Birmingham Eccentric

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BIRMINGHAM, . . MICH.

TIMELY TOPICS.

A simple little tale, a bit of realism, from the editor's drawer, in Harper's Magazine for February is founded on "Howella's Titles." If not particular as to the chronological order, William Dean Howell's writings might be memorized as follows: At least it would be only "A Modern Instance," if "Dr. Green's Practice" in the "Three Villages" should lead to "A Chance Acquaintance" with "The Lady of the Aroostook;" and if he should take upon himself "A Fearful Responsibility," "Their Wedding Journey" would be "A Foregone Conclusion;" after which they would naturally take their "Italian Jou neys"—through "Tuscan Cities" avoiding "The Garroters"—during the "Indian Summer," in "The Sleeping Car," of course using "The Register" at the hotel stopping places, at each of which they would take "A Day's Pleasure." They might chance to meet their friends "Abraham Lincoln," "Rutherford B. Hayes," or "Col. Silas Lapham." This would be followed naturally enough by "Venetian Life," where the "Doctor," or the "Lady," or both, would make their "Suburban Sketches," and write their "Poems," or "Choice Autobiography Essays." All this would but preclude their return to earth via "The Elevator," to the "Undiscovered Country." Would this supposition to "A Counterfeit Presentment," or "Out of the Question?" How-ells could it be?

THE first number of the Prison Press has been issued from the prison of Waupun, Wis. Its price is sixty cents a year. It is well printed and neatly gotten up. In its introduction it says: "This, we believe, is the only printed sheet ever owned, edited, published and sent forth to the world by prisoners confined within the walls of a penitentiary. It shall be our earnest endeavor to bury melancholy, estrangement and enmity in the vast region of the past, and in their cankered bosoms sow the golden seeds of hope, love and charity. It shall be the unciring mission of the Prison Press to encourage prison literary talent and to instruct, assist, entertain and amuse all those within our midst. A portion of the net profits of our enterprise shall be devoted to the purchase of such books for the prison library as the prison chaplain may select, thus extending to all within our midst a lasting benefit." The exchanges are to be distributed among the prisoners. Prisoners are requested to send their numbers, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. There are 450 male prisoners and sixeeen female prisoners in the Waupun penitentiary. "Ain't you sorry you done it?" is one of the paragraphs in the local columns of the Prison Press.

THE memorial stone of Oregon for the Washington monument is on exhibition in Washington. A niche has been left vacant for it in the monument. The Oregon stone is the most beautiful that has yet been sent by any state. It was designed and cut by Frank Wood, of Albany, Oregon. The stone is brown sandstone or hydrous silicate, and bears on its face a landscape, with Oregon's coat of arms surrounded by fruits and flowers, the whole enclosed with a raised moulding set in sandstone. Surrounding the state seal ~~are thirty~~-two stars of greenish syenite, and the snow-capped mountains are represented by white marble from southern Oregon.

Consul Dithman, Breslau, Germany, has written to the state department that the German laborer's working hours are from 6 a. m. to 7 p. m. in the summer, and from sunrise to sunset in the winter. For this he receives from $190 to $228 per year, together with 24 bushels of rye, three bushels barley, three bushels of peas and six pecks of wheat. The laborer's wife is expected to respond to any call for assistance and receives from 10 to 15 cents per day. Miners receive from 15 to 32 cents per day, the first figures being the wages paid women and children.

A case of great interest to all members of the Roman Catholic church has just been decided. Thomas Gunning, who died in New York in 1882, left a will which set apart a large portion of his estate for masses for the repose of his soul, the souls of his family and the souls of all others in purgatory. Several of the legatees brought action to have this provision declared invalid. The court has decided against them, holding that a provision for masses for the benefit of the testator's soul is exactly akin to a provision for his funeral or his monument.

Colored North Americans have petitioned congress for the establishment of national industrial schools in the states and territories so as to give the colored youth a common school education and trade. It also asks for an appropriation for the establishment of the Garfield colony in lower California.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for February maintains the strength which characterized the December and January numbers. Every article in it makes a point. The illustrations leave nothing to be desired, and the variety of its contents is as noteworthy as as their excellence.

In the stomach of a thirty-seven pound codfish sold in the fish market of Hjoerring, Denmark, one day in November, were found another cod fifteen inches long, and a very large and fat duck, perfectly fresh and apparently swallowed alive and whole. Except for a bite on the neck it was uninjured.

A very noticeable change has taken place in the grass growth of the open sheep plains of Australia since its civilization. The grass originally grew in large tussocks some distance apart, but now has assumed the appearance of a sward, owing to its having stooled out when fed upon by sheep and cattle, and from the seed having been trampled into the ground, where, in the absence of bush fires, it germinated.

A writer in the Therapeutic Gazette recommends soups made of lentil flour, mixed with one-eighth part of ground malt, for the use of invalids. In warming, the diastase of the malt converts the flour into soluble and easily digested substances. The soup may be flavored with beef tea. The writer says that lentil flour contains more inorganic salts and twice as much nitrogenous material as wheat or oat flour.

AROUND A GREAT STATE.

Meeting of the State Agricultural Society.

The thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Michigan state agricultural society was held in Detroit recently. A full representation was present and a good deal of work accomplished.

After the opening routine, Mr. Humphreys the retiring president, delivered his address. He said:

GENTLEMEN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS OF THE STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY: It affords me pleasure to be able to greet you at this thirty-seventh annual meeting of this society under such favorable circumstances. Our whole country has been blessed with general health, peace and plenty. Our own state has been especially favored with a bountiful harvest, and all its industries have been prospered. This society, I believe, has made some progress in its management. We seem to be gradually shaking off some of the obnoxious features which have been hitched on to the society for years past. I am clearly of the opinion that the best policy for the society is to rid itself of all outside shows of every description and nature, encouraging that only which truly belongs to an agricultural and mechanical society. Other states which have adopted this policy are well pleased with the result. I believe it would be wisdom on the part of the executive committee to strike from the premium list the third and fourth premiums. The third and fourth premiums are very little credit to the exhibitor; in fact I believe that most people would sooner have no premium at all. And it is plain to my mind that it is not good policy for the society to encourage the exhibition of third and fourth-rate animals and be compelled to meet the cost necessary to sustain it. In the effort made to enforce the rule to prevent the sale of spirituous liquors on the fair ground we were obliged to contend with stubborn resistance from an occupant in the rear part of the president's office building, which had been, by our contract, reserved for the use of family living rooms. The mistake was to begin with, in allowing any reservation of a foot of ground for any purpose whatever within the inclosure of the fair ground.

Before retiring from the presidency of this society, I wish to tender to this committee my grateful acknowledgments for your kindness and assistance in the discharge of my official duties, for which please accept my most cordial thanks. Gentlemen of the committee, I now have the pleasure of presenting to you and to this chair the Hon. William Chamberlain, your president.

Mr. Chamberlain's remarks were as follows:

GENTLEMEN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY: To you have been intrusted the interests of this society for the ensuing year, and upon the result of your conclusions at this meeting depend largely its future usefulness and its future success in the state. This society has been fortunate in having for its officers men of practical experience in the various vocations of life, who were willing to give a share of their time without compensation for its success. During the society's history it has been carried through some severe financial difficulties without aid from the state, except in the first few years of its existence, and depending upon the liberality of its patrons has succeeded in attaining to a position equaling that of any state organization of the kind in the country, and is a prominent and positive factor in the development of agriculture and its kindred arts throughout the state.

Since its organization thirty-seven years ago, the society has held annual fairs, paying out liberal sums of money in premiums each year, stimulating a healthy spirit of competition among exhibitors, giving them every facility possible to make a display of their products, and affording visitors a fine opportunity for viewing a great variety of interesting exhibits from other states as well as our own. It is generally conceded that this society is one of the most liberal to exhibitors of any in the country, and I trust it may continue to be so as far as practicable. The fair at Kalamazoo last year, as an industrial exhibition, was a success and all that could be desired on the part of the society.

The expense incurred in holding our fairs seems very large, and under our present system must necessarily continue to be so. It should be remembered that we have no state treasury to fall back upon to meet the deficiency, which is likely to occur soon, unless we devise some plan by which our receipts shall equal our expenditures. Most state societies are receiving aid from the state. Michigan has given this society a name *only*, and with its name, and with the energy put forth by its managers, it has attained to its present merited position among the leading agricultural organizations of the world.

If it should be your decision that the time has come to locate the fair permanently, I am of the opinion that we should adopt the policy of other states and ask this state to provide for the purchase of the land and the erection of suitable buildings at some central point having good railway facilities. Should there be objection to the state donating the amount necessary, it might loan the society the money, to be paid back when its finances would warrant. If, however, the present plan of holding the fairs in different parts of the state is to be continued, arrangements should be made with several local societies for the use of grounds and buildings. In assuming the duties of the office to which I am now called, I desire to return to the gentleman of the society generally my sincere thanks for the honor conferred, with the earnest hope that I may be able to serve you satisfactorily, as have my honorable predecessors.

By the report of the secretary, J. C. Sterling of Monroe, the following summary of entries and awards in each division is given: Cattle, entries, 718, premiums, $3,679. Horses, 317, $2,802. Sheep, 393, $1,499. Swine, 151, $460. Poultry, 249, $188. Farm and garden products, 284, $544. Dairy articles, 103, $164. Bees, honey etc., 79, $297. Farm implements, 273. Vehicles, 209. Machinery, 15. In the last three divisions no awards were reported. Manufactured goods, 119, $142. Musical and surgical instruments, 45, no amount of award reported. Art, 257, $428. Needle and fancy work, 443, $263.50. Miscellaneous, number of entries not given, premiums, $20. Children's work, premiums only reported, $18.50. The reports of the division superintendents were called for and a majority responded with detailed reports, the summary of each being as above.

The Agricultural Society.

The executive committee of the state agricultural society at its annual meeting fixed the date for holding the next state fair for the week commencing Sept. 13. The following committees were also appointed:

Business—A. O. Hyde, John C. Sharp and H. O. Hanford.

Transportation—Wm. Cobb, James M. Turner, John Gilbert.

The list of division superintendents as appointed is as follows:

General Superintendent—W. H. Cobb; Chief Marshal—A. O. Hyde; Cattle—I. H. Butterfield; Horses—G. W. Phillips; Sheep—D. W. Howard; Swine—John Lessiter; Poultry—J. Q. A. Burrington; Miscellaneous—Frank Wells; Music, Sewing Machines, etc.—M. P. Anderson; Children's Department—Philo Parsons; Needle Work—Philo Parsons; Manufacturers—Henry Fralick; Agricultural—Amos Wood; Machinery—John Gilbert; farm implements—Charles W. Young, Abel Angel and H. O. Hanford; dairy—J. P. Shoemaker, vehicles—F. L. Reed; bees, honey, etc., M. J. Gard; fine arts—W. J. Baxter; forage—E. W. Rising; gates and gate keepers—Wm. Ball; police—John C. Sharp.

Committee on reception—Philo Parsons, F. O. Humphrey and W. L. Webber.

Committee on programme—G. W. Phillips, I. H. Butterfield and D. W. Howard.

A resolution was adopted autorizing the appointment of committee on permanent organization. After considerable discussion it was decided that the committee on temporary location consist of the business committee, president, secretary, treasurer and the chairman of the transportation committee.

The following committees were also appointed:

On President's address—M. P. Anderson, W. J. Baxter, J. Q. Barrington, H. O. Hanford, F. L. Reed.

On Premiums—I. H. Butterfield, Henry Fralick, D. W. Howard, Charles W. Young, J. P. Shoemaker, John C. Sharp, George W. Phillips.

The treasurer's report shows the financial standing of the society as follows:

RECEIPTS.

January, 1885. Balance cash on hand $15,086 03.

RECEIPTS DURING THE CURRENT YEAR.

Membership certificates	$ 695 00
Admission (gates)	15,039 15
Ground and booth rent	1,605 10
Check room	54 96
Sundries	46 10
Stall rent	296 30
Sale of catalogues	22 20
Life membership	10 00
Sale of $1,000 U.S. bonds, "premium"	880 00
Interest account	400 00
	$34,235 63

DISBURSEMENTS.

Business orders	$12,842 07	
Premium checks	10,497 00	
Premium checks, 1885	8 00	
Horticultural premium checks	999 75	
Balance cash on hand	9,888 81	$34,235 63

Of the above balance cash on hand, there is invested in the name of the society, $6,000 (face value) in four per cent. registered United States bonds.

White Has a Brother.

A correspondent of the Detroit Tribune sends that paper the following from Battle Creek:

"The mystery concerning the early history and relations of the late Dr. White, the murderer and suicide, has been cleared by the arrival of Martin White and Edward Mears of Mount Morris township, Genesee county. The mother of the latter was an aunt of White. The father of the former was the eldest brother of Dr. White. His name is John White, and he lives on a farm six miles from Flint and seven from Mount Morris. The Whites were all born in County Clare, Ireland. John White is now very sick and not expected to live, and his friends did not tell him of his brother's crime. Therefore the young men could not gain from him all of the family history.

John White emigrated from Ireland and settled in Avon Springs, N. Y., and then sent for his aunt, Catharine Partle, to come to this country. His father died in Ireland and all his brothers and sisters, except Martin, the doctor. He then sent money for his mother and Martin, who came to Avon Springs, and all then moved to Mount Morris, where John White has lived ever since. His aunt, Catharine Partle, married a man named Mears. His mother married a man named Patrick Coulin of Mt. Morris and they lived together sixteen years. Coulin died and was buried there. He left his wife $600. Mrs. Coulin, the mother of John and Martin went to the sisters of charity hospital in Detroit to spend the rest of her life. She was to stay there three months and if she liked it she was to give them all her money and they would care for her the remainder of her life. If she did not like it she could pay her board and leave. She died before the three months were up and was buried in the Mt. Morris catholic cemetery. The brothers had trouble over the money left by their mother. Dr. White promised to pay $15 on a $30 tombstone, but never did it and John paid it all. This was while the doctor was practicing at Davidson. The doctor never would own that he was an Irishman, and renounced the catholic religion, which he had always been educated in. This together with trouble in settling his mother's estate, caused an estrangement and the brothers never had anything to do with each other since. John White is a devoted catholic. The above is undoubtedly the reason why Dr. White never said anything about his relatives. He was proud and ashamed of them and their religion.

Reunion of Veterans.

The annual reunion of the Twenty-first Michigan infantry was held in Grand Rapids on the 15th, with over 200 of the veterans in attendance.

The regiment was mustered into service at Ionia Sept. 6, 1862, and started for Cincinnati eight days later 1,008 strong to report for duty. They participated in twenty-eight hard fought battles, and went out of service at Washington June 8, 1865, after marching through Georgia with Sherman. They returned home with a death roll of 308 officers and men.

Among the veterans in attendance are men from Muskegon, Grand Haven, Manistee, Whitehall, Pentwater, Ionia, Flint, Rockford and Greenville. Clark Reed, a private in company E, came from Dakota to meet his old comrades.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Col. William B. McCreary, of Flint, president; Capt. Charles E. Belknap, Grand Rapids, vice president; James Van Derslice, Grand Rapids, secretary; Eber Rice, Grand Rapids, treasurer. The next reunion will be held in Grand Rapids one year hence. Judge Morse's oration of half an hour was a resume of the regiment's deeds and achievements on the field, mentioning those killed in battle. He also spoke of the eminent leaders commanding the regiment during the war.

MINOR STATE HAPPENINGS.

Senator Conger has secured the appointment to a position in the Senate of Judge M. L. Higgins, for twenty years a clerk in the postoffice at Flint, Mich.

Dr. C. B. Burr of the Pontiac asylum was married the other night at Norwich, N. Y., to Miss Ernie A. Randall.

Mrs. Jacob Tallman of Argentine, died a few weeks ago after a lingering illness. The other night Mr. Tallman dropped dead of "heart disease," though in apparently excellent health until a few minutes before his death.

While Daniel Day and his wife were playfully scuffling at a lumber camp in Missaukee county, last week, Mrs. Day fell heavily upon her head, receiving injuries which resulted fatally.

Antoine Lazajami was kicked to death by a horse at Waiskai Bay, Chippewa county.

Twenty-five persons were sent to the insane asylum at Pontiac from Saginaw county in December.

William Mills, at one time a partner in a prosperous book publishing firm at Cazenovia, N. Y., has just been sent to the Jackson county poor house at his own request.

Hersey, Osceola county, had a $30,000 fire on the 15th inst. The Blodgett block, post office, Sweet's saloon and the Hersey house were entirely destroyed. A defective flue in the postoffice is supposed to be the cause. The contents of the postoffice were entirely destroyed, and it is impossible to estimate the loss. There were several other minor losses. It is a bad blow for the town.

At the annual meeting of the Michigan poultry and pet stock association the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. T. Driggs; vice-president, L. A. Town; treasurer, H. R. Mason; secretary, R. C. Greiner, all of Grand Rapids; directors, James Reed, Detroit; J. A. Gonzales, Grand Rapids; Dr. A. S. Haskins, Lawrence; G. A. Baumgartner, Clarksville; F. H. Gray, Battle Creek; James Ball, Marshall; H. M. Watson, Okemos; J. T. Taylor, Bay City; J. H. Haynes, Decatur.

The contract for building two iron bridges across the river in Grand Rapids have been awarded to the Massillon, O., bridge company. The one at Pearl street is to cost $20,450, and the one at Sixth street $20,281.

Jonah Colburn of Newport, Monroe county, dropped dead while sitting by his fireside the other night. He was 82 years old, and had been enjoying excellent health. He was well known in southern Michigan and highly respected, being one of Monroe county's early pioneers. He settled in Newport 51 years ago.

Joshua Smith, for many years a well known business man of Detroit, died in Jacksonville, Florida, whither he had gone for his health, a few days ago.

Maurice M. Bliss, a wealthy farmer of Flushing, has been arrested on the charge of burning a barn on a farm in Montrose, belonging to himself and occupied by Ezra Johnson, on the night of November 30 last. A grudge of long standing between the parties is given as the motive for the act.

Herm Chapin, working at Rupp's saw-mill in Prairie Ronde township, near Schoolcraft, had his face cut from mouth to ear by a circular saw the other day.

The woman's suffrage association of Grand Rapids will petition congress praying for the passage of a sixteenth amendment to the constitution bestowing suffrage upon women.

John Raymond was crushed at one of John C. Brown's camps on Smith Creek, and lived but a few hours. He was 28 years old and leaves a widow and two children at East Saginaw.

One hundred and eighty veterans now find a home in the soldiers' home in Grand Rapids.

Most of the members of the Hebron Temple of the patriarchal circle, Grand Rapids, who were expelled from odd fellowship for not renouncing their allegiance to the circle, by the decree of the sovereign grand lodge in session last September in Baltimore, have organized a lodge of the "Heptasopa" or seven wise men. It is a secret order established in America, 32 years old, with branches in many of the states. The lodge here will be the first one in Michigan. The Hon. E. G. D. Holden, past grand commander of the Michigan odd fellows, is at the head of the movement.

The last legislature passed an act making it a misdemeanor for a person to "borrow" a man's horse and buggy left hitched in the street and enjoy a drive without asking permission of the owner. Chas. Pickle was arrested the other morning at Grand Rapids for being disorderly under this law and was sentenced to jail for sixty days in default of $60 fine. This is the first conviction in the state since the law was passed.

At Brown's camp, on a tributary of the Augres, John Raymond, aged 28, a resident of East Saginaw was struck by a falling tree and died a few hours afterwards. He leaves a wife and two children.

Julia A. Arnold, wife of a conductor of the Chicago & West Michigan railroad has commenced suit for $25,000 damages against E. Wilson, a prominent druggist of Grand Rapids. She claims that last August she purchased ten grains of quinine, and morphine was given her by mistake. Wilson denies that the drug was obtained of him.

The state poultry association held a very successful meeting in Battle Creek on the 15th. It was decided to have the next meeting in Grand Rapids in January, 1887. The following officers were elected, all from Grand Rapids: A. F. Driggs, president; L. A. Town, vice president; H. H. Nayswith, treasurer; R. C. Greiner, secretary. The following compose the board of directors: James Ried, Detroit; G. A. Baumgartner, Lowell; F. H. Gray, Battle Creek; James Ball, Marshall; Dr. Haskin, Lawrence; H. M. Watson, Okemos; J. E. Taylor, Bay City; J. H. Haynes, Decatur.

A. C. Teft, editor of the Alpena Pioneer, is dead.

The building in Holland, used as a jail, burned to the ground the other night.

The Westover block in Bay City was burned, with all of its contents, on the 17th inst. The building was four stories high. The first floor was occupied by the second national bank, the postoffice and a clothing store, the second floor by offices and the third and fourth as an opera house. The loss is estimated at $100,000. All the mail in the postoffice was burned.

William Hurlburt, a respected and industrious citizen of Clarkston, shot himself on the 17th inst, in a fit of despondency. He cannot live.

An effort is being made to reopen the case of Daniel Graham and Isaac Clark serving life sentences in Jackson for the murder of an old man named Miller near Norris six years ago.

George W. Hayward, for a number of years previous to 1883, inspector of the Tenth Lighthouse district, and well known in Detroit and at every point on the lakes, died in Alexandria, Egypt, on the 16th.

Mrs. Emily Smith of East Saginaw left her home just before Christmas to visit relatives in Colorado. Her husband heard from her at Chicago, where she said she would remain a few days. Nothing further was heard from her until the 10th inst. when it was ascertained that in company with a gentleman of East Saginaw she was visiting different owns in this state. An officer was at once sent after her.

EASTERN ECHOS.

George E. Pomeroy, Sr., an active and prominent business man of Toledo, Ohio, is dead.

A collision on the Baltimore & Ohio road near Michigan City, Ind., Jan. 18th. Four persons were killed. The engineer was asleep while his train was running 25 miles an hour.

Charges of bribery have been made against Senator Payne of Ohio.

The ice bridge has formed across Niagara. It will probably remain all the season.

Cleveland, Ohio, is threatened with a water famine. The supply was entirely cut off on the 15th because the large stand pipe which leads into the tunnel out at the crib became clogged with ice.

A bill empowering the Grant monument association to have free of taxation $7,000,000 worth of property was passed in the New York assembly.

John Kelly, ex-Tammany chief, is sinking rapidly and his death may occur at any time.

Rockland county, N. Y., experienced two distinct shocks of earthquake on the 17th. In Nyack the shock was particularly severe.

Dr. E. M. Nelson of Lowell, Mass., charged with complicity in the Lancaster national bank robbery, was arrested on the 16th by United States detectives.

Two hundred pounds of frozen dynamite exploded at Yonkers, N. Y., on the 17th. Glass in nearly every house in the village was broken.

The rescuing party in search of the entombed miners at Nanticoke, Pa., expect to reach the shaft where the men are entombed in a few days.

John Pinkerton, a New York coachman, was arrested on the 17th for the crime of having five wives. Four of the Mrs. Pinkertons were present with their children when John was arraigned.

Battery M., 5th Artillery which has been on guard at Grant's tomb, will be continued until June 20, the orders to strike camp having been recinded.

Prof. O. S. Fowler, the phrenologist has been arrested in Buffalo, N. Y., and released on his own recognizance, to await the action of the grand jury on a charge of practicing medicine illegally. He says it is caused by jealousy.

Mrs. Anna Maria Green, a daughter-in-law of Gen. Nathaniel Green of revolutionary fame, and a granddaughter of Sam Ward, the colonial governor of Rhode Island in 1762, died in Middletown, R. I., Jan. 18, aged 103 years.

A New York common council now requires all street car drivers to take out an annual license.

The associated pioneers of the territorial days of California banquetted at New York the other night. The room was placarded with the names of some best know mining camps, and with the prices at which various articles of every day use ruled in '49. It was a jolly reunion. Letters of regret were read from Gens. Sherman, Sheridan and Hancock, and Leland Stanford.

Rev. Henry Norman Hudson, the distinguished Shakespearean scholar, is dead.

The glass workers, flint glass workers and green bottle blowers of Pittsburg will join the knights of labor.

WESTERN WHISPERS.

The Chicago Daily News has made the startling discovery that the socialists of that city are arming themselves with the "Czar" booms, which are being manufactured in that city, and are being trained to use the weapons expertly. Besides that, the socialists are said to have in their possession a large number of deadly infernal machines. The News further states that plans are all matured for bringing about a reign of anarchy in that city.

The lumbermens' association of Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Texas, Illinois, Iowa, and Kansas, will meet at St. Louis Mo., on the 20th inst., and will consider the subject of a uniform system of grading, inspection and freights.

The loss of cattle by the recent cold and storm will foot up into the millions. Whole herds have literally been frozen stiff.

An engagement between hostile Indians and Mexican troops is reported from Casas Grandes. Six scouts were killed.

The corner stone, (or ice) of St. Paul's ice palace was placed in position on the night of Jan. 14.

A fire at Little Rock, Ark., destroyed the residence of Rufus Williams. The family, consisting of his wife and six children, were all in bed at the time and it was with great difficulty that any of them were rescued. One of the children, a boy 3 years old, it was impossible to rescue and he perished in the flames.

Twenty two barbed wire manufacturers met in Chicago recently and effected a temporary organization for a national organization. The following schedule of prices was adopted: Galvanized wire in 50-ton lots, 5 cents per pound; in smaller lots, 5¼ cents; painted wire, in 50-ton lots, 4 cents per pound; in smaller lots, 4¼ cents; thick set wire, in 50-ton lots, 4½ cents; in smaller lots, 4¾ cents.

Many hunters and settlers in Nebraska and Colorado were frozen to death during the recent storm.

A bill has been introduced in the legislature of Iowa empowering the governor to remove mayors of cities who persistently refuse to enforce the law, referring particularly to the prohibition laws.

It is believed the Mormons who have asked for arms to protect themselves from the Apaches have secretly encouraged the Indians in their murderous work.

A fire damp explosion occurred in a mine at Almy, four miles from Evanston, Wyoming, on the 10th, and proves to have been one of the most serious that ever occurred in the Rocky Mountains. Thirteen miners were instantly killed. The explosion occurred at night when only a light force was at work, or the loss of life would have been much greater, for every person in the mill met with instant death. All the victims but two were married and leave large families.

Chicago socialists held a meeting on the 17th and advocated the use of the torch as a means of accomplishing the nefarious scheme of that body.

James J. Goodwin of Hartford will foreclose a mortgage of $300,000 on the Evansville, Ind., water works. The interest amounting to $75,000 is long over due.

Frederick Prentice of Toledo has brought suit to recover the title to 682 acres of land in Duluth, including a one-half interest in the water front of that city.

Denied that the Indians on the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservations are starving.

Gov. Hubbard of Minnesota, pardoned D. F. Swan, the defaulting local treasurer of the Northern Pacific company, sentenced last year to thirteen years in the penitentiary. The cause of the pardon was a certificate signed by two physicians to the effect that Swan would not live a month longer in prison, and not many months at best.

Six children of Samuel Johnson of Columbia county, Neb., were burned to death in the fire which destroyed their home the other night.

A mob broke into the jail at Vincennes, Ind., on the 18th inst., and took from his cell Holly Epps, who murdered Farmer Dobson near that place some time ago, and hung him to a tree in the jail yard.

Gov. Larabie of Iowa in his inaugural address favored the creation of a state board of arbitration to settle differences between labor and capitol.

The attonery-general of Kansas has begun action against the mayor and other city officials of Leavenworth, charging them with being in league with whisky men and allowing saloons to be run when prohibition exists.

Another cold wave has settled down over the Northwest. The mercury thermometers were frozen up on the 18th, the spirit thermometers registered 48 degrees below zero. Reports from the ranges state that stock is doing well.

SOUTHERN SAUCE.

Macon, Ga., suffered the loss of its principal business block by fire a few days ago.

Clark Stephens Dean, the oldest relative of Ethan Allen of revolutionary fame, died in St. Louis, Mo., on the 13th inst.

The discovery has been made that some of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens of Charlestown, W. Va., are members of an organized society for the destruction of property by fires. For several years incendiary fires have been frequent occurrences in West Virginia and Maryland and insurance companies have suffered heavy losses, while a number of citizen of Charlestown have been accumulating property rapidly. Evidence against a number of citizens of that city is very strong and they have been arrested.

A colony of 100 Negroes left Charlestown, S. C., on the 16th for Los Angeles, California whither they under contract to F. E. Baldwin to work in his vineyards and hop yards, Mr. Baldwin advanced the money for their transportation. This exodus of colored people from the Carolinas is exciting considerable interest.

Three men were frozen to death near Petersburg, W. Va., on the night of the 10th inst.

Palatka, Florida, had a $50,000 fire on the 16th.

Marie Augustine died in New Orleans on the 17th inst., at the extraordinary age of 125 years. She came to this country from Africa when 20 years old, and for 100 years has lived in New Orleans.

The damage to orange trees in Florida from the recent cold snap will amount to about $1,500,000.

Rober H. Small, third auditor of the Baltimore & Ohio, recently married a Covington, Ky., young lady and went south. While at Jacksonville, Fla., he showed signs of mental aberration and wandered from the house and died in the fields from exposure.

The supreme court of Virginia hold respecting the state debt that the contract under which coupons receivable for taxes were issued did not have the essential element of valid consideration, and that they could not be received in payment of taxes for public free schools.

WASHINGTON WAFFLES.

Rev. Allen Macy Dulles of Detroit and Miss Edith Foster, eldest daughter of ex-Minister to Spain Foster were married in Washington on the 13th inst.

A large number of nominations were confirmed in the Senate on the 13th, among them that of G. V. N. Lothrop of Detroit as minister to Russia.

The assistant commissioner of the General Land office has written a decision that the department will make no exceptions in the recent order regarding the removal of fences enclosing the public lands. The fences *must* come down.

A long line of three story frame houses in Washington, known as Howard Row, were burned on the 16th, and 50 families are homeless, and over 200 colorod persons lose their entire effects. The buildings were constructed by Gen. Howard in the earliest stages of the war, and were designed to afford homes for the friendless and homeless Negroes that were fleeing from the South, and since the war has sheltered a colony of colored people, varying in number from 200 to 400. No lives were lost, but several serious accidents are reported.

Miss Kate Bayard, daughter of the secretary of state, was found dead in bed at her father's home on the afternoon of the 16th. Death was caused by heart disease with which she had been troubled for several years. She was to have assisted Miss Cleveland at the White House reception in the afternoon, and upon retiring in the early morning hours on Saturday, had requested not to be disturbed until nearly noon, shortly after noon her sister went to her room to call her, and found her dead. As soon as the announcement of her death was received, the White House was closed, and people in waiting notified that the reception had been postponed. The president at once cancelled invitations which had been issued for a dinner party.

Congressional delegations from the Pacific coast met on the 16th and agreed on a uniform policy in the treatment of matters affecting that section.

W. H. S. Wood of Michigan has been appointed to a clerkship in the post office department.

E. P. Buryea of Michigan has been promoted in the patent office from a salary of $900 to $1,200 per annum.

In 1883 Samuel S. Walling, a Chicago drummer, was tried in Michigan for selling liquor at wholesale in this state without a license, and for taking orders for liquor without a license. He was convicted, and in default of payment of fine was imprisoned. The case was carried to the supreme court of Michigan, and the decision of the lower courts sustained. Appeal was then taken to the United States supreme court, and that tribunal has just decided that congress alone has power to regulate commerce among the states, and reversing the judgment of the supreme court.

FOREIGN FRAGMENTS.

Bradlaugh, the atheist who has not been allowed to take the oath as a member of the British house of commons, because of his atheistic belief, was finally sworn in on the 13th inst.

The British ship Hudson Bay foundered at sea on the 13th and 15 lives were lost.

Fire in Montreal on 13th caused a property loss of $500,000.

Stratford-on-Avon was visited by a disastrous cyclone on the 13th. Two men were killed.

The reported seizure of the Samoa islands by Germany is confirmed, and war is believed to be imminent.

Turkey asks for a reassembling of the Balkan conference and has promised to disarm if Servia and Greece will do so first.

John Dowie, a 14-year old son of Wallace Dowie of Toronto, stole $500 from his father and skipped. He was captured a few days after and had only $140 left. He had purchased two watches and a gold ring, and had made friends with some newsboys, who robbed him of a large portion of the money. The balance he had squandered in various ways.

It is understood that the Dominion government will at the coming session of parliament introduce a bill creating a new electoral division out of the territory north and east of Lake Nipissing, along the line of the Canadian Pacific railway.

Orders have been received at Kingston to parade all the men of battery A for medical inspection. It is rumored that a contingent will be sent to the Northwest at once.

Rumors of the goverment coup d'etat in Ireland are prevalent. Gen. Wolseley is expected to take military command.

The body of Frederick Charteran, a prominent merchant of Montreal, was found in the bush near that city frozen stiff. He lost his way in a blizzard while going to his country residence.

The king of Bavaria has forbidden the cabinet to interfere with his exchequer. The members of the cabinet will therefore all resign. The debts of the king amount to 15,000,000 marks.

Queen Victoria has commanded the production of M. Gounod's oratorio "Mors et Vita" at the Royal Albert hall. Her majesty will go from Windsor to attend the performance. This will be the queen's first appearance in many years.

Emperor William opened the Prussian diet in a speech, in which he stated that the business in Prussia was due to over-production.

A train was wrecked near Valdivia, Chili, and 30 soldiers killed Jan. 15.

The prefect of the Department of Eure was assassinated in his carriage on the 14th.

President Grevy has granted amnesty to prisoners convicted of political offenses since 1870.

A terrible cave in occurred in a mine near Alburtes, Pa., Jan. 14, and three men were killed.

The four Newark children, who went to Paris to be treated by M. Pasteur have returned, cured. The most notable event on the passage was the arrival of a boy baby which was born to Mrs. Ryan, mother of one of the patients.

C. H. Veo, the man that confessed to complicity with President McNeil of the Lancaster bank at Clinton in the robbery of the bank, has retracted his confession.

The annual banquet in commemoration of the battle of Yorktown was held at the Hotel Continental, Paris, on the 15th. United States Minister McLean was present and made a speech.

Louis Michel and Prince Krapotkine have been released from prison.

It is now announced that the illness of the Princess of Wales was a serious attack of diphtheria.

Over $4,000,000 has been paid from the Canadian militia department on account of the Riel uprising.

M. de Lesseps expects to remain two weeks in Panama for which place he is to start on the 28th inst. He declares that the task of constructing the Panama canal is far easier than the work on the Suez canal and predicts that it will be completed by the end of 1888.

Russia has asked the Vatican to reopen the negotiations for closer relationship between that country and the Vatican. It is believed that Russia wishes to counteract the intimate relations at present existing between the Vatican and Russia.

A syndicate of French contractors has been formed to compete with the German syndicate in supplying the Chinese government with material for the construction of railways. The delegates of the German syndicate who recently sailed for China to negotiate with the Chinese government for the construction of the projected railways there took with them $100,000 for their preliminary expenses.

A famine is imminent in Ireland, and bloodshed is feared, as threats of personal violence are freely made.

Margaret Young and a companion named Dema Derosia were found dead in the former's home in Brockville, Canada, on the 16th inst. Mrs. Young, the mother of Margaret, was unconscious. From appearances it is certain that the girls were poisoned. The affair is shrouded in mystery.

Sir John A. McDonald, the premier of the Canadian Dominion, has returned from his trip to London. It is rumored that Sir John will grant full and unconditional pardon to all prisoners now undergoing sentence for complicity in the recent rebellion in the northwest.

Lord Salisbury has consented to recognize China as nominal suzerain over Burmah, on the condition that the Pekin government abandon its claim to tribute from Burmah and open the Chinese frontier to British traders at 5 per cent. ad valorem duties, except on opium.

News has been received of the burning of an enormous haystack at Lomberg, Bavaria, which had been used during the cold weather for shelter by vagrants. Only a night or two ago a larger number than usual of homeless wanderers had sought shelter under it, and while all were asleep the haystack took fire. Twenty dead bodies have already been taken from the ruins, and it is thought many others have been burned to death.

Prince Alexandria of Bulgaria will not allow Servia to select the place for conducting the negotiations for peace between Bulgaria and Servia.

CONGRESSIONAL.

JAN. 18—SENATE—The silver question was the principal topic under discussion again today. Immediately after the opening of the session Mr. Ingalls of Kansas offered the following resolution, which, at his request, was laid over for the present: Resolved, That in the opinion of the Senate the compulsory coinage of silver dollars directed by the law of February 28, 1878 should not be suspended until the aggregate reaches the sum of $500,000,000. After a discussion Senator Beck's silver resolution was called up and Mr. Coke of Texas addressed the Senate. He reviewed carefully the monetary history of our country and claimed that we ought to have at least $500,000,000 of that metal in circulation before suspension of silver coinage was thought of. He claimed that the coinage of silver should be as free as the coinage of gold, and that American silver should be placed on an equality with gold everywhere. The right or wrong of free coinage was a matter yet to be determined, but good officials should execute the laws. They were not asked to pay our bonds exclusively in silver, but they were asked and justice demanded that they treat silver as they treated gold. We wanted no more reports from them saying that silver cannot be got into circulation when in violation of law the Treasury Department refused to pay it out and allowed bonds that ought to be paid to remain outstanding, while keeping locked up in the vaults of the treasury millions upon millions of silver that ought to be in circulation.... A resolution offered by Mr. Edmunds was agreed to, authorizing the secretary of the Senate to pay the bills incurred in the attendance of Senators at the funeral of the late Vice-President Hendricks. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—But little work was done in the House. Mr. Curtin of Pennsylvania declined the chairmanship of the committee on banking and currency. His declination was accepted, which devolves the chairmanship upon Mr. Miller of Texas. The Senate bill to legalize the election of a territorial legislative assembly of Wyoming was passed. Mr. Caldwell of Tennessee called up the House presidential succession bill, but as the minority report on the same had not been printed no action could be taken, and at 1 o'clock the House adjourned.

JAN. 14—SENATE—A petition was presented to the Senate praying that commercial travelers be relieved of burdensome taxation, and the Colorado legislature presented a memorial favoring the free coinage of silver.... Mr. Brown called up Mr. Beck's silver resolution and addressed the Senate. He advocated the issuance of silver certificates to represent the silver in the treasury, and claimed that every gold and silver dollar, not part of the necessary treasury reserve, should be put in circulation by a gold or silver certificate. Business would be greatly improved if instead of so much silver coin there was more silver in circulation in the form of paper certificates. If an attempt was made to demonetize silver by the national banks, or if those who represent the people in the various departments will not take the matter in hand then the people should do it at the polls, and fill the departments with men who will work for this object. Mr. Maxey of Texas believed this raid on silver, if sucessful, would inflict incalculable injury on the United States. The bug-bear of the silver, so terrifying to the European money changer, had no terrors for the American people. If the peple should ever find themselves hampered by a great weight of silver they could readily exchange it for paper certificates which when based on coin, dollar for dollar, were much better than coin for actual use. Mr. Maxey is utterly opposed to an irredemable paper currency, and declared a fluctuating currency inconsistent with healthy trade, while a sound currency based on gold and silver, and convertible into coin was a blessing to civilization. It was an infamous lie that the silver advocates wanted to pay a dollar debt in an 80 cent dollar, and thus take advantage of their creditors. The suspension of silver coinage was but another way of asking for the suspension of silver coinage, and such suspension would be most serious in its consequences to the people... The judicial salary bill was laid before the Senate. The section which provides that no person related within the degree of first cousin to a judge of the United States, shall be appointed by said judge to any position in this court, and that all so related who now hold such offices shall not continue in office six months after the passage of the act called out considerable discussion. Mr. Edmunds moved to strike out the clause which would affect those already in office. ..This amendment was agreed to, and the Senate adjourned until Monday without transacting other business.

HOUSE.—A resolution was passed in the House directing the judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the adjudication of private claims by congress... The Hoar presidential succession bill came up and Mr. Caldwell of Nebraska led the debate. In his opinion the bill under discussion did not meet all the needs, but would serve as a temporary bridge. Mr. Cooper of Ohio thought the person occupying the presidential chair should not be empowered to name his successor. Mr. Eden of Illinois thought the pending measure would preserve the country from anarchy. Mr. McKinley of Ohio offered a substitute making provision for having a speaker of the House continually in office, congress to convene March 4 next succeeding the election of representatives, and when a vacancy exists in the offices of President pro tem. of the Senate or speaker of the House, the President shall convene the House in which the vacancy exists for the election of a successor. Mr. Peters of Kansas considered the pending measure unconstitutional, inexpedient and impolitic. But for these faults it was a pretty fair bill. Mr. Seney of Ohio advocated the passage of the pending measure...The debate will be resumed to-morrow...Friday night sessions were ordered for the consideration of pension bills. Adjourned.

JAN. 15—HOUSE—The presidential succession bill was the only matter under advisement in the House to-day. Mr. Dibble of South Carolina opened the debate in advocacy of the bill. Mr. Rockwell of Massachusetts and Mr. Baker of Pennsylvania also supported the bill, and Mr. Osborne of Pennsylvania made some caustic remarks in opposition to its passage. Mr. Ryan of Kansas favored the settlement of this vexed question by a constitutional amendment providing for three vice presidents. Mr. Ermentrout of Pennsylvania defended the bill, but was opposed to that section of it which repeale the special election cause of the act of 1792. Mr. Adams of Illinois removed all objections on that score by offering an amendment which was adopted, striking out the clause which repeals the sections of the revised statutes providing for special elections. Vote was taken and lost on a substitute offered by Mr. McKinley of Ohio, leaving in force the present law, and adding a provision that for the purpose of having a speaker of the House continually in office congress should assemble on the 4th day of March next succeeding the election of representatives to congress, and whenever a vacancy exists in the speakership of the House or presidency of the Senate, the president shall convene the House in which the vacancy exists for the purpose of electing a presiding officer. Mr. Ryan of Kansas moved to recommit the bill, with instructions to the committee to report a joint resolution providing for the election of two or more vice presidents. This motion was lost, as was also one made by Mr. Everhart of Pennsylvania, amending the instructions so that the measure reported back would provide for the elevation to the presidency of the speaker of the House, president pro-tem of the Senate, secretary of state, chief justice of the supreme court, secretary of the treasury and attorney general, in the order named. Several other amendments of minor importance were offered, and a vote taken and the bill passed by a vote of 183 yeas and 77 nays, precisely as it came from the Senate. As passed the bill confers the succession to the presidency in case of a vacancy in both the offices of president and vice president, on the secretary of state, or if that office is vacant on the secretary, of the treasury, the sucession passing to the other members of the cabinet in cases of vacancy. The House then adjourned until Monday.

JAN. 18.—SENATE—A bill regulating inter state commerce was submitted to the Senate and referred.... A resolution was offered, and laid over, directing an inquiry into what proportion of the $10,000,000 in United States bonds called for payment in February are held by national banks as a basis for circulation... A long discussion on the fishery question was the result of a resolution relating to our fisheries.... Citizens of Montana presented memorials, praying for admission as a state into the union; a bill to that effect was introduced. The bill giving all United States district court judges $5,000 a year, and prohibiting them from appointing relatives to office in their court was passed. Among bills introduced were the following: To reimburse territories for money spent in the prosecution of Indians; to grant lands in severalty to the Indians of the Round Valley reservation in California; authorizing the secretary of the treasury to deliver to the proper owners all articles deposited in June, 1869, as property captured by the United States during the war. The bill provides that the act shall be advertised for one year, and that at the expiration of two years all articles remaining in the treasury shall be sold at public auction. Senator Cockrell introduced a bill abolishing the office of supervising inspector general of steam vessels, and reducing the salaries of the 10 supervising inspectors from $3,000 to $1,500 per year.

HOUSE—Nearly 600 bills were introduced in the House to-day. Among them were the following: Granting a pension to Mrs. Merkleham, surviving grand-daughter of Thomas Jefferson; to prescribe a tenure of office to persons employed in the civil service; a bill for the creating of a commission to distribute the Geneva award; repealing all the internal revenue taxes on domestic tobacco; for the control and government of St. Mary's ship canal in Michigan.

Buried Alive.

A young girl named Collins died in Woodstock, Ont., some months ago while playing on the street. The body was moved a few days ago from where it had been buried in the family plot, and the parents wishing to view the remains had the coffin opened, when to their horror they discovered that a dreadful struggle must have taken place after burial. The shroud had been torn to shreds, the knees were drawn up to the chin, one arm was twisted under the head, and the features bore evidence of terrible torture—all unmistakable proofs that the girl had been buried alive.

A beautiful woman, with artificially heightened color, once said to Gen. Sheridan: "How is that, having obtained so much glory, you still seek for more." "Ah, madam," he replied with more force than politeness, "how is it that you, who have so much beauty, should still put on paint."—San Francisco Argonaut.

ADDITIONAL NEWS.

CONGRESS.

JAN. 19—When the Senate was called to order the first business before that body was to appoint John F. Hartranft of Pennsylvania one of the managers of the national soldiers' home, vice Gen. McClellan deceased. After a heated discussion a resolution was adopted to admit Mr. Moody of Dakota to the floor of the Senate. A resolution regarding the president's recommendation for a fishery commission was referred to the committee on foreign relations. A resolution was agreed to directing the secretary of the treasury to inform the Senate what amount of silver bullion had been purchased for coinage each year since 1865. Mr. Teller of Colorado called up the silver question and addressed the Senate upon it, presenting elaborate tables showing the coin circulation of the world, and a comparison of the various countries. In the history of all nations gold and silver had been found insufficient to carry on the business of the world, and paper currency based on these metals had been resorted to, and such being the case what reason was there for supposing that gold alone would be sufficient. When the money faculty of silver is destroyed the purchasing power of gold is increased, and the holders of bonds, mortgages, and government securities are thus benefitted for the reason that these obligations must be paid with but one-half the money in existence that existed when the debts were contracted. The holders of these obligations wanted silver demonetized because of the consequent enormous increase in the purchasing power of gold. To bring this about they had raised the cry that gold will leave the country if silver coinage be not suspended, and that the United States would become the repository of all the silver in the world, that we would lose our gold, lose our national credit, and would be unable to sell our bonds. Then followed a comparison of our financial condition in 1878 and now. The amount of gold in the country in 1878, when they raised such a cry against the passage of the silver act, was $190,000,000; to-day we have $583,000,000. We have been adding to our stock of gold at the rate of $30,000,000 a year, and to-day France is the only nation that has more gold than the United States. At the close of Mr. Teller's address some minor matters were discussed and the Senate adjourned.

The Chief of Engineers laid before the House a communication asking for an immediate appropriation of $50,000 for the general work of survey on the Mississippi river. The Senate bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter was reported back, the committee reporting that after carefully considering the objections noted in the veto message of President Arthur it was clearly of the opinion that they were not well founded, and should not interrupt the course of justice. The bill reported back authorizes the president to appoint Fitz John Porter to his position of colonel in the army, and, in the executive's discretion to place him on the retired grade without any pay or compensation prior to his appointment under this act. The bill to increase the pay of widows from $8 to $12 per month was reported and referred to the committee of the whole. A bill was passed authorizing the use of $12,000 for the relief of northern Cheyenne Indians in Montana. The Senate resolution accepting the statue of Gen. Garfield presented by the citizens of Ohio, was adopted, and the House adjourned.

GENERAL.

EAST.

George Foster, the most notorious burglar, highwayman and bank thief in Ohio, and for many years leader of the Foster gang, whose operation extended over Ohio, Indiana Michigan and Pennsylvania, was shot and killed on the 19th by Officer George E. Corner of the Cleveland, Ohio, police force.

Trouble has been brewing for some time in the coke regions of Pennsylvania, which culminated on the 20th inst. in a riot between the Hungarian laborers and the patrol which had been sent out to preserve order. The patrol, after a lively skirmish, retreated, without loss of life, leaving the foreigners in possession of the field. A car-load of Pittsburg police were sent out to help quiet the riot.

A six-year old child of Edward Applegate of Spotswood, N. J., died of hydrophobia on 20th inst. It took three men to hold the little fellow.

WEST.

The Illinois supreme court sustains the constitutionality of the new election law in that state.

A mass convention of all who love liberty in Iowa has been called to meet in Des Moines on the 27th inst., by the opponents of prohibition.

The citizens of northern Idaho protest against annexation to Washington territory because the laws there are antagonistic to mining. They want annexation to Montana.

NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The president has approved the act legalizing the election of the territorial legislative assembly of Wyoming.

MICHIGAN.

W. C. Barnes, a compositor on the New York World, who won the championship of the world at the recent contest in Chicago, resides in Lapeer, and the citizens of that city tendered him a banquet on the 1[illegible]th inst.

Dr. Owen's bill for $500 in the Knoch case is questioned by Prosecuting Attorney Robison of Wayne county, who says that the physician is paid a yearly salary for just such work, and Woodmere is within the county limits.

Charles Corey, a farmer living near Decatur, suicided on the 19th inst., by cutting his throat with a dull pocket knife.

The first installment of Randolph Rogers' munificent gift to the university was received on the 19th.

Dr. Arthur Bodle, a Grand Rapids physician charged with manslaughter in the death of Sylvia Sawdy of Howard City, has been honorably discharged.

Finch & Son's flour mill in Middleville was totally destroyed by fire on the 19th inst, together with an elevator containing about 20,000 bushels of wheat. Loss about $20,000, with but slight insurance. The fire is supposed to have been incendiary.

The officers of the West Michigan agricultural society held a meeting in Grand Rapids on the 20th inst. submitted their reports, decided to hold the next fair in Grand Rapids in September, to increase the premiums, to allow no liquor to be sold on the grounds, and to prohibit gambling.

HOW BEECHER SHOD A HORSE.—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, illustrating the advantage of observation, told this story: "I was going across a prairie when my horse began to limp. Luckily I came across a blacksmith's shop, but the smith was not at home. I asked the woman of the house if she would allow me to start a fire and make the shoe. She said I might if I knew how. So I started the fire and heated the shoe red-hot and turned it to fit my horse's foot, and pared the hoofs, and turned the points of the nails out cunningly, as I had seen the blacksmith do, so that, in driving into the hoof, they should not get into the quick, and I shod the horse. At the next place I went to I went straight to a smith and told him to put the shoe on properly. He looked at the horse's foot and paid me the greatest compliment I ever received in my life. He told me if I put on that shoe I had better follow blacksmithing all my life. Now I never should have known how to do that if I had not looked on and seen others do it."

THE democratic speakers who have served since the war were of the same age when first elected—48 years old, which was the age of Mr. Kerr, Mr. Randall, and Mr. Carlisle when the first term of each began.

AN American is to-day the best-hated man in Scotland. Caledonia is indeed stern and wild anent Mr. Winans, who has recently clawed up thousands of acres more. In Ireland he would have been boycotted, or worse, long ago.

THE debt of France is over $4,000,000,000—the largest national debt in the world, being $600,000,000 or $700,000,000 more than the debt of Great Britain and about three times the amount of interest-bearing debt of the United States.

FRANK SIDDALL, the prosperous Philadelphia soapmaker, has just purchased a carriage which is said to be the finest thing in the vehicle line in the Quaker city. It cost something like $2,000. It is upholstered in bottle-green broad-cloth, has a telephone connected with the driver, a looking-glass, and a clock.

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