Birmingham Eccentric
WEDNESDAY & MYCENAEL, FOR
EDITED BY MICE

An Englishman recently visiting America has written to the London Standard of what he saw in America, and some of his experiences while in the land of "boasted freedom." Speaking of our holidays he says: "The last day of May is a public holiday; all graves of soldiers killed in the various wars since Washington's time are strewed with flowers. All make it a point of honor to be present, and many looked more fit for a hospital, and their appearance promised that next year there would be more graves to decorate—more little flags and fresh flowers. The decorators this year become decorated next." In this connection he facetiously alludes to our generosity in caring for the survivors of our wars, in the following words: "Notwithstanding the reduction each year by death the pension roll does not decrease, but increases yearly. Benevolent senators devote their spare hours to securing pensions for people more or less deserving. Almost every one wounded in the war is now on the list, and a great many who only heard of the war. It is popularly supposed if they could only find the survivor in that little fratricidal war between Cain and Abel they would pension him. America spends more money in pensions than England does on her armies, which shows that war is an expensive amusement, even after it is ended.

Fire removes the dross and gives to the worker of precious metals the pure metal. Men and women are "tried as by fire," and are purified. There are times when public opinion can only be aroused to dem and the suppression of cells and haunts of iniquity which lower the moral standing of the community, by the visitation of some terrible calamity. Such is the case at Hurley, Wis. The good people of that place have stood aghast at the vice and crime which has run rampant ever since the place was platted, and seemed powerless to do anything to stay the mighty flood of evil. The fire a few days ago wiped out nearly, if not quite all of the gambling dens and houses of ill fame, and now that the flames have accomplished what human efforts could not do, the law-abiding and moral elemen, of the community has been aroused and demands of the local authorities the enactment of such ordinances as shall compel the proprietors of these places of crime to keep out of Hurley. The people are determined to purify the morals of that city and make the new Hurley better than the old.

A notable gathering of college men convened in Chicago recently, for the purpose of considering a petition to be addressed to the various traffic associations asking that the fares charged college students be reduced one-half. Many of the most distinguished American college presidents and professors were present at the meeting. After general discussion a resolution was adopted, appointing a committee to collect signatures to the petition, and see that it was properly presented to the railroads. Presidents Blanchard of Wheaton, Ill.; Lawes of Missouri; Scott of Ohio, and Professors Thompson of Pennsylvania, and Fiske of Evanston, compose the committee.

The new pistol law in Texas, which went into effect on July 4, punishes by fine and imprisonment all persons who carry on or about their persons, saddles, or in their saddle-bags a pistol, dirk or other deadly weapon. And to a gunner who acted if he could not carry a pistol in his traveling bag. "The Galveston News" replies no, unless he has his traveling-bag checked, as it is the evident purpose of the law to prevent people from having pistols within easy reach. If this law is faithfully enforced, Texas will be a new country in a few years.

Bradstreet's is authority for the statement that wages have generally increased to the standard of 1881 and 1882, which were prosperous years, in which 40,000 more workmen were employed than in 1885. From 1882 to 1885 there was a general decline in wages from 10 to 15 per cent. Since then there has been a general increase, and now has it not only been made up, but hundreds of new workmen have employment. With the prospect of good crops ahead the era of prosperity promises to be steady and bright.

Prof. Elisha Gray is said to have made a new discovery, which promises as extraordinary results as are obtained from the telephone. It is called autotelegraphy and it is claimed that it will be possible with its use to write upon a sheet of paper and have an autograph fac simile of the writing reproduced by telegraph 300 miles away and probably a much greater distance.

The latest edition of the United States Postal Guide records a new county in the state of Kansas named in honor of Greely. The number of towns in this county is two. Their names are respectively Horace and Tribune. We congratulate the little county upon its selection of names.

A unique charity has been founded by the late Sarah Marshall of Philadelphia. She leaves a fortune, estimated at $350,000 to $400,000 for the relief of chronic and incurable invalids who cannot be cared for in the general hospitals.

When a man buys a porous plaster he generally sticks to his bargain.—Peck's Transcript.

Sixty carloads of tea are now en route across the continent. This supply should furnish gossip for many a social circle.—Inter-Ocean.

The Mobile Item says: "The Graves of a Household" will appear next week." Democracy cannot come too soon.—New Orleans Picayune.

It is so hot down in New Jersey that farmers are doing their haying by moonlight. They use Jersey lightning on dark nights.—Burlington Free Press.

A balloon is like a boom. It inflates easily, makes a noise, nobody is afraid until it comes down, and then it wrecks all the just and unjust.—Philadelphia Call.

THE STATE.

CIVIL VS. MILITARY LAW.

A Nice Point to be Settled in the U. S. Court at Detroit.

A few days ago Private Clark, stationed at Fort Wayne, near Detroit, shot Private Albert Stone, as the latter was attempting to make his escape. Since that time the complaint has been made against Clark, charging him with feloniously, willfully and with premeditation shooting Private Albert Stone, inflicting a mortal wound, from which he died within one day.

It is the first time that the question of the jurisdiction of any civil court over offenses committed by persons belonging to either on a military reservation has been raised in Michigan, and cases elsewhere are rare. In the case of the articles of war, which are really United States statutes, reads:

"When any officer or soldier is accused of a capital crime, or of any offense against the person or property of any citizen of any of the United States which is punishable by the laws of the land, the commanding officer, and the officers of the regiment, troop, battery, company or detachment in which the person so accused belongs, are required, except in time war, upon application duly made by or on behalf of the party injured, to use their utmost endeavors to deliver him over to the civil magistrate, and to aid the officers of justice in apprehending and securing him in order to bring him to trial. If, upon such application, any officer refuses or willfully neglects, except in time of war, to deliver over such accused person to the civil magistrates or to aid the officers of justice in apprehending him, shall be dismissed from the service."

After the shooting it was stated by the commandant of Fort Wayne that the case was one wholly within the jurisdiction of the military authorities, and an investigation was instituted. Later reports further held that no civil authorities could in any way interfere. The above law, however, shows that the civil has a right to investigate, and that it is the duty of the commanding officers to aid in the investigation.

Section 5339, chapter III, title LXX. of the United States statutes provides that every person who commits the murder within any fort, arsenal, dockyard, magazine or in any place under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, shall suffer death. The punishment for manslaughter under such conditions is fixed at not more than three years' imprisonment and a fine of not over $1,000. The law further provides that these offenses shall be tried before any court of the United States, but the crime of manslaughter may be found under a charge of murder.

The question of jurisdiction is an interesting one, and the case will be watched with great interest. The general opinion seems to be that civil law must prevail in time of peace, and that a court martial cannot try for murder.

A Pleasure Trip's Sad Ending.

Saturday evening, July 16, Christopher Nicolaus, Mrs. Christopher Nicolaus, Jacob Bachmann and Jacob Rohler, all of Detroit, left home to go over to Eugene Le Boeuf's car house, situated on the Canadian shore just opposite the center of Belle Isle, to enjoy a social glass of wine, possibly to bring some of the beverage home with them. They started on the return at 11 o'clock. At first they made but slow progress on account of the strong and low downward bound, which was running close to the Canadian shore and stopped their passage. Nicolaus and Mrs. Barges Bachmann and Rohler bent to their oars and sent the little craft spinning through the water directly towards the old wharf at the lower end of the island.

About this time the steamer City of Mackinac left Detroit bound for Mackinac with about 100 feet of the island wharf the steamer struck the frail craft square on the beam and on her upward rise in halves. The force of the blow left the occupants of the row boat into the water and they were drawn beneath its surface by the powerful suction of the steamer's paddles before they had time even to utter a cry for help.

The accident was reported to any of the crew of the City of Mackinac, as there were no lights on the row boat.

STATE NEWS CONDENSED.

The Marquette Mining Journal says: Outside papers manifest disposition to question the genuineness of the Lake Superior gold find. The Mining Journal begs to assure the doubters that there has been no exaggeration of the facts concerning the discoveries in the lode mines, or in the reports sent to the daily press. The rock is wonderfully rich in native gold, and there is no writer, press, or in which the yellow metal is plainly visible, and that would assay not less than $25., 000 to the ton. The Ontonagon mines, of which the veteran Col. Gratiot Harrison is manager, are now in full operation, and the Michigan sanhedrin will be instituted. The formal organization of the new society is suggested as a compromise at the special meeting of the Michigan press association, to be held at Detroit next week. It is intended to satisfy those who aim to have a press business association, while not interfering with the old society.

The extension of the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic has impelled a rush of homesteaders into Gogebic and Ontonagon counties. Land is very good, well timbered with pine and hard wood. There are not many swamps, but those found there are generally good cedar land. The soil gives splendid growths of hay now wherever roads are dinned, showing the productiveness of the land.

Papers have been issued from the governors office commuting the sentence of Wm. Devine, who was convicted of murder for life for arson last March, from the Genesee circuit court, to eight years from the date of sentence, on condition that he go to the intent of the prisoner when the crime was committed. The judge and others cognizant of the facts recommend the commutation.

Mrs. Wm. Simpel of Port Sherman, was taken with a fit the other morning and falling with her face in the soft sand in the yard she smothered to death before she was discovered. She was 17 years of age and married but three months ago. Mrs. Simple was a daughter of Henry Kent of Ravenna. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict in accordance with the above facts.

The Western state plaster association held its annual meeting at Grand Rapids a few days ago, with Michigan, Illinois and Iowa represented. The past year's business was reported to be in a very satisfactory condition. The officers were elected as follows: President, F. S. Noble; secretary and treasurer, B. C. Forrey, both of Grand Rapids.

The wife of Mrs. Potter of Marlette, the old woman who disappeared some days since, has been found in the woods. She had lost her way, and although but half a mile from home, was so bewildered that she perished of fatigue, fright and hunger. Her husband, who had left her bed, and she had been wandering about a narrow circle for days.

Early in June Bernard T. Michenfelder of Detroit, was bitten in the arm by a pet dog. He hastened to a physician and had the wound cauterized. Nothing daunted by getting along finely, until on the 12th last, when unmistakable symptoms of hydrophobia appeared, and he died in terrible agony on the 15th inst.

The United States geological survey, although in doubt about the upper peninsula gold discoveries, the statement is made by somebody else, will continue its researches along the Atlantic slope and about the Great Lakes. The gold and iron country around Lake Superior will be particularly looked after.

Joseph Casper, a woodsman, living three miles west of Newaygo, has been arrested charged with assault upon the person of his 14-years-old daughter. The complaint was made by a neighbor who witnessed the commission of the crime. Casper is in jail in default of $5,000 bail.

Rev. J. Childs of Red Jacket made a complaint against 18 saloonkeepers of that village for keeping open saloons on Sunday. The trial was called, but the matter was settled by compromise, the saloonkeepers paying the costs and signing a written agreement to observe the law in the future.

In 1864 an address was delivered before the Michigan legislature on the "Undeveloped Resources of Michigan," in which all of that part of the west half of the upper peninsula that is through the Menominee & Milwaukee railroad, was reckoned as one of the undeveloped regions of the state.

The following are the new officers of the state pharmaceutical association: President, A. Bassett, Detroit; first vice-president, A. W. Whitney, Lansing; second vice-president, H. B. Fairchild, Grand Rapids; secretary, Stanley E. Perrill, Owosso; treasurer, William Jennings, Detroit.

Prof. Wesley Sears, the new superintendent of the state public school, has been visiting the institution. The school now contains 213 children. The new laundry building is completed and the boys have commenced upon a large addition to the school house.

A meeting of the Detroit, Charlevoix & Escanaba railroad company has just been held at Petoskey, at which there were some negotiations with other lines for connections. The report of the survey is so favorable that it is thought the road will be completed November 1.

Geo. O. Reis, superintendent of the Gogebic charcoal iron furnace, was shot by three cash hands while driven from the railroad track in Ishpeming by another train. Another man received serious injuries, but it is not known yet who is responsible for the accident.

Arrangements have been made for the transportation of the 1,000 or more members G. A. R. encampment at St. Louis in September. Half rates or better will be given and it is expected a number of Michigan veterans will attend. Gov. Luce and staff will be there.

At the last meeting of the state pharmaceutical association the following action was adopted condemning the sale of liquors as a beverage by druggists, and placing the matter in the hands of a vigilance committee to enforce penalties for such offenses.

A barn owned by J. H. Rowe of Orange township, Isabella county, was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire, together with the entire wheat and hay crops. The loss on the barn and crops is $2,500 and the finest in Orange township. Loss, $2,500.

Lightning struck a barn on the farm of Allen Mosher in Lyon township, Oakland county, and destroyed it together with Mr. Mosher's entire hay and wheat crop, involving a loss of more than $1,000 and $300 which bore an insurance of $500.

After a long chase the officers of the reform school at Lansing overhauled James Arnold, a 16-year-old boy who escaped and evaded capture with the skill of a professional crook. He was captured at Grand Rapids by means of the telegraph.

There are four trains a day loaded with logs passing over the spur built from Vanderbuilt on the Mackinaw division of the Michigan railroad to Onaway and Alpena, involving a loss of more than $1,000 and $300 which bore an insurance of $500.

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Gangs of men under the efficient Foreman Schultz, are busily engaged in repairing the damage done by the recent storm. Trees have been cut away, and the road bed put in good condition. Trains are now running on time.

Striking miners at Winthrop, 250 in number, have gone back to work, their demands having been satisfied. There will be no rioting or troubleduring the progress of the strike.

A station on the Toledo, Ann Arbor & Northern railroad has been established at Blanchs corners in Cohoctah, Livingston county. It will be called Cohoctah.

Alva Alexander of Ionia has a fine collection of Big Rapids thoroughfares, and was willing to settle for $125, but the city did not care to settle. Now he sues for $5,000.

William Sefferlin, for nearly 50 years a business man of Pontiac, is dead. He had been a Free Mason for 60 years, having joined the order at Detroit.

Some one entered Patton Morrison's house in Jackson the other night, and decamped with $1,000 in money and a quantity of jewelry.

The Ludington and Chapin mines pay out monthly from $80,000 to $90,000 per month in wages which is a good thing for Iron Mountain.

Galligan & Horn of Kalamazoo, have purchased the Donovan phaeton cart business at Quincy, and will remove the stock to Kalamazoo.

Flat car building is to be added to East Saginaw's business activities. The capitalists in the city are engaged in the business.

William J. Cunningham, a well-known citizen of Jackson, died recently and in the Clinton river at Mr. Clemens a few days ago.

Albert Strong, a young man who was injured by the cars near Wasepi a few days ago, has since died of his injuries.

The Stanton milling company, recently organized with $25,000 capital, proceeds to the business of Turner & Reynolds.

Prof. Chas. A. Davis of Chicago has been appointed to the chair of natural science in the Presbyterian college at Alma.

Lapeer county soldiers' association will have a grand picnic and ha vest dance at Pepperell park on August 26.

Dr. Duff of Port Huron, has accepted the appointment of brigade hospital steward of the Michigan state troops.

A quiet Lenten season is spending the heard season in jail, because he had one wife more than the law allows.

Chicago capitalists will invest in the Ishpeming gold mine, and the capacity of the mine is to be increased.

Henry Hollston of Crystal Falls, accidentally shot his wife killing her instantly, a few days ago.

The women of Bancroft attended the recent school meeting and elected two of their sex trustees.

Traverse City wants an oil or gas well, or any sort of an enterprise that will help boom that town.

Farmers report that apples are falling from the trees so rapidly that a light crop is anticipated.

Miners employed in the Winthrop and Mitchell mines near Ishpeming are on a strike.

The business men's association of Marquette is booming that city for all it's worth.

Frank Franks, a laborer was crushed between the cars at Albion and fatally injured.

Hudson people are fairly wild with excitement over the discovery of gas in that town.

John Stinson, aged 19 of Jackson, was drowned in Brown's lake the other day.

Mrs. Guest, a Wayne county pioneer died at her home in Belleville recently.

David Aldrich, for nearly 40 years a resident of Battle Creek, is dead.

Hancock saloon-keepers have agreed to observe the law after this date.

The total relief for the Lake Linden fire sufferers amounts to $45,206.13.

The new Saginaw & Durand road goes as an accomplished fact.

New wheat is ready for market down in Hillsdale county.

Menominee has a loan and building association.

Bog ore has been found near Roscommon.

Manistique is having a genuine boom.

Muskegon is afflicted with bed-bugs.

STARVATION IN LABRADOR.

A Pitiful Tale Told by One Who Has Been There.

Rev. Frank W. Colley, missionary at Labrador, writes a letter to the New York World giving a graphic account of heartrending destitution prevailing there. He has traveled all over the coast and declare that words cannot describe the sufferings of the poor. He tells of families of helpless people and children left to die, children enduring the rigors of the late winter with the thermometer 38 degrees below zero. Hitherto the fish have been in abundance, covered only with old sails, and subsisting on rock cod, the poorest kind of food, the people endured the winter fairly well by the governm ent. To catch the fish the perishing people had to travel five miles over lake country in boats, and flour, meat of any kind or any of the necessities of life are unknown to them. Tobacco, tea, molasses, pork, beef, flour, meat of any kind or any of the necessities of life are unknown to them. Many times during the winter Mr. Colley found that wives and mothers even had to sell their wedding rings for bread. At Grady's Settle Bay, Bonavista Bay, the Island and Seal Island whole families were starving in January. How they existed through the winter God only knows. The Newfoundland sent by the Newfoundland government was distributed before half the winter was over. Mr. Colley says that there is not a of a repetition of the terrible suffering now induces him to make the terrible facts public.

A large portion of the coast is sealed up by ice all winter long, and navigation at Hartigan, January 1, was impossible, and in October last and remained so until the middle of June.

It is impossible for the few who have money to get supplies in winter. The missionary himself accompanied two men one hundred miles over the ice on dog sleds to get two barrels of flour, but could not get them. Twenty miles further on they got one barrel of the unwelcome stuff at a great price for paying $9.50. In times past the people of Labrador lived on the fat of the land, game in variety and in abundance, but of late years these also have failed. The missionary concludes a heartrending communication by demanding in the name of humanity that the Newfoundland government immediately send relief to that district and also provide means for transporting the wretched people to some other country.

The official organ of the government of Newfoundland commenting on the missionary's revelations as an honest and truthful account by one who has shared the terrible hardships in which the people live, and is not in the habit of exaggerating in the discharge of his sacred calling. This paper, which a few month's ago resentlessly denied that any unusual distress existed in the island, is now filled "with astonishment" to find that human beings should be able to prolong existence amid such suffering and want.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

A Scene of Horror at St. Thomas, Ontario.

A terrible accident occurred at the crossing of the Grand Trunk and the Michigan Central railroads in St. Thomas, Ont., about 7 o'clock on the evening of July 15. An excursion train on the Grand Trunk from Port Stanley was filled with about 700 people and the Michigan Central freight train on the Michigan Central, made up of a number of cars laden with oil. The engine struck the caboose of these cars, when the oil instantly took fire and burned with great fierceness, communicating to the cars and buildings in the vicinity, including Griffin's warehouse, coal and lime sheds adjoining the track on the west and Jobin's planing mill and elevator on the east, all of which were burned to the ground with their contents. Engineer Donnelly of the excursion train was killed outright. The engineer and fireman of the