Birmingham Eccentric

WESTHEAD & MITCHELL, Pubs.

BIRMINGHAM, MICH

STATE NEWS

OUR SOLDIERS' HOME.

The Home for the Veterans Formally Dedicated.

A History of the Project—Description of the Building—Dedicatory Exercises.

The idea of extending relief to the aged, decrepit, and disabled soldiers first took shape in the annual reunion of the soldiers' and sailors' association of southwestern Michigan at St. Joseph in August, 1885. A resolution was adopted asking congress to take some steps in the premises. This idea was vigorously pushed, but encountered opposition and finally failed.

Two bills were presented in the last legislature to relieve the soldiers in distress. One provided for $100 bounty to every Michigan soldier, sailor and marine, which was soon dropped as impracticable. The other, by Representative John Underwood of Saginaw, asked for an appropriation of $100,000 to be used as a home for the veterans of the war resident in the state. When the bill came up it was contended that the site for the home should be donated to the state. After considerable competition Grand Rapids was chosen, and Col. Wells was selected as manager, and Maj. J. W. Long of Mt. Pleasant adjutant. The site property cost $16,500. Chas. Tiedke of Saginaw was awarded the contract for building the home, his bid being for $56,637 37. The contract was awarded Jan. 22, 1886, and the building was ready for occupancy Dec. 16, 1886.

The home is located about three miles north of Grand Rapids on the east side of Grand river. Two lines of railroad on the opposite side of the river take visitors within half a mile of the home and a fine gravel road leads to the place from the city. The home was completed for 250 feet front facing toward the river and has a view, overlooking a very picturesque scene. The material is white brick dotted red, with ashlar stone trimmings. The main part of the building is 250 feet front and extends back 76 feet, four stories high, 82 feet to roof, with a tower above, the top of which is 150 feet from the ground. A life sized figure of a soldier stands guard from the apex of the tower. The wings are each 55 feet front, 120 feet deep, and three stories high, with large bind windows and side entrances, protected with porches and balconies. The main building and wings are connected by corridors, each 20 feet long and 50 feet deep, with a 12 feet porch extending along the entire length and a dormer window in the roof. The building is massive and imposing, yet light in appearance than ornamental, although it does not by any means lack in that quality.

The main entrance is 9 feet wide with heavy stone steps, above windows in either side, and a massive stone portico extending over the steps and the driveway in front, with a balcony above. The grand hallway is 30 x 45 feet with corridors 12 feet wide in the rear. The front door is occupied with the officer's apartments, quarter-deck, reception and waiting room, dispensary, billard room, play room, library and office room, and in the south wing the dining room, 42x72 feet in size, with kitchen and pantry attached. The second floor has twelve dormitories and a theater 29x49 feet with a stage 20x24 feet. The corresponding section of the third floor is occupied by the theater with a gallery in the rear 29x24 feet and a total seating capacity of about 900. The remainder of the third floor is divided into dormitories. The hospital is in the fourth story together with a large attic. The building is 200 x 40, cellar, etc., are in the basement. The building is heated by steam and lighted with gas throughout. Ample fire escapes are provided. The finishings on the first floor are of hard wood, as are the doors, the corridors, and maple floors and pine above.

When Col. Wells was elected manager of the home he went to Grand Rapids, opened an office and prepared to temporarily care for the veterans in boarding houses and private apartments until the permanent home could be completed. The first inmate was received Sept. 1, 1885, and the rolls now show that 450 veterans have been admitted since that date. The inmates to-day will number 250 strong when all are forthcoming, about 100 discharged and about 30 at rest in the little cemetery back of the home. The house has accommodations for about 400 inmates, and Col. Wells estimates that the building will be full by February and crowded a year from now.

DEDICATORY EXERCISES.

The home was formally dedicated on the afternoon of December 31, Gov. Alger arrived at midnight the night before, accompanied by his staff, and was escorted to the local military companies to the door of house. A large number of G. A. R. posts from all parts of the state were present, led by full delegations, and despite the wintry weather there was a large attendance of other visitors. The trains began moving toward the home as early as 10 o'clock, and trains ran out to the place every hour thereafter loaded to the guards and many citizens and visitors went out in private conveyances. At 1 o'clock probably 5,000 people had gathered in and around the house. The speaking was from a platform erected in the center of the grand hall, and the audience gathered in the corridors and hallways to listen to them; but the great mass of course, was outside unable to get in or to hear anything.

The exercises opened with "America," which was rendered by a quartet, assisted by the enthusiastic audience. Then came an eloquent prayer by the Rev. Wm. Ashley, the gardener of Jackson, followed by "Red, White and Blue," rendered by a quartet. Contractor Charles Tiedke then formally presented the building as completed to Architect Fred W. Hodgetts of East Saginaw, who in turn handed it over to Gov. Alger as chairman of the board of managers, who transferred it to the Hon. John Longyear, department commander of the Michigan G. A. R., who went through with the ritualistic ceremonies of the order.

Gov. Alger then made the dedicatory address, of which the following is a synopsis:

Veterans: This occasion which we had looked forward to, anticipated and prepared for, is a joyous gathering, has been turned to one of sadness. One of our great leaders the idol of the volunteer soldiery and chief among them all, has passed from earth through the golden gates to his final rest. Our family and with what pride we called the name of John A. Logan! Instead of having his presence here to-day as was expected, and listening to his fiery eloquence that would carry us, in imagination, back through that mighty struggle, when the life of the nation was at stake, his fire has cooled in death and the nation is in tears. He would be rejoiced your children were there, wearing steel with steel, scaling breastworks and taking the enemy's guns at the point of the bayonet, or climbing some rugged mountain to drive him from his stronghold, you won a great victory. He perhaps, with that electric thrill which fascinates fear, as rider with rider with flashing saber, charging the enemy, capturing or driving him from the field, you won the day, or, as he would turn from these scenes to the quiet of camp life with its monotonous round of duty or pleasures incident to that life, bringing back the days of the long ago, with a vividness as eye though now dimmed with age would glisten as in youth. Instead of all this it is our mournful task to view him, in imagination, in his shroud.

Great hearts, gallant soldier, the truest of friends, "the bravest of the brave," farewell! Very soon the sad news will come to every where in this great land, who to-day look their heads in grief over their irreparable loss, that you, too, have gone the other way.

To the grief stricken wife who stood by the side of this grand soldier in prosperity and in every trial and trial of life, we tender our heartfelt sympathy. May a stronger than earth can give bear her up as she journeys through life's pathway.

One word more. Let us here to-day commence to erect a monument to the memory of this man who for many years stood at the head of the grand army organization as its chief, to whom, more than to any other man, it owes its strength to-day. Let us, as grand army men, post by post, in this state and throughout the union, collect funds, that every veteran in the land can contribute to, be the sum great or small, out of which shall be built a monument to this illustrious soldier; and in addition, place his beloved companion in such circumstances that she may never by any possibility know any other want save the longing for him who will never join her again this side of heaven, where he awaits her coming.

Soldiers, the part assigned me here to-day is to welcome you to this beautiful home, provided for you by a grateful people who are glad to care for you when you are unable to care for yourselves, or who do not come here as paupers. The great heart of Michigan does not name you thus, but in her gratitude that in the hour of our country's peril you with brave hearts and in the vigor of youth volunteered to face the enemy that no one of them should set foot upon her soil, she welcomes you here. Gallantly and well you performed your part and to-day the union flag floats all over the great land, thanks to the soldiers of the union cause and to them alone. It is incumbent for me to here attempt to describe your struggles in parting from home and loved ones, or the terrible ordeal through which you passed; neither the scenes you witnessed nor the suffering you endured, no, not speak of the dear companions you laid silently in the trenches and confederate graves. One word I more than mention your return to your homes with pride swelling your hearts, although broken in body and wrecked in health. Others more eloquent than I will follow here, for words will quicken your pulse and make you feel that you are young again. My part is, in the name of the loyal, grateful people of the grand state of Michigan, to welcome you here. Here is, and shall continue to be your home until one by one you are mustered out of the ranks. And when this party may be lain upon the hillside, the soul that buoyed you up and carried you through those mighty struggle will burst its bands and be carried triumphant to its reward. Comrades, again I welcome you to this home. To you it is dedicated by our state.

Gov. Alger was then called upon to make a few remarks and responded as follows:

Soldiers and Fellow Citizens: Down through the ages all countries have honored their heroes. The recording hand of the historian has handed down from generation to generation the deeds of the models and valor of warriors who have led on to victory or defeated their foeman. Both ancient and profane history tell of wars and rumors of wars until we are led to believe that war and the slaughter of men has been the chief occupation of the race, but it is only the generals, the colonels and the captains whose records appear on the pages of history. We read of the king who fought, bled and died, but nothing is said of the common soldier who gave his life for country. We read of the king who fought at Napoleon and of Wellington, but the soldier who fought as bravely is unwept, and forgotten. But our own country, while doing justice to the patriotism, courage and greatness of its generals is proclaiming to the world that republics are not ungrateful, and that it honors the common soldier.

We do honor to the man who leads armies to victory and never fail to place in mingle our tears in common grief around the bier of him who in the world has accorded a high place as a great commander. We also follow with our prayers and do honor to the bier of a great statesman who has so recently been called to come up higher. We also honor those men who went forth as soldiers in the ranks to fight for country, home and flag. We do remember, and will continue so to do, while our flag floats, the men who endured the hard hardships of the camp and the dangers of the battlefield with but slight hope of promotion. Michigan sent her quota of men to the battle war of modern times. No Michigan regiment ever did discredit or brought dishonor to the state of Michigan. No great battle was fought in that great civil war in which Michigan men were not in the front ranks. Our dead are found at Bull Run, Gettysburg, at Chancellorsville and at Chickamauga, they were in the front battle of the war and at Appomattox, they fell at one place, they were in the damp earth with nothing to look down upon them but the friendly stars. Through their exposure many of them were disabled in a manner that tells upon the strong frame and has caused their condition in after years. Many of these were poor and unfortunate when the state of Michigan, ever forward in good works, remembering the deeds of her heroic sons, has provided amply for the wants of these men. The commodious home has been provided, and here these old veterans are to spend the remain the wards of a grateful state. While the broken in health cannot be restored, they will be found comfortable and kind treatment for the men who fought for their country as well for those who led in the strife. As you may recover and become strong, as I trust, some may be cured hence, others will come who will need the place now occupied by you. Thus you may live long and enjoy the benefits of a government you did so much to save is my sincere wish.

War Governor Blair was next called for. He dwelt tenderly on the memory of Gen. Logan and eulogized the departed hero. Then turning to the scene around him he said the home was the fulfillment of the promise made by the state to the soldiers in the rebellion. The state promised her 90,000 defenders, if killed, that their widows and orphans would be cared for and that monuments would be erected over their graves, and that it doubled they would be cared for in old age and nobly fortune by the people. This home was established to fulfill this last promise. Michigan's disabled veterans would be tenderly cared for and nobly provided for during the remainder of their life. Gov. Blair was frequently applauded during his speech and three cheers were given him at its close.

Gen. Cutcheon opened his speech with a touching reference to Gen. Logan's death and an eloquent eulogy on the qualities of as a soldier, statesman and citizen. His best tribute was "the soldier's friend." Gen. Logan had anticipated with much pleasure his visit to Grand Rapids, and Cutcheon then referred to the soldiers' claims on a debt paid to the soldiers by the people of Michigan. Although built with state funds it draws no narrow state line, but to those who shall receive its benefits. Any loyal, honorably discharged soldier is a welcome guest. It is built not upon a narrow "state right" foundation, but upon a broad loyal foundation, as broad as the cause for which the men fought and suffered. The speaker dwelt forcibly upon the idea of a home in the full meaning of the word. The veteran will not sit at its table as a guest but with proprietary rights. He will be one of the household circle. The building and dedication of such a home is a fitting crowning act of the administration of our soldier. Let the work be thus closed with a magnificent tribute to the soldier, and let it be said, we have let us dedicate ourselves to their work that the land may long down—ample and complete justice to the living and to the dead in a hundred fright full forms that the government of our republic might also be the heritage of our children."

Ex-Senator Thomas W. Ferry responded briefly and said the home would be an inspiration for the rising generations of young men.

State Senator Woodruff, who took a prominent part in the dedication, in his call creating the home, related his experience in carrying it.

Judge Moore was called for by Gov. Alger, but was not to be found. Interspersed with the speeches were the music rendered by the quartet assisted by the audience.

Michigan, My Michigan," "Marching Through Georgia," "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground," "When the Cruel War is Over," and "Consolation" in memory of Gen. Logan.

Michigan is Interested.

The connection of St. Louis, Danville & Northwestern railroad with an enterprise to build a line from Sidell, Ill., to connect with the Illinois Central at Tuscola has been consummated. It is understood that this was a joint enterprise but it is now learned that it is to operate

The first is a reorganization of the old Toledo, Ann Arbor & St. Louis, covering the territory from Sturgis, Mich., to Danville, Ill., while the latter is substantially an extension of the Chicago Creek division of another corporation from the vicinity of Sidell, Ill., to a point by way of the old grand road leel of the defunct Danville, Tuscola & Western, or southwest via the four county corners to Tuscola, Douglas, Champaign and Douglas, and of Comarg, to a point on the Illinois Central, Edgar, Tuscola or Arcola. The project is being pushed with the intention of making the Grand Trunk, which is feeling its way cautiously in the direction of St. Louis and within sixty days, it is claimed, will demonstrate that it means business and will have a line to St. Louis by the latter part of 1887. The proposed route is almost an air line and is projected through Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Jackson, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Saline, Tecumseh, Adrian, Blissfield, Ridgeway, Ida, Petersburg, Ottawa, Lake, Erie, Ida, Carleton, Berlin, Sullivan, Pana, Tuscola, Ill., giving direct connection with St. Louis.

The'll Bless Algar.

Gov. Alger has pardoned Mrs. Kate Larson, a young girl in the Detroit house of correction under life sentence for murder. Mrs. Larson was convicted of murder in the first degree in Kalamazoo county on Feb. 17, 1885, after a trial lasting three weeks. She was indicted jointly with her husband, the murder being that of an old man named John Gindell. It was claimed that the accused gave him a dose of "rough on rats," which proved fatal, the object being to get possession of a sum of money which he was reputed to have stolen from a bank. The trial occurred in 1885. At the time of Mrs. Larson's trial there was much sympathy in her behalf, but it began. A motion for a new trial was denied, and on March 11, 1884, she was sentenced to Jackson for life. The sentence was a few days later commuted to the Detroit house of correction.

After Mrs. Larson's sentence Muskegon people took a deep interest in her case, and she was acquitted. Taking all these facts into consideration, as well as the evidence, Gov. Alger holds the woman to be innocent. Mrs. Larson is rather a prepossessing woman in appearance, and has always stoutly maintained her innocence. She has accepted her incarceration resignedly.

George H. Hammond, the head of the firm of Hammond & Standish, and one of the best known and respected business men of Detroit, died on the 30th ult.

Dr. C. J. Dove, a well-known physician of Muskegon, has been held for trial charged with having caused the death of Mary Young by abortion.

MICHIGAN ITEMS.

A man named Grimes has just served out a term in the Flint jail for having stolen a lot of chickens, as he alleged, to save his wife from starvation. It now turns out that he was at one time a student in the agricultural college, and while there sold some notes bearing the signatures of well-known prominent men in the county to Prof. Beal, which turned out to be forgeries. He has never been arrested and taken to Lansing for these crimes.

Mrs. Fox of Ionia was left two years ago with four children to support, her husband being taken to the insane asylum. A mortgage on her home recently came due and she had not a cent with which to meet it. Whereupon Mayor Doyle pushed around a subscription among the business men, raised the money and presented Mrs. Fox with the discharged mortgage as a Christmas present.

Alvin Joslyn, the school teacher who shot Morrison in Henderson, Shiawassee county, has been bound over to the February term of circuit court in bonds of $3,000. He is held on a charge of murder.

Considerable ship timber is being cut in the vicinity of Port Huron and shipped to Quebec, thence to Liverpool.

Gov. Alger started the $100,000 fund being raised for Mrs. Gen. Logan on the 10th inst. M. S. Smith of Detroit gave a similar amount.

A barrel of apples consigned to a missionary in China passed through Port Huron last week.

A Milwaukee detective has rescued a young woman of that city from a vile house near Detroit, where she was held in thrall. She was induced to go there as a waitress, but on her arrival she found the dance house located about a mile from Fessenden, the goods, and kept by one John Boardman. In the house were 10 or 12 girls, and the place was guarded by seven large dogs. The case impossible, as the girls were not allowed to go beyond the house and yard. The only way the detective could get her out was by serving a bogus warrant for larceny, which he did. The 17-year-old maiden begged to be included in the warrant, but this could not be done.

BORNE TO THE TOMB.

Logan's Remains Temporarily Interred at Washington.

The Ceremonies in the Senate Chamber—Dr. Newman's Sermon—At the Tomb.

The remains of Gen. Logan were removed from his late residence to the rotunda of the capitol, on the 30th ult., where they lay in state until the hour for the funeral ceremonies the next day. Thousands who had known and loved him in life came to gate upon the face of him who had known and loved as the soldier friend.

The pall bearers conveyed the casket to the senate chamber, which was tastefully draped, the deceased senator's desk being hidden in the folds of draped crape. The clerk's desk was almost hidden in a bank of floral emblems, flanked on the right and left respectively by a huge anchor of white and an immense representation of the badge of the fifteenth army corps.

The senators received and took the seats assigned them, after which came the supreme court justices clad in their silken robes, followed by members of the house, the diplomatic corpus in full dress and secretaries Bayard, Manning and Whitney and Attorney General Garland. The president was unable to attend, and though in better health the physicians forbade him exposing himself to the inclement weather. The galleries all filled, but not crowded. The seats reserved for the public were occupied, mostly by Mrs. Cleveland, Mrs. Folsom, Mrs. Manning and Mrs. Lamont.

At 12 o'clock the mourners followed and were given seats on the left front, and following them the visitors came, the funeral procession led by Dr. Newman, the officiating clergyman, pastor of other churches and the military pall bearers.

The service commenced by the reading of the nineteenth psalm by Bishop Andrews, after which the Rev. Dr. Newman read a portion of the fifteenth chapter of Corinthians, the hymn was followed by the Rev. Dr. Tiffany, and then the sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Newman.

Dr. Newman in his opening referred to the great grief and loss the nation was again called on to sustain, referring to the sad mournful occasions when the senate chamber was used as the place of funeral obsequies, the death of Hicks at Lincoln, of Foote of Vermont, Sumner of Massachusetts, Vice President Wilson and Senator Miller of California. It is therefore fitting that in this place of peace the last honors should be paid to Logan.

His life was one of intellectual activity, as a widespread fame in his twenty years of public life and his prominence in all great measures of national legislation. "His great speeches on impeachment," "Education," "The Army," "Thomas," "Defense of Grant," and his "arrangement of Porter," He had the flower of thought and eloquence of oratory. His was the sound of the mighty waxing louder and louder, and when his body was laid in the tomb he was the foremost statesman of the mighty western hills with have her trinity of national greatness—the soldier, statesman and leader.

His changeless sincerity, his transparency and adherence of disciple explains that strange charm of his personality. He was the soul of honor with contempt for everything mean, low and dishonorable. He had a tragic courage, physical bravery and moral courage, and the strongest intellect. Logan never committed treachery to his intellect. He was true to him-elf and was loyal to his own conclusion. Friendship could not deter him nor enemies make him afraid. Friendship could a great name daunt him. He had the candor of intellectual courage and was the soul of honesty. He was untouched with suspicion. And after five years in the war and twenty five in public life he died poor in purse but rich in good name. He leaves his only son to inherit above riches.

He asked no other reward than the consciousness of duty done. Loyalty to duty was his standard of manhood. When another was appointed to the senate from which his merits and victories entitled him, he wrote, referring to the battle of life, he did not sulk in his tent, but fought for the cause and gave a deserved to him than promotion. When duty demanded expose of corruption in his own party he presented it, regardless of party. He was convinced that a distinguished officer was unworthy of a nation's confidence, and did not hesitate to incur the displeasure of his friends and the denunciation of his enemies refers to the acts of the Fitz John Porter bill. His patriotism was evidenced by his refusal to leave his post and accept the election to the senate in 1882.

"Oh, brave and unselfish soul! How thou hast been misunderstood, misjudged and misrepresented, defamed and slandered by those who to-day are the beneficiaries of thy life! Yet not a word escaped from wounded his proud and sensitive spirit. If to second to take affront when engaged in debate it was for the cause he represented and not from personal pride.

"There were times when his ardent temperament mastered his self control. He was human but was strangers to vanity. He could love like a woman, sport like a child, hope like a soldier, and hate like a man. His love of corruption and intrigue, of manliness and of hate to proclaim his desire, nor disguise his aspirations.

"His tenderness made him the friend of every soldier. He lived among the stirring events of the war. He was the elected commander of the grand army of the republic. He was second honors they have to it a friend, 65,000 pensioners in his memory, and 250,000 widows and orphans breathe a prayer for the repose of his soul, and 50,000 spirits of slain soldiers hover around his great soul and place him than on each 60th of May their graves in the morning of the 30th inst., seemingly greatly refreshed and strengthened and the enjoyment of the holiday vacation and apparently ready for work.

No legislative work was accomplished on the first day, however, as every member was engaged in the funeral ceremonies of the great calamity which has befallen the country—the death of Logan.

As soon as the journal had been read in the senate, Mr. Cullom took the floor, and in a manner which the senate adjourn out of respect to the memory of the dead statesman, paid a glowing tribute to the memory of the man whose manly worth, sterling integrity, great character and broad catholicity, all were loved. The motion for adjournment was adopted without a single dissenting vote.

The same thing occurred in the house, the matter for adjournment being offere by Mr. Springer, of Illinois, and intimated personal friend of the dead warrior.

Great consternation has been caused in social and political circles in Washington by the rumor that Gen. Logan's death was attributed to the administration of morphine or aconite, or both. The attending physician, and that, too, in direct disregard of the General and his family. The circumstances which are greatly shocked that such a rumor should have found credence, and deny emphatically that any opiate was administered to the sick man.

The announcement has not yet been made public, but it seems to be settled that the funeral will be held on Friday, appointed to fill the vacancy on the ways and means committee, caused by Mr. Hewitt's retirement. Mr. Cox. It is said, will do his level best to bring about the reduction of the revenue, and is laboring assiduously with that end in view.

The civil service commissioners had a long interview with the President to-day, and submitted to him a list of rules, which, if approved, will give these states supervision and control of all examinations, appointments and promotions in the customs service at the port of New York.

The president has commuted to five years' imprisonment the death sentence of John W. Parrott of Arkansas, convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged Jan. 14. The clemency was extended to the president holds Parrott in part responsible for the homicide.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT

On the L & O. Road Near Republic, Ohio—At Least 19 Killed, and Many Injured.

The Accident Caused by Carelessness.

The fast train on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, which left New York about 9 o'clock on the morning of the 3d inst, for Chicago, with five coaches and two sleepers, all well filled with passengers, collided with an eastern bound freight seven miles east of Tiffin, Ohio, about 4 o'clock on the morning of the same day.

The fast train was about 50 minutes late, and was running at the rate of 60 miles an hour. Passing Republic, a small station, like a flash, they rushed along to the curve, one mile west of the town, when suddenly the engineer saw the freight train under full headway, within 100 yards of him. He at once applied the brakes, reversed his engine, but it did no good, and the next instant the crash came, telescoping the coaches and piling them upon each other.

The engineer and fireman jumped into the air like a pair of enraged monsters, and then settled down upon the track, driving into each other until the cinders touched. The force of the impact jammed the baggage cars into the tender of the fast train, the express car into the baggage and the mail into the express car, and in less than five minutes from the moment of the collision, and before any organized effort at rescue could be made, large dogs of the overturned stores communicated to the woodwork, and flames leaped high in the air, their roar mingling with the cries of despair of the dying and dying, to whom death in its most terrible form was a horrid presence. The trainmen and unhurt passengers were helpless and could do nothing to rescue the sufferers. To add more horror to the horrible scene fire broke out in the smoking car and soon spread a hundred feet. Many were killed outright, while others, wedged in among the broken cars, were slowly consumed by the flames. Some were entirely consumed, and all the passengers killed.

The crash could be heard for long distance, and the people living in the neighborhood were awakened by it and hastened to the scene to lend what help they could to the dying and dying. By 11 o'clock 19 bodies had been taken from the wreck. Assistance came from Republic and other places, and physicians and nurses hastened to the scene of the wreck, which presented a sickening sight to the eyes of the spectators the Ashtabula horror of 1876.

Among the passengers were Charles P. Toll and wife of Detroit, who were returning from their bridal tour. Mr. Toll gives the following account of the disaster:

"I was awakened by being thrown violently from my berth. I found myself outside of the engine, baggage car, one coach and the sleeper. The train collided with an east bound freight, which had got stalled a mile west of Republic, and eight miles east of Tiffin. The two engines were wrecked. The coach telescoped into the baggage car, so completely that the sleeper was crushed into the space of one. The two sleepers were thrown off the track. The telescoped cars caught fire from the stoves, and the mangled and crushed passengers imprisoned in them were shrieked in the agony as the flames proceeded with their work of death. The engineer and fireman of the freight jumped from themselves from the collision. The engineer of the express, named Eastman, had a leg broken and was slightly scalded on one side of the shoulder. His fireman was caught between the tender and the engine and died in few minutes. No one in the sleepers was injured, but they were in a severe shaking up.

Mrs. Fish, a sister of the late Gen. Logan, who was returning from Washington, was in the parlor car at the time.

DUE TO CARELESSNESS.

The real cause of the accident is generally conceded to be the cause of the accident. The reports agree that there was carelessness on the part of the railroad employes, but whether blame should attach to the freight or passenger train is a matter of conjecture. A thorough investigation will be made. The coroner has taken charge of the dead.

The same day, a disastrous wreck on the Boston & Albany road at Springfield, Mass., caused by a broken wheel. One person was killed to death, and 18 persons seriously injured.

A frightful accident occurred near Peoria, Ill., on the evening of the 6th. The east bound passenger train ran into a gang of men at work, returning from work. Three of the men were instantly killed.

BRIBE WITNESSES.

Congress Assembles After the Holiday Recess, Ready for Work.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, '87.

Members of both houses of the national legislature were on hand in full force on the morning of the 4th inst., seemingly greatly refreshed and strengthened and the enjoyment of the holiday vacation and apparently ready for work.

No legislative work was accomplished on the first day, however, as every member was engaged in the funeral ceremonies of the great calamity which has befallen the country—the death of Logan.

CARPET DEPARTMENT!

The finest in the State, with 100 different patterns consisting of

Ingrain, Tapestry, Brussels, Wiltons, Body Brussels, Welton Velvets, Moquetts; also Hemps, Matting, Rugs, Mats, Oil Cloths.

Stair Carpets, Stair Rodes, Hassocks, and Foot Stools.

OUR PRICES ARE UNDER ALL THE REST.

So our Customers say, and what everybody says, must be so.

Wooden Ware Department.

6 Dozen Clothes Pins, 10c, Potato Mashers 5 cents, Rolling Pins, 10 cents, Lap Boards, 40 cents, Mixing Boards, 40 cents, Towel Rollers, 15 cents.

No trouble to show goods.

Our store is well lighted and goods can be shown as well by night as day.

All goods delivered a distance of 25 miles by team or rail, Free of Charge.

Chairs and Tables to Rent for parties.

Wishing you all "Merry Christmas," we remain, Yours Respectfully,

TOMPKINS & WILLIAMS.

P. S. Come and leave your orders early.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!

BY THE THOUSAND AT

TOMPKINS & WILLIAMS'

CUR FURNITURE DEPARTMEMT

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

PRICES NEVER AS LOW

500 Styles Chairs from 75c to $8 in price
150 Styles Center Tables from $2 75 to $25 00 in price
25 Styles Lounges from $4 75 to $40 00
25 Styles Chamber Suites from $18 00 to $100 00 in price.
25 Styles Parlor Suits from $45 to $150 in price.

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

DO Not Fail to come and see us before making purchases.

We defy any house in the State to undersell us.

Follow the Crowd to Tompkins & Williams.

CURTAIN POLES IN ALL LENGTHS.

Wood Trimmed Poles, 40c.

Brass Trimmed Poles, 45c.

Curtain Chains,

Drapery Hooks.

Stair Carpets, Stair Rodes, Hassocks, and Foot Stools.

OUR PRICES ARE UNDER ALL THE REST.

So our Customers say, and what everybody says, must be so.

Wooden Ware Department.

6 Dozen Clothes Pins, 10c, Potato Mashers 5 cents, Rolling Pins, 10 cents, Lap Boards, 40 cents, Mixing Boards, 40 cents, Towel Rollers, 15 cents.

No trouble to show goods.

Our store is well lighted and goods can be shown as well by night as day.

All goods delivered a distance of 25 miles by team or rail, Free of Charge.

Chairs and Tables to Rent for parties.

Wishing you all "Merry Christmas," we remain, Yours Respectfully,

TOMPKINS & WILLIAMS.

P. S. Come and leave your orders early.

THE ROBBER CONFESSES.

Considerable of the Pacific Express Money Refunded.

A dispatch from Leavenworth, Kansas, of the 30th ult says:

On the arrival of the 9 o'clock Rock Island train this evening four Pinkerton detectives in charge of Wittrock alighted and took a close range for the residence of his mother on Miami street. Arriving at Wittrock's heavily armed, entered the house. The chief demanded that the premises be placed in his hands, and a thorough search commenced.

The United Pinkertons confident enough, owed to gain an entrance into the building. Not was other than to remain on the outside. One of the detectives stepped out on the porch and stated that nothing could be will concerning the capture of Wittrock and the officers in Leavenworth; that to-day they would have a position to take. Every door of the house, which is a commodious one, was guarded, two with loaded barrels, and Mrs. Wittrock was placed in charge of Wittrock, while the other two commenced a search of the premises.

No statement could be had concerning their intended departure, but it is believed they will go to Kansas City on the 4:45 Missouri Pacific train, and one theory is that they will take Wittrock with them, a blind to cover up several very important streets to be about, and the boy guessing the number is to be Dan Moriarty, the card master at St. Louis, at the time of the robbery. The press has failed to get a sly clew to his whereabouts since 1 p. m. yesterday, and he is being hunted for and parties who were shadowing him have lost track, and it is thought that he is not in the city nor at his home.

The appearance of Wittrock with the four detectives at the Union depot, at 7 o'clock this evening, brought the crowd, created the wildest excitement. Many parties knew Wittrock and attempted to follow after them.

Wittrock made a full confession of the robbery, but cannot be stated who are his accomplices. A large amount of money has been recovered, it having been concealed in a box under a barn near the house. The detectives were taken to the spot last night by Wittrock and the box dug up. It was brought to this city by cook and concealed by him and three other young men whose names are not known. The amount of money recovered is stated to be $22,000.

Every party implicated in the robbery is a former resident of Fort Scott, Kansas. Cook, Wittrock and Haight were school boys together. As they grew up they became wild and reckless, and finally classed as rough characters. They were all here last summer, and it is the Grand Trunk, which is feeling its way cautiously in the direction of St. Louis and within sixty days, it is claimed, will demonstrate that it means business and will have a line to St. Louis by the latter part of 1887. The proposed route is almost an air line and is projected through Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Jackson, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Saline, Tecumseh, Adrian, Blissfield, Ridgeway, Ida, Petersburg, Ottawa, Lake, Erie, Ida, Carleton, Berlin, Sullivan, Pana, Tuscola, Ill., giving direct connection with St. Louis.

The'll Bless Algar.

Gov. Alger has pardoned Mrs. Kate Larson, a young girl in the Detroit house of correction under life sentence for murder. Mrs. Larson was convicted of murder in the first degree in Kalamazoo county on Feb. 17, 1885, after a trial lasting three weeks. She was indicted jointly with her husband, the murder being that of an old man named John Gindell. It was claimed that the accused gave him a dose of "rough on rats," which proved fatal, the object being to get possession of a sum of money which he was reputed to have stolen from a bank. The trial occurred in 1885. At the time of Mrs. Larson's trial there was much sympathy in her behalf, but it began. A motion for a new trial was denied, and on March 11, 1884, she was sentenced to Jackson for life. The sentence was a few days later commuted to the Detroit house of correction.

After Mrs. Larson's sentence Muskegon people took a deep interest in her case, and she was acquitted. Taking all these facts into consideration, as well as the evidence, Gov. Alger holds the woman to be innocent. Mrs. Larson is rather a prepossessing woman in appearance, and has always stoutly maintained her innocence. She has accepted her incarceration resignedly.

HOME NEWS.

The commissions of sixty presidential postmasters will expire in January.

G. J. Lund, assistant superintendent of the railway mail service, has resigned.

The senate chamber has been draped in mourning for Senator Logan, and the desk so long occupied by him is a mass of black.

The chairmanship of the senate committee on pensions, which Senator Logan has held for years, will probably go to Senator Sewell.

Thousands of hogs are dying of lung disease in southern Iowa.

Three men were instantly killed and two others seriously injured, by a boiler explosion near Des Moines, Iowa, on the 26th inst.

The general land office has received reports showing the removal, under preemptory orders from special agents of Iowa, from twenty enclosures, embracing over 70,000 acres of land, principally in the Denver land district.

The material to be used in the construction of the St. Clair river tunnel is to be admitted into Canada free of duty.

Two million cigarettes were burned at Cairo, Ill., Dec. 29. With the cargoes the loss will amount to about $1,000,000.

Mrs. Eliza Stanford, of Stanford's Corners, Jefferson county, N. Y., a young married woman aged 19 years, was burned to death the other day. She was alone in the house, and it is supposed her clothes caught fire from a spark from a stove, and once after the accident. She rushed out of the house to a neighbor's, her burning clothes all ablaze, and every particle of clothing was burned from her body before setting could be extinguished.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Gladstone celebrated his 76th birthday on the 29th ult. He was the recipient of many valuable gifts, and telegrams of congratulatory were received from all parts of the world.

The recent elections in Ontario resulted in a victory for the liberal or reform party.

Over 200 lives were lost during the recent severe storm in Germany.

The Russian expedition which has been sent to Lake Victoria Nyanza, a branch of the Lena Delta in eastern Siberia and the new Siberian islands, where the Jeannette came to grief, is reported as successful.

Important.

When you visit or leave New York City have baggage, expressage, and $3 carriage hire, and stop at the GRAND UNION HOTEL opposite Grand Central Depot.

615 rooms, fitted up at the cost of one million dollars, $1 and upwards per day. Elevator. Restaurant supplied with the best. Cars to the Depot, that elevated railroad to all depots. Family rooms, $5 per day. Location, one of the Grand Union Hotel than at any other first-class hotel in this city.