BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC.

$1 PER YEAR. "Devoted to our Own Locality, We Labor for its Interests." IN ADVANCE.

VOL. IX. NO. 35 BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1886. WHOLE NO. 486

DETROIT, G'D HAVEN & MILWAUKEE RAILWAY.

CENTRAL STANDARD TIME.

GOING WEST.

Morning express	7.35 a. m.
Mail	11.10 a. m.
Steamboat express	5 20 p. m.
Night express	11.50 p. m.

GOING EAST.

Night Express	4.30 a. m
Holly express	7.10 a. m.
Grand Rapids express	11.10 a. m.
Mail	4.00 p. m.
Evening Express	9 00 p. m,

A. B. ATWATER, General Supt.
W. J. SICER, Manager.

Whitehead & Mitchell

SAY —

TIMES ARE TOO HARD

To buy Flashy Christmas Goods.

We offer for your inspection for Holiday purchasing an entire new lot of staple and fancy goods suitable for Christmas presents, that are useful as well as ornamental. We have received a new and complete line of

GENT'S LONG POCKET BOOKS,
CALF SKIN WALLETS,
LADIES' SHOPPING BAGS.

PORTMONNIES,
HAIR AND CLOTH BRUSHES,

PERFUMERY IN BULK AND BOTTLES,
TOOTH AND NAIL BRUSHES,
TOILET SOAPS.

GAMES, CHECKERS,
DOMINOS,
PHOTO. ALBUMS,
AUTOGRAPH ALBUMS.

TOILET SETS IN
LEATHER & PLUSH CASES,
CIGAR SETS, VASES,
WHISK BROOMS AND HOLDERS
IN METAL.

25c GOODS IN GREAT VARIETY,
SEWING ROCKERS.

COUCHES,
WALNUT STANDS ONE DOLLAR.

DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINES.

WRITING PADS, ALL STYLES.
FINE ASSORTMENT OF CANDIES.

A second hand Singer sewing machine, good as new, $15. A second-hand Weed machine, good, $10.

Granulated sugar, Dawson's Puffy flour and a large stock of pills and holiday plasters.

Call and visit us. We are yearning for your presence and dollars. Yours to command,

ALLIE AND GEORGE.

Wants, Lost, Found, etc.

15 REGISTERED MERINO STOCK RAMS for sale. J. H. Snow, Birmingham, Mich

TO RENT—Any one wishing a nice pleasant home in Birmingham can rent Mrs. Clark Harris' house, on Saginaw st., good well and cistern and everything up in tidy style. Enquire of Mrs. Clark Harris two doors west of depot on Maple ave.

FOR SALE—A nice buggy horse 8 years old, a fast trotter, and sound every way. Kind and good to drive. Weight, 1,000 pounds. Cause for selling, going west. Address, C. H. Gibbs, Troy, Mich.

FARM FOR SALE—I offer for sale 110 acres of land on the east side of the old Deacon Hull farm near Wing lake. Ninety acres improved, under a good state of cultivation, only six miles west of Birmingham. Terms easy. Call at this office or address W. C. Richardson, Franklin, Mich. 30w4

TAMARACK FOR SALE—Anyone wanting tamarack for rafters, will do well to call on V. N. Denison, four and one-half miles north and west of Birmingham. 30w4

FARM FOR SALE—I offer my farm for sale, consisting of 80 acres of land, four miles east of Birmingham in Troy; 15 acres of timber, the rest under the best state of cultivation. Well watered, good house and barn, and everything in the best of order. For particulars call on the premises, or address John Long, Big Beaver, Mich.

FOR SALE—One Crown Jewel coal stove, No. 85, nearly new, and other furniture will be sold on time at a bargain. Inquire at this office.

FOR SALE—I will sell cheap my house and lot in Birmingham. All modern improvements; good cellar, well and cistern. Small payment of cash and balance on long time. Jno. E. Wiles Birmingham, Mich. 19

PIGS FOR SALE—I offer for sale a choice lot of pigs just the stock for farmers to buy. W. F. Crombie two miles east of Birmingham. Call for prices. 31ml

FOR SALE—Village lots for sale cheap bounded by Cherry, Chestnut and Merrill streets, laying just south of the school house and will be sold to suit purchaser as regards price and terms. For particulars call on or address Samuel Jarvis, Birmingham, Mich. 26tf

WANTED—I want to buy 5,000 bushels of cider apples at my mill one-half mile north of Birmingham, Saginaw street, for which I will pay 10 cents a bushel. Custom work done promptly and satisfactorily. M. Wilde. 1m26

Business Cards.

A. A. BANCROFT, M. D.
—PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON—
Birmingham - Mich.
Office on Maple avenue, east end of the Ellis block, near the depot.
FIFTEEN YEARS ACTIVE PRACTICE.
Graduate of the Hahnemann Medical Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.

Waverly House, Pontiac.
— GEORGE S. HICKS PROP'R.
Every attention paid to the to the travelling public. First class in every particular. Terms moderate. One of the best stables in the county in the connection with the house. 5n33.

DENTAL SURGERY.
D. M. Johnston, L D S.

Gas and Vitalized Air used for the painless extraction of teeth. Office first door west of Presbyterian church. Hours from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS
—A CHOICE SELECTION OF—
Hats & Bonnets, Ribbons & Flowers
Silks, Satins, Laces, Vellings, Gloves, Hosiery and Hair Goods.
—Dress Buttons and Trimmings—
I would call special attention to my
WALL PAPER and BORDERING.
Scrolls, Pulpits and Mouldings for hiding Cornices made to order.
Call and look at our
50c. CORSET.
L. T. FURMAN.

TO CLOSE OUT
OUR
HOLIDAY STOCK
and make room for Staple Goods we will offer special prices on all Holiday Goods this week for cash.
QUARTER OFF
on Oil Paintings, Hanging Lamps, Hand Bags, Toys, Plush Boxes, Plush Cabinet Frames and Work Boxes.
Reduced prices on China Tea Sets and all Chinaware.
NOW IS THE TIME
to buy New Years Presents. We have too many goods and you can by them cheap for cash.
Thanking you for a liberal Christmas Trade and soliciting your future favor, I am
Yours respectfully,
J. R. CORSON, JR.

1886. OUR 1886.
CAMPAIGN
—OPENS WITH—
A full line of Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps and
GROCERIES.
We are Headquarters for Midnight, Spanish, Saxony, Shetland, Vassar and Angora Yarns, Ladies' and Children's Hoods and
TOBOGGAN CAPS,
(something new and all the rage), Shawls, Skirts, Underwear, Men's Jersey Shirts, and a complete line of Flannels; Tricots, Cottons, and Ginghams; also a fine line of
GLOVES AND MITTENS.
We have a splendid assortment of Ladies' fine
SHOES AND SLIPPERS.
Also Men's and Boys' Boots and Shoes. You can save money by looking over our line of Boots and Shoes before purchasing.
A Fine Line of Fresh Groceries always on Hand,
F. BLAKESLEE & CO.
Birmingham, Mich.

HOME NOTES.

PERPETUAL NOTICE!

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

Good sleighing for holiday week.

R. J. Mitchell visited relatives in Detroit this week.

Harry Simpson is home from Bad Axe for the holidays.

Library hall will be open only in the evening on New Years.

John W. Beebe of Flint is in town, called hither by the sickness of his father.

George and Rhoda Benedict of Tecumseh, Mich., spent Xmas with Will and May McKee.

Regular convocation of Birmingham chapter, No. 93, R. A. M., next Monday evening, January 3.

Regular communication of Birmingham lodge, No. 44, F. and A. M., next Thursday evening, January 6.

Miss Ellen Crandall is at present visiting among her many friends in this place and having an enjoyable time.

Isaac B. Richardson is spending his holiday vacation at home. He is teaching a very successful term of school near Lapeer.

For sale cheap: A light double harness. Everthing in good order. Wm. A. Adams, two miles north of Birmingham on the gravel road.

I have now commenced my annual closing out of winter hats, bonnets, etc. They must go! Shall sell cheaper than ever before. L. T. Furman.

On New Years eve (tomorrow evening) a lunch will be served at the bakery of Mrs. M. Smith, consisting of oysters and coffee. Served at any hour of the night.

The annual meeting of the Ladies' library society will be held at the hall on Saturday evening, January 8, 1887, at 7 o'clock. A. E. Cromwell, secretary.

A revival service is in proress at the Troy Baptist church, conducted by the Rev. C. McLean, state missionary Evangelist, and assisted by the pastor, E. B. Swinney.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Wooster called at their home one evening last week, had a nice social visit and presented the young people with a beautiful hanging lamp as a testimonial of their regard and esteem.

Look at the date after the name on your paper and see if you owe us. If you do and have not heeded the blue cross warning, you will be the fellow who we will be after with a sharp stick next week. Fair warning.

Last Monday night it was currently reported that Erastus Beebe was dying at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. L. Converse. We are glad to say that Tuesday morning he rallied and now has a fair prospect of again being around as usual. We certainly hope so.

Our young hunters now hunt rabbits with a ferret. One one of them puts the ferret in a hole, puts a bag over it and when seven or eight bunnies get into the bag he swings it over his head and slams the ground with it until bunny becomes a pulp. Great hunting, that.

We recently saw some school work done by some little pupils in C. A. Brush's Southfield bury school. The work consisted of writing and reading lessons. We noticed that the capital letters and pauses were in their proper places. The writers were Little Julia Eagan and Lizzie Carrol.

Next week we will be after all those who have not heeded the blue cross. You owe us and you must know it by this time, so we give you one more week before we do something disagreeable both to you and to ourselves. If you don't want the paper call and settle up to date and we will stop it at once.

In town visiting their friends over Christmas: Mr. Charles Bigelow, Detroit; Mrs. Stephens and daughter, Port Huron; Kirk Swan, Port Huron; S. V. R. Trowbridge, Ionia; Mansfield Shelly and wife, Detroit; Walter Lewis, Owosso; Mr. and Mrs. Washington Adams of Geneva, Ill., guests of Mattie Baldwin.

Mr. and Mrs. James Bayley and Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Post went to Detroit on Friday last to spend Christmas with their children and grandchildren. Beats all how giddy these young people are. Their combined ages foot up a grand total of 325 years and they are as gay and festive quartette as you could wish to see.

They had a very merry Christmas at the home of J. C. Merrill of this place and the following guests from abroad helped make the re-union very enjoyable: Mr. and Mrs. John N. Wild, Grayling; Mr. and Mrs. Will Wild, Detroit; Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wheeler, Detroit, the Misses Flida Wheeler Myrtle and Florence Wild of Detroit.

Oh, tell us not of flowers that bloom,
Of trees and shrubs that blow,
Of feathered songsters on the wing,
Of brooks that babbling flow,
But picture if you can the scene
of Richard Sargeant of Troy promenading up and down the room at 2 o'clock a. m. administering paregoric to the wide-awake, cunning, little 9-pound boy that came to his house last Sunday. Dick says he cries for buttermilk.

We are very sorry to hear of the serious illness of our friend Jas. H. Peabody who was stricken with paralysis about two weeks ago and was taken to Detroit where he is now in a helpless condition at the residence of his father-in-law, Henry Gardner. His lower limbs are useless and his recovery is impossible. He has our sympathy in his serious trouble.

Perhaps the happiest mortal over his Christmas present was Wes Faint, who received a supply of holiday sauerkraut from Dr. S. D. Holcomb of Southfield. Wes says it is beginning to growl already and he just warms the can and sets it on the back steps at night and there it growls and growls and growls. He says if any farmer wants it to watch gaps next summer he had better call and engage it at once.

We have been revelling among the swine of the town for the past week, as far as our larder is concerned, all on account of a large and juicy supply of venison furnished by Major Jones from the residue of his load of meat from his annual hunt. We don't know whether we will ever be able to come down to our regular diet of codfish again—that's what's worrying us now.

The blue cross has done nobly and the several hundred delinquents who have settled with us in the past two weeks with their faces wreathed in smiles or otherwise, have our thanks for their beautiful behavior. But soft! a few words in closing. There are a few who have evidently borne the cross with altogether too much humility—in fact they have ignored the fact that they owe us, and we will have to give them a New Years present in the shape of a sharp reminder of their indebtedness. Next week look out for it. We hate to do it, and we give you a week's warning.

The Ainsloo (Neb.) Argus of December 2, has the following which will be of interest to the many friends of Ed Bodine: "Fairchild & Bodine' is the name of the new firm whose ad. appears on this page. Mitt A. Fairchild, the senior member, is from Aurora, where his father has large mercantile interests. He is an enterprising young man. The junior member, W. E. Bodine, was formerly with W. Smith & Co. of Omaha. They are both young men possessed with good business qualifications which will insure their success here."

The colored plate in the New Years number of the Art Amateur, "Marguerites," is a charming rendering by Edith Scannell, of the always popular theme—a lovely child with daisies. The number also gives a beautiful decorative head by Ellen Welby; a pleasing design of children dancing, for a piano front; one of holly for wood-carving, two for chasable ornamentation, six for doilies, and two for china paintings (black alder berries and leaves for a jar and chrysanthemums for a panel), besides a large decoratiue study of ivy and a page of monograms. It is quite evident from this January number that the Art Amateur for 1887 will be more than ever indispensable to all art lovers and art students. Price 35c, $4 a year. Montague Marks, publisher, 23 Union Square, New York.

A Gift for All.

In order to give all a chance to test it, and thus be convinced of its wonderful curative powers, Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs, Colds, will be for a limited time, given away. This offer is not only liberal, but shows unbounded faith in the merits of this great remedy. All who suffer from coughs, colds, consumption, asthma, bronchitis, or any affection of throat, chest, or lungs, are especially requested to call at Whitehead & Mitchell's drug store, and get a trial bottle free, large bottle $1. 1

SOUTHFIELD SONS OF REST.

Once again our cherished society proudly bearing the title "United Sons of Rest" have cause to bring action against their once loved and honored president, and have found a just cause to put him aside according to the by-laws of the society.

He was found guilty and convicted of holding a lantern for a scab to saw wood in the evening. Dave was compelled to give up his exalted position, although he died very hard. Next followed the eyes-tying balloting for another leader, with Dunbar far in advance of Messrs Simmons, Holcomb, Angstman, Ex-president Adams. Brother Cecil and Lawrence were left out entirely after the first balloting, because they would insist in unharnessing their horses when they came from town instead of leaving the harness on till morning. Dunbar was considered by nearly all the coming man until some observing genius noticed that he wore summer pants and shoes that they supposed had seen service with Brother Gardners at the Lime Kiln club, which defeated him. Holcomb was next far in advance until it became noised around that Simmons would not extract a single egg from the recent mash-up and made good his escape on night of the board of health, leaving Kinney in the scrape. They considered him a fit and prudent subject and forthwith made him president.

P. S. For the benefit of inquiring friends I take great pleasure in stating that our president is in good health, and furthermore state that the society is very indignant at the coroner for empanneling Augstman to sit on him and Dr. Cox for calling the attack a case of frozen whisky and prescribing 15 ounces of hot drops to dissolve it.

CHARLES KINNEY,
Recording secretary.

A NEW YEARS PRESENT.

This is the way our "devil" looked when told that we would give him a New Years present.

HYMENIAL.

Wedding Bells Ring out a Joyous Peal Christmas Day over the Wedding of Mr. Bert D. Dartley and Miss Flossie Dayton.

Perhaps no wedding in this vicinity has been so joyously celebrated as the nuptial ceremonies of our very popular young townsman, Mr. Bert D. Dartley, to Miss Flossie Dayton of near Rochester, N. Y., on Christmas day, December 25, 1886. The knot that made two heart beat as one was tied by Rev. J. B Greenwood in his usual happy manner and after the most approved episerpolian style, at the residence of the bride's aunt Mrs. Cornelia Dayton in West Bloomfield.

The best man was Mr. G. B. Forest with Miss Rie Hamilton as bridesmaid who looked quite pretty, tastefully arrayed in a suite of white satin, as did also the beautiful bride, After the ceremony a wedding dinner was served that passes our power to describe, after which the happy couple, covered with rice and followed by a shower of old shoes for good luck, took the cars for an enjoyable honeymoon among relatives at Rochester, N. Y., and Boston, Mass.

Presents were both costly and numerous and we were allowed to see a check for $5,000 from Horatio D. Dartley, the groom's uncle, to Mr. and Mrs. Dartley; a seal skin sacque from Mrs. C. Dayton; an upright piano from Eugene Brooks; a full tea set of solid silverware from Whitehead & Mitchell; china dinner set of 209 pieces from K. M. Bater and wife; brick house and lot in Pontiac from Lansing Patridge and wife, and many other articles too numerous to give in detail.

A large number of friends from around home and abroad partook of the festivities and all unite in saying that never before was there a braver groom nor a more handsome bride than Mr. Bert D. Dartley and Miss Flossie Dayton.

A CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE.

Editors of the Eccentric.

DEAR SIRS—I desire to give you a little bit of my experience on the Christmas last past. On the morning of that day I did indeed feel that I had been somewhat neglected by Santa or otherwise forgotten, not receiving a single article from Santa Claus. I therefore concluded that I would make a few Christmas calls and see how my friends had fared. I found that many of them had been well remembered and bountifully supplied. Among others I called on Mr. and Mrs. Silas Wattles and found that Mrs. Wattles had received many fine and exquisitely wrought presents, most of them from her Sabbath school class. It almost made me wish that I was a Sunday school teacher. Mrs. Wattles felt that she had some friends and she was indeed joyful and happy and I rejoiced with her.

But not so with Silas. He seemed gloomy and disconsolate and with all sad, had a long face. I offered him words of comfort and cheer, told him there would be another Christmas one of these days and soon he began to brace up and feel better, his countenance changed and he began to look more like himself. I left him seemingly happy and it will be well if he remains so.

I then wended my way to Big Beaver to take dinner, by invitation from one of God's noblest of women, Mrs. Polly Smith. She is about 83 years of age, came to Michigan in a very early day and is therefore emphatically a pioneer of Michigan. After enjoying a bountiful dinner and a very pleasant visit I returned home with a bright and joyous heart, made so because others were happy in what they received.

At home I found a large package of something. No one knew what it was or where it came from. My wife being away from home I dared not molest it. It could not be mine, but soon I informed that it was a Christmas present from a lady in Birmingham. But who was the Santa Claus? I could not learn and I still remain ignorant as regards the donor. I hastened to examine the package and found one of the most beautifully wrought bedspreads that you can imagine. Oakland county cannot produce a better one. It must have required much patience, energy and endurance in its construction. My! how many little pieces were sewed together to form the whole! I counted a little less than a thousand when my patience gave out and I abandoned the undertaking. I extend my gratitude to the donor whoever she may be. I feel particularly grateful because I know that I did not merit the gift.

Don't tell Allen Bigelow for he feels that he monopolizes all the best gifts. He feels proud and haughty because of that dear little one, and is sorry only because there was not another one.

Resp't yours,
JOSEPHUS SMITH.

TROY, Dec. 28.

Renews her Youth.

Mrs Phoebe Chesley, Peterson, Clay Co., Iowa, tells the following remarkable story, the truth of which is vouched for by the residents of the town: "I am 73 years old, have been troubled with kidney complaint and lameness for many years; could not dress myself without help. Now I am free from all pain and thanks to Electric Bitters for having renewed my youth, and removed completely all disease and pain." Try a bottle, only 50c. at Whitehead & Mitchell's drug store. 1

I have a large stock of trimmed hats and bonnets; also children's hoods which I shall sell at the lowest possible prices. L. T. Furman.

I will take orders for Madam Griswold's celebrated corsets and other goods, which include children's corsets and waists, abdominal corsets, etc. L. T. Furman.

RESULTS OF THE EARTHQUAKE.

Rain from a Cloudless Sky and Wells Without Bottoms—Other Phenomena.

Ever since the great earthquake shock of Aug. 31 the most remarkable natural phenomena, in various portions of the south Atlantic and gulf states, have been reported, writes a correspondent of *The New York Tribune*. In several instances the statements relative to these phenomena were so incredible and extraordinary that I determined personally to investigate some of them. A careful reseach, covering a period of nearly three weeks, has developed some exceedingly interesting facts.

One of the most inexplicable of the many phenomena is to be seen at the house of Mr. M. P. Hoyle, who resides within a hundred yards of the corporate limits of the town of Dawson, this state. Here is seen a constant fall of rain from a cloudless sky. The area of Mr. Hoyle's premises that is covered with the shower is about 6½ feet square. Many of the best and most trustworthy citizens of that neighborhood testify that there is a genuine and almost ceaseless fall of raindrops, and that the strange occurrence has been going on nearly, or quite, a month. At times the rainfall is much more dense than at others. Usually the heaviest fall of rain is when the sky is blue and absolutely cloudless—such days as come frequently in the south during the autumn months. Mr. Hoyle does not pretend to account for the rainfall, and says that a thousand people at least have visited the spot since the rain began dropping a day or two after the Charleston earthquake.

James Nabors, who lives four and a half miles from Laurens, S. C., dug a well on his farm the day after the big earthquake. The well was located on a small hill, some distance from, and elevated above, a small creek. When he had reached a depth of sixteen feet the earth in which he was digging began to sound hollow, and in a few moments his pickaxe cut through and a mass of dirt fell into a seemingly bottomless pit below. Mr. Nabors procured a long line, but could not succeed in touching the bottom of the pit. Just then a rumbling was hear and water began to rise. In another moment the well was full and overflowing. Since then water has continued to flow from the well with no decrease of force. All attempts to find bottom have signally failed.

At Shallotte, in Brunswick county, North Carolina, a strange "sink"—so called by the natives—has appeared in the main road about two miles from that place. The earth has sunk down, leaving a hole about five feet in diameter, full of clear cold water. There is apparently no bottom to it, as every attempt to fathom it has proved utterly unsuccessful.

A short distance from Ninety-six, in South Carolina,—quite famous in Revolutionary history.—is another strange phenomenon, which local scientists are vainly endeavoring to explain. During the war an old negro, who lived in the suburbs of Ninety-six, claimed that he could distinctly hear "fighting at Charleston every time there was an engagement or the discharge of artillery there. In those days there was no telegraph line between the up-country and the "City of the Sea," and the only accurate information to be had was obtained through the Charleston daily newspapers, which reached Ninety-six the day following their publication. The old negro, who was named Walker, noted for his truthfulness, and he soon became the wonder of the community. Each day he would come into town he would tell the exact number of guns fired that day; the hours at which the firing began and the exact time at which it ceased. The next day, when the papers came, the negro's stories were invariably corroborated. When asked how he could hear a distance of nearly two hundred miles the old darkey would declare that he "done heard it" and everybody believed him. Since the Charleston earthquake a family living on the same plantation where Walker formerly dwelt have experienced some remarkable sensations. Almost every day they hear rumblings and shocks of earthquake, accompanied by a noise similar to the growling of an approaching storm. It is now claimed that a great subterranean passage exists between Charleston and Ninety-six and that the sounds are thus communicated. Several times when shocks were felt at Charleston they were perceptible at Ninety-six, and at no other place in the country. The matter has created considerable excitement in the South Carolina up country, and scientists will be called upon to explain the matter.

In Catawba county, North Carolina, about six miles from the little settlement of Jacob's Ford, is a large mill-pond covering an area of half an acre. The day of the earthquake John Henderson moved into a small house near the edge of the pond. That night, about half an hour before the shock, a huge meteor was seen falling. Henderson declares that it fell in the pond, and that next morning he gathered half a bushel of dead fish that had been killed by the seething mass when it struck the water. On the coast, too, below Charleston, several tons of dead fish are reported to have been cast up on the shore by the waves, on the day following the seismic disturbance.

I have a lot of trimmed hats and bonnets which I shall sell very cheap—from 25c up to $2. Call and see them. L. T. Furman.

Home-made bread, cream crackers, home-made cookies and bakers, 10c per dozen, and Detroit bread 5c per loaf at Mrs. Furman's.

I am selling the celebrated German knitting yarn; also Saxony, Shetland, Germantown, Midnight and common yarns. L. T. Furman.

A TOUCHING TRIBUTE.

A Popular and Pleasant Harnessmaker Made Happy.

One of the pleasantest affairs of the holiday season took place on Sunday last at the tonsorial parlors of C. R. Hoffman where a dozen or more of "the boys" had gathered, ostensibly to get their Sunday morning shave but really to work a little scheme on the genial Ed Lamb. After a few brief minutes of consultation a messenger was sent to Ed's residence with the information that a gentleman wanted to see him at Hoffman's shop. In a few minutes Ed put in an appearance and after the usual greetings John Rainey stepped forward with a small paper parcel in his hand and with a few prefatory remarks upon the good fellowship of good fellows in general, got off the following in his usual elegant style supplemented by the graceful gestures for which he is so widely and justly celebrated:

We have gathered here this morning,
In this room so warm and snug,
To present to you our compliments
And this little shaving mug.

Methinks it was last Sunday
As you sat there in the chair,
We looked the mug case over
And found you had none there.

Then a brilliant idea struck us,
We bought one—marked your name
And with compliments of the season
Now present you with the same.

Now don't get up to thank us,
We know your heart would swell,
But bend your knee—thank Him above
Who doeth all things well.

When he had finished there wasn't a dry nose in the room. You could have heard a gum-drop, put Mr. Lamb finally called his scattered senses together and replied in a few well chosen remarks, expressing his gratitude in the graceful terms which every one will appreciate when we say that his speech far eclipsed anything in his past history and although lacking the fire and energy of political times, was filled with pathos and the finer element of oratory. He received the present and placed it in Hoffman's cup case with the other highly decorated mugs which it far eclipsed in artistic beauty and symmetry.

The cup is a wonderful work of art, but for various reasons it must be seen to be appreciated, and while it is an expensive and costly toilet accessory, it is prized more by the possessor for the hallowed associations which naturally cluster around it than for the intrinsic value of the elegant gift.

SOUTHFIELD SIFTINGS.

Mr. Tucke's children are improving.

High time to make good resolutions for next year.

John Dufty is quite sick with inflammation of the lungs.

Mary Miller is improving.

Mrs. Hooper has returned from a visit to Detroit.

Dr. Cox consulted with Dr. Holcomb on Sunday last as regards C. V. Babcock's limb.

School is closed in districts Nos. 5, 6 and 10 on account of scarlet fever and diphtheria.

A large number of our young folks attended the Christmas trees at Franklin and Birmingham.

Some of Charlie Murphy's friends gave him a surprise Saturday night.

Mr. Miller and Willie Shepherd spend Christmas with friends here.

Henry Hooper is home again.

TROY TWINKLES.

The Christmas tree at the M. E. church was just as nice as nice could be and well loaded with presents from old Santa Claus. Will Jennings received a beautiful silver watch and chain and there were many there who got nice presents too numerous to mention.

A sad calamity happened the other day in Avon, just over the town line. Henry Blough left his home on the night of December 23 and started on foot to Mt. Clemens, arriving there some time in the forenoon. After taking dinner at a hotel he strolled about town awhile, then went down to the wave mill and mounted a bench about two feet high, threw a cord over a pole, put it around his neck and launched himself into eternity. Some of his neighbors say he was financially embarrassed, while others say he was insane. Fred Cone and Perry Jennings went to Mt. Clemens and brought the body home. Funeral services were held at the M. E. church on Wednesday morning last. He was about 58 years old.

BIG BEAVER BLIZZARDS.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year at the last meeting of the Red Ribbon club: President, H. A. Gibbs; 1st vice-president, Dr. Woodruff; 2d vice-president, H. S. Becker; 3d vice-present, F. E. Lamb; secretary, Minnie Gillett; financial secretary, Mrs. Woodruff; treasurer, E. W. Millard; stewart, Phillip Schlasex; 1st marshal, F. A. James; 2d marshal, Charles Shults; sargeant at arms, Frank Schlasek; organist, Minnie James.

Mrs. J. I. Gibbon's sister Eva is no better and her recovery is doubtful.

The Christmas tree at the hall was a grand success, many receiving fine presents and all having a nice time. Mrs. Louisa Brunnell was at the hall and was taken sick before she got home. Dr. Woodruff pronounced it measels and such is the case, so let those who were at the hall take warning.

Our old friend George Terry is home from the west. He is looking well and talks of going back in the spring.

Wm. Shanahan is here visiting friends.