samuel W. Peterson, Ashland, Newaygo county, and James P. Mosher, Mecosta county, trustees of the state board of corrections and charities.

The Grand Trunk railway company of Canada has commenced proceedings in the United States courts at Grand Rapids against the Michigan Central railroad to prevent out of a charges in the state of the Grand Haven & Milwaukee depot.

Details are given of another murder Sunday evening March 1st. Jacob Sheffler, a wife weary of that city was killed as he was having a saloon row. Sheffler was a disreputable woman. Four Poles have been arrested for complicity in the affair.

The following acts were passed by the members of acres of State land deeded to homesteaders; also number of acres sold and amount received for the same during the month of February, 1885: Licensed to manufacture, 478 $0.100 acres; sold 2,057 79-100 for $31,979 80.

James P. Pendill, for two terms mayor of Negaunee, and three terms mayor of Marquette, died at the latter place March 2, and died in half an hour. He was 73 years old and a native of Cornwall, England. He was a popular man in the iron region and leaves a large family.

A Grand Rapids young lady has become insane over a too frequent attendance upon the skating rinks. Her mania is directed to making large purchases of useless articles for which she will promptly send her father's cash. The unfortunate young lady will be taken to Kalamazoo for treatment.

H. A. Roberts, a saw filer, who recently died at Kingston, Ont., has been found to be a Mr. Bamford, who deserted his family Isday City three years ago, leaving a wife and five children. When he left he said he was going for a short ride, but was not found on the dock, but three days after died a room at the hotel.

Six prisoners escaped from Jackson penitentiary on the evening of March 3d, by means of a tunnel at which they had been at work nearly a year. One was captured. Among the five yet at large are three Detroit convicts, Frank Conley, for the murder of Policeman Bullard of Detroit, who was sentenced for life.

The annual meeting of the Royal Arcanum is in session at Jackson elected the following officers: Grand regent, the Rev. W. Gardner, Jackson; vice, H. Hodgman, Detroit; orator, C. H. Dyer, Grand Rapids; secretary, Chas. F. Hodges, Detroit; treasurer, Bronson Brush, Detroit; representative to supreme council, Chas. T. Hudson for the coming year. The next session will be held at Grand Rapids, the first Tuesday in April, 1886.

Fred Rasta, employed at the Grand Rapids veneering panel company, was suffocated in a steam box. He went in to examine the logs and in some way fell and was slightly lifted by a weight, closed down and shut him in. The temperature was 212 degrees Fahrenheit, and it is supposed that Rasta did not live more than two minutes. The skin peeled from the body of the victim in a few days, and he seemed to be literally cooked. He was 35 years old and unmarried.

Mr. D. D. Allen editor of the Mormon observer, died at his residence in Salt Lake city sunday, Feb. 28, aged about 60. He was born in Ohio and was one of the first converts of Mormonism and first engaged in teaching. He started the New Era, which lived a year, and then started the Mormon Observer, which has since cone in Detroit. About nine years ago he returned to Utah and started the Observer, which he edited up to the time of his death conducted since. His sons will no doubt continue the publication.

The Bohemian oats men have raided Van Buren county and are taking in the shekels of the too trustful ruralists. The men who sugjested the name in this county have hardly deny that there is any swindle about their little game. Perhaps they are right. Any man who deliberately buys oats at 40 cents per agrees to pay $10 per a bushel of grain, that is worth fifty cents per bushel complain afterwards of being swindled. The only fault these oat men hold out to their victims is a promise to bring them swindle some one else twice as badly.

Some time during the night of March 6, four prisoners escaped from the jail in Paw Paw. They are Robert Cook, aged 18, Asa Wis. sentenced for larceny and perjury; Sam Ashman, burglary; Frank Bell, larceny; and Wm. Baker Detroit, larceny; and Fran. Kuhn Detroit, rape. It is presumed the jail got loose by the aid of a file and screwdriver, and by the time the boys were in the open air, when the watchfulness was somewhat relaxed in the corridors. Cook has been $50 reward for each offered. The escaped prisoners are serving terms ranging from two to five years.

The man Patsey Benan, who shot Deputy Sheriff Kohl in Negaunee, March 5, was still at large on Monday. Chief Hall of the police search is being made for him. A reward of $100 for his apprehension has been offered by the mayor. Kohl died at 2 o'clock in the afternoon a few miles from there, where Benan was staying. Kohl died in bed after the shooting and the inmates taken into custody afterward by the sheriff. Benan's counsel being informed of the death of Kohl discloses his whereabouts, she confessed that he escaped during the commotion of the fire. Kohl died this morning of 30 Co. The hundred determined and armed men are mounting guard over the city and all routes to be captured his whole gang may be lynched. A reign of terror prevails, and crooks and loughs are leaving the city rapidly.

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE.

MARCH 4

SENATE—The following resolution, offered by Senator Hubbell, was adopted. Resolved, That during the hearing in the election case of Hon. Thomas Dunham against Hon. Levi Houston, respondent, the Judiciary Committee be given power to send for persons and papers, to administer oaths, and report to all during the sessions of the Senate. The Senate was resolved into the consideration of bills in committee of the whole, and the committee arose the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE—Bills introduced: By Mr. Hoover, relative to the organization of Armada, reincorporating Armada, reincorporating Lapeming, reincorporating Imlay City, reincorporating Romeo, detaching territory from Roscommon and Ogemaw counties, and Houghton county, appropriating money to the Pioneer Society, was reconsidered and tabled. A petition with Governor Alger's name on it was read, asking that the first day of the week in accordance with the belief of the Seventh Day Adventists, so that no public school can be held on that day, was received and referred. Consideration of the bill providing for the election of county treasurer postponed. The resignation of W. W. Hannen as enrolling clerk was accepted and C. S. Rupp appointed in his place.

MARCH 5.

SENATE—Messrs. Brown and Pennell, majority of the committee on judiciary, presented an elaborate report disapproving of the change being made in the laws regulating the employment of convicts in prisons. The law now gives discretionary power to the boards of supervisors to contract convicts labor for state account, and no legislation is needed to carry the principle into effect. The committee recommend that no further action be taken. Mr. Henry of the minority recommended an immediate change to be made as the subject was of pressing importance. The following bills were approved by the Governor: Relating to incorporating Armada and Imlay City. The following bills received a third reading: Senate, fixing the boundaries of townships in Grand Traverse; incorporating Cadillac; reincorporating Milan; appropriating $474, Howell, relating to jury fees; appropriating $2,000 for the Soldiers' Orphans Exposition. Adjourned.

HOUSE—The committee on ways and means reported favorably on the following bills: House joint resolution 3, asking Congress to build a soldiers' home on Mackinac Island. A bill to amend the act to incorporation of Sons of industry; House file 53, prescribing the duties of sheriffs. The following passed: Prohibiting the removal of certain property to the Supreme court.; amending Grand Rapids charter relating to fish and preserving fisheries. Adjourned.

MARCH 6.

SENATE—The following were passed: Regulating State House of Correction. Incorporating Sandusky, Sanilac Co. Amending Standish charter. Incorporating Caseville, Huron Co. Transferring Genesee township to Lapeer county. Establishing Circuit Judicial Circuit. Incorporating the Village of Ionia. Amending and lengthening and incorporating the Village of Ionia. Amending and lengthening and incorporating the Village of Ionia. Amending and lengthening and