Birmingham Eccentric

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, Pubs.

BIRMINGHAM, MICH.

Baron Vorwarts has near Stavenhagen in Mecklenburg, an estate of abou 5,000 acres. It is chiefly devoted to wheat and beet-root, and is worked by its owner on a form of co-operation; and although the times are bad, he is still able to make a good profit on the capital value of the estate. He is his own farmer. He pays very small wages in money, but the laborer is supplied with a house, a supply of corn, a piece of grazing land, the means of education and other advantages which enable him to live in comfort. The baron is content with 4 per cent. interest as his own share; and once in ten years he divides the remainder of the profits in equitable proportions among the peasantry. At the last division, which took p ace in 1884, as much as $200 or $250 fell to the share of a single family. The eccentric landlord lives among his people, and has so completely identified himself with their well-being that the peasants do not speak of "the Baron's wheat or horses," but of "our wheat" and "our horses." The Baron believes that so far as agriculture is concerned he has discovered the means of harmonising the interests of capital with those of labor.

The January number of Scribner's magazine is a veritable treasure trove. George A. Hibbard, a young lawyer of Buffalo, who has shown talent in both art and literature, contributes an illustrated story entitled "The End of the Beginning." The drawing are by the author and Francis Day. The poetry is notable. Thomas Hardy's aldrich constributes a poem in his best vein, entitled "White Edith." Andrew Lang, Charles Edwin Markham, C. P. Cranch and Graham R. Tomson are among the other contributors of verse. The illustrations for "The Man at Arms," were made by E. H. Blashfield from the unique collections of military manikins in the Paris Museum of Artillery, and also from old manuscripts, prints and tombal effigies. The series of charming essays which Robert Louis Stevenson will contribute for 1888 is well under way, the author's improved health in the Adirondack region enabling him to work with comfort. "A Chapter on Dreams" in the January number will be succeeded in February by "The Lantern Bearers," which is said to be filled with delicate, fancy and delightful criticism.

They tell a good story in Chicago of Phil Armour in connection with his $500,000 mission chapel. He wanted it to be undenominational and broadly religious. One day he sent for the preacher who had charge and said: "You're giving these youngsters too much grape and canister. Heil fire and brimstone are all right for old sinners, but the mission isn't for them. Now I want you to change around and try another plan. If you don't you'll drive all those children away. When you begin your talks in the morning you can read a chapter from the Bible—something short. Then have a little prayer, something short—not longer than that"—measuring off about a foot with his forefingers. Then I want you to sing—sing a good many times. Then tell a story, something with a point to it and a moral, but short. Then you have another little prayer, but mind you, no longer than that," holding up his hands about six inches apart. The minister said he'd try, and the mission has been run on Armour's plan ever since, and the seats are all full every Sunday.

An old citizen of Sinclairsv'le, Pa., recently in attempting to eat an apple discovered that his false teeth were missing. He at once concluded that he had swallowed them, and sent for a doctor. That gentleman made a careful examination, and was at a loss to know how a full set of upper teeth could slip their moorings and get down a small throat and into a man's stomach without the subject being aware of it. The owner of the teeth, tormented with horrible inward sinkings, went to Buffalo and engaged three consulting surgeons, insisting that the set of teeth was killing him, and that he must be cut open and relieved. The gentlemen had about concluded to comply with the request and were about to resort to the knife, when a telegram came from the man's home that the plate, with teeth intact had been found near his his house The imagination is certainly a potent factor when it comes to weighing the ills that flesh is heir to.

A strange incident occurred recently in Selma, Ala., where one Jordan, who calls himself a "faith doctor," has been performing "cures" and has attained considerable influence over some ignorant people. He held a "pass-over feast" and set forth the necessity of a sacrifice. An old and weak-minded Negress offered herself for this purpose, whereupon Jordan deliberately cut the throat. He was arrested, as he certainly should have been, for a cold-blooded murder. It is said in his behalf that he is insane. In that case an asylum is the only place for him.

Another warning against the cigarette habit comes from Philadelphia, where a boy of sixteen is found to have come from sleeping peacefully. He was in the habit, is stated, of smoking twenty or more cigarettes a day. A few months only have passed since a well known young man died in New York City from a similar cause. If boys don't learn wisdom in this matter it will not be the result of the energetic protests nature is making, or of the severe lessons she is teaching.

The loss of life and property on the great lakes has been less this year than in any year since 1883. Two hundred and four lives have been lost and seventy-three vessels of 20,587 registered tons went down, representing a loss of $722,00 on hulls and $408,400 on cargoes. If the minor losses be added the whole loss would exceed two and a half millions.

The gentleman so often spoken of in novels who riveted people with his gaze has now obtained permanent employment as a boiler manufactory.

STATE NEWS.

SHEEP MEN SPEAK

And Express Their Opinion on the Tariff Question.

The eighth annual meeting of the Michigan Merino sheep breeders' association was held in Lansing, Dec. 21. Reports of the secretary and treasurer showed the association to be in a flourishing condition, with money in the treasury.

The address of President John T. Rich of Ionia was devoted entirely to the wool tariff question. The president's address, one-eighth of the entire message, he said, was devoted to a recommendation for the abolishment of the duty on wool. This, if carried out, would not only ruin Michigan wool growers, he urged that as the duty of the association to vigorously protest against the adoption of the president's recommendation. On Dec. 15 he address ed each member of the Michigan congressional delegation asking on behalf of the association if he would favor the repeal and influence oppose any further reduction of the wool tariff. Unqualifiedly favorable replies were received from Senator Stockbridge and Representatives Burrows, Catchcon, Hopkins, Brewer, O'Donnell and Allen.

Papers were read as follows: "Is it advisable to issue a register annually in the form of an annual report?" and "Is it advisable for members of the Michigan merino sheep breeders' association to belong to any other sheep breeders' association?" by D. P. Dewey of Grand Rapids.

A committee was appointed to prepare new rules of the flock register. The secretary a salary was fixed at $60 per annum and the following days were elected: President—John T. Rich of Ionia; vice-president, O. W. Stewart of Grand Blanc; secretary, E. S. Hall of Hamburg; treasurer, J. Byrts Smith of Ypsilanti.

The following resolutions were adopted, and arrangements made to have the associations represented at Washington this winter when tariff matters are before the proper committees:

Whereas, The association meets in annual convention at a time when the great interest it represents is being assailed with the most serious danger to its future,

Therefore, The danger arising from the fact that the existing heavy tariff on wool is deemed by his ability to recommend further reduction to the extreme limit of abrogation of the system of protection which has created the industries great and prosperous, and

Whereas, The claim upon which this recommendation is based is that it has become necessary to reduce the revenue of the country; it is therefore hereby

Resolved, That we will regard the proposition of the president to put wool on the free list as fraught with the most dangerous consequences, if not the annihilation of an industry inseparably connected with an agricultural prosperity of this state.

Resolved That the argument that the duties upon wool should be repealed because the revenue fails to the ground when it is remembered that the entire revenue collected upon foreign wool only amounted to $5,000 00.

Resolved, That we believe it to be quite easy to reduce the revenues of the country to the limit desired without impoverishing a single interest or industry in which any number of the citizens of this land are engaged.

Resolved, That since the reduction of the last duties upon wool in 1883 the sheep-breeding and wool-growing industry of this and sister states has suffered severe y from the constant depression which has prevailed, and while the revenues have been increased, contrary to the purpose of those who made the reduction, the foreign wool grower and foreign manufacturer profited largely at the expense of our wool growers.

Resolved, That we will upon our senators and representatives in congress to oppose by ways and means in their power any further reduction of the tariff on wool or woolens, which can be produced or manufactured in the United States a those industries.

Resolved, That while we that the constitution of the United States guarantees to every citizen the right of petition, and whereas as congress and the executive cannot know what the people desire unless they make their wants known; and whereas the present classification of wool has been found ob ectionable from the fact that enormous frauds are being practiced under it, and that the value of wool has been reduced and different manner of working the wool has rendered possible the evasion of the duties imposed by law, therefore,

Resolved, That the following changes in the classification of wool is respectively recommended:

First—That the distinct on between the wool of the first and second classes shall be discontinued as unnecessary.

Second—That the dividing line be reduced from six to 2c.

Third—That the wools of what is now the third class shall be so classified as not to include any wools grown in this country by making the price at the last port of shipment or below that no wools which could be grown in this country would be admitted under it; say 5c per pound, and that no wool be admitted free of duty.

Fourth—That washed wools shall be held to be wool washed in cold water on the sheep. Scoured wool shall be held to be that treated with hot water bearing a warm water or ally cleansing solution. All wools, in addition, shall be classed as scoured wool to be charged three times the rates charged the rates charged in their several classes. All manufactured goods to be charged the highest rate which any portion of the mixtures would be subject to. Wools further advanced in the manufacture to be charged proportionately higher rates.

Resolved That in the opinion of this convention the importation of foreign wools to adulterate the wools of our country ought to be absolutely prohibited by law.

A resolution was also adopted providing for the circulation by members of a petition urging no further reduction of wool tariff.

At the meeting of the Galloway breeders' association at the same time, the following officers were elected: President, J. B. Smith of St. Johns; vice-president, L. B. Townsend of Ionia; secretary and treasurer, R. G. Hart of Lapeer.

MOFFATT DEAD.

His Death Caused by Blood-Poisoning—A Career Briefly Told.

Hon. Seth C. Moffatt, a representative from the eleventh district of Michigan, died in Providence hospital in Washington on the 22d inst., of blood-poisoning from a malignant carbuncle. Mr. Moffatt's system was run down when he arrived at the opening of the session. He looked poorly and while not complaining of being ill, he had lost much of his vitality, so that he was in poor shape to withstand disease.

Seth C. Moffatt, the dead congressman, was born at Battle Creek, Aug. 10, 1841, where he received a common school education. He was then a student for one year in the literary department and two years in the law department of the state university. He graduated from the law department of the same time, the latter engaged in the practice of his profession for ten years he was prosecuting attorney of Grand Traverse and Leelanaw counties, was elec ed to the state senate for the session of 1871-2; in 1873 was a member of the constitutional commission; from 1874 to 18.8 was register of the United States land office at Traverse City, and was delegate to the state legislature in 1884, and served as speaker. In 1881 he was a delegate to the national convention at Chicago, and the same year was elected to congress, receiving 16,467 votes, against 8,792 for the fus on nominee.

His record in congress has seldom been equaled by a new member. The bill to grant Presque Isle to the city of Marquette for the purpose of a public park was put through the house by Mr. Moffatt in spite of objections. He secured the passage of the bill for the sale of the Fort Brady military reservation and the erection of a new post there. He also secured large appropriations for Detroit and Saginaw improvements, and it was principally owing to his efforts that the Sin. Marie's Falls canal was deepened for. He was re-elected in 1886 by 14,585 votes to 12,343 for John Power, his democratic opponent.

In his party Mr. Moffatt held a high place. In 1884 his district sent him as a delegate to the republican convention at Chicago.

The committee designated to escort the remains home are Secretary Fairchild, Joseph of Arkansas, and Teller of Colorado; Congressmen Catcheon, Ford, Brewer and Fisher of Michigan. Wade and Senators Lyman of Iowa, and Shively of Indiana.

The circumstances attending the absence of Mrs. Moffatt are particularly sad. She was first notified by telegraph that her husband was ill and needed her help. Subsequently this was countermanded by a dispatch telling her not to come. Finally Congressman Wade, Mr. Moffatt's room mate, telegraphed: "Husband quite sick, but do not be alarmed. Come on." Mrs. Moffatt started at once, but did not reach the capital until after her husband's death.

Soldiers' Home Notes.

Gov. Luce says that the saloon near the soldiers' home has been closed, proprietors being influenced by recent decision of United States supreme court in Kansas prohibition case. The home is in excellent condition, has now 350 inmates with 30 out on furloughs. Twenty-nine died last year, but only three of these were inmates one year ago, and others were sick when they came. Rheumatic troubles were the cause of an unity of deaths. A $7,500 appropriated for running expenses this year not more than $30,000 will be expended. The farm is good, and as far as possible the boys go every one of the boys are happy. Three-fourths of veterans are readers and the board of control has directed expenditure of $200 for additional library facilities.

Michigan News Briefly Told.

Barry county gives local option 1,000 maj rity.

Civil service examinations will occur in M chigan as follows: Detroit, Thursday, March 22; Lansing, Saturday, March 24; Grand Rapids, Tuesday, March 27th; Detroit, Friday, November 9th; Lansing, Monday, November 12th. Applications must be filed with the commissioner at least six days before the time fixed for the examination.

A syndicate, composed of Muskegon, Whitehall and Shelby parties, has brought 12,500 acres of land situated in Benona, Oceana county. There is on it a large body of timber and at the mouth of Duck creek is an excellent water power, on which will probably be built a saw-mill.

If Col. Farsworth is successful in his lobbying venture the state militia of the state troops will have permission to use all the territory they need on Mackinac island for their annual encampment. Some permanent improvements will doubtless then be made for them at that point.

Orlando Hopkins, a fireman on the F. & P. M. road, was instantly killed while coupling cars at East Saginaw.

John Kenyon, a Branch county farmer, was swindled out of $600 by three card monte men at Coldwater.

Leulla Bowers, a domestic employed at the Commercial hotel, Port Huron, was killed by a dog eight or more years ago. She is now suffering all the horrors of hydrophobia.

Fulton, who killed his wife near Corunna, has been found guilty of murder in the first degree.

The Commercial house in Dundee was destroyed by fire the other day.

Operations on the oil and gas wells in Kilmaster have been suspended until spring.

The state conference of the union labor party of Michigan is to be held in Detroit, January 10.

W. E. Barker of Detroit offers to give $2,500 toward a fund for building a furniture factory in Adrian.

Maj. William W. Vantwerp, postmaster of Jackson, died at his home in that city on the 21st inst.

The case of the state of Michigan vs. A. P. Swinefordand others, in the circuit court at Marquette on the 21st inst., Judge Grand holding that Gov. Swineford was the agent of the state of Michigan and instructing the jury to bring in judgment against him for the balance amounted for of the New Orleans exposition fund—$750. The case will be appealed.

Farney Vosburg, a prominent politi an of Kalamazoo county, died at his home in Galesburg a few days ago from a disease contracted during service in the war.

A resolution was also adopted providing for the circulation by members of a petition urging no further reduction of wool tariff.

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Soldiers' Home Notes.

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Poultry Chats.

Dan Fulton of Corunna goes to prison for 15 e for murdering his wife.

The Michigan salt association, through President Wellington R. Burt closed a contract with the Michigan salt company for 1 5 cars, each of 50,000 pounds capacity. They will be run in four trains between the Saginaw valley and Chicago exclusively for the transportation of salt. The contract calls for the completion of the cars by June 15th.

Eastern Michigan fair and pet stock association are getting out premium list for first exhibition Feb. 15-18 at Detroit. Those wishing to join may secure one by so by remitting 25 which pays all dues for one year and also entitles members to admission at first exhibition. B. N. Pierce of Indianapol's will be judge.

The best load of Christmas cattle sold in Buffalo this year we're fed and raised by Lucas. They were shipped there by a Bron on firm, and sold at $5.75 per cwt. They averaged 1,467 pounds and were thoroughbred Durhams.

The report of the collector of customs shows that during the season 900,000 pieces of cedar, 1,000,000 feet of lumber, 7,500 tons of salt and 1,700 tons of iron ore have been imported into the United States through the Chicago custom house. The law says that boats from canadian ports must enter and re ort at the Chicago, but the duties have all been collected in Chicago.

Dr. H. B. Palmer, LL.D., dean of the department of medicine and surgery, and professor of pathology and practice of medicine and clinical medicine in the universi y, is dead.

GENERAL NEWS.

Great suffering exists in portions of Kansas because of the scarcity of coal.

Portions of Kan as, Nebraska, Colorado, Mi ouri and Dakota were swept by a cyclone on the 20th inst.

The Pennsylvania railroad has perfected a saving institution for its employes.

The monster timber raft which was to have been towed from New Brunswick to New York went to pieces in a gale, and now floats in the track of the Bermuda steamers, a great danger to ocean navigation. Secretary Whitney has ordered an attempt of the navy yard to go in search of the missing raft.

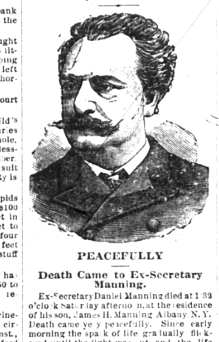
Fourteen thousand gallons of naphtha escaped into the sewers of Gouverner, N. Y. The gas ignited, causing numerous fires and explosions. Great damage was done to property and the entire village was practically destroyed. Three men were killed, and at least 20 more or less injured.

New York wo kingwomen have begun to organize into the K. of L.

The treasu y department will keep out 2,000 Belgian mirrors imported to take the places of the Lehigh district str k ng miners.

Henry Henning, one of the Missouri Pacific strikers of St. Louis, now in prison for murdering Richard Townsend, an officer at Fort Worth, Texas, has his sentence affirmed by the Texas supreme court.

Mexico, to induce immigration, has granted free loan from taxes on 25,000,000 acres of land bought by a company for actual settlement, which said company will locate in Europe and America.



PEACEFULLY

Death Came to Ex-Secretary Manning.

Ex-Secretary Daniel Manning died at 1 30 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the residence of his son, James H. Manning Albany N.Y. Death came very peacefully. Since early morning the spa k of life gradually flickered until the light was out and the life was done. He died in the presence of his family, those around his bedside being Mrs. Daniel Manning, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick C. Manning, Mrs. John C. Delhanty, Miss Mary E. Manning, Mr. Wm. J. Fryer and Mr. Hovell L. Fryer.

Mr. Manning's mental faculties remained bright for the past few days and nearly to the hour of his death he kept calling to his wife intac , and he could understand what was going on. At noon the end began to appear, and all was prepared. He had received holy communion at the hands of the Rev. Fr. D. Lovejoy, Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, several times since the land of death appeared, and the clergyman was at his bedside during the hours of consolation.

Mr. Manning came to Albany on Tuesday evening. He e t ith. is sick rest. Fe k C. Manning, Mrs. John C. Delhanty, Miss Mary E. Manning, Mr. Wm. J. Fryer and Mr. Hovell L. Fryer.

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The Holiday Vacation.

Congress adjourned December 23, until Wednesday Jan. 4, 1888. In the senate the adjournment motion gave rise to a very bitter and partisan discussion, but was finally carried by a vote of 37 to 19. But little was gained by the annual discussion over the question of holiday adjournment, is hard to determine. It has always been the custom, as it is the privilege, for members to go to their homes for the holiday season. If such a thing as the law of congress to pass the annual resolution, should ever occur, there would not be members enough in the senate for the transaction of business. Stop wrang ing about the matter, gentlemen, and devote the three days usually spent in this way to the discussion of matters of more importance to the people. Nothing of great importance has been accomplished thus far. There never is. At best, all that can be done from the time the same meets until the road till time adjournment for the holidays, is the selection of places of residence and boarding houses, the choice of seats in the senate and house of representatives and other matters of minor importance.

A Major Appointed.

Maj. J. M. Wright of Louisville, Ky, has been appointed marshal of the United States court in Kentucky. Maj. Wright who ret res to devote himself to literary work. The po ition is a life one, with a salary of $1,0 0 a year.

Maj. Wright is one of Louisville's best citizens. He is a grad ate of West Point, and was at one time on Gen. Buel's staff. He was for some time an editorial writer on the Courier Journal. Afterward he was made superintendent of the board of trade and later president of the southern exp sition company.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Dan Doherty, the American who shot and killed George M. Graham, another American in London, has been convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to penal servitude f r life.

Jules Ferry has so far recovered as to be able to be about again.

The estimated value of the Pope jubilee presents will reach $15,000,000.

Pilgrims are flocking to Rome from every quarter of the globe to attend the Pope's jubilee.

Owing to nihilistic disturbances, the university at St. Petersburg has been closed.

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2.—It is the only paper in the Northwest which prints the full Associated Press dispatches. It has a large staff of correspondents in all parts of the United States and Canada, and prints all the general news of the day.

3.—Special attention is paid to the Michigan News, all parts of the State receiving due attention.

4.—Its Market Reports are full and always reliable.

5.—It has a new feature in its splendid Agricultural Department, conducted by Edward Hall, of great value to Farmers and Gardeners.

6.—It is a staunch supporter of public schools; the best and liberal educational policies are warmly advocated in its columns.

7.—Its Literary features are unequaled. It has a serial story in every issue, and short stories, sketches, etc., from the best writers. Subscribers to the Weekly may also have the Sunday Free Press by paying 50 cents additional.

8.—It is unsectarian in religion, but fearlessly exposes hypocrisy in every church.

9.—It is Democratic in politics, but fearlessly criticises the acts of Democratic officials when they are wrong.

10.—It is the equal of any other Weekly paper in the country.

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Atrophy(failure in any tissue) impotence, and no medicine is equal to it for Hysteria. "A trial of one package convinces the most skeptical. 50 cents, 1 case cure for heaves will produce greater results than four times the quantities in any other remedy and convince the most skeptical of its merits. Sold everywhere, or sent by mail. Other remedies are put upon the market as the Wells Remedy. Be sure you send for the most prominent Liver, Kidney, Transportation and Expectorant. Detailed and particular pamphlet free. For Sale By

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$500 Reward!

We will pay the above reward for any case of Liver complaint, dyspepsia, sick headache, indigestion or constipation or costiveness that we cannot cure with West's Vegetable Liver Pills, when the directions are strictly complied with. They are purely vegetable and never fail to give satisfaction. Sugar coated, 40 pills in a vial. Sugar coated pills, 25c. For sale by all druggists. Beware of imitations and substitutes. These pills are manufactured only by JOHN C. WEST & CO., 162, 164, Madison street, Chicago, Ill. U.S.A.

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—AT—

Tompkins & Williams

Our assortment of Christmas presents for this year is as large and fine as any stock in the state, and we cannot be undersold.

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80 styles of Rattan Rockers and Chairs from $3.25 to $12.00
100 styles of Center Tables and Stands from $1.00 to $20.
37 Styles of Carpet and plush Couches from $5.00 to $35.00
20 styles of Ladies' Platform Rockers in Plush, Silk Brocatelle and Marbleized Silk Plush, from $7.50 to $40.00
40 styles of Students' Rockers and Chairs in Plush and Spun Silk from $2.25 to $25.
20 styles of Parlor Suits in Mohair, Plush and Silk Plush from $35. to $125.
40 styles of Smyrna Rugs from $1.50 $5.00
25 styles of Nottingham Lace Curtains, by the pair from $1.25 to $7.50
125 patterns of Carpets in Ingrain, Tapestry Brussels, Body Brussels, Velvets and Moquette, from 35c to $1.60 per yard. Carpet paper 4c per yard.
200 styles of Cane and Carpet Rockers, from 75c to $3.
20 styles of Childrens' High-chairs, in wood, cane and rattan seats, from $1 to $4.50. 15 styles of Children's Rockers from 75c to $2.50.
25 styles Chamber Suits in antique Oak and Ash, Imitation Mahogany, Walnut and solid Walnut, from $14 to $80.
A fine assortment of Leather Chairs and Rockers.
A large line of Oil Cloths. Curtain Chains and Drapery Pins.
A large assortment of Looking Glasses from 20c to $10.
Curtain Poles complete, from 35c to $1.50. Poles in all lengths for Arches and Double Doors.
Pillow Shaw Holders, the best in the market, for 75c.
A large line of Hall Racks, Book Cases, Book Shelves, Sideboards, Dish Cupboards Wardrobes, Commodes, Bureaus, Beadsteads, Bed Springs, Mattresses, Extension Tables, Fall Leaf Tables, Work Tables, Clothes Bars, Coat Hooks, etc.

WOODENWARE.

Wash Tubs, 50c to 60c.
Mop Sticks, 10c
Sugar Tubs, 33c to 45c.
Butter Moulds, 35c.
Rolling Pins, 10c.
Ironing Boards, 75c.
Wash Boards, 20c to 80c.
Pails, 15c to 45c.
Brooms, 20c to 30c.

Clothes Pins, 5 doz. for 10c.
Chopping Bowls, 5c to 25c.
Butter Ladles, 10c.
Scouring Brushes, 10c.
Kneading Boards, 50c.
Clothes Baskets, 30c to 60c.

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