Birmingham Eccentric

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, Pubs.

BIRMINGHAM, . . MICH.

TIMELY TOPICS.

Champaign, Ill., has an aged man who has not voted for twenty-five years until at the recent city election. The name of this curiosity is Mark Cook, and he is now in his 110th year, having been born September 17, 1776, in Chatham, county, N. C. He used to see George Washington frequently, and was a soldier under Gen. Jackson in the war 1812, He lost his property in Missouri during the rebellion, and is now eking out an existence by re-seating chairs. His first wife has been dead over seventy years, and his second is 82 years of age. Five of the twelve children born to him are yet alive. The old man's form is still erect, his eyesight good and his movements sprightly.

A dispatch from El Paso, Texas, announces that Mormons are beginning to flock into the adjoining states in Mexico, and during the past two weeks over one hundred families have gone across the border. They are mostly of the wealthier classes and have purchased large tracts of watered land in our republic. This indicates that the long anticipated hegira from Mormondom has fairly begun and that the Edmunds law is doing its work. Mexico is said to welcome these saintly pilgrims as valuable accessions to her population. She certainly has the cordial encouragement of the United States in her efforts to solve the Mormon problem for us.

Says Dr. Talmage: "Men do not abstain from millinery and elaboration of the skirt through any superiority of simplicity. It is only because such appendages would be a blockade to business. What would sashes and trains three and a half yards long do in a stock market? And yet men are the disciples of custom just as much as women. Some of them wear boots so tight that they can hardly walk in the paths of righteousness and there are men who buy expensive suits of clothes and never pay for them, and who go the streets in great stripes of color like animated checker boards."

The sixty-fourth anniversary of the birth of Gen. Grant was celebrated at the Metropolitan M.E. church in Washington on Tuesday the 27th ult. Chief Justice Waite presided and a large number of eminent citizens and soldiers made addresses. The anniversary took place under the auspices of the Grant Memorial University of Athens, Tenn. This institution was formerly known as the East Tennessee Wesleyan University, but the name has been changed to the Grant Memorial University. Gen. Grant made the first cash donation for the building of the school when it was organized in 1867.

ABBE Casanova, a Corsician archæologist, has discovered archives which show that Christopher Columbus was born in the town of Calvi, in Corsica, and emigrated to Genoa. President Grevy, having examined the evidence and being satisfied of its authenticity has authorized the authorities of Calvi to celebrate by an official holiday the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America. The inhabitants of Calvi will hold a fete on May 23, when a commemorative inscription will be placed on the house in which Columbus was born.

A stock company with a large capital has been formed in Paris for the purpose of erecting the tallest tower ever seen in the world for the international exposition of 1889. The tower is to have a total hight of 984 feet, and will be supported on four pillars higher than the steeple of Notre Dame. The whole structure will cost $1,040,000. It will be surmounted by a group of electric lights, which will illuminate all places and will, it is estimated, be visible at Dijohn, 197 miles distant.

Three dudish young men of Meriden, Conn., decided to call upon three young women who were not at all anxious to see them. They did call, rigged out in their best clothes, were ushered into the parlor, and there found, conspicuously displayed, a quart of salt and a spoon. After gazing at these for some time and waiting in vain for the young women, the callers came to the conclusion that they were considered too fresh, and went home.

The London, Eng., Standard, commenting on the strikes in the United States, says that they "will strain the resources of the American statesmanship as they have only once been tried since the war of independence to keep the conflict within the bounds of legality and constitutional order. Republican institutions are still on their trial. It looks as if the social difficulty would become their severest test."

JOHN LONG, an old colored man who died at Milford, Ohio, recently, was said to be 120 years old. He was born, April 12, 1767, on the "Brandon Seat" plantation, on the James river, Virginia. He attended the funeral of George Washington, driving the carriage of his master, Major Bird.

A Child Saved by a Dog.

An incident happened in Cincinnati recently which showed the almost human intelligence and courage of a dog. The 4-year-old child of John B. Bacigalupo was trying to cross the street railroad track on the south side of the market house when, frightened by the near approach of a car, the little fellow in turning fell directly across the track. The horses passed over the boy without injuring him, and before any injury could be done a dog, sitting with his master at the corner of the Market House, rushed toward the child and pulled it from the track by its clothes just as the wheels were about to crush it. Every one was astonished at the act of the dog, which was remarkably wise and intelligent. He is owned by Thomas Clay, a colored man. The rescue of the child by the canine was observed by a large number of people. The brave dog is four years old and answers to the name of Jumbo. He has become quite a hero, and his master had several offers for him after the incident, but Mr. Clay, who is only a poor whitewasher, refused to part with Jumbo at any price. The scene was so thrilling that ladies in the car looking out of the windows because of the sudden stop, screamed, and some almost fainted, at the narrow escape of the child. It lay on the ground within six inches of the wheels.

STATE NEWS.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A Terrible Tragedy in the Village of Tekonsha.

A fearful double tragedy was enacted two miles southeast of Tekonsha in Calhoun county between 5 and 6 o'clock the other morning.

In a substantial two-story frame house standing back one-half mile from the road lived Randyne Shedd, a farmer, 73 years of age, with his wife. This was his second marriage, and never have the couple lived in harmony. The terrible tragedy is the culmination of domestic infelicity.

Some years ago, and shortly after the death of his first wife, Randyne Shedd was married to Mrs. Jane Wood. Almost from the outset of their matrimonial career differences arose between them, and it was evident that they were not mated for each other. It was a rare occasion when they agreed on any subject, and both led a life of constant wrangling and dispute. The neighbors among whom Mr. Shedd has lived for so many years are inclined to deal leniently with his memory, and palliate in a great measure his awful act because of his marital unhappiness. Her disposition was so well understood that when the marriage first took place his sons and daughter, by his first wife, became estranged from him, but recently a reconciliation had been effected.

The night before the tragedy, Mr. Shedd's youngest son remained in the house. His father arose early in the morning, and the son, after his father had concluded his usual morning work about the house, went down to the village. Somewhat later a younger son, Doane, reached the house and on entering beheld a fearful sight. Lying on the kitchen floor, with a ghastly cut across his throat, from which blood was still oozing, lay the lifeless, but still warm, body of his father. Horrified at the sickening sight he was dazed momentarily, but soon continued his investigation, which revealed even a more fearful state of things. He summoned several neighbors who immediately proceeded to search the house.

In the bed-room adjoining the dining-room lay Mrs. Shedd, dead, with a ghastly cut in her throat and skull fractured by the blows of a heavy weapon. She was but partially dressed.

It needed no investigation to disclose how and by whom the crime was committed. A keen edged razor besmeared with blood, which lay beside the dead body of Mr. Shedd, told the tale. The old man had taken an ax and crushed in the skull of his wife and then slashed her throat with the razor. He then went to the kitchen and completed his fearful work by cutting his own throat with the same razor by which his wife's murder had been accomplished.

The disordered condition of the house would indicate that husband and wife had quarreled shortly before the crime was committed. It is supposed that Mr. Shedd was attacked by his wife, and after overpowering her, crushed in her head with the ax and then completed the deed with the razor, after which he committed suicide.

The general opinion of the neighbors is that Mr. Shedd was driven insane by the actions of his wife. This is substantiated by his conduct the past few days. He has exhibited of late a more violent disposition than was his wont, and has often demolished furniture in the house. His latest freak was the smashing of nearly all the household crockery.

Mr. Shedd was one of the earliest settlers in that section. He was highly respected by his neighbors, who cherish his memory for his sterling integrity and uprightness.

The news of the tragedy spread rapidly and soon the house was crowded with neighbors, who could scarce believe the report, and determined on a personal investigation to satisfy themselves that so terrible a deed had been committed by one whom they so respected. A coroner's jury was summoned and an investigation into the cause of death started shortly after the news had been circulated.

Cause of Wormy Apples.

The Codling Moth, (the cause of our wormy apples, is one of the two insects treated on in the May bulletin issued by the agricultural college.

The Codling Moth (carpocapsa pomonella) is small in size. Its main color is gray flecked with darker dots and bars, and with a characteristic copper colored spot at the end of its front wings, which enables one to distinguish it. Every apple grower should put wormy apples in a small box and rear the moths, that they may be familiar with their appearance. In May, about two weeks after the blossoms appear, the female moth commences to lay eggs in the calyx of the blossoms. These soon hatch, when the larvæ eats into the apple, and attains its growth in about four weeks. The eggs of the second brood are laid in July, August and September, but the larvæ of this breed do not pupate until spring.

This insect is very damaging to the orchards it infests, and causes much damage to the orchardists of the state. The old method of bandaging failed as a remedy because it required attention every ten or fifteen days in the busy season. A better method was that of pasturing hogs in the orchard, the wormy apples being eaten as they fell caused the destruction of the pest, and the protection of the fruit. The remedy which Prof. Cook has tried for six years past, and which he highly recommends, is to sprinkle the trees with Paris green or London purple, the latter being preferred on account of its cheapness. He mixes one pound of the powder to fifty gallons of water, and applies the well-stirred liquid in the form of spray with a fountain pump. The important thing is to scatter the spray on all the fruit and get on as little as possible. The application should be made by the time the fruit is the size of a pea. One application is very effective, but several at intervals of two or three weeks, are undoubtedly more thorough.

Of danger from this practice there is none, for microscopic and chemical examination shows that the poison is removed by the wind and rain long before the fruit is edible.

The apple scale or barklouse (*Mytilaspis pomorum*) is treated of in the same bulletin. Though very small these insects, from their number, may do a great deal of injury. Soft soap or a strong soap suds if applied in early June and again three weeks later, is a sure remedy. A better mixture is one of carbolic acid and soap. To make it, heat to a boiling point one quart of soft soap to two gallons of water, and while still hot stir in one pint of crude carbolic acid.

The State Semi-Centennial.

The Semi-Centennial commission desire information for paper to be published as a part of their proceedings at the celebration in Lansing, June 16, 1886, on the progress in the mechanic arts in the last fifty years, particularly those which pertain to the state of Michigan. Facts and statistics are wanted of the great industries like agricultural tools, brick making, iron works, saw-mills, wood working machinery, paper mills, woolen mills, machine shops, steamboats, or any other manufacture in the state, the intention being to find out when such industries were established in various parts of the state. Also a description of the largest manufactories and their products, and any striking facts of interest in the business. The time being limited and the labor great, manufacturers will oblige by sending their communications as soon as possible to Jas. W. Bartlett, 47 Leverette street, Detroit.

Amicably Adjusted.

Nearly all the manufacturing establishments in Grand Rapids were closed on the 1st inst. and the men taking a holiday in honor of the inauguration of the eight-hour system. Amicable adjustments of all difficulties have been made so far as reported, either by the action of manufacturers taking immediate effect, or by promises of an early adjustment of the wages question with the men. It is decided that the $1 per day men will not be cut, and the $1 25 per day men docked but a trifle for the shorter hours. No strike is now anticipated or expected.

In the afternoon a number of idle men created quite disturbance, and for a time a pitched battle ensued, in which clubs and stones were used freely. The presence of the police and the efforts of the local authorities quelled the riot before much danger had been done.

Michigan Railroads.

The commissioner of railroads furnishes the following earnings statement of Michigan railroad companies for the month of February, 1886:

Earnings for month of February, 1886	$4,725,706 59
Earnings for corresponding month, 1885	3,976,050 98
Increase for 1886	$ 759,655 61
Total earnings from January 1, 1886, to March 1, 1886	$9,004,499 52
Same period, 1885	8,426,229 55
Increase 1886	$ 578,269 97
Per cent of Increase, 6,43.	

Two Thousand Idlers.

Monday, May 3, about 2,000 men employed at the Michigan car works in Detroit quit work and left the shops. The men desire eight-hours' work for 10 hours' pay, and declare they will not go to work until their demands are complied with.

A thousand men visited neighboring factories and were successful in urging employes to quit work, and stave factories, lumber yards and car shops are silent. The strikers are orderly and there is no prospect of any trouble. Bakers and brewers are out, and employes of several other industries are making loud threats.

MINOR STATE HAPPENINGS.

The family of farmer Tanner of Fork township, Mecosta county, consisting of five children, died of black diptheria within a week.

Two young men, Henry Myers and James Clark, were on the river below Allegan, spearing fish when the storm came up. The boat was capsized and Myers was drowned. He was 22 years of age.

Clement S. Lester is to leave the office of the superintendent of public instruction to become pastor of the Baptist church at St Louis.

The Chinese exhibit at the university is now arranged and open to visitors daily. The Rogers collection will be ready in three weeks.

A black bear was caught in a trap in the edge of the town of Deep River the other night, which measured 7 feet from nose to tail, and weighed about 225 pounds. When fat he would have weighed 400 pounds. There is another bear still larger in that vicinity.

The Michigan school furniture company of Northville is so crowded with contracts it has sublet a contract for making 10,000 school seats to a firm in Indiana.

George W. Winchell, a pioneer of Plymouth, died suddenly April 26.

A summer normal school is to be opened in Shelby, Oceana county, in July. The failure of one-half of the applicants this spring in the county to get certificates indicates that something of this kind is badly needed.

Thos. Sampson on his way home on horseback 16 miles from Alpena, fell off the horse, which kicked him in the back of his head, killing him. He was found on the road at 9 o'clock in the evening. The jury's verdict was accidental death.

Jas. Turner's barn in Evart, with three head of cattle and six horses burned the other night. One of the horses was his fine Norman stallion, valued at $3,500. An old man in charge of the barn was badly burned. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Judge Jackson of Cincinnati will preside at the May term of the United States district court in Grand Rapids.

Coldwater, May 19, is the place and date for the eleventh annual reunion of the Loomis battery association.

Merritt G. McKinney, a young man in the employ of the Brush electric light company of Detroit, stabbed his wife while in the act of embracing her. McKinney is a very dissolute fellow, and his wife had been compelled to leave him on that account. Several times she has returned to his home upon his promise that he would keep sober, but each time he has broken his word, and the wife had refused to go to his home again. This angered him, and he threatened to leave the city, and called upon her to bid her farewell, and it was then that he stabbed her. The wound will prove fatal. McKinney has been arrested, and a charge of assault with intent to kill entered against him.

William Blanches of Escanaba had both legs cut off by being run over by an ore train at Ishpeming, the other night.

Wahlman & Grip of Ishpeming have been awarded the contract for the erection of the branch state prison buildings at Marquette. Their bid was $135,817. The bids ran as high as $226,000.

F.M. Briggs, now agent at Owosso, will be appointed freight agent at Jackson, vice W.L. Richardson, removed. He will be succeeded at Owosso by H.E. Worcester, now stationed at Cheboygan, and to the latter place A. W. Canfield of Otsego Lake, formerly of East Saginaw, will be assigned.

Dr. Alvin L. Dingman of Lansing died of blood poisoning recently.

James Long was arrested at Gaylord a few days ago on a telegram from Alpena charging him with forgery.

Gold has been discovered on Mr. G. Walker's place, the west half of the Olcott farm, just west of Lowell on the Ada road.

Traverse City is deeply interested in the subject of a potato starch factory, and have been thoroughly investigating the subject. Following are some of the facts that were unearthed: "The cost of erecting a starch factory of the capacity of 50,000 bushels of potatoes is from $6,000 to $10,000. The process of manufacture is not elaborate, the potatoes being washed and ground, then run over the sieves to drain. The mass is then put in vats and left until the starch all settles, when the water is drained off and the starch taken to the dry house and dried. Potatoes yield from six to nine pounds of starch to the bushel, according to the quality of potatoes. The capacity of the factories varies from 20,000 to 80,000 bushels."

The members of the great camp of knights of Maccabees for Michigan increased 250 during the month of March.

John Todd, aged 19, a farmer's son, who lives at Royal Oak, was recently married to Edith Clark, aged 17, at Pontiac. As soon as the ceremony was performed Todd left his bride and has never lived with her. Later he was prosecuted for failure to support his wife and her child. Three times he was convicted, and at the last trial an appeal was taken to the supreme court, which tribunal has released Todd on the grounds that as a minor he was not the owner of his time, and that a forced marriage is void unless it is ratified and consented to afterward. The high connections of the parties and their social standing have made the case one of great interest.

Thomas McKee of East Saginaw is one of the survivors of the Sultana explosions, seven miles above Memphis, April 17, 1865, by which 1,500 people perished.

The Grand Rapids Leader says the meetings there of the conference committees of the grangers and knights of labor, appointed by the state organizations, "were most harmonious throughout. The platforms of the two organizations were found to agree on most of the material points, and there was no clause in either to prevent the hearty co-operation of the two societies. The committee had no authority to take any positive action in the matter, but will report to the state societies recommendations for future action. They will recommend that the grangers and knights harmonize in the purchase and sale of produce and merchandise where possible; that centers be located in various parts of the state where the members of the two societies can do their trading at bottom prices; that committees be appointed to look after and manage these trade centers, and that the two organizations stand together to oppose any action or movement inimical to the interests of either of them. The committees then adjourned after passing the resolutions of secrecy."

The citizens of Holly have raised money to cut a channel between Simonson and Bush lakes, and to build suitable docks. A three-mile track for pleasure drives will also be made, and steam and row boats will be placed on the lakes; also several cottages will be built on the banks.

J. M. Dane of Riley, Clinton county wants some one to beat his record of 571 bushels of oats raised on six and a quarter acres of ground.

Charles Clossen, an East Saginaw young man, fell through a hole in the sidewalk and broke his back so badly that he is not expected to live.

President Willits of the agricultural college is to deliver an address at the closing of the St. Clair schools June 25.

Big Rapids is trying to get up a permanent fair, to embrace all the counties north of Grand Rapids and Saginaw, and extending northward to some point "this side of the north pole."

The Big Rapids Current is authority for saying that the branch of the T. & A. A. road to Chippewa Lake will be completed this summer, and that the company will extend the line to Big Rapids, thus making a fourth railroad entering that city.

The state fair buildings now at Kalamazoo are to be removed to Jackson and will be used this year. Jackson people hope that as these buildings will remain permanently in that city this fact will have some influence in the permanent location of the state fair.

Wahlman & Grip of Ishpeming, to whom the contract was awarded for building the branch prison for the upper peninsula at $135,817, will begin work on the building at once. The contract for plumbing and gas fitting was immediately let by the contractors to Richard Barney of Ishpeming.

John Wiltse, who sued the state road bridge company for damages sustained last May by reason of a runaway accident on the bridge, has been awarded $850 by the jury in the Saginaw circuit court. The claim was for $10,000. The case will be carried to the supreme court by the defendants.

Fred Eaton, jr., of East Saginaw, has been appointed a cadet at the naval academy by Mr. Tarsney.

Henry Chapman fell off a barn near Grand Ledge recently, receiving injuries from which it is thought he will die.

Dr. R. McGurk of Standish, while crossing the river at Saginaw a few days since fell through the bridge and came very near drowning. He lost some valuable surgical instruments and threatens to sue the township for damages. The bridge is rotten and threatens to break through at any time.

On account of the recent railroad strike at Chicago, 1,500,000 pine, spruce, and cypress trees, consigned to George Pinney of Menominee, were delayed at that point. They were imported from France and should have arrived at there destination two weeks ago. Should the stock remain there much longer it will be of little use for planting.

Western Michigan peach growers say that it will now take the hardest kind of a frost to hurt the crop.

Master Luce of the state grange has named June 10 as "children's day," to be observed by state lodges.

Mel Messenger, son of Geo. P. Messenger of Manistee is under arrest for threatening to kill his father. He was under the influence of liquor and was hunting his father down with a shot gun, revolver and hatchet. He also demanded drinks of a saloonkeeper by placing a loaded weapon to the saloonist's nose, and playing cowboy generally.

Attorney-General Taggert's report to Gov. Alger on the Swineford case, forwarded to Washington for consideration in connection with Gov. Swineford's confirmation or rejection by the Senate, asserts in substance, according to a Washington correspondent, that, from the statements of the other commissioners, and a careful examination of the vouchers on file at Lansing it is clear that Mr. Swineford has failed to account for $750 of the state fund placed in his hands as a commissioner from Michigan to the New Orleans exposition, and that he should be held accountable to the state of Michigan for such deficiency. Mr. Swineford reached Washington on the 1st, and the question of his confirmation will be speedily settled.

Jake Countryman of Dundee, became intoxicated and started for home about eight o'clock the other evening. When near the L. S. & M. S. depot he was struck by the west bound passenger train and instantly killed. He leaves a wife.

George Wigel, a brakeman on the Detroit, Mackinac & Marquette railroad, stepped backwards off a train as it was backing on the dock at St. Ignace the other morning, and was run over, cutting both his legs nearly off above the knees.

The governor has pardoned Horatio Mills, serving a sentence of 75 days in Lenawee county jail for larceny. He has served 53 days of his time. His wife is destitute and in precarious health, which are the grounds of pardon.

Thieves stole two horses from the barn of Levi Buck of Monroe the other night and posted a note on the gate post saying it was done for revenge because Buck refused to keep the writer one stormy night last winter, and that one horse would be found near Newport and the other near Detroit. One horse was found about six miles from Newport, but no trace has been found of the best one.

The trammers in the Cleveland mine at Ishpeming has given notice that unless wages are raised they will strike. It is not thought that the company will consent to a raise. The mining companies are all determined not to allow eight hours as a day's work or to raise the wages at present.

John Federich has a charcoal manufactory on the Shiawassee river at which he manufactures charcoal from maple wood, which is used exclusively for water filters. He has 1,500 bushels in stock at the present time.

A scheme is on foot in the eastern part of Lapeer county to get several townships of St. Clair county annexed to Lapeer county, and remove the county seat from Lapeer to Imlay City.

At an examination of applicants for appointment to the United States naval academy at Annapolis, held in Port Huron recently, Frank Holland of that city was the successful candidate.

A. A. Bedford of Coldwater, who has manufactured sulkies for over forty years, has succeeded in producing one which, complete in every respect, weighs but forty-two pounds.

Ex-Supervisor Burrows of Coldwater, has a large collection of rare coins. The one he prizes highest is a penny coined in 1787 and known as the "Mind your Business" penny. On one side is thirteen links, indicating the thirteen original states. The center is a circle inside of which are the words, "States and Unity. We are One." On the reverse side is the rising sun, an hour glass and thirteen Roman numerals, underneath being the suggestive motto "Mind your Business."

The Coldwater cart company is now making forty-two carts each day, or at the rate of upwards of 12,000 carts yearly. Most of the employes work by the piece, some of them earning as high as $24 per week. Their pay roll last week amounted to $550.

Invitations are issued for the first memorial encampment of old veterans, to be held at Belleville, Wayne county, May 29, 30, 31. The encampment is to be under the auspices of the soldiers' and citizens' memorial association.

HOME NEWS.

There is great uneasiness among New York manufacturers that the early days of May will witness fresh troubles among the laboring element. There is a strong probability of 100,000 men being idle. The demand for shorter hours is heard on every hand.

Eight boys sent out by an English children's aid society have been picked up by the immigration authorities at New York, and will be returned. The boys had been convicted of petty thieving a number of times in the old country.

Grand Master Workman Powderly has called a general assembly of the Knights of Labor of the United States and Canada to meet in Cleveland May 25.

Eighty-five stone-cutters and masons arrived on the Circassia from Aberdeen, Scotland, at N. Y., a few days ago to work on the new state house at Austin, Tex. A portion of them were were taken in hand by the knights of labor and refused to go on. The contractor will be prosecuted for the importation of foreign contract labor.

Ex-President Arthur is suffering from insomina, and his physicians say that unless he gets relief soon the approaching warm weather will hasten his kidney trouble to a fatal termination.

The Press News Association intended to rival the Western Associated and the United Press Association, has been incorporated by Edward S. Stokes, Col. Bob Ingersoll and others, with a capital of $10,000. The new concern will use the line the lines of the United States Telegraph company and the Postal Telegraph Cable company, with close connection with the Mackey-Bennett cables. Agencies will be established in all principal cities of this country, Canada and Europe. Millionaire Mackey and James Gordon Bennett are said to be the real owners and proprietors of the new enterprise.

Mr. Brooks of Phelps, N. Y., announced to Dr. Swift, director of the Warner observatory, his discovery of a new comet in Cassiopeia, in the field with Kappa, right ascension 0 hours, 15 minutes and declination north 62 degrees. It is a pretty large faint, nebulous object, having neither nucleus nor tail. Its motion is slow and nearly east. This discovery secures to Mr. Brooks the first Warner comet prize of the year. The comet may be seen with a 3½ inch telescope.

A number of New York street car drivers have been indicted by the grand jury.

Rev. Dr. W. A. Leonard, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Washington, has been summoned to New York to see ex-President Arthur. Gen. Arthur always attended old St. John's church when president, and held Dr. Leonard in high esteem.

Col. Jonathan D. Stevens arrived in New York City a few days ago from San Francisco, his first visit to the Atlantic coast since he sailed from that port in September, 1846, in command of his regiment of New York volunteers for the conquest and occupation of the Mexican territory of California. He is now 87 years old.

Gov. Hill of New York has signed the half-holiday bill.

W.L. Douglas, the great shoe manufacturer of Brocton, and all of his help, have joined the Knights of Labor.

A petition is being extensively signed in New York for the pardon of James D. Fish, the ex-president of the Marine bank, and it will soon be forwarded to President Cleveland.

At an inquest of the East Lee, Mass., flood disaster the contractor said that he mistook the first layer of hard pan for solid earth for his foundation, but it proved to be only a foot thick, with soft, unreliable ground beneath. The fund for 30 suffering families has reached $8,000. Secretary Whitney sent $250 from Washington.

Snow fell to the depth of three inches in Dakota on April 25th.

A woman was found between Grayson and Pawnee, Kansas, lying in a famished condition. The bodies of her husband and five children were found in the same room. The eldest son, 22 years of age, had been sent to Grayson five weeks before for food, but deserted his sick relatives and kept on to San Francisco. Howard Ballinger was the name of the dead man.

The Oregon House, a frame structure near Butte, M. T., burned the other day and the 4-year old son of Mrs. Lizzie Lee perished in the flames. The building was fired by a man in the hotel for the purpose of robbery. Nine hundred dollars was taken from Mrs. Lee's trunk. Loss on building, $10,000. Several guests were seriously burned, and Frank Hatt injured internally by jumping from a window. The incendiary has not been caught.

Great damage has been done at Helena, Ark., by the breaking of the levee near that city. Hundreds of houses were flooded, and the inhabitants compelled to climb to the roofs for safety. Several deaths from drowning are reported.

At Childers station, Cherokee nation, Miss Babe Hall was fatally shot by Miss Lollie Hatfield. The two young ladies were playing with pistols supposed to be empty.

Mr. Perkins of Pullman, Ill., whose son was bitten by a mad dog a few days ago, has started for Paris with the patient. Policeman Klingel and others who were also bit by the dog are in the party. Fifteen hundred dollars was subscribed toward paying their expenses.

A wealthy farmer, aged 76, named James Uhlir, residing near Racine, Wis., proceeded to the home of his son-in-law and shot his wife dead. He then proceeded to his own home and shot himself. He was married in 1874 and his wife had recently commenced action for a divorce.

Between 25,000 and 50,000 laboring men in Chicago quit work on the first inst., waiting the settlement of the question of shorter hours.

A large fire occurred in San Francisco on the 30th ult. Several lives were lost.

The 64th anniversary of Gen. Grant's birth day was appropriately celebrated in Washington on the 26th ult., in the church where Grant was a constant attendant during his residence in Washington. Gen. Sherman and Senator Evarts delivered addresses.

The third annual meeting of the American historical association was held in Washington April 27th. President Bancroft, the eminent American historian, delivered the address of welcome.

Volume xv., Series 1, of the official records of the war of the rebellion is now in press and will soon be issued. This volume embraces operations in West Florida, South Alabama, South Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and New Mexico, from May, 13, 1862, to May 14, 1864, and is particularly interesting, as it contains the complete official history of Gen. B. F. Butler's administration of affairs in Orleans.

The new Chinese minister has been formally presented to the president by the secretary of state. He was attired in full court costume and was accompanied by three of his suit and an interpreter.

An Irish mass meeting was held at Washington the other night, at which Messrs. Randall, Gibson and O'Hara of the House, and Senators Van Vyck, Riddleberger and Sherman expressed themselves in favor of Irish independence.

President Cleveland sent ex-President Arthur a boquet of flowers from the White House conservatory a few days ago, accompanied by a note expressive of sympathy for his recent illness and a wish for his speedy recovery.

Justice Kennedy, at Syracuse, N. Y., has ordered the discontinuance of the injunction suit against the New York Central railroad to prevent it from absorbing the West Shore.

The governor of Iowa has issued a proclamation calling on citizens for aid in the enforcement of the prohibitory laws.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

APRIL 27.—SENATE.—The charges of fraud in the election of Senator Payne of Ohio were discussed. Bills were passed appropriating $300,000 for the extension of the executive mansion, for the allotment of lands in severalty to the Indians of the Pound Valley reservation in California, and several for the construction of bridges. The inter-state commerce bill occupied the attention of the Senate during the remainder of the session.

HOUSE.—The bill to prohibit aliens from acquiring titles to or owning lands within the United States was reported adversely. In committee of the whole the river and harbor bill was discussed.

APRIL 28.—SENATE—The time of the Senate was occupied with the discussion of the Chinese question and mail subsidies, and furnished the opportunity for a war of words between Mr. Beck of Kentucky and Frye of Maine. After executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—At the conclusion of the morning hour and the transaction of routine business the House went into committee of the whole on the river and harbor bill, the debate being confined to the Missouri river appropriation.

APRIL 29.—SENATE—The only subject under discussion in the Senate was the postoffice appropriation bill. The amendment proposed by the Senate committee appropriating $800,000 for carrying South and Central American, Chinese and Australian mails, and authorizing the postmaster-general to make, after due advertisement, contracts for five years with American steamships, at a rate not to exceed for each outward trip $1 per nautical mile of distance by the most direct and feasible course between terminal points, was the subject matter of debate. Senator Beck from Kentucky, vigorously opposed the South American mail subsidy, declaring the object of the proposed appropriation was to benefit a few persons. After a brief executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE—In the House the bill for the retirement and re-coinage of trade dollars was placed on the House calendar. In committee of the whole on the river and harbor appropriation bill the discussion was on the pending amendment providing that the appropriation for the Missouri river shall be expended under the direction of the secretary of war without the intervention of the Missouri river commission. The amendment was rejected but it was agreed that a vote should be allowed on it in the House. Motions to strike out the appropriations for continuing work on reservoirs at the head waters of the Mississippi and to increase the appropriation for the improvement of the river from the mouth of the Ohio to the mouth of the Illinois river were lost.

APRIL 30—SENATE—The Senate refused to pass over the President's veto the bill "to prevent the desecration of graves." The bill relates to the District of Columbia and provides that the unclaimed bodies of deceased paupers now required by law to be buried at the public expense, may be turned over to the medical colleges. After the passage of a number of private bills the Senate took up the postoffice appropriation bill, Mr. Hale of Maine spoke at length of the necessity of securing the trade of Central and South America and the importance of liberal subsidies to American vessels as an important factor in increasing commercial relations. At the close of the debate the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.—The oleomargarine bill came in for a share of the attention of the House to day, and the House went into committee of the whole on the river and harbor bill.

MAY 1—HOUSE—A bill amendatory to the Chinese immigration act was reported; also one providing indemnity to certain Chinese subjects for losses sustained in the disturbances of the United States. Both measures were referred to the committee of the whole. The Oklahoma bill was called up and debated during the rest of the session.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Twelve lives were lost during a conflagration at Lisko, in Galicia the other day, and many persons were injured.

The czar of Russia has consented to a plan [illegible] machinery [illegible] Tex.

Emperor William has sent the Pope a costly gold cross, mounted with jewels, as a souvenir of German gratitude for the friendly offices rendered by His Holiness in arbitrating the dispute between Germany and Spain over their respective claims to the Caroline Islands.

The Prince of Wales has been reelected Grand Master of the Free Masons in England.

Fred Marr, an employe of J. H. Greer's saw mill, West Lorne, Ont., had both his hands cut off the other evening. He was engaged in sawing a board and was reaching over the saw to take away the board, when the saw caught his hands at the wrist, cutting them both off.

The expulsion of Poles from Prussian Poland continues and is attended in some cases with barbarous severity.

DETROIT MARKETS.

The wheat market is essentially a waiting one. Everything in the business line is so unsettled and the uncertainty as to how far the labor troubles are going to effect trade, has made dealers draw out and only transact business on orders. There is a dearth of orders and consequently very little is done on the board.

WHITE WHEAT—No. 1 spot, 5 cars at, 85¼c; 7 cars at, 85c; May, 5,000 bu at, 85¾c; 3,000 bu at, 85¼c; 14,000 bu at 85c; June, 86½c bid.

RED WHEAT—No. 2 Michigan, 2 cars D. & M. 85 [illegible]c, May, 10,000 bu at 85 [illegible]c, 5,000 bu at [illegible]c, 5,000 bu at 85¾c, 5,000 bu at 85¼ 5,000 [illegible] June, [illegible] bu at 87[illegible]c, 15,000 bu at 87[illegible]c [illegible] bu at 86[illegible]c, 35,000 bu at 86[illegible]c, 7,000 bu at 86[illegible]c 5,000 bu at 86¾c, 5,000 bu at 86[illegible]c, [illegible] bu at [illegible] bu at [illegible]c, 5,000 bu at 86[illegible]c; July, 5,000 bu at 87¼c, August 30,-000 bu at 86[illegible]c; No. 3, 1 car at 81[illegible]c.

CORN—No. 2, 37[illegible]c; May offered at 37[illegible]c; new graded, 34[illegible]c; high mixed, 38¼c.

OATS—No. 2 white 35[illegible]c; light mixed 34¾c.

SEEDS—Prime seed, $5 75; No. 2 offered at $5 50.

FLOUR—There is no change in the market, flour being steady and active at the following quotations: Michigan patents, $5@5 25; Michigan roller, $4 50@4 65; Michigan super-[illegible] $[illegible]@3 25; Minnesota patents, $5 50@5 75; Minnesota bakers', $4 25@4 50; Michigan rye, $3 55@3 65; Illinois rye, $3 65@[illegible].

PROVISIONS—Detroit new mess $10@10 25; Detroit family pork, 11@11 25; short clear, $11[illegible]; [illegible] in tierces, 6¾@6[illegible]c; half bbls, [illegible] in pails, 7¼@7[illegible]c; hams, 9¼@9¾c; shoulders, 5[illegible]@5¼c; dried beef, 12½@13c; bacon, 7[illegible]c; extra mess beef, $8 75@9; family beef, 9@9 25.

GENERAL PRODUCE.

Hops	10	@	12
Apples per bbl	1 60	@	1 75
Dried Apples	2½	@	3
Butter ℔ lb	13	@	14
Cheese	11	@	12
Eggs	11	@	12
Maple Sugar	8	@	9
Hides—Green city per lb	5½	@	6
Country	6	@	6½
Cured	8	@	8½
Green calf	9	@	10
Salted green calf	10	@	11
Sheepskins	50	@	1 50
Chickens	11	@	12
Turkeys (dressed)	12	@	13
Ducks	12	@	13
Geese	8	@	9
Potatoes ℔ bu	30	@	35
Turnips	30	@	
Onions ℔ bbl	2 50	@	2 75
Honey	12	@	13
Beans, picked	1 10	@	1 15
Beans, unpicked	[illegible]	@	75
Hay	11 00	@	12 00
Straw	5 00	@	6 60
Beeswax	25	@	30

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle—Market slow but steady; shipping steers, 950 to 1,500 lbs, $4@5 65; stockers and feeders, $3@4 75; cows, bulls and mixed, $1 75@4 10; bulk, $3@3 20; corn-fed Texas cattle, $4@4 85.

Hogs—Market slow but steady; rough and mixed, $3 60@4 20; packing and shipping, $3 90@4 25, light, $3 60@4 25; skips, $2 25@3 25.

Sheep—Market steady; shorn natives, $2@5 70.

The Drovers' Journal special cablegram from Liverpool denotes the cattle market lightly supplied and prices ½c higher. Best American steers 13½c dressed weight.

The Great Strike Off.

Saturday, May 1st in St. Louis Messrs. Hayes, Bailey and Barry of the executive board of the Knights of Labor, met the congressional committee, informally, and the meeting led to a happy result of the Knights declaring the strike off. An order was at once issued to that effect and Tuesday, May 4, fixed as the date for the end of the strike.

CALL AGAIN.

We thank the citizens of Birmingham and vicinity for the liberal patronage they have bestowed upon us in the past and earnestly ask them to

CALL AGAIN.

We have the largest assortment of

BOOTS & SHOES AND RUBBER GOODS

ever opened in Oakland county and will save you money if you will call on us when in want of Foot Clothing.

Custom work a specialty.

MERRITT & HARRIS,

143 Saginaw street, Pontiac, Mich.

LION is the King of Coffees. Great care is taken in the selection for Lion Coffee, it being composed of the finest Coffees we can import. Prepared after our own process and roasted with special reference to the retaining of its finer flavors. With every package we present you with a beautiful Picture Card. For Sale by all Dealers. Woolson Spice Company, Manufacturers LION BAKING POWDER, LION SPICES, And the Celebrated LION YEAST.

FURNITURE!

TOMPKINS AND WILLIAMS

Have filled their store from cellar to garret with all of the latest styles of goods for spring trade.

We Cannot be Undersold! Our trade shows it, and Our Costomers will tell you so!

We get our Mattresses from the East,
Our Parlor Suits from Chicago,
Our Chamber Suits from Grand Rapids
This will enable us to give you all the latest styles, best goods and

LOWEST PRICES!

250 styles of chairs,
25 styles of chamber suits,
40 styles of lounges,
20 styles of parlor suits,
25 styles of center tables,
20 styles of L[illegible]

Spring Mattresses, Side Boards, Book Cases, Wardrobes, Dish C[illegible] Safes, Clothes Bars, Commodes, Bureaus and headquarters for Curtain Poles.

And we Defy any House in Detroit to Undersell Us!

NOTE PRICES:

Nice Chamber Suit for	$18 00
Fine Lounge for	5 00
Center Tables for	3 00
Extension Tables, per foot	65
A Good Bed for	2 75
Plush Parlor Suit for	45 00
Curtain Poles for	50
Pillow Sham Holders for	75

Space will not permit us to give all of our prices. If you will come and see us you will find our stock is complete in everything and our prices way down.

All Goods delivered free by team or by rail a distance of 25 miles.

Tompkins & Williams
PONTIAC, MICH.

WHITEHEAD AND MITCHELL

Do not claim to lead the crowd, but can always be found near the head along with the rest of the boys, and sell as low as any one and always guarantee the quality to be as represented or no sale. Thanking our patrons for their continued favors in the past four years, we start the fifth year of trade with brighter prospects than ever for a good year's trade before us. Our

DRUG STOCK

is complete and full in every department. Prescriptions at all hours, day or night, and family recipes carefully compounded from the best of Drugs and purity guaranteed in every case. A full stock of Patent Medicines always on hand.

GROCERIES!

We keep all kinds and with prices right we ask you to call and see us.
OUR 50 cent SUN DRIED TEA is the best in the market
OUR 40 cent SUN DRIED TEA, is extra good
OUR 20 cent TEA DUST, takes the cake
TRY OUR 50 cent New Orleans Molasses
TRY OUR 40 cent Cooking Molasses
Cod Fish, Mackerel, White Fish and Trout, and all good goods kept by Grocers [illegible] in the staple and Fancy lines.

SCHOOL BOOKS AND STATIONERY.

Any article in the above lines called for not in stock will be cheerfully supplied at the lowest possible price.

GARDEN SEEDS.

We have accepted the agency for the sale of Hiram Sibley's seeds, both in package and bulk and ask your inspection of the same.

Furniture:

Good Carpet Lounge	$5 00
Best Corded Woven Wire Bed Springs	3 00
Kitchen Chairs per set	3 00
Parlor Cane Seat Chairs, per set	5 00
Solid Comfort Bed Spring	2 50
Mattresses from $3 00 to	6 00
Cradles	1 50
Clothes Bars	1 00

Bedsteads from $3 00 up

Glass, Paints, Oils, Putty, Varnishes, etc

A full stock of Fahnstocks S. P. White Lead on hand. Boydell Bros. ready mixed paint in sizes from one quart to 40 gallon packages.

Are You Going To Paint That Buggy?

Then buy a package of that buggy paint already to use which, with one coat gives a blacker finish than all the paint you can buy and then have to varnish it to get a shiny finish, and all with only one coat.

NOTARY BUSINESS.

All kinds of Conveyancing, Contracts, Deeds, etc. drawn up at the homes of our patrons if desired, or promptly attended to by calling at our office. And lastly our

Credit Check System

is still running very satisfactory to all our patrons and is in fact a discount for cash of 5 per cent on all purchases except Sugar and many of our customers have used in the past eight or more of these checks.

WE THANK YOU ALL

for past favors and promise for the coming years prompt attention and close application to the wants of our trade and respectfully solicit a share of your patronage.

Your Respectfully

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL.