Birmingham Eccentric

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, Pubs.

BIRMINGHAM, MICH

For many years the December issues of Harper's Magazine have been distinguished by an unusual wealth of choice reading and pictures with a special emphasis upon Christmas subjects. Rich as have been the previous numbers, the one about to be published stands easily at the head of all the goodly company that for nearly forty years have entertained and enlightened innumerable readers. It is a royal banquet of refreshing variety, with sturdy staples, rare novelties and delicious dainties worthy of the generous holiday saint. Everything is complete in itself, the serials being omitted from this number. Besides the strongest attraction of "The Boyhood of Christ," by the author of "Ben-Hur," the Fowells force, "The Mouse-Trap," Gibson's delightful "Wood Notes," and the bounteous departments of confidential discourse, of literary judgment, and of overflowing humor, presided over by the geniuses of G. W. Curtis, W. D. Howells, and C. D. Warner, we are regaled with six short stories (four of them beautifully illustrated), and five illustrated poems of the abundant cuts twenty-five occupy full pages, and four are printed separately on plate paper. Notwithstanding the unparalleled richness of this number, we are assured by the publishers that it is only a Christmas form of the exalted standard which will be uniformly maintained throughout the year; and the magnificent prospectus detailing the coming treasures gives a splendid promise to the volume begun by this number.

James McMillan of Detroit reported last after five years of hard work arrangements have been completed by which a number of roads will center at St. Ignace, and the Straits of Mackinaw be crossed by solid trains from or bound to the northwest. This means a direct air line route between the east and the northwest, and the side-tracking of Chicago with all its railroad facilities and gigantic business monopolies, and a consequent large increase of Detroit business and wealth. The Michigan Central road is prominent in the combination; an immense transfer steamer is to be built, and certain railroad extensions provided for; the whole at a cost of ten million dollars. The development of these gigantic plans which now seem assured, will be watched with intense eagerness by all lovers of Michigan and admirers of the wonderfully great movements of the age, and we of "Michigan, my Michigan," can boast as we have not boasted before.

MICHIGAN ITEMS.

Gen. Loyal will attend the dedication of the soldiers' home Dec. 30.

Col. Samuel Wells, the manager of the Grand Rapids soldiers' home, has received from the home at Dayton, O., the following bill of fare for thanksgiving dinner: 3,300 pounds of turkey, 1,000 pounds of oyster dressing, eight barrels of cranberry for sauce, twenty barrels of mince pies for sauce, fifty-four bushels of mashed potatoes, forty gallons of gravy, 1,000 gallons of tomato catsup, 300 pounds of cheese, twenty pounds of butter, 1,000 pounds of bread and 1,050 pies.

Ex-Postmaster Chase S. Osborn of Sault Ste. Marie, has purchased the Detroit Tribune of Detroit, and will make it a democratic journal. It is understood that Mr. Osborn will be the editor-in-chief, and will be a strong candidate for the democratic nomination for governor.

Gov. Luce has issued the Stewart's residence in Lansing, and will move to the capital city about the first of January.

The Flint deaf and dumb institution will ask the legislature this winter for funds to the extent of $40,000 for a new building and approach to the institution grounds. The saving in the heating expenses, notably of coal, it is claimed, will be large.

The Isabella circuit court jury have given Mrs. Mary Ann Tubbs a verdict for $2,000 against a salooniist named Tubbs for the death of her husband, who was run over by a train ago by the cars. The plaintiff alleged that Tubbs was intoxicated and gave his liquor of Tubbs.

J. Halsted's wagon works at Shelby, Oceana county, were burned to another day. Loss $10,000, with small insurance.

Davis & Hall of Sheridan, Montcalm county, have been awarded $3,000 for selling liquor to Thos. Groom.

Gov. Luce has appointed Walter M. Reason of East Saginaw, stenographer of the 34th district circuit, in place of Mr. Orr, resigned.

Peter Christianson, a resident of Big Rapids, was fatally injured while falling a tree on the farm of John Ward, a short distance west of that city. In falling, the body of the tree slid off the stump and pinned Mr. Christianson against another tree, crushing in his chest.

A sad accident happened near Lowell the other afternoon. Two freights, the regular going west and a special going east, collided, both engines being badly wrecked. Engineer Ford of the latter special was almost instantly killed. The remains were taken to Lowell to await the arrival of a relative, whom the news was telegraphed for at once. Upon her arrival they were taken to Ionia for interment. The cause of the collision is not stated.

Ira Phillips accidentally shot his father, Andrew Phillips, through the body at the house of J. B. Howe, near Grandville, west of West Branch. The old man lives in Ionia county, and was on a visit to his son. He lived only three hours after the accident. Coroner Smith held an inquest and a verdict was rendered in accordance with the above facts.

Dr. James H. Farnsworth, a well known resident of Detroit, was found dead in Detroit the other day by hanging. He had been ailing in health for some time and became very despondent.

One-fare-for-the-round-trip rates will prevail to those who may be interested in the dedicatory services of the soldiers' home in Grand Rapids, Dec. 30. Gen. Luce will preside and deliver an address. Commander Stewart of the state G. A. R. will officiate at the G. A. R. ritual exercises. Gen. John A. Logan will be present and delivered an address. Gen. Alger, Fairchild of Madison, Wis., commander of the G. A. R. of the Northwest, are expected. The home commissioners will all be present, with Governor-elect Gov. Blair and other prominent men.

Judge S. R. Kelsey of Corunna, is dead. At 81 years Judge Kelsey had held many positions of trust in Shiawassee county and was greatly esteemed by his many friends.

Simon Emory, one of the earliest settlers in the county, died at a prominent contractor, dropped dead of heart disease at Opeeka recently.

Louis Schoenhaus of Traverse City, was killed the other day by a falling tree.

The children of the Higgins woman, recently arrested at Ann Arbor, for incorrection for complicity in the murder of her husband, have been placed in charge of a Catholic charitable institution at Saginaw City.

Henry G. Perry writes to the Chicago Herald denying that Sam Peyton, lately released from Joliet, is a grandson to the late Commodore Perry, and that he is largely the family history to prove that he is not, of course.

Mrs. Ira W. Pratt, formerly of Coldwater, died at Ann Arbor, Michigan, was overtaked by a snow storm on Monday two weeks ago, and though rescued after three hours, died from the effects of fatigue and exposure.

An inmate of the Pontiac asylum escaped the other day, and for a few days many matters very lively at the residence of Charles Joy, who lives in Pontiac. The authorities were notified and the man was finally secured and locked up.

It now appears as though the only punishment to be inflicted on Dr. Wey for Mabel Clark's death at Oscoda will be any increase of notoriety he may experience and banishment from Michigan, as the evidence is not sufficiently strong to extradite him from Canada for murder, while the other offense alleged against him is not extraditable.

The contract for the "Soo" tunnel under the St. Clair river at Port Huron has been let to Seory Smith & Co. of New York.

Eddie Fox of St. Louis was drowned Wednesday night in the St. Clair river at Fine river and the ice broke.

William McCormick of Inland, Benzie county, was killed in a lumber camp a few days ago, by a log falling on him.

Bonnet & Sanborn, jobber for Cross & Dyer, had a $325 span of horses killed by a falling tree, which struck the animals on the road.

The railroad consolidation board has approved the articles of consolidation of the Port Huron railroad tunnel company of Michigan, and the St. Clair frontier tunnel company of Canada. The object is to tunnel the St. Clair river at Port Huron.

Mrs. Fred Colly of Au Sable was found dead in her bed the other morning. She had been feeling ill for two or three days, but was not considered dangerous. Within the past two years Mr. and Mrs. Kelly have lost two children in a similar manner, and it was thought advisable to make a post-mortem, to see if no blame is laid on any member of the family.

Francis Palms, one of Detroit's oldest citizens, died in Detroit on Tuesday morning. He leaves a fortune variously estimated at from $3,000,000 to $5,000,000.

Bradford Smith, agent of the state board of corrections and charities for Wayne county, has resigned. His resignation, Gov. Alger has accepted the resignation.

The postoffice department has discontinued the Riverdale and Elm Hall postal routes and will place the Riverdale office in Riverdale to Sumner, via Elm Hall, giving back-country people a mail route.

Jas. Cranston, formerly of Fort Gratiot, and a conductor on the C. & G. T. road, was killed at Sarnia, Ont., while on duty as conductor on the G. R. & N. road. His remains were brought to Fort Gratiot for burial.

A vein of soft coal more than three feet in thickness has been opened on the farm of Henry C. Stark in Eagle township, Clinton county.

Mrs. J. B. Nichols, an old resident of Bronson, died suddenly the other morning. She was in usual health to the moment of her death and died in a few minutes. Heart failure was the cause.

Philip Drumheller, a farmer living near Bath, in good circumstances, committed suicide by cutting his throat with the small blade of a penknife. It is said he has been in feeble health for some time and is supposed to have been partly insane. He had no family.

George Draper of Big Rapids, in charge of a school in Ionia county, left home two days and on the third morning, after an early breakfast, started for the school house, but since that time nothing has been seen of him. It is feared he has wandered off while temporarily insane.

David H. Stuart, postmaster at Schoolcraft, and one of the representative men of Kalamazoo county, died suddenly the other morning.

Early next season the Grand Rapids & Indiana will build an extension of the road from Ludington to the West Branch county, a distance of about twenty-five miles, through a very rich farming community.

It is now rumored that the purchasers of the Michigan & Ontario railway, a line of their own from Dundee to Toledo. They are now running a train each month to the Toledo & Ann Arbor road, and are said to be considering their tracks between these two points.

The townships of Bessex in Clinton county and Fulton, Washington and Elsa in Gratiot county have petitioned to have the constitutionality of the special law for the dredging of Maple River, which provides for payment for the work by ten sections of swamp land and authorizes a new one to be appointed in its stead, pronounced the same. It is found that about fifty landowners refuse to compute the work so laid out by the commissioner which amount has been assessed.

DETROIT MARKETS.

WHEAT—The wheat market has taken a boom, owing to an increasing foreign demand, and the burning of some 900,000 bushels of Duluth wheat last week. Prices range all the way from 78 to 85 cents.

OATS—Steady at 25 cents for mixed lots.

CORN—In good demand at 37½ cents.

CLOVER SEED—Selling well at $4 45.

BARLEY—No 2 spring selling at $1.20 per cental and No 2 western at $1.28.

RYE—Selling at 50 cents.

FEED—Bran quoted at $10 25@11 and middlings at $12@14 25.

FLOUR—The market steady at the following: Extra spring, $5.50@6; patent Michigan $4 75@4 50; low grades, $2.50@2 85; Minnesota patents, $5.50@6; Minnesota bakers' $3.50@4 10; rye, $3.25@3 40.

GENERAL PRODUCE.

APPLES—Steady at $2@2 25 per bbl for fair to choice.

BEESWAX—The market is quiet as usual at 22@23c per lb.

BUTTER—Creamery, Michigan extra, 23@24 25; eastern $2.50@2 75.

BEANS—Choice city picked medium are quoted at $1 75 a bushel; $1 50 for car lots. Unpicked in free receipt at 75 cents and 85 cents for pea.

BUTTER—The market quiet as usual at 15 @16c for fair goods and 18@20 for the finest qualities of dairy. Creamery quoted at before at 26@28c.

CABBAGES—Steady at $1@2 25 per 100 in shipping quantities.

CIDER—Clarified, 10@12c and common at 6@8c per gal.

CRANBERRIES—Per bbl, Cape Cods, $6 75 $7 50; per bu, do, $2 25@2 50; Jerseys, $1 75@2 per bbl; Bell and Bugle, $2 50@3 per bbl. The supply good and trade fair.

CHEESE—Held at 12½@12½c per lb for New York full cream, and 12@12½c for Michigan. Ohio grades quoted at 11½@12c.

DRIED APPLES—Sun-dried 2½@3c per lb, in bbls. Evaporated 7½@8c per lb, in bbls, as to size and quality.

DRESSED HOGS—For prime lots 4¾@5 per cwt., in still the range. Small lots and light weights held a little higher.

EGGS—The market quiet and regular at 20c for strictly fresh; 21c for common, and 17@18c for limed.

GAME—Per pair, partridges, sound, 50; wood duck, 30c; Mallard, 60; per lb; teal, mallards, 8c; woodcock, 50@75c; snipe, 25@35c; quail, $2 50 per doz. Rabbits 25@ 50c per pair; squirrels, $1 per doz. The market quiet.

HAY—Per ton $@$ for clover; $10 for Timothy; $8 for mixed Timothy and clover; $7 for No. 2, and per ton, baled in car lots as to quality. Market quiet.

HONEY—Steady at 18@20c per lb. Michigan, 25c. California choice, 30c; 1885, 18c.

HOPS—Per lb, comb, 16@18c and extract at 9@10c. The supply good and the market inactive.

MALT—Quoted as to quality at 80@85c per bu for Canadian and 65@70c for Michigan.

NUTS—Per lb, English walnuts 17@18c; filberts, 9@10c; almonds, 16@18c; Brazils, 10@12c; pecans, 10@12c; hickory, $1 25@ 1 75; chestnuts, 8c; Spanish, 8@9c; peanuts, 6@8c per bu. Cocoanuts, $6 per 100.

ONIONS—The market continues dull. Prices nominally steady at $1 75@2 per bbl.

POTATOES—The inquiry poor and from local buyers only at 30@35c per bu, outside for Burbanks. Sales of car lots at 25c.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, $10 25; new, do, $10@11; family, $12 25@13 50; extra family, $13; short clear, $12 50@13 25. Lard in tierces, 6½@6¾c; kegs, 7@7½c. Hams, 10 to 16 lb, 6½@7½c; 5 to 8 and 10-lb pails, 7@7½c; smoked long clear, 6½@6¾c; shoulders, 5½@6½c; breakfast bacon, 8½@9½c; dried beef, 8@8½c; smoked beef, $7 25@7 50; plate beef, $7 50@8 50.

POULTRY—There are a great many turkeys, but the demand is good for all varieties, especially chickens scarce. Turkeys, 8@9c per lb; roosters, 4c; fowls and spring chickens, 6@7c; ducks, 7@8c; turkeys, 10@11c per pair; pigeons, 30c; per doz; chickens, 50@75c; turkeys, 9@10c; ducks, 60@70; geese, 50@60.

SWEET POTATOES—The market firm, but only for Jersey bright at $2 25 @2 50 per bbl. For Jersey red at $2 25 for choice.

TALLOW—Oozinness dull at 5½c per lb.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

CATTLE—Receipts, 1,200. Light to medium shipping steers, $3 10 to 1,300 lbs $3 30@3 60; butchers' and feeders, $2 10@3 40; cows, bulls, and mixed, $1 50@3 25; stockers, $2 25; through Texas cattle, cows, $2@2 60; steers, $3@3 25.

HOGS—Market strong and 10c higher; rough and mixed, $3 60@3 80; packing and shipping, $3 80@4; light, $3 80@4; pigs, $3 50@3 80.

SHEEP—Receipts, 400. Market for best $3 50@4; common dull, $3@3 25. Western $3 75@3 90; Texas, $3@3 25; lambs, $4@5 25.

STATE NEWS

Gayhardt Should be Thankful.

The sentence of William Gayhardt, who was sent from Clinton county January 1, 1886, to life imprisonment at Jackson for burning a dwelling house in the night time, has been commuted to imprisonment for ten years from said date of sentence. The following reason for the commutation accompany the executive order:

The commutation of sentence is requested by the judge who pronounced the sentence, by the jury who convicted William Gayhardt, by the board of supervisors of Clinton county, by a large number of the citizens and voters of the township of Bath, wherein convict resides. In this case it appears to the full satisfaction that the party that is committing the crime of which he was convicted by the jury, is not of a good character and was in no wise criminally inclined; that he did not realize the enormity of his offense; that, while for such crime the statutory punishment is imprisonment for life, and the court pronounce ing the sentence could make the term of imprisonment no less, that the court regarded such unavoidable sentence as excessively severe; that, during the sentiment of the entire people of the town where the convict resided, and the judgment of Clinton county officers, and the jury who found him guilty fully corroborate the judgment of the court, and that while the convict ought to be punished, the punishment, at a time, is that the demands of justice will be well vindicated by the imprisonment for ten years aforesaid. It appears this convict had a lease of the property where the house was burned, and it appears that he had tried to rid the premises of the occupant, and that the party burning had had a legal right to burn the house, as the owner of premises, and that he intended to burn it before the convict took possession of it.

Pardon to Prison for Life.

Chandler L. Wells, who murdered his wife near Ypsilanti a few weeks ago, has been convicted of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to hard labor in the state prison for life. Strong efforts were made to prove the man insane, but the attempt did not succeed. The verdict gives satisfaction all around.

The trial of Thomas Smith, charged with the murder of Niles F. Anderson, at Marine last August, resulted in a verdict of guilty, and he has been sentenced to the state prison for life. Smith was completely overcome when the fatal sentence was read. He turned ghastly pale and shook as with an attack of ague.

The murder for which Smith was convicted grew out of a trouble between Anderson and Smith's father, on the road had been located through Smith's farm, and Smith's father had sued Anderson each time removing the obstruction. One afternoon in August Anderson was at work in his field, when a rifle shot was heard from a clump of bushes a few rods distant, and Anderson fell dead in his tracks. The murderer escaped unseen, but the circumstances, which point to a very strong evidence of a circumstantial nature secured his conviction of the cowardly crime. Smith's wife swore farmers in substantial circumstances.

Weir Captured.

Dr. David H. Weir of Oscoda, was arrested in London, Ont., Tuesday, for the murder of Mabel Clark, an inmate of his hospital, and will be held for extradition. Weir was watched and was caught as he was leaving the house of his brother. He had $150 on his person.

A reward of $1,000 part of which was offered by the Detroit Board of Trade, and a liberal subscription among the ladies at Oscoda, was offered for Weir's arrest; he had left Oscoda unknown, though some two weeks ago reported to have been seen in Detroit and later in the Union city at Toledo. The reward is now only the other day increased to $2,000, and this sum, it is presumed, will put the Canadian officers who were so fortunate as to capture the doctor, ahead of the old adage, which tells us that there is should be no question.

Drowned While Saving Life.

A life boat of the life saving station at Point Au Sable capsized on the east shore of Lake Michigan on the morning of Nov. 28, while returning from a rescue in the trouble, and her captain and two of her crew were drowned.

HOME NEWS

The New York court of appeals has confirmed the judgment in the case of Buchanan, convicted of manslaughter in causing the death of workmen while erecting insecure buildings.

The annual report of the quartermaster general of the army shows that a year ago 159 new buildings were erected at military posts, and 236,183 persons and 103,191 tons of freight transported at the expense of the government.

In the annual report of W. C. Schley, chief of the bureau of equipment and recruiting, we have that the expenditures during the last fiscal year were $184,003 less than the appropriation. He recommends that $50,000 be appropriated for the construction of coasters.

The anniversary of the evacuation of York by the British in 1783 was celebrated in New York Thanksgiving day.

The Chicago Herald proves to death during the blizzard in Dakota the other day. The little tag Sunbeam of New York was blown out of her crib while lying at the foot of Seventy-ninth street, in East river, by the explosion, he crawled down the stairs, crawled three miles, all of whom were blown to fragments.

An attempt was made to burn the Continental hotel in Chicago the other day by incendiary fire, and fire in six different places at the same time.

The through express on the Cleveland & Pittsburg road collided with a freight train about 30 miles from Pittsburg on the night of Nov 26, and Thomas Moore, of Cleveland, fireman, was instantly killed.

Two children named Mead were frozen to death in the snow near Ogden, Ill., on Nov 24, while looking for lost stock, and two others were badly frozen, but recovered from their sufferings from exposure.

The report of the recent Indian massacre in the Territory of Dakota, is confirmed.

Secretary Whitney has issued an order for the discharge of all the employes in the civil service, and all the Navy Yard establishments yard with the exception of a foreman and a clerk in each department.

The Great Western glass company of St. Louis have discharged all the men employed there for the winter, the usual work, says he was obliged to do this to keep the plant in good shape for next year. The men pronounce the statement a deliberate falsehood, and claim that the real cause was the employment of apprentices to do men's work, and that had the men not been discharged they would have been a strike in the factory in a few hours.

An important coal vein has been discovered near the Union Pacific bridge in Omaha. Persons who were hunting for natural gas, struck the vein at a depth of coal seven feet thick at a depth of 40 feet. A stockmen company will be formed at once to be organized at once to work the deposit. Experts say the vein is virtually inexhaustable.

No further action will be taken by the commissioners of the Pacific in the matter of the Bell telephone company until the decree of the circuit court of Columbia shall be officially promulgated Dec 7.

The St. Paul, St. Croix & Lake Superior road, which has been leased for a term of years to Minnesota with a capital stock of $1,000,000.

Each United States senator will receive for distribution thirty copies and each representative ten copies of the new map of the United States.

Ex-President Arthur will dispose of $100,000 of his stocks and personal property.

A hand-some monument erected in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, N. Y., by the Thirteenth regiment to Clarence D. Mc Kee, who was killed at Antietam, and who was killed at Annapolis, Md., June 11, 1861, while on the regiment's way to Washington, and with an average snow protect the winter in unusually good shape.

Out of 110 counties in winter wheat counties in the state, namely 103 report an average or more seed average, as compared with 100 last year, and 102 two years ago. Illinois and Kansas indicate the best condition. In ohio reports from 88 counties out of twenty nine show a decrease and one four in Illinois, the reason that eleven counties report decrease, and in Kansas one out of twenty-one report a decrease.

Terrible Mine Explosion.

Shortly after the miners and laborers entered the Pittston shaft near Wilkesbarre, Pa., the other morning, an explosion of gas took place, and a terrible explosion occurred in a shanty at the top of the shaft, which was occupied by the fire boss. No work was done the day before, and consequently there was a larger quantity of gas than usual in the mine. The explosion occurred at ten minutes past seven o'clock, while the men were getting ready to go to work. About fifty men, miners and laborers, were waiting at the foot of the shaft waiting for the inside boss when the terrible explosion took place.

The fire boss was assaed by Cornelius Boyle, a mine laborer, who stepped into a room and found the fire boss with his clothing with a lighted lamp upon his hat. Many men were killed and wounded and the damage to the inside workings of the shaft is great. Fire losses Wm. William Jones, Wm. Jones are reported fatally burned. The explosion was the most serious one ever occurred in the Wyoming and adjoining fields this year. It is now definitely ascertained that five men are severely burned and others slightly injured. Ten of the men will die of their injuries.

Scott Conspirators.

In the matter of 151 entries made in Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, under the timber law act on which patents have been issued, the government has filed in the land office suits to vacate and patents. This action is the result of an investigation upon which the government claims that the entries were fraudulently made in the interest of a Scotch corporation, organized for the purpose of obtaining control of all the valuable timber lands in the United States country, and that the foreign corporation was aided in its work by a firm in Calliforniia, and that the money was furnished. The secretary in his letter to the attorney general directing the suits, says that the patents were obtained as an "extensive conspiracy culminating in a monstrous fraud."

Sacrificed His Life for Them.

A fatal collision attended by dramatic circumstances occurred at Anderson's station, on the Ohio & Mississippi road, a mile and eight miles below Cincinnati, the other afternoon. An engine making a trip was ordered to leave the yard at a time earlier than usual. It was in charge of Edward Ryan, a well known Cincinnati engineer. At Anderson's it collided with the cabin of a work train, killing all in the cabin, two sons and 7 years-old, and also John Mohler, aged 5. Perceiving danger ahead, Ryan ran to the cabin door through the cab window, and staid at his post. He was found by the side of John Mohler, who was killed, and Frank Ryan, aged 5, who was also killed. The freight, badly injured. No one else hurt.

Shocking and Fatal Accident.

About 11 o'clock the other morning Mrs. Charles Smith of Charlotte was found dead in her bed. Her husband left at 6 o'clock Mr. Smith had gone down street to transact some business and on his return found the corpse of his wife in bed. He ran up the floor dead. Mrs. Smith sometimes became delirious and had to be watched over it, and is thought caught fire from that cause. Timely appearance of the fire from destruction, as the carpet was on fire when he arrived. Mrs. Smith was 71 years of age, and had lived in Charlotte seventeen years. She was highly respected.

The Red River Valley Pouring Out Wheat

The wheat crop of the Red River valley reverses the larger than the estimates. The elevators and warehouses along the line of the Manitoba road are all full to overflowing, and in some of the towns the farmers pile the sacks out of doors as the railroad cars are insufficient to carry enough to haul it to market. The Manitoba road has, too, not many of them, they are tied up at Duluth owing to the lack of facilities there to handle the grain. The railroads say the movement of grain from the Red River is unprecedented.

Washington Soldiers' Home.

From the report of the board of commissioners of the soldiers' home, it appears that 319 persons were admitted to the home during the year. Ninety-three of the inmates were discharged at their own request, five dismissed, thirty suspended for a time, and one died. There are 200 regular and fifty-two temporary inmates at the home, and the average for the year before accommodated. The cottage formerly occupied by the president as a summer residence has been assigned to inmates of the home for occupancy.

Postal Service not Self-Sustaining.

The third assistant postmaster general, in his annual report, says that for the year fiscal year ending June 30, 1886, he estimated the postal revenue to be expelled out of the general treasury as $50,000,000, and the expenditure $54,000,000, the amount charged to the treasury in the year ending June 30, 1886, was $52,000,000, and for the year ended June 30, 1885. He thinks the day not far distant when the postal service will be self-sustaining.

Important.

When you visit or leave New York City, save baggage expressage and $3 carriage hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite Grand Central Depot.

Elegant rooms fitted up at the cost of one million dollars, $1 and upwards per day. American plan. Elevator, Restaurant supplied with the best. Horse cars, stages and elevated railroad to all depots. Family rooms worth $5 to $10 per day, for $2.50 Grand Union Hotel than at any other first class hotel in New York.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Mail Service.

Postmaster General Vilas, in his annual report, states that the mileage employed by the United States mail service, is greater than of all other countries combined. The post rates are more than three times any other single country. No other nation has one-third the number of postoffices. The letters mailed in the United States last year exceed those of Great Britain by 1,000,000, and nearly by a number more than Germany, France and Austria combined. This is the exception, where this country carries more newspapers in her mail than any other nation. The profit on the postal service of mail matter, mailed last year in the United States was 66. On July 1, 1886, there were 50,000 postoffices in the United States, and 497 branch offices. Money order offices, 2,344; money order offices, 7,363. On Oct 1 there were 2,291 presidential offices and 7,863 money order offices.

During the last fiscal year there were 22,747 applicants for postmaster, at the same time there were 7,960,302 domestic money orders issued, amounting to $18,000,000. 5,950,428 postal notes amounting to $11,000,000. The total number of postoffices for the full year of the special delivery system, there were 1,118,520 letters received. Three-tenths of the foreign mails have been transmitted in foreign bottoms, in the financial year that the deficit was $17,51. The estimated revenue for the current fiscal year is $57,327,0.

Fair to Settle a Title.

The attorney general has instituted a suit in the supreme court of the District of Columbia to settle the title of the Potomac flats and especially that portion of them which has been known for years as the well meadows. The list of defendants is large and includes all persons who have at any time been a claim of territory. The bill states that the United States claims and it is charged that the patent is null and void for several reasons, the most important being that it was issued without through fraud and collusion between John Mc Lean, then commissioner of the land office in Indiana where the patent was issued, and the defendant, John Marshall, John Marshall, who at the time of his death claimed to have vested in him the title to the Potomac flats, the island, and the well and everything else pertaining to it as a member of the family of Fairfax, the ancestor of Lord Fairfax, who became the owner of what is called the grant from the British crown in 1649 to the northern neck of Virginia, comprising all the land between the Rappahannock and the Potomac. The government will throw the burden of proof upon the defendants, and in addition to showing them to have come into court and have a legal title, they will have to show that they have not acted and involved in fraud.

Weekly Crop Report.

The following is the crop summary for the week ending Nov 29:

The reports from the winter wheat section are uniformly favorable up to the close of the week. The prospects for the fall-sown grain more generally favorable than last year, except in the Missouri Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, and Missouri the reports are not so favorable. Winter wheat is usually well in Michigan, Wisconsin and Kansas, while reports are not so favorable in Nebraska, and the prospects report any of the fields are looking other than promising. The reports from the Dakotas are uniformly favorable, and with an average snow protect the winter in unusually good shape.

Out of 110 counties in winter wheat counties in the state, namely 103 report an average or more seed average, as compared with 100 last year, and 102 two years ago. Illinois and Kansas indicate the best condition. In ohio reports from 88 counties out of twenty nine show a decrease and one four in Illinois, the reason that eleven counties report decrease, and in Kansas one out of twenty-one report a decrease.

Terrible Mine Explosion.

Shortly after the miners and laborers entered the Pittston shaft near Wilkesbarre, Pa., the other morning, an explosion of gas took place, and a terrible explosion occurred in a shanty at the top of the shaft, which was occupied by the fire boss. No work was done the day before, and consequently there was a larger quantity of gas than usual in the mine. The explosion occurred at ten minutes past seven o'clock, while the men were getting ready to go to work. About fifty men, miners and laborers, were waiting at the foot of the shaft waiting for the inside boss when the terrible explosion took place.

The fire boss was assaed by Cornelius Boyle, a mine laborer, who stepped into a room and found the fire boss with his clothing with a lighted lamp upon his hat. Many men were killed and wounded and the damage to the inside workings of the shaft is great. Fire losses Wm. William Jones, Wm. Jones are reported fatally burned. The explosion was the most serious one ever occurred in the Wyoming and adjoining fields this year. It is now definitely ascertained that five men are severely burned and others slightly injured. Ten of the men will die of their injuries.

Scott Conspirators.

In the matter of 151 entries made in Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, under the timber law act on which patents have been issued, the government has filed in the land office suits to vacate and patents. This action is the result of an investigation upon which the government claims that the entries were fraudulently made in the interest of a Scotch corporation, organized for the purpose of obtaining control of all the valuable timber lands in the United States country, and that the foreign corporation was aided in its work by a firm in California, and that the money was furnished. The secretary in his letter to the attorney general directing the suits, says that the patents were obtained as an "extensive conspiracy culminating in a monstrous fraud."

Sacrificed His Life for Them.

A fatal collision attended by dramatic circumstances occurred at Anderson's station, on the Ohio & Mississippi road, a mile and eight miles below Cincinnati, the other afternoon. An engine making a trip was ordered to leave the yard at a time earlier than usual. It was in charge of Edward Ryan, a well known Cincinnati engineer. At Anderson's it collided with the cabin of a work train, killing all in the cabin, two sons and 7 years-old, and also John Mohler, aged 5. Perceiving danger ahead, Ryan ran to the cabin door through the cab window, and staid at his post. He was found by the side of John Mohler, who was killed, and Frank Ryan, aged 5, who was also killed. The freight, badly injured. No one else hurt.

Shocking and Fatal Accident.

About 11 o'clock the other morning Mrs. Charles Smith of Charlotte was found dead in her bed. Her husband left at 6 o'clock Mr. Smith had gone down street to transact some business and on his return found the corpse of his wife in bed. He ran up the floor dead. Mrs. Smith sometimes became delirious and had to be watched over it, and is thought caught fire from that cause. Timely appearance of the fire from destruction, as the carpet was on fire when he arrived. Mrs. Smith was 71 years of age, and had lived in Charlotte seventeen years. She was highly respected.

The Red River Valley Pouring Out Wheat

The wheat crop of the Red River valley reverses the larger than the estimates. The elevators and warehouses along the line of the Manitoba road are all full to overflowing, and in some of the towns the farmers pile the sacks out of doors as the railroad cars are insufficient to carry enough to haul it to market. The Manitoba road has, too, not many of them, they are tied up at Duluth owing to the lack of facilities there to handle the grain. The railroads say the movement of grain from the Red River is unprecedented.

Washington Soldiers' Home.

From the report of the board of commissioners of the soldiers' home, it appears that 319 persons were admitted to the home during the year. Ninety-three of the inmates were discharged at their own request, five dismissed, thirty suspended for a time, and one died. There are 200 regular and fifty-two temporary inmates at the home, and the average for the year before accommodated. The cottage formerly occupied by the president as a summer residence has been assigned to inmates of the home for occupancy.

Important.

When you visit or leave New York City, save baggage expressage and $3 carriage hire, and stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite Grand Central Depot.

Elegant rooms fitted up at the cost of one million dollars, $1 and upwards per day. American plan. Elevator, Restaurant supplied with the best. Horse cars, stages and elevated railroad to all depots. Family rooms worth $5 to $10 per day, for $2.50 Grand Union Hotel than at any other first class hotel in New York.

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

Mrs. Mildred Adams has instituted an action for slander against her father, Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, because of his late in justifying his conduct towards her husband, Charles W. Adams, that the latter had managed to induce her to assume improper relations with him before marriage in order to secure her hand and fortune.

Princess Beatrice, wife of Prince Henry of Battenberg, and youngest daughter of Queen Victoria, has given birth to twins. Both the mother and son are doing well. Queen Victoria has signified her intention to attendance at the accouchment.

A society has been formed in Berlin to proscribe the Russian Ambassador, Schuvalow.

A man and his wife, named Thomas of Paris, have been convicted of the death of the wife's two brothers, named Lebon, to imprisonment for life, for murdering their father, their mother, whom they buried to death in order to inherit her money.

Lieut. Pearey, who has returned from an expedition, says Greenland can be crossed with the Eskimos, and he proposes the expeditions to the north pole.

A verdict has been rendered in favor of Lord Coleridge in the libel suit brought against him by his son-in-law, Mr. Adams.

Henry S. Stanley volunteers to command a non-military expedition to Uganda to rescue Emin Pasha, who is besieged by Mahdi, who is holding Wadyk, against a hostile chief. He without hold Great Britain responsible for the expense.

Nine young boys in Sydney, N. S. W., have been sentenced to death for an attempt to murder a companion.

The discovery has been made that Mexicans are in the habit of stealing cattle belonging to the United States by turning the course of the Rio Grande. An appeal is to be made to the authorities in Washington.

The dominion government organ, published in Ottawa, Canada, has been giving a hole of warning regarding the temper of the Indians. It appears that the Custom House, and the landing party moved on to the City Hall, the crowd increasing as that small body moved. Ethan Allen appeared the "State flag." There the marines were again drawn up in line, and the howitzer was brought into the street, thousands of spectators filled the open spaces. That immense assemblage had the will to annihilate the small force, and the power to do it. The great number of new clerks came in. Among these was a pretty young lady with large brown eyes and a fascinating smile. The clerks kept her busy, and she undoubtedly took to her, and she became a general favorite. The young men in the office were fortunate enough to have a few minutes' chat with her, but that is as far as it ever went. Though she treated all pleasantly, none seemed to be able to call on her. The young fellow I spoke about had gotten so that he seldom had anything to say to her, and at the top floor at the foot of the ladder.

Before we ascended to "Wolfe's Cove" we had passed the "Heights of Abraham." In the presence of his officers, that the men who attempted to haul down the flag might be shot by the indignant populace assembled in the Custom House-tops, and he expressed his fears in the hope that he would not be held responsible for the acts of a mob should be perpetrated. Fortunately for the peace of the city of New Orleans, the vast crowd looked on in sullen silence while the marines did the work. There was no flag hoisted on the city hall in place of the State flag, for the reason that the City Hall was the property of the State property. The mission of the landing party having been accomplished, the officers and men returned to the levee in the evening, and I heard the officers read. I was pleased to note the change, and knew that all would come out well. She had only been in the office about four months when the change came. Six months more day and said he was going to resign, as his salary was not sufficient to support a wife. I was pleased to hear that he had secured a position as book-keeper in a wholesale grocery house in New York. He went away and I heard no more from him. I often spoke of him at the office, but none of us ever dared ask her about him, for we knew it was painful for they remembered how she went for the old lady who spoke of him to her. Several weeks after I was surprised when the young lady came to me, as the young man had before, and said she would be pleased if I would send her resignation to the Secretary. I asked her jokingly if she was going to be married. She blushingly admitted she was, but would not say to whom. I suspected and felt pleased. This morning she and her husband called to see me, and it was then I learned the reason of her request. He told me that he had been very fortunate since leaving the office, that he was now book-keeper for the concern to which he went from the department, and attributed all his success to the pretty young bride at his side, who was the daughter of a New York, where henceforth will be their home. It does my heart good to see a marriage like that."

Anecdotes of Stonewall Jackson.

Talking with Stonewall Jackson, once about some subject of casuistry or prevarication, I put the question direct to him: "Did you never tell a lie?" Pausing, as was his invariable manner before giving an emphatic answer, as if for an introspective review of his consciousness, he said:

"Yes; but only once, so far as I can remember. The occasion was this: I was through a rank chaparral, infested by Mexican guerillas. The balls were flying pretty thickly, and the broad leaves of the tropical plants were being ridiculed through and through. The men became panic-stricken, and, not willing to be left behind without order of advance, they hung back. Stepping some distance in front of them, into a narrow path, I was now leading, when a bullet grazed my head, and the falling wounded my head, and the falling was being cut into ribbons, I called out:

"'Follow me men. Don't you see there is no danger?'"

He never posted a letter without calculating to the farthest inch how to travel on Sunday to reach its place of destination, and if then, he would not mail it till Monday morning. Still further did he carry his scrupulous observance. Unumbered times have I known him to receive important letters on Sunday, and declare that he would not break his fixed resolution never to use his eyes, which were failing, on Sunday. Sometimes, I slyly would carry the letters in his pocket till Monday morning, then rise with the sun to read them.

In the winter of 1862, while Jackson's forces were at Winchester, he sent a brigade to destroy the canal at Martinsburg, Virginia. The expedition proved a failure, and he attributed it in some measure to the fact that Sunday had been needlessly trespassed upon. So when a second expedition was planned he determined that there should be no sabbath-breaking connected with it that he could prevent. The advance was to be made early on Monday morning. On Saturday he ordered my husband (Col. Preston, at Staunton) to have the ammunition for the necessary powder was in readiness. The quarter master could not find a sufficient number of Wirtz's wagons Saturday, but during Sunday it was procured. On Sunday evening the fact in some way got to Jackson's ears. As a very early start on Monday, he dispatched an officer to Shepherdstown for other powder, which was brought. Then summoned Col