

# Birmingham Eccentric

WATERBURY & COMPANY, PUBLISHERS

## STATE NEWS

**MICHIGAN GRASSHOPPER.**  
Annual Meeting to be Held in Lansing.

The 14th annual meeting of the state grasshopper association will be held in Lansing, Mich., on the 15th inst. The attendance was large, nearly 100 delegates being present. The meeting was held in the evening and was opened by the reading of a report taken up with the report of the committee on resolutions and impromptu speeches by the members of the association. The report was read by the secretary, J. W. H. Smith, and was a most interesting one. It was followed by a report on the work of the association during the year. The report was read by the president, J. W. H. Smith, and was a most interesting one. It was followed by a report on the work of the association during the year. The report was read by the president, J. W. H. Smith, and was a most interesting one.

**THE TONGUE OF TRADE.**  
When the tongue of trade is crooked, when the eye is blind to the facts, when the hand is fast and languid, when a raging fever takes the empty vitals of the till, when the spider roves in the cash box and the hospital of drossy affairs is the chandlery, it is conclusive that the advertising department has not been consulted. Woe unto him who invites customers to give him the shake by failing to plant the word "ad" in the home paper.

**THE RICH MALCOLM JOHNSON.**  
The well-known writer of short stories, portraiture and lyrics for the home paper, has been in the city for some time. He has been practicing advertising excellent opportunities or noting the peculiarities of the Georgian time. From that source, with the aid of continued observation and a thorough knowledge of southern character, he has derived the material for his clever narratives. One of his best is the short story in Harper's Magazine for January, entitled "Marta Reid's Lover," capably illustrated by Kemble.

**MRS. HARRIET BEE STOWE.**  
Mrs. Harriet Bee Stowe is 76 years old, but walks vigorously, and, though at times depressed, she converses usually with her characteristic ease and clear judgment, and with frequent touches of her natural humor. Though since her husband's death she expresses herself as considerably more pained on the other side of the earth than upon this earth, she enjoys a hale old age and maintains her cheerfulness.

**A NEW YORK PHYSICIAN.**  
Declares that for diphtheria there is nothing better than tar smoke treatment. It dissolves the fibrous exudates that choke the throat and gives relief almost instantaneously. It consists in closing up a room so that none of the smoke escapes, and then burn a quantity of pitch on a red-hot iron or stove. May not be used in the ravages of diphtheria in some parts of the state this fall have been terrible.

**THE MOURNING CASE OF THE LATE PRESIDENT ARTHUR'S FAMILY.**  
Has been sent to some personal friends as had manifested sympathy in the bereavement. It is enclosed in a sheet of deeply bordered paper, bearing his family crest and motto, with these lines engraved underneath: "The family of Chester A. Arthur desire you to accept this as a token of their sympathy and condolence."

**A FARMER IN CHEROKEE COUNTY.**  
Whose hogs were dying off as cholera, was supposed to be cholera, a spot of starting it out of them. He did not feed or water his hogs for seventeen days, at the end of which the last symptom of the disease had disappeared. The fact that the treatment given was to make some farmers wish their hogs were attacked.

**GEORGE SHEPARD OF IOWA.**  
Has lost three wives by the "accidental discharge" of his revolver. The authorities didn't take any action in the first instance, knowing that the man was a rat or careless, but when the third wife was peppered out of existence the other day the husband was arrested and held for trial.

**A HERRING FISHERMAN.**  
Has made the calculation that if men were really as big as they sometimes feel there would be room in the United States for only two professors, three lawyers, two doctors and a reporter on a Philadelphia paper. The rest of us would be crowded into the sea and have to swim for it.

**TO THE QUESTION "DOES PROHIBITION PROHIBIT?"**  
The prohibitive duties of all countries but five in Iowa are increased, are beneficial and firms has decreased through the enforcement of the law. The use of intoxicants has decreased 75 per cent and crime attributed to liquor is 100 per cent.

**ONLY \$10,000 HAS BEEN PAID**  
And deposited in the bank since the death of the late President. The \$50,000 fund to erect a monument to Vice-President Hendrick, though \$30,000 more has been promised.

# HOME NEWS

**AN IMMENSE GOLD**  
Has been discovered at Jefferson Davis, a little west of Fort Worth, about 15 miles west of Fort Worth. The gold is in great quantities and is of the highest quality.

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# STREAKS BURNED

**THE LOSS OF LIFE**  
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# CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!

**BY THE THOUSAND AT**  
TOMPKINS & WILLIAMS' OUR FURNITURE DEPARTMENT

**Has never been as well filled with odd pieces for presents as this year, and our**

**PRICES NEVER AS LOW**

**500 Styles Chairs from 75c to \$40 in price**  
**100 Styles Center Tables from \$2 75 to \$25 00 in price**

**25 Styles Lounges from \$4 75 to \$40 00**  
**25 Styles Chamber Suites from \$18 00 to \$100 00 in price.**  
**25 Styles Parlor Suits from \$45 to \$150 in price.**

**Book Cases, Writing Desks and large assortment of Rattan Chairs and Rockers.**

**DO NOT Fail to come and see us before making purchases.**

**We defy any house in the State to undersell us.**

**CURTAIN POLES IN ALL LENGTHS.**

**Wood Trimmed Poles, 40c.**  
**Brass Trimmed Poles, 45c.**  
**Drapery Hooks.**

**Follow the Crowd to Tompkins & Williams'**

**CARPET DEPARTMENT**

**The finest in the State, with 100 different patterns consisting of**  
**Ingrain, Tapestry, Brussels, Wiltons, Body Brussels, Welton Velvets, Moquette; also**  
**Hemp, Matting, Rugs, Mats, Oil Cloths,**  
**Stair Carpets, Stair Races, Hossacks, and Foot Stools.**

**OUR PRICES ARE UNDER ALL THE REST.**  
So our Customers say, and what everybody says, must be so.

**Wooden Ware Department**

**No trouble to show goods.**  
Our store is well lighted and goods can be shown as well by night as by day.