Birmingham Eccentric

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.

BIRMINGHAM, MICH.

TIMELY TOPICS.

Mrs. Craig Wadsworth, who has just died in Washington, was a brilliant figure in the society of the capitol, and was the only woman to whom Mr. Arthur ever paid any marked attention while he was president. She was very beautiful, and the first two winters of the Arthur adminis ration she shone at the White house, being always invited to stand with the ladies of the cabinet. Two years ago she went to Paris to visit Mr. and Mrs. Levi P. Morton, and while there an incurable malady developed itself. She was very ill at the Mortons', and returned to Washington to die. She appeared a few times after her return in society, but she was soon too far on the road to death for that. For a month she was dying by inches, and the other evening, when the drawing rooms were at their gayest, and the streets around her house were noisy with carriages dashing back and forth to balls and receptions, she died. She left a large fortune to her two young sons.

Mr. Comstock's income tax bill introduced in the House a few days ago, provides that all individual estates, the income of which is $2,000 or more, shall pay 1 per cent tax; $5,000 or over, 2 per cent; $10,000 and over, 3 per cent; $15,000 and over, 4 per cent; $25,000 and over, 5; $50,000 and over, 6; $100,000 and over, 7; and $200,000 and over, 8 per cent. Mr. Comstock says he goes no farther than this because to do so would be to drive capital out of the country. He did not include corporations in the bill, because he thinks that to include them would be to make small stockholders whose incomes are much less than $2,000. Mr. Comstock expects the bill to receive attention from the ways and means committee.

Gen. Black, commissioner of pensions, has established a law division of the pension office, which went into operation on the 1st inst. with Mr. James M. Ward as chief. All matters relating to attorney's fees, the standing of attorneys practicing before the pension bureau, appeals from the decisions of the commissioner of pensions to the secretary of the interior, all rulings and decisions of the commissioner relating to the disposition of cases, or to the laws and practice of the office, are to be referred to this division. The chief of the division is charged with the duty of preparing for publication by the chief clerk all rulings and decisions affecting the practice and business of the office.

Mr. Edison's new invention of telegraphing jo and from moving trains to stations along the road has been successfully tested. The apparatus used on the train is not an ordinary Morse key, a plastic receiver, electromet and a battery. To the latter was attached a ground wire connected with the axle of the wheels and thus with the track. Another wire connected with the tin roof of the car. The car roofs were connected by an insulated wire. From the car roofs the messages were transmitted by induction to the permanent wires along the track, a distance of 25 to 35 feet. Mr. Edison says the new wonder would be introduced at once on the Illinois Central.

bill was before the Senate a few days ago to permit the United States counsel at Warsaw, Russia, to accept certain decorations tendered him by the Russian government. During the discussion of the matter Senator Logan gave expression to a truth which should be taught every boy before he begins the struggles with the world's temptations and strifes. Senator Logan said: "Let the decoration of the American citizen be his daily walk and his demeanor toward his fellow man. That is the only decoration an American citizen should wear."

Women are alike the world over, whether she be queen on the throne or the woman in the humbler walks of life. Queen Victoria found that she must summon Gladstone to form a new ministry. It went against the royal grain to thus humble herself before the "grand old man," and as a solace to her wounded feelings she bandaged her eyes. At least the cable brings the startling information that her majesty spent the forenoon before his arrival in weeping.

A fireman employed by the Lehigh Valley railroad company, whose capacity for drinking enormous quantities of cold water made him famous along the line, has died after a short illness, ascribed to his inordinate absorption. It is said that he often drank a two-quart pitcher without taking the vessel from his lips, and he had been known to drink as much as eight gallons of water in one day.

Germany has just celebrated the fiftieth birthday of the first railway in Germany. The little road, some three or four miles long, was completed at Christmas time, 1835, and ran between Nuremburg and Furth. It continues to run and pay very nice dividends. It is a medieually managed affair, and only wants a Faust as a conjuror and a Mephistopheles for an engineer and fireman to make it classically poetic.

An old man in Stoughton, Mass., described as "stalwart, robust and vigorous" has finished every morning for years in a cold spring near his house. The baths were not omitted recently when the thermometer was 18 below zero. He says the custom cured him of ca rrh, and takes pneumonia for all his ills.

Trappers in the towns of western Massachusetts have been unusually busy this winter. Mink skins are worth from $3 to $5 each in Springfield, and good fox skins sell for $1.

The Indian pupils at the Carlisle barracks school this year number 404 and represent 31 tribes.

The late King of Spain is said to have been heavily insured in United States offices payable to his widow.

AROUND A GREAT STATE.

(AS SHOPS BURNED.

The Grand Rapids and Indiana Car Shops in Ruins.

Fire broke out in the Grand Rapids & Indiana car shops, located at the extreme limits of Grand Rapids, early on the morning of the 6th inst. The entire fire department responded and within two hours' hard work succeeded in checking the flames. The fire was started by a defective stove in the paint shop, and spread rapidly through the entire building. The flames then spread to the coach room and in a short time the roof was ablaze.

The upholstering room was the next visited by the fiery element. Aside from the stock destroyed in the various departments, a large quantity of dry lumber was also burned. The loss will foot up about $100,000, the buildings—$70,000 insurance. The main car shops, where most of the work on building and repairing is carried on, adjoining those now in ruins, were saved by the heroic efforts of the firemen. The fire is the largest one thrown out of employment.

MINOR STATE HAPPENINGS.

Hon. James Haynes, mayor of Cadillac, died in Eureka, Kansas on the 3d inst.

Under Sheriff Ward, of Ionia county, with the necessary posses, searched for Crete, Nelson the Kalamazoo shooter, who is now at large, but unsuccessfully visited the place. The railroad officials are well pleased with the sheriff's efforts in fighting the flames. About 300 men are thrown out of employment.

Justus W. Bond, one of the first white settlers of Allegan, died on the 4th inst.

Charlotte was the scene of a $20,000 fire on the 3d inst. The fire swept through the business portion of the village. The losses are fully covered by insurance.

A milkman named Marine of Howard City attempted to drive his team across the track one morning of the 4th inst. when he was struck by a train and instantly killed.

The supreme court handed down a decision on the 4th inst. sustaining the indictments formed by the grand jury of Wayne county, in the dermen of Detroit, and the three aldermen will have to stand trial on a charge of bribery.

During the month of January 1884 there were received at the Jackson state prison from Lake county, one from Tuscola, four from Saginaw, one from Ionia, one from Gladwin, one from Kalamazoo, four from Bay, one from Ottawa, one from Berrien, one from Jackson, one from Otsego, five from Berrien one from Ionia, one from Kalamazoo, and seven from the recorder's court of Detroit.

Frank Ecken, a stranger out of work and without means, died in the city hospital in Sturgis, in the nine months since coming to America he had lost his little all, which was $140.

Asher Hutchinson, a man springing in Sebrigle's lumber camp in Mackinac county, died by killing by falling limb a few days since. He was a married man, about 50 years old, and left on a farm near Ann Arbor.

Lapeer is already making preparations for the normal school to be held there next summer.

John Barnes of Gobleville dropped dead while about his work a few days ago.

It is expected that the lawyers and visitors will be big attendance at the state dairymen's convention to be held at Kalamazoo commencing Feb. 16.

Mr. John Bell of Tekonsha, one of the largest farmers in Calhoun county, whose barns have recently added to his flock thirty-three Spanish merino ewes, purchased at Shoreham, Vt.

The Toledo & Ann Arbor railway company has served an injunction on Mr. Ramsey of Muir restraining him from placing logs in the Maple river. It is claimed that if the injunction be not dissolved the owners will be out large quantities of land as well as destroy the railroad bridge.

Iron is a county, legally organized, and the governor was all right in appointing the provisional officers, as shown by a decision of the court. The test cases were brought a the institution of John M. Longyear, secretary of the Iron mining company, John Vivian of which was considerably increased by the combining of the Iron county with Marquette county. The cases were argued by Jas. Burns of Marquette county, Geo. Gallagher, Calvin A. Outander of Lansing, for the county clerk and board of supervisors. Both cases were decided in favor of the plaintiffs, in organizing the county, every important point being in favor of Mr. Calvin A. Outander being approved by the court.

Prisoners at Jackson Feb 1, 783.

The C.A.N. & E. R. R. will be completed as soon as spring opens.

The next annual encampment of the G. A. R. takes place at Jackson April 20-21.

Solicitor and editor of Ionia and Isabella county have organized a G. A. R.

The Central Michigan agricultural society has organized its fair for Lansing, on a $100,000 mortgage, given to Hi H. Parkhurst, to be paid due in one year. The society will pay cash for premiums.

Norman Hackett, a boy aged 14, of Bailey, Muskegon county, while hunting on the 3rd inst. accidently discharged his shot gun while standing on a log, blowing a hole through the bottom of his boot, and lodging in his left shoulder was necessary. His recovery is doubtful.

Rector Wright and Ordella Gordon pleaded guilty in the circuit court at Ionia on the 5th inst. to a charge of adultery, and Wright was sentenced by Judge Joslin to three years in the state prison and the woman to three years in the Detroit house of correction.

The warehouse and finishing room of Wright & Alderman's Pearl street store in Saginaw, burned on the 5th involving a loss of $10,000 on building and $5,000 on stock. The stock were saved and there was $5000 insurance, $3,000 in the Home Association, West Indy, and Hartford in Cooper Association.

The Senate committee on public buildings has recommended a deficiency appropriation of $1,300 to the Detroit's new building, Senator Palmer's sole endeavor to have them reimbursed the full amount asked for, $3,000.

A serious case of poisoning occurred in Alcona county a few days ago. The family of Thomas Mead, a farmer, became sick after a large partaking of little breakfast. Investigation showed that the coffee and milk had become mixed with the latter. Thought, they died for a time, but the efforts of the relievers of the family will recover.

The semi-centennial celebration of the administration of Mr. Buchanan at Union will be observed at Lansing June 15-16.

The chief, one engineer and a driver are all what remains quartered at the Lansing fire department. All other members have resigned.

The Holly creamery will be in full operation about March 1st.

East Jordan's hardwood log crop this winter will reach 30,000,000 or more feet.

Twin Lakes, Muskegon county, proudly points to a record of 40 below zero on the 3d inst.

The state board of health has devoted considerable time to studying the causes of typhoid fever in Michigan, and has issued a publication of, a pamphlet filled with valuable information concerning the mode of spread or, contagion. In consequence of the bad water supply, the period of incubation, duties of householders, physicians, and boards of health, etc. Copies will be sent at once to all physicians and health officers in the state. The board believes that fully 1,000 deaths occur from this disease in the state annually, and that the number is probably 8,000 to 10,000.

The state board of correction and charities strongly condemns the jail at Lansing.

The Michigan agricultural college is contemplating on seventeen different kinds of wheat.

The semi-centennial celebration of the admission of Michigan to the Union will take place at Lansing, June 15 and 16. The commissioners who have the matter in hand are Gen. Algor, Henry Chamberlain, Jas. Frelich, Tolco, H. Hinchman, James Shearer and A. T. Bond. The commissioners appointed by Alger's office in Detroit recently are exchanged for others. Forgot nothing of the matter of the second meeting, to be held at the same place Feb. 19. It is stated, however, that the program will include a review of the state for the past 50 years and biographical sketches of prominent men.

Miss Flora Temple of Louisville, Ky., was found lying on the railroad track near Pere Cheney a few days ago, in a condition of fatigue and the cold weather. She was carried to the United hotel, where after recovering a young lassy stated that she was in search of the resting place of her brother's body, having learned that he died and was buried in Lansing ago. Miss Temple says her parents and four brothers are living in Florida at present, and wants to carry the last brother to rest beside his mother.

Rorke's school of practical education at Lansing has been closed for lack of funds.

Stevens, the Detroit murderer recently sent to Jackson for life, has received from solitary confinement and set to work on a boot shoe contract.

Ed. Hickey, charged with burglary in East Saginaw in December, 1884, was acquitted in the circuit court on the 4th inst. Days ago, the case lasting been taken there on a change of venue. This is the fourth trial.

Jonathan Hamilton, a farmer living near Kalamazoo, had an attack of pain while doing his chores the other evening. He went to bed and sat down, and expired immediately. Heart disease was the cause. His age was 47.

Hillsdale county asks for jury fees for the whole panel in Henry Hodgeson's murder trial, $600. Jackson county will probably consider the fees of those actually engaged in the trial—$50 apiece.

E. M. Evans of Jackson, has been awarded the contract for supplying meat to the prison for the next year. The contract price is five cents per pound.

Mineral oil, at for January: Calumet & Hecla mine, 2,254 lbs; Frank, 1,204 lbs; Atlantic 1,304; Hogan, 1271; Quincy, 115; Copper Falls, 15 tons.

A permanent injunction has been issued against the Flint & Pere Marquette railroad company restraining the company from interfering with the canal of the mill of the Flint water power company. February is also notified as the date for hearing the motion to dissolve. Several of the railroad officials have been arrested for obeying the orders of the officers of the canal company. The railroad has neglected to bail their employes, and as it not been for the kindness of Mr. Gray, whose property has been trespassed on, they would have remained in jail.

The Michigan board of pharmacy will hold a meeting at Lansing on March 2 for examining candidates for registration under section 5 of an act to regulate the practice of pharmacy.

Rev. M. V. Rork, principal of the practical training school at Lansing, has made arrangements with responsible parties for the financial management of the school. Mr. Rork will spend on the 6th inst. with Mr. Rork in charge of the educational department.

Rumors are current that the loss at the Grand Rapids & Indiana car shop in Grand Rapids will reach only $30,000, with an insurance of $10,000 on that portion of the building. The work done on the cars in the building is almost clean, chests full. The property is valued at $100,000, all of which is covered by insurance. Thus far, it has been the most disastrous fire ever known in the city.

Tecumseh and Saline are contributing liberally to the state outfit.

The Jackson county Prohibition convention at Lansing on February 22 will be conducted by M. J. Fanning.

The state board of health has published a pamphlet filled with information concerning the mode of spread of typhoid fever. Its contention is that it is spread by the sewage, in accumulation, duties of local health officers, sanitary inspection and disinfection. Copies are sent to all physicians and health officers in the state. The board believes that fully 1,000 deaths occur from this disease in the state every year, and that the number of people ill during the year is probably 8,000 to 10,000.

A company has been formed in Lansing and incorporated for the purpose of a boat dairy purposes, 30 lb. 50 feet, to be supplied with all modern appliances, and will be ready to be about the river. Messrs. Jaspan and Shaffer are the parties.

Mrs. Anna Dunham, sentenced to 21 months at Jackson, from St. Joseph county, for stealing a cow, has been pardoned. She intended to take Detroit house of correction.

Leslie has a pensioner of the revolutionary war.

Lewis B. Fonda, one of the oldest citizens of Hillsdale, died in the city on the 3d inst.

Charles Lowery, one of the oldest citizens of Port Huron, is dead.

Mr. Ira Ingersoll, of Ionia, died on the 3d inst. after a few days sickness, age 68 years.

A tough named Litzgibbon was shot and killed by a farmer named Gaskin on the 7th inst. while resisting arrest.

Burglars entered the residence of P. Hill, Ann Arbor, on the night of the 3d and carried off jewelry and money amounting in value to $300.

A farmer named Geo. Odell, living at Kendall, fifteen miles west of Kalamazoo, was absent from home a few days ago, and on returning discovered his wife and son search for, and finding, his dead body in a straw stack. Cause, heart disease.

The United States fish hatchery at Northville has been in operation for the past year under Julius Vogel, postmaster general of New Zealand. Its propagation in the waters of that state, of the salmon, trout, and other fish, is now in full operation.

Charlotte, Ionia, and Clinton counties are contributing liberally to the state outfit.

The Lapeer county Prohibition convention at Lapeer January 22 will be conducted by M. J. Fanning.

The state board of health has published a pamphlet filled with information concerning the mode of spread of typhoid fever. Its contention is that it is spread by the sewage, in accumulation, duties of local health officers, sanitary inspection and disinfection. Copies are sent to all physicians and health officers in the state. The board believes that fully 1,000 deaths occur from this disease in the state every year, and that the number of people ill during the year is probably 8,000 to 10,000.

A company has been formed in Lansing and incorporated for the purpose of a boat dairy purposes, 30 lb. 50 feet, to be supplied with all modern appliances, and will be ready to be about the river. Messrs. Jaspan and Shaffer are the parties.

Mrs. Anna Dunham, sentenced to 21 months at Jackson, from St. Joseph county, for stealing a cow, has been pardoned. She intended to take Detroit house of correction.

Leslie has a pensioner of the revolutionary war.

Lewis B. Fonda, one of the oldest citizens of Hillsdale, died in the city on the 3d inst.

Charles Lowery, one of the oldest citizens of Port Huron, is dead.

Mr. Ira Ingersoll, of Ionia, died on the 3d inst. after a few days sickness, age 68 years.

A tough named Litzgibbon was shot and killed by a farmer named Gaskin on the 7th inst. while resisting arrest.

Burglars entered the residence of P. Hill, Ann Arbor, on the night of the 3d and carried off jewelry and money amounting in value to $300.

A farmer named Geo. Odell, living at Kendall, fifteen miles west of Kalamazoo, was absent from home a few days ago, and on returning discovered his wife and son search for, and finding, his dead body in a straw stack. Cause, heart disease.

The United States fish hatchery at Northville has been in operation for the past year under Julius Vogel, postmaster general of New Zealand. Its propagation in the waters of that state, of the salmon, trout, and other fish, is now in full operation.

Charlotte, Ionia, and Clinton counties are contributing liberally to the state outfit.

The Lapeer county Prohibition convention at Lapeer January 22 will be conducted by M. J. Fanning.

CONGRESSIONAL.

FEBRUARY 4.—SENATE.—The bill, passed before the Senate, the resolution as submitted yesterday by Mr. Riddleberger of Virginia, and the other resolution submitted by Mr. Pugh of Alabama, relating to the relations between the United States and Spain in regard to information and papers affecting government officers shipwrecked or imprisoned, after being debated, at length the resolution was referred to the proper committee. The Hoosac Tunnel bill was taken from the Senate. Senator Logan argued, in favor of Sumner and against Senator Morgan against it.

HOUSE.—Five silver questions was called up by the House. Resolutions were offered by Mr. Hiland of Mississippi, and a long and animated debate ensued. Mr. Hiland asked the latter of freedom of coinage of silver dollars, and Mr. Bland of Missouri, Mr. Hunter of Illinois, Mr. Hewitt of New York, Mr. Morrison of Illinois, Mr. Mills of Texas, but no action was taken and the House adjourned.

FEB. 5.—SENATE.—Strong, the memorial presented in the senate and appropriately referred, was one by Mr. Sewell of New Jersey, embodying a memorial resolution of the legislature of New Jersey, protesting against the granting of a charter to the Nicaragua canal company. Mr. Sewell said that he had filed a bridge from the shores of New Jersey to those of the city of New York, and that the issue of state right in behalf of the power of Congress to grant such authority. Several other bills were introduced. Mr. Hoar of Massachusetts offered a resolution to inquire into the expediency of the appointment of an assistant secretary of the navy, was called up, and after a long debate, in which Mr. Hoar, the discussion at times assuming the character of a personal quarrel, the resolution was laid on the table, and the matter went over to make room for the bill for the establishment of the Hot Springs reservation in Arkansas. Mr. Berry of Texas, from all of the committee on Mississippi levees, reported back the bill to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi river at Vicksburg, Miss., and the United States, the state, the municipal authorities, and the bridge company, and the bill was passed. Mr. Hoar, from the committee on judiciary, reported back the bill to provide for