Birmingham Eccentric

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TIMELY TOPICS.

The discovery of rich gold fields in western Australia has stimulated an enormous rush of gold hunters to the new diggings. Some authorities say that the new field is likely to extend over 3,500 or 4,000 square miles; and that its total yield may exceed that of any other part of the great island continent. If these reports shall prove to be well founded a great future for western Australia will be assured, and the effect upon the commerce and industries of the world may be very important. In New South Wales the consolation of the moment is the rich developments in the diamond fields. A paper of that colony claims that they are likely to rival the fields of Brazil and South Africa. In one neighborhood 2,400 stones weighing in the rough 625 carats have been obtained by four men in a month, 302 carats having been washed out of 33 loads of earth. It is also asserted that the lot includes some remarkably fine diamonds

A few days since nearly every daily paper in the land announced with startling head lines that the president's wife had, on a previous Sunday, united with the First Presbyterian church in Washington. Then followed a lengthy account of the costume worn by her upon that occasion, even to the color of the gloves. To chronicle such matters and send them over the country as news, would be very amusing, if not so insanely disgusting. If the representatives of the press can find nothing better to report than the fact that the president's wife smiled sweetly and thanked the one who held an umbrella over her while she walked to her carriage, they had better be "removed" and their places supplied by others with enough common sense to distinguish between *news* and the disgusting, nauseating reports about prominent persons.

When the famous Dr. Schubardt of Wheeling, W. Va., was murdered by his nephew, Guenther Snell, the executor of the estate sold at auction a number of articles of household furniture of all kinds. Among others the auctioneer knocked down to Mrs Vance, living on Main street, an old pincushion at her bid of ten cents The pin-cushion has been in use in the Vance family ever since, until the other day, when a child was playing with it and the cover burst off. When Mrs Vance went to gather up the contents something rattled in it, and, shaking it out, there were exposed to view a number of gold coins. Finally all were out and a count showed that the old pincushion had been all the time the unsuspected receptacle of $667 in gold coin.

The Polish alliance of the United States asserts that there are 1,0 0,0 0 Poles in this country, and recently a prominent Wisconsin Bohemian declared that there were 5,0 0,0 0 Bohemians here. John Boyle O'Reilley claims 20,0 0,0 0 Irish, and the Germans outnumber the Celts, as do also the English and Scotch taken together with the British Americans. Now allow for 7,0 0,0 0 colored people, the Italians, the Hungarians, the Chinese, and the odds and ends, and what we want to know is where old American stock comes in, seeing that there are only 60,000,000 people in the country.

It will be hoped that no husband by women will not be permitted to become epidemic. Two instances have occurred within a week, one in a Pennsylvania town and the other in Indianapolis, in which women had recourse to the raw-hide in punishing revilers of their good name. In both cases the punishment inflicted was very thorough, and the victims will do nothing more in her the visitations to the end of their lives. It may be remarked that there is a class of male slanderers of women in every community who deserve this sort of treatment.

The following sage advice from the Chicago Inter-Ocean is applicable twelve months in the year: This is August, and it can be made a most enjoyable month if you won't hurry and bother and bluster. There is a wonderful comfort in schooling one's self to take things easy. If you do not get position just make up your mind that everything is going on right, and if compelled to stay at home enjoy home luxuries and remember that there is nothing at the most famed watering place that can be compared with home.

General Sheridan says he is delighted with his experience as a suburban farmer. Instead of sending his wife and children to a crowded seaside hotel or fashionable resort each year, he rented a thirty-acre farm near Washington where he picks his own peas, digs his own potates, and enjoys freedom from intrusion.

Eli Abeth Trout, aged 92, Maria Updegrove, aged 82, and Maria Trout, aged 56, helped to bind sheaves on the farm of Reuben Updegrove at Shanesville, Berks county, Neb., during harvesting. Each of them bound all day and in the evening had completed almost as much as any of the men

Mr. Lincoln's Ingenuity.

In 1864 he was greatly bothered by the peace-at-any-price men from the north. There was especially one old fellow from Massachusetts, very bland of visibly bald who was the thorn in the presidential flesh. Mr. Lincoln managed to get rid of him and his Quaker friends by one device or another, till his ingenuity was severely taxed. One day when the angel of peace was boring him about half an hour in the delay of important business, the president suddenly rose, walked to a closet, took a large bottle from it, and said:

"Did you ever try this for baldness?" he asked, offering the bottle for his visitor's inspection.

The visitor admitted that he never had. Mr. Lincoln summoned a servant, had the bottle uncorked, and gave it to the astonished philanthropist with the direction to smell of it and rub some of that on his head. Perseverance, he said, would bring the hair to grow. "Come back in about three months and report."

So grieved disciple of Penn found himself on the door with the contents of the bottle and was before he had time for fairly realized.—*Washington Post.*

STATE NEWS.

But Partially Settled.

A special meeting of the state board of agriculture convened at the agricultural college on the 3d inst. At this session, Crandall, the expelled student, explained to the board their misunderstanding in his answers to questions they put to him last week. He also asked and had the right of the board to ask him certain questions which he refused to answer last week, and in his obligations to answer them. The junior class by a body requested leave to withdraw their boycott against one of the thirteen students who were responsible for the subjugation of the hydrangea, and in Prof. Johnson's class-room confessed and were turned over to the faculty for discipline. Crandall is thereupon reinstated.

There now remained the senior class to be dealt with. This class had previously served notice on the board that if they did not reinstate Crandall within two days there would be no graduating class at the close this term. The board considered it's a threat, and called upon the class to withdraw it, but they refused to do so. The board ascertained the names of the eighteen men who had signed the rescind and immediately suspended them for one year. This is as the matter now stands, and there is thereupon reinstated.

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July's Contribution.

The quantity of salt inspected in this state during the month of July exceeds that of any month since the first manufacture of that commodity was commenced in 1860. The inspection was as follows:

	Barrels.
Saginaw county	158,117
Bay county	121,314
Manistee county	76,383
Huron county	30,697
Iosco county	46,705
St. Clair county	24,328
Midland county	8,731
Mason county	8,325
Total	469,560

COMPARATIVE.

The salt inspection for commences December 1, and the inspection by months makes the following comparative exhibit. The figures represent number of barrels inspected:

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.
December	154,289	194,309	256,450	230,028
January	140,000	164,000	256,000	230,000
February	95,893	90,276	161,256	121,203
March	125,488	144,000	200,000	175,000
April	140,274	163,500	147,004	154,562
May	142,000	163,000	147,000	154,000
June	111,000	134,000	150,000	154,000
July	230,642	386,750	335,317	469,560
Total	1,339,697	1,739,915	1,839,728	1,967,393

For the Removal of Fort Brady.

Representative Moffatt had a talk with the secretary of war yesterday morning, laying out the law recently passed for the sale of the site of Fort Brady and the reservation at Sault Ste. Marie and the building of a new site. The people of the village are very anxious to have the site removed as it obstructs the growth of the village. Secretary Endicott said that the work of carrying out the river and harbor bill would take up much time of the engineers, but he would endeavor to get at the Sault as early as possible. Moffatt will place in writing the needs and requests of the citizens relative to platting the lands, etc.

Wants It Again.

EX GOV. Begole announces now that he is a candidate for the office of Governor. He takes this action in response to the urging of friends, not alone confined to Greenbackers, but by leading Democrats as well. He says he is not moved by personal canvass, but leave the matter of a nomination in the hands of the convention.

MICHIGAN IT MS.

Myron Scott, of Grand Haven, has been nominated as local inspector of government steamboats, and will take the place of Geo. M. Cowen, resigned.

A destructive fire broke out in Mancelona on the 7th inst. The office of the postoffice, its stores and business pla es, and a number of dwelling houses, were burned. Loss estimated at between $50,0 0 and $60,0 0.

The Grand Rapids & Indiana railroad is about to build a $4,000 depot at Petoskey.

The Flint & Pere Marquette railroad is about to run into the Saginaw City and establish a depot there.

The Michigan Central is constructing several miles of wire fence along its track in Otsego county.

The soldiers' and sailors' association of western Michigan has given up its encampment this year, because of inability to secure the state fair grounds as desired.

Miss Emma Mix of St. Clair, has been promoted from a $1,0 0 clerkship in the Patent Office to one of $1,200.

John Hermann, a resident of Port Huron since 1856, is dead.

A little son of B. F. Landers of Summerfield, Lenawee county, was killed by a horse recently, and died the next day.

Nancy Curtise, a young mulatto woman of Grand Rapids, has been sued by Jesse Matthews, also colored, cut Matthews' head and then her own. She is dead; he will recover.

Stephen Decker was injured in the cases by his car running over his leg at Port Jackson. He died the next day.

Ayra Campbell, a well-to-do resident of Charlevoix, died after months of agonizing illness. His friends, realizing that Ayra was dead, called in a stenographer, a metaphysician, and after twenty minutes of metaphysical parley with the departed soul Ayra was brought back to life, pain and suffering, and he still lives. The Boyne City *Voix Journal* alleges that while the work of revivifying the corpse was in progress the body exhibited evidences of life that disinfectants were resorted to.

Bears are very numerous in Roscommon county.

"Old Ann," who is supposed to be 100 years of age, and who was born in Philadelphia to Centerville in 1836, is dangerously ill, and cannot live.

Miss Lizzie Lier of Allegan, a bible visitin Salem, ate inordinately of ice cream and was taken suddenly ill. She was in motion of the stomach, dying the next day

Anson Benjamin of Yorkville, Kalamazoo county, must pay a fine of $100 and jail 10 days for selling liquor Sundays, and he doesn't pay the fine is to stay in jail 80 days longer.

The Jackson prison convict population on the close of July was 1,15 less than for the month opened with. The receipts from the shoe factory during the month ending July 31 amounted to $239 19.

The aggregate Saginaw river pine product of Grand Rapids, Muskegon and Bay City was 295,994,000 feet of lumber, 40,000,000 shingles, 15,000,000 lath. The freight charges are 37,000,000 feet less than during the same period of last year.

Trains are now being run from Saginaw to Grand Rapids on the Howard City & Saginaw division of the Saginaw Valley & St. Louis railroad.

Prof. J. H. Simonds, formerly of Niles, will enter for a year a residence at Algeria, has received the appointment of musical director at the Ann Arbor school.

The three Rosencrans brothers committed for murder in the first degree, for the killing of Jesse Hall, on June 1 at Charles, have been bound over in the circuit court in the sum of $5,0 0 each. Charles have not yet had an examination.

The journal kept by Sergt. Edward Israel the ill-fated Greely expedition to the arctic circle is now in the hands of his brother in Kalamazoo. It is a 12-inch book, 30 inches long, 3 inches wide and 4 inches thick, fastened with a heavy brass clasp and locked. It covers the period from Dec. 1881, to the 1st of March, 1884. For two years the entries were made in ink, from November, 1883, they were in pencil. The journal is valuable, and the portion is now being re-written to save it from obliteration. Sergeant Hermann was drowned at the pond near the paper mill in Kalamazoo on the 31 inst.

Gen. Alger has issued a circular to veteran soldiers and sailors of Macomb and Mt. Clemens, saying that the 19th and 20th of August will be observed as days of rest. The day and Friday, August 20 and 22, will be reserved for camp fires. Bands of music and drum corps will be engaged, as well as distinguished persons, among them Gov. Alger and Gen. Sheridan, who will accompany Gen. Alger and staff. Maj. Gen. Byron R. Pierce, Lieut. Gen. Alonzo Allen, Adjt. Gen. Begole and Hon. Edgar Weeks.

The Senate rejected the nomination of W. E. Bancroft as collector of Port Huron.

Isaac L. Verbeck, a pioneer of Oakland county, is dead.

The eighth annual encampment of the soldiers' and sailors' association of southwestern Michigan begins at National park, Kalamazoo, Tuesday, Aug. 17, lasting four days. Troops will be reviewed by various former commands and regiments. The great events to the public will be the sham battle Wednesday afternoon; the annual grand parade Thursday morning, and the address by Hon. Thomas J. Merrifield of New York, Thursday afternoon. The railroads will carry people to and from Kalamazoo for half fare.

Elmer McArthur of Chariton, an insurance agent in the supply of the Home insurance company of New York, is under arrest at Ottumwa, Iowa, charged with embezzlement of $1,0 0 belonging to that company. The loss, as near as can be estimated at present, will be small. Young McArthur is of high social standing.

John Collins, who lives about four miles from Flint, accidently jumped upon a sleeping boar, and the enraged animal attacked him, biting and tearing his head and clothing' leg above the knee. Physicians were summoned and declared the wound beneath the knee necessarily fatal.

A letter was received at the Port Huron postoffice last week addressed to Mrs. Sarah Collonson, with the direction, "If not called for in five days postmaster will please open." The letter contained the information that Harry Collonson was killed on the railroad near Ypsilanti, Capt. A. Hamilton, Lansing, for certificates.

Negotiations are now pending for the sale of the entire tract of land held by Fayette Brown, trustee, and composed of the Fayette Brown charcoal iron company lands in Alger county, embracing about 64,000 acres and including some 60 miles of fine wood timber lands in the peninsula. The present owners will not sell in small parcels, and do nothing to improve the property.

For three years a little daughter of Angus Blackwell, living in Copeland in Shelby county, Ohio, a 12-year-old son of Arnold quarrelled with his 11-year-old brother, and the latter received a double barreled shot gun and discharged its contents in her body, inflicting fatal wounds.

Pinckerton's detectives have capture three men whom they believe to be guilty of the Michigan central express robbery.

If no action is taken by congress, the souvenirs belonging to Gen. Grant will be sold at auction in August.

President Cleveland and wife will leave for the Adirondacks soon after congress adjourns.

An incendiary fire at Bloomington, Ill., destroyed half the business houses in the city.

Snow fell at Mt. Washington on the 4th inst., to a depth of one and one-half inches.

Small-pox appeared in Detroit some time ago, and by the use of the precautions taken by the board of health, threatens to be stamped out before the epidemic has fully occurred, and already a number of cases are known as convalescent. The pest house erected on the county site on Crawford street.

Considerable talk has been indulged in as to the great quantity of liquor furnished the Cleveland party during their encampment. Surgeon Woodard of the First regiment, has just made a calculation which shows that the surgeons drew to that regiment, and the entire amount of spirituous liquors issued to the regiment consisted of six ounces of brandy and eight ounces of whisky, which was issued to each.

"The monster," has made its appearance at the Michigan summer-resorts.

A fierce storm swept over the Antilles and Cuba on the 4th inst. Many persons were killed, and much property destroyed by the storm.

Great alarm prevails in Montana over the depreciation of silver. Unless there is an exciting market for the large mines in the territory will be obliged to suspend.

The Senate passed the bill providing for the retirement of the surgeons of the navy, etc., and for their exportation without examination.

The bondsmen of defaulting Charles Thompson have settled his embezzlement of Feldon county, in return all the evidences of his guilt.

David Davis left $1,0 0,0 0. The will has been probated.

President Cleveland, Secretary Endicott and Col. Lamont attended Tilden's funeral.

Cutting, the American editor in jail in Mexico for libel, has been released. The judge has withheld sentence for 15 days.

An attempt was made to rob an express train on the Wabash road, near Peru, the other night. Express messenger Perkins was shot in the head and the robbers, who had received several shots from the baggage-man and then jumped from the train.

The Democratic state convention of Kansas will meet in Topeka, and the party will go for harvesting.

The Michigan mining school offers a practical course in mining engineering and related branches. Special advantages are given in the study of the great copper and iron mines. The school is appointed by the law of 1883 at the age of 24, marked the beginning of his public career.

Immediately on entering upon the duties of his office, Governor Alger took up politics, and was at once recognized by the Democracy as their spokesman. After Polk's election in 1844, he was elected to assembly from the city of New York, and while a member of that body assisted in remodeling the state constitution. He was appointed canal commissioner, and in the provisions relative to the financial management of the state and the canal debt.

Tilden at this time was a poor man, with but few of his talents and his prospects, and he withdrew from politics and set himself to the practice of his profession, which he followed assiduously and with marked success, until the breaking out of the war. During the winter of 1860-61 he attended a meeting of the leading men of both parties in New York city to consider what measures might be taken to avert a conflict between the North and the seceding states. He urged on the north the necessity of reconciliation and forbearance, and was the author of the well-known resolution declaring that within the union constitutional relief was always possible, while outside the union there could be nothing but conflict and defeat.

When the war came Tilden was associated with the leading advisers of the Democratic party. He did not believe that secession appreciated the situation when he said that 75,0 0 troops, and no more, were required. A private car had been prepared for the president-elect's journey to Washington, but this was changed at Cincinnati, where he was overwhelmed at once by the immense proportion of numbers. He argued that it was idle to hope for the appearance of any great military genius. Said another of one of these who had risen of an era and there was nothing to base a hope of such a thing at the present time.

Although his advise was disregarded at the critical moment, in less than a year he was calling for 3,0 0,0 0 troops