Birmingham Eccentric

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, Pubs.

BIRMINGHAM, MICH.

STATE NEWS.

Brutal Murder in Bay County.

William H. Fisher dispeared from his home in Monitor township, Bay county, last fall, and his family said that he had gone west. Rapid inquiry was caused, however, and Mr. Fisher found one Wallace, who boarded with the Fisher family and who had shown considerable attention to Mrs. Fisher, were arrested on the 7th inst. Mrs. Fisher's oldest son, Charles, was taken in charge by the officers. He was questioned and said that Wallace murdered his father with a hammer. Then he carried the body into the woods and buried it. This startling disclosure was made known to Wall ce. He declared it to be false, that the boy Charles was told what her son had said. She broke down completely and said that a quarrel was between Wallace and her husband. They were in a room in which she was present as the only witness. A struggle between them ensued, and at one time Wallace snatched up a hammer and struck Fisher on the head. The blow killed him instantly. After this Wallace picked the body up in his arms and left the house. If the children who saw any of the affair knew tha the father was dead.

Wallace still denies the crime. He has engaged a lawyer to defend him. The people in the township and city are greatly excited. They consider this the most cold-blooded affair that has ever happened in Bay county.

Monuments for Michigan Men.

The commission appointed to select positions for the Michigan monuments upon the Gettysburg battle field met in Detroit recently to confer with representatives of the regiments upon various matters connected with the work. The commission is composed of Col. George G. Briggs of Grand Rapids; Lieut. George W. Comfort of Flint; Capt. Frank A. Peter Lennon of Clayton. These three and Gov. Luce and a score of others were present.

The purpose of some of the states is to locate a monument for each regiment that was engaged in the battle. There were seven Michigan infantry regiments, one battery, three sharpshooters and four cavalry engaged. These will be placed together and will erect one monument, a monument will be given to the sharpshooters, one to the battery and one to each infantry regiment.

The commission has visited the field and picked out the positions that the several bodies did their hardest fighting, and have now reached that point where they will ask for the selection of designs and bids for the monuments. It is desirable that the memorials be dedicated sometime in September, 1888. The last legislature has appropriated $10,000 for the work.

The Salt Inspector's Report.

The salt inspection year of 1888 commenced December 1, 1887. The quantity inspected during the ember was as follows:

Saginaw	68,489
Bay	72,370
Manistee	52,068
Huron	3,600
Detroit	28,011
Total	224,538
Mason	13,216
Midland	3,457
Total	252,299

Michigan News Briefly Told.

Lake county will vote on local option Feb. 8.

East Saginaw banks have established a clearing house.

Joseph Wille, with a bottle of whisky in each hand, and badly drunk, laid down on the railroad track near West Branch to sleep. The passenger train came along and broke he l of his legs and crushed his body badly. He will die.

Talk of a new road from St. Louis to Detroit via Flint.

Anton Wagner of Escanaba went into a Jackson saloon, where he was drugged and robbed of $200.

The secretary of the state weather report for the year is now ready for the printe . The rain fall was 4.57 below the average for the last thirteen years. The prevailing wind was southwest. The highest temperature was recorded July 17 at 97.7, and the lowest Jan. 7 at 14 degrees below zero. The largest monthly rainfall was on Feb. 5, being .91. The lowest, 0.0 inches, occurred in August.

Mrs. Woolleutt, an estimable lady of Fridge ort, dropped dead at the breakfast table the other morning.

Thaddeus Vanliren, a brakeman, was killed by the car at Marshall the other day.

Twenty-first Michigan infantry will hold its annual reunion at Grand Rapids Jan. 31.

The Rev. Charles Matson, who lives near Constantine, was fined for violating the game law.

Walter Johnson died at Port Huron of lockjaw, caused by running a rusty nail through his foot.

George M. Benton was sentenced to pay $100 for embezzling money from St. Johns plow company in the circuit court, and to go to state house of correction. He went to Ionia. His friends are now willing to pay fine and release him. Governor Luce says he said, will not release him Benton's attorneys claim that recent legislature made provision for release from imprisonment in such cases, if fine be paid, and will make this a test case.

Copper product of Calumet & He la mine for the year was 21,313 tons against 30,700 in '86 despite two disastrous and protracted fires. Last December output was 1,500 tons, though Hecla location alone producing. Condition of present fire is still unknown.

Hugh T. McMillan of Evart has taken contract to put in 15,000,000 feet of Newaygo county pine for Penoboscot lumber and do it cheaper than south Boston. Per Marquette river, job to be completed July 1.

James Smith, for over 40 years resident of Hillsdale, is dead.

The Botsford elevator company has been organized at Port Huron. Capital stock $150,000 and $50,000 paid in.

It is almost a settled fact that the Cincinnati, Jackson & Mackinaw railroad shops will be located at Howell.

George Grissenhafer of Dimondale has been arrested for punching out the eyes of a yoke of steers.

The West Michigan Episcopal diocese has accepted the gift of Hon. H. C. Akely of property in Grand Haven for the establishment of an Episcopal college. Messrs. Cutler, McBride, Mc Fie and Parish of Grand Haven, have been made a committee to solicit subscriptions for endowing the college. The committee wants $100,000 for immediate use. The residents of Grand Haven have given Mr. Akely a property lie, will give $5,000 of it, and it is expected that the institution will soon be under way.

There is talk of a new railroad from Dexter to Lansing. The Michigan Central offers to build it if those interested will pay for right of way. Distance, 15 miles, ing and ties. Other roads will be asked to make offers.

The state dairymen's association will meet in Adrian February 14, 15 and 16. Matters will be discussed which cannot fail to be of great interest to all engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The Bath touring mil, four miles east of Albion, was burned the other night, and Mr. Losey, an employe, was burned to death.

A woman named Allen has been sent from Litchfield to the Detroit house of correction for 15 months for keeping a house of ill fame.

The little village of Vandalia, Cass county, had a $35,000 fire Jan. 6, with only $5,000 insurance.

A deaf mute named August was killed by the cars near Ishpeming the other day.

The prohibitionists will open the campaign by a banquet in Detroit Feb. 8. Leaders of the party will be there in full force.

St. Joseph county farmers' insurance company, which numbe s 1,500 members, car ying insurance at $1,000,000, elected following o ficers at annual meeting held at Centreville: Secretary, L. A. Clapp of Centreville; directors, Wm. Hall of Burr Oak, Park, M. A. Dexter of Colon, S. S. W. Cade of Sherman, James T. Hay of Nottawa, and H. S. Kellogg of Centreville.

Calhoun county will vote on local option February 6.

A convention of all republican clubs in Michigan will be held in Detroit, Feb. 22, for the purpose of settling upon a method of organi ation. Senator J. R. Hawley of Connecticut, Gen. Alger of Michigan, and Senator C. K. Davis of Minnesota have already accepted invitations to make addresses at the coming Michigan club banquet on February 22.

The commission, of which Gov. Luce is chairman, appointed to look after Michigan's representation at the Ohio centennial exposition at Cincinnati next summer, will open correspondence with the leading commercial bodies of the state at once, with the feeling is an t what means can be provided to carry out the designs. Two upper peninsula men will be added to the commission.

Furniture manufacturers of Grand Rapids have begun a combination large enough to put burlaps, German looking-glass plate, coal and sponges on the free list. It also asks for a reduction of the duty on French plate to 30 per cent. The petition sets forth that neither burlaps nor German plate are manufactured in America, and that putting them on the free list will not interfere with e s-Atlantic industries, but on the contrary will give additional American manufacturers of furniture and thus benefit consumers. The government receives $1,000,000 annually on these. By complying with the petition the surplus may be reduced to that extent. Similar petitions will be put up in all the large furniture centers, and when completed the documents will be sent to Washington.

Rich silver ore has been found in Cogebic county.

The road between Battle Creek and Bay City via Saginaw, Midland, Sanford and Alma, is to be built early in the spring.

Gen. Yost of Dansville Ingham county, suicided with morphine a few days ago. He t le t to hang himself some months ago, but was discovered and cut down.

W. Lafferman, an old resident of Newaygo county, was instantly killed by a falling tree the other day.

Judge Hill, who was for many years probate judge of Ingham county, and for thirty-five years postmaster at Dengal, not to mention several other public offices, died at Dengal, aged 77.

The state forestry commission will meet at Grand Rapids Jan. 27.

The Grand Rapids lumber company in Delta and adjoining counties.

Dr. E. J. Bean, a physician of Otia, is in jail for selling liquor without paying tax.

Special meeting of stockholders of Toledo, Ann Arbor & Cadillac road will be held at Ann Arbor February 6 to approve or reject agreement for consolidation already made by directors of that road with the Toledo, Ann Arbor & North Michigan railway company.

Michigan millers' mutual insurance company elected following officers at Lansing: President, Daniel C. Jackson, of Williamston, vice-president, H. L. Leyndl's of Stanton, secretary, A. T. Davis of Lansing, treasurer, Fred Thomas of Lansing.

Albert Scott was killed in an accident to a logging train one mile and a half above Ogemaw Springs.

John Flinn of Marshall, aged 80, must spend the rest of his days in the house of correction for whipping his wife.

John Zimmerman's large new barns in Clayton town-hip, Genesee county, were burned with large loss of hay and last year's crop.

Proposed railroad from Dexter to Lansing, if built, will pass through Hudson, Bonds, Hickory, Scio, Ann Arbor, Whitmore Lake, Dansville, Aladdon and Lansing, and will be 41 miles long.

A temperance society is to be organized in the so-dies,s home similar to those existing in other state homes.

The Kalamazoo council has passed an ordinance compelling persons desiring to parade streets with drums, tambourines and s nging to obtain municipal permit or to be subject to $10 fine and twenty days in jail.

There are 830 students in the Adventist college at Battle Creek.

Mrs. Fayette Depew went coasting with her children at Clinton, and on going home to get warm was taken with heart disease and died in a few hours.

A convention to nominate a successor to the late Congressman Moffatt has been called to meet Jan. 31.

Genesee county will vote on local option Feb. 2.

Flint has decided to buy that brass cannon which has been ordered back to Lansing.

James H. Baker gets $5,000 for injuries received by his son at Bay City on the Flint & Pere Marquette road, Tuesday.

Mitchell, McClure & Co. of East Saginaw have purchased 5,500 acres of pine land in Carrollton county, Minn., for $150,000.

Mr. V. Ensminger, prominent hardware dealer at Athens, Calh un county, was found guilty of embezzlement while at a party and expired soon after.

Emory Ormsby of Deep River was so badly frozen on New Year's night that he has since died.

There is an epidemic of typhoid fever in the Jackson prison. There are over 80 cases now in the hospital, and the disease is spreading rapidly. Over 100 have had typhoid fever in the city. Every effort is being made to keep the scourge in hand, but there is considerable fear of its ravages.

New c mmissions have been issued from the Adjutant-General's office for the following named officers of the Michigan State Troops: Company G., First Regiment, Muskegon, Capt. Christ Armstrong as second lieutenant; Company H., First Regiment, Jackson, Edward L. Bennon as first lieutenant, Frank M. Drumm as second lieutenant; Company B., Seventh Regiment, Grand Rapids, Wm. S. Kinney as captain, Jacob Schroder, second lieutenant; Company H., Second Regiment, Ionia, Frank E. Pierce as captain, John L. Trehourn, first lieutenant, A. V. Sutherland, second lieutenant; Company K., Third Regiment, Kalamazoo, Ed. F. Douglass as captain, George Miller, second lieutenant. The following promotions were issued as follows: Company A., Howell, captain, Company B., First Regiment, Jackson, W. Jay Maxey, captain, Frederick Shubel Jr., first lieutenant, Company C., Howell, second lieutenant, Company F., First Regiment, Lansing, Geo. E. Childs, captain, F. A. Al en, first lieutenant; Company S. Martin, second lieutenant, Company A., Eighth Regiment, Detroit, Joseph W. Kerns, captain. F. J. Schmidt, first lieutenant, H. C. Thr ber, second lieutenant, Company F., Third Regiment, East Saginaw, Thomas Dunont, captain, Fred Hoffman, first lieutenant, Henry B. Lathrop, second lieutenant, Company D. Fourth Regiment, Detroit.

The state department commander of the G. A. R. warns the members of that order against a man calling himself Maj. J. H. Durham. West Point of Wisconsin, 40 years a soldier, and as having been wounded in battle. He is posted by Commander Rutherford as a fraud, a common drawing money and beating hotel bills, and as being in no way a dead beat. He has been in Ohio, and is now doing this state.

Reuben Crawford of Cincinnati, chief United States revenue inspectors, died in Lansing the other day after a brief illness.

Three men were crushed to death in the Champion iron mine there yesterday morning. They were riding to the surface, when the skip was accidentally dumped, and the men were buried to the bottom, a distance of 700 feet.

Man named Duber, who lives in Mt. Haley township, Midland county, states that three men came to his house and, after smashing all his furniture and crockery with axes they carried, out great gashes in his head and body, nearly severing his left arm. Duber is a feeble old man of 70, and his 14-year old girl down. No arrests as yet.

The democratic congressional convention for the eleventh district has been called to meet at Marquette on Thursday, Jan. 26th, to nominate a candidate. The eighteen counties in the dist let will be represented by 117 delegates.

Dr. Mitchell of Jackson board of health says that he thinks typhoid fever at prison and city is caused by poisonous milk.

Greenville is now shipping daily 500 barrels of flour over Toledo, Saginaw & Muskegon road.

The Smith purifier company of Jackson, has received a large cash order from Constantinople, Turkey.

Ingham county will pay $50 reward for apprehension of Henry Perkins, who George Sharp alleges shot him near Mi ler's station on the Grand Trunk road.

Car loan company formed with $ 5,000 capital to ship salt from Saginaw valley, be ir ed at Detroit. Directors are W. treasurer, W. C. McClure; secretary, D. G. Holland.

Clinton B. Conger is making inspection of Michigan railroads in his official capacity as mechanical engineer of state railroad department. This necessitates examination of equipment of every road operating in Mich gan.

The Jackson county agricultural society is going to let the fair ground for a quarter. If it wants to, but if it does Jackson will get up a southern Michigan fair. Liberal premiums will be provided for to figure on the sch me.

Milton Burch founder arrest at Lennox, Barry county, for throwing miles through car window.

There is a strong suspicion that Coldwater is again infested with fire bugs. Several fires have occurred in the city, and the evidences of incendiarism are very strong.

Rev. H. C. Beals of Plymouth died recently, aged 75 years. He was ordained over last year of 217,711 t ns.

Bay City Tribune says Canada does not desire annexation.

The Pennsylvania miners' strike continues to spread. Coal is getting very scarce and business men are greatly alarmed.

In the Hallock coun-piracy cases at Sioux City, indictments stand against Platt, Trescott, Peters, Manchrath, convicted and sentenced to four years in prison, will probably have his term reduced.

Thirty-one railroads, aggregating 5,478 miles, and repre enting $126,000,000, were sold in bankruptcy last year.

Sherman Hopkins, the Washington dodger, who was in Detroit in custody on a charge of Uncle Waite, has been fined $100.

Secretary Lamar has resigned as secretar of the interior, and the resignation has been accepted by the president.

The co erative colony of knights of labor, near Wing, Minn., has failed for lack of capital. It was not organi ed by the order, but by individual knights.

The fa ion of the knights of labor opposed to the administration has begun work to enter le al proce ings against the officers to compel an account ing to determine whether they have been guilty of improp riation of fund . Secretary Litt man of the executive board says the order is in excellent shape financially and socially, and such a m vement will be welcomed.

The Apache scouts who murdered Lieut. Howard, U. S. A., of the Fourth cavalry, last summer, have been sentenced, 7 of them to the murderers ha e 20 years each o e for 15 years, one for 10 years, and the other for 2 years, all at hard lab r.

Gov. Foraker of Ohio was inaugurated on the 9th inst.

There are three Gentiles and 21 Mormons in the lower house and two Gentiles and 10 Mormons in the upper house of the Utah legislature which convened Jan. 9.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The university at St. Petersburg still remains closed, because of student troubles.

The pope gives the jubilee gift money to St. Peter's at Rome to be expended in propagand sm. The article articles will be placed in the museum of the vat can, and the objects of worship in the vestry of St. Peter's. All the rest will be given to hospitals.

The American vessel Eureka was wrecked o the Irish Ireland harbor, Clare, and her crew of 15 men were drowned. The Eureka sailed from San Francisco to Queenstown with a cargo of wheat.

Two express trains on the Dutch state railroad collided near Meppel Jan 5. Fifteen persons were killed and many others in ure.

The Italian government is going to censure three princes who attended the pope's jubilee, in spite of the fact that they are army officers.

The forged letters alleged to have come from Rochefort to the czar have been traced to a clique of officials, who thought by them to facilitate a large loan.

Eight plotters against the czar were hanged at Odessa on the last day.

Po e Leo regards his jubilee pre ents as evidence of the power of papacy.

Russia is to expend 30,000,000 roubles in building new ports and railways.

Cholera is raging to a fearful extent in Chili.

Two freight trains collided on a high trestle near Quebec in New Brunswick, other morning. Two engineers, one brakeman and one fireman were killed and several other t ain men were injured. The damage is estimated at $1 0,000.

Supplying of men demanded by new German military bill will require $2,000,000.

Dispatches from the Congo country up to Dec. 1st have been received in Brussels. They make no mention of Stanley.

Seven men were drowned as the result of a coll sion off Dover on the 8th inst.

Queen Victoria and Queen Victor a will shortly visit Flo ence.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT

Two Children Dead and Several Persons Injured.

The west bound Union Pacific passenger train hailed near Edson Station, Wyoming, on the morning of the 8th inst., while repair slight damage to the engine. After the delay and when the train had proceeded a few hundred yards, a freight train running at a high rate of speed rounded a curve and crashed into the rear of the train. Two emigrant cars were smashed to splinters and were entirely continued. The rear of sleeper Beth was also injured. A wreck ge car and a car of surgeons were soon on the ground. Five hours after the collision the track was cleared and the dead and wounded were removed to Rawlins.

Public Debt Statement.

The following is the recapitulation of the public debt statement issued Jan. 3; Interest-bearing debt, $1,051,031,650; debt on which interest has ceased since maturity, $3,043,367; debt bearing no interest $6 4,251,815; total debt, $1,697,-110,795. Total debt, less available cash items, $1,120,641,291; net cash in the treasury, $56,842,877; decrease of debt during the month, $15,164,650. Decrease of debt since June 30, 1887, $68,890,385. Cash in the treasury, as shown by the treasurer's general account, $257,695,566.

GENERAL NEWS.

Over 15,000 flint glass workers in the east and west are out on strike.

Sixty thousand men are involved in the coal miners' strike in Pennsylvania.

It is reported that the Italian government is endeavoring, through its minister at this country, to make a commercial treaty with American manufacturers of steel for furnishing armor plates for Italian war vessels. The intention being to secure a source of steel supply outside of Europe in the event of war.

Secretary Lamar issued all the state convicts on 10-year contracts to work in coal mines near Birmingham.

Hon. William Parsons, the well known and brilliant lawyer, is dead.

The iron production of the past year is the largest on record.

The Chinese "highbinders" under conviction for having conspired to murder Lee Johnson, whom they did actually kill for beading a police raid on their gambling place, have been released on bail. There were four of them, all found guilty of murder in the first degree, but the supreme court reversed the judgment on account of insufficiency of evidence. The went crazy and this made the prosecution unable to convict.

Gen. J. R. Trumble, one of the oldest living graduates of West Point, died in Illinois recently.

An embryo volcano has been discovered near Collarsville, Pa.

The immense furniture factory in Los Angeles, Cal., was burned recently. Loss $200,000.

Conductor Parks, charged with involuntary manslaughter in the railroad accident at Beckwith, Ind., has been discharged.

A freight train on the Norfolk & Western railroad ran into a rock slide near Barry county, for the owing miles through car wind w.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Matters of Interest from the National Capital.

Resume of Congressio al Proceedings.

The first session of the senate after the holiday recess was consumed in the discussion of the nomination of Lawrence O. Sherman of Ohio, in a manner somewhat personal to the republican policy of protection. The nomination to which Senator Vorhees replied vigorously, defending the policy as outlined by Sherman, and declaring that the democratic element of the democrats to the president's views.

The introduction and referring of bills occupied the attention of members of the house, Michigan members introduced measures for the erection of public buildings at Kalamazoo Muskegon, Bay City and Lansing. Among other bills was one by Mr. Springer providing a uniform day for the election of president and vice president by a majority of the votes of the people, the abolition of the electoral college, and regulation of the method of counting the votes for the president and vice president by both houses of congress. In all 993 bills were introduced.

Mrs. Palmer has returned to Washington, to the great joy of society people. She has a way of entertaining which is very popular in the capital, and is always a well attended affair. Her reception day this year is Thursday.

The annual ball of the British minister, was given Jan 4 at the legation, and was one of the most brilliant affairs witnessed in Washington society. The house was beautifully and lavishly decorated for the occasion, and the supper was laid by Mme West and Mr. J. Romero of the Spanish legation. Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Charles Tupper and other members of the English fisheries commission were present.

Mr. Burrows has introduced a bill providing for the pension of union soldiers confined in rebel prisons.

One of the most important bills introduced in the house is Cutcheon's bill providing for the appropriation $10,000,000 for the defense of the country.

There are about 20 applications on file in the postoffice department for the vacancy existing in the Jackson postoffice.

A bill has been introduced in the house authorizing the establishment of new lifesaving stations at Ashtabula, O., and Marquette, Mich.

The bill providing for an appropriation of $7,000,000 for the St. Mary's Falls canal and locks and the Hay lake channel, between Lakes Huron and Superior, and the late Representative Moffat, has been introduced by Congressman Farquhar of Buffalo.

President Willits of the Michigan agricultural college is in Washington as representative of the executive committee of agricultural college presidents to urge congress to make an appropriation for carrying out the law of last congress making all agricultural colleges experimental stations.

Owners of British vessels seized in Behring's sea last summer have prepared claims for $500,000 against the United States government.

The joint resolution asking for the appointment of a commission to select a site for a naval station on the Pacific coast, has been referred to the committee on naval affairs.

The Blair educational bill hangs in the senate as "unfinished business."

A bill to equalize bounties has been introduced in the senate.

The first state dinner of the year was given at the white house Jan. 5.

Gen. Black, commissioner of pensions in his labor to reduce the number of veterans in the employ of railroads, likewise the number in the employ of cities.

Mr. Brewer of Michigan, has introduced a resolu ion calling for the publication of the report of Lieut. Maxfield, chief clerk of the Bureau of Statistics, entitled "wool and manufactu es of wool." He desires to use copies for campaign purposes.

Army men are considerably excited over a bill introduced in congress by Gen. Davis of Minnesota "for the relief of Marcus A. Reno." The bill proposes to direct the president to place him on the army list with the rank of major. Marcus A. Reno was once a major in the Fourteenth United States infantry. He was court-martialed and befo e two court-martials, and his record was pr ved to be such that the president was forced to approve the finding to dismiss him from the army in disgrace. Besides that, Reno is the same individual who is charged with having run away in the battle in making an attempt to relie e that ideal cavalry man, Gen. Custer.

A large number of clerks of committees have been appointed, but no Michigan men are included in the appointees.

Representa ive Cutcheon does not agree with the views of those who believe that congress should prohibit the liquor traffic in the District of Columbia, and has prepared a bill providing for a local option election in the case to the voters of the District.

FOR YOUNG FOLKS.

THE SNOW FAIRIES.

"Where does it come from?" Don't you know
About the fairies that make the snow?
They've a won erful palace up on high,
Beyond the clouds and the great blue sky.
Whenever you see a tiny cloud,
Floating about in the air so proud,
Then you may be sure it's only a bit of snow,
Some careless fairy has just let go.

For the fairies lay a plot with the Sun,
And that is the way the work is done.
They gather their snowbeams, full of mirth,
Are sent on a visit to Mother Earth.
When the rogues go dancing back again,
In and out the fairies go,
We'll fashion them into the feathery snow."

So, with a thousand busy hands
Wielding a thousand magic wands,
They take the cloudlets the sunbeams have found,
And they beat them up, and they stir them round.

Glancing and prancing they dance about,
And they twist them in and they twist them out,
Till, with many an airy, fairy blow,
They shape the crystals of fleecy snow.

"What is the snow for?" Don't you know?
Why, it makes a home for the Equimau.
Think of the great white polar bear,
All snuggled up in his snowy lair;
Think of the little white hare, and the mouse,
Drifting and shifting, in masses buried,
The snow comes down to the waiting world,
In the midst of the fairies go.

—*Mary E. Vandyne*

An Early Morning Adventure.

About three years ago two young men, William Robbins and John Bennett, operatives in a Lynn shoe factory, finding themselves unable to save up much money by their work, and desiring of getting more ahead in the east, turned all their possessions into cash, went out to Wyoming territory and engaged in the business of sheep farming. They located on one of the tributary creeks of the North Platte river, at the foot of the mountains.

Very early one morning, not long ago, they s aughtered a fat sheep and hung it up to the l mb of a pine tree, a few yards away from the door of their little shack," or slab house. While Robbins dressed the sheep, Bennett proceeded to get breakfast, and fr ed a mess of the sheep's liver.

Breakfa t being ready about the time that Robbins finished his task, his partner called him in, and they sat down at a table made to serve. While they were thus agreeably occupied, they were suddenly disturbed by the cracking of some heavy body. They heard a thud, as if some heavy body falling to the earth. They rose hastily from the table and rushed to the door, and were astonished by the sight of a large yellow-colored animal, making off with their mutton!

It was a mountain lion which had come down from the rocky hills, where they were eating, and leaping among the branches where the carcass hung, had broken it down and secured the entire sheep!

After one hasty glance, they both turned to snatch down their Winchesters," and, without counting, getting out a little ahead, fired several shots at the creature as it loped off up the narrow valley of the creek. The active movements of the animal, notwithstanding the great weight of mutton it was carrying, prevented him from getting a good aim, and the lion broke down and secured the entire sheep!

The lion kept its course up the canon for several hundred yards, and then disappeared in one of the deep, narrow gullies or draws that open out into the creek valley.

"He's gone into that draw!" said Robbins. "Now we'll get him! For if he hasn't got a deep den in there. You go round on top of the hill, to the head of the draw, John, and I'll go into the draw at the mouth, and I shall find him there, you'll get a good shot as he comes out."

"All right," said Bennett, "but be sure and leave me time enough to make the head of the draw."

Gun in hand the two men started at once, Bennett to mount up over the hills, and Robbins hurried up the bed of the gulch.

Walter soon reached the entrance to the draw which was merely a deep ro ky notch, thickly grown with buffalo berry bushes and stunted pines. Here he waited until he thought Bennett must surely have reached the head of the draw, though, owing to a sharp bend in the gulch, he could not prevent him from seeing, he was not able to determine the fact. He then started hurriedly up the narrow, bush-grown gulch, with the lion, holding his rifle in readiness for a shot.

He soon found himself entering a gloomy, narrow ravine, with steep, rough, steep and forbidding. He a terwards admitted that he knew it to be a dangerous undertaking" but he was determined to have the satisfaction of that mutton and pushed on with more haste than prudence, scrambling over boulders and fallen trees, splashing through waterways, and forcing a passage through thickets of brush that overhung it. All the while, he kept a sharp lookout for the panther which he expected to startle out of its hiding place by the noise of his approach.

He did not start the creature presently, and knew that he was on its trail: for upon several of the big rocks which lay in the bed of the gulch he discovered traces of blood where the fresh carcass had been dragged over them.

A moment later he came to a sharp curve in the gulch, where a great mass of rocks jutt ng out into it. Here the water-bed suddenly widened to a plat of land about fifty yards square, covered on one side by a low, seeding ledge of red rocks, and shut out on the other by a brushy slope, so steep and ragged that a man would have found it difficult to climb.

The sun was not yet very high, and the whole place was still in shadow — so that although Walter had now brought himself face to face with the panther, he was first made aware of its presence by a low snarl which came from the base of the projecting ledge.

Even then, so dark was the place, that he was not able to make out clearly as he could to see him Then he caught first the yellow gleam of the creature's eyes and then the outline of its body, drawn up in anger ready to spring upon dark red background of rocks. The beast clearly meant mischief, and had no notion of retreating from its lair under the ledges.

Robbins leveled his Winchester and, with hands that shook with excitement, took as good aim as he could.

A hammer clicked as he pulled the trigger, but there was no report

He threw the gun forward quickly and looked to see what was the matter. The barrel was empty. There was not a cartridge in the magazine

He had, without being aware of it, fired all the cartridges there were in the gun, and the last one he had drawn from the pine tree, and his cartridge belt, at that moment, lay in the shack. In his haste and excitement he had been grossly and stupidly careless.

For an instant he stood still, staring at the beast, which, still crouching there, lashed its sides and threatened him with ferocious snarls and a frightful display of its bloody mouth and wicked looking fangs.

He was about to flee a retreat, backward, for he was afraid to turn his face from the brute, when he heard Bennett calling to him from the top of the bluff above. Looking up, he could see his face about a hundred feet above him.

"That you down there, Walt?" Bennett called out stopping forward upon a boulder to get a better view o the dark gorge beneath. "It's an awful ugly hole down there, and there may be a whole lot of panthers in it. Seen anything of him yet?"

"I'm seeing him now," replied Robbins, as coolly as he could, "He's right here under me, and I'm not in front of him, and I haven't a cartridge in my gun."

"Great Scott! what shall we do?" exclaimed Bennett, in a shocked tone, for as he spoke the boulder began to roll, and he lost his footing and slid down the steep side of the ravine the stone rolling after him. Robbins, crawling among the brush and sending the small stones flying in every direction.

At the sound and sight of the animal, the panther had ceased its snarling, and stood for a moment in an attitude of evident surprise. It probably never before heard the sound of the human voice. Then as the stone came tear ng down, it leaped out from its covert, and, with a bound, landed among the brush and glaring wildly from side to side.

Robbins was now taking advantage of the uproar to back slowly away, when Ren ett brought up against the trunk of the pine at the top of the ledge of red rocks.

"Shoot him!" cried Robb ns. "He s right down there under you! not two feet below you!"

Bennett had clung to his gun, he leaned forward and looked down, then, catching sight of the animal, whipped his piece around a d fired on the instant.

With a terrible roar the panther made several frantic bounds to the side of the bluff. Then, maddened by its wound, it whirled about and dashed straight for Robbins, who was backing away. With three or four prodigious leaps, it came up with him, and he climbing his gun met it with a blow, but with such force did he swing the weight and momentum of the stock.

Both came to the ground. Robbins separated from his gun, while the panther struck beyond and rolled over and over down the bed of the ravine! There it lay kicking for some time out at length expired.

Robbins gathered himself up, somewhat bruised and terribly frightened, and hurried through, when he discovered that the beast was done for, to have escaped so well!

The lion had been almost equally alarmed: but when he saw that the animal was disabled, he s rambled down from the ledge, and ran to ascertain the extent of his companion's injuries.

"Tell ye what, old man!" he exclaimed, "we leave these brutes alone in future. I don't want to monkey with 'em any more!"

Robbins heartily agreed to the proposition.

They then examined the dead animal and found that Bennett's ball had passed in between the shoulders and come out at the breast — a shot that would instantly have killed almost any other creature. It was a full-sized male lion, and a splendid companion.

Test Questions in History.

As an incentive to the acquirement of a thorough knowledge of United States history, we shall from time to time give a list of questions, getting out a little ahead, fired several shots at the creature as it loped off up the narrow valley of the creek. The active movements of the animal, notwithstanding the great weight of mutton it was carrying, prevented him from getting a good aim, and the lion broke down and secured the entire sheep!

1. Who was the first president to be born a citizen of the United States?

2. What is the Fred- cott decision, and who delivered it?

3. Name the treaties celebrated in our history.

4. What has given rise to the fisheries dispute between the country and Great Britain?

5. What distinguished generals have been unsuccessful candidates for the presidency?

6. What are state rights and when was the doctrine first promulgated?

7. Give an account of the principal parties which have arisen since the constitutional convention of 1787.

8. What is a protective tariff?

9. What is meant by the alien and sedition laws?

10. How many amendments have been made to the constitution?

12. What president vetoed the measures of the party which elected him to office?

13. What presidents were not elected to that office by the people?

Are Stones Alive?

E. D. Walker, in the Christmas number of that treasure-trove, Wide Awake, has a paper on this subject. He says:

We generally think of minerals as dead lumps of inactive matter. But they are not. They are the crystallizations of vital pulsations, and separated into individuals as distinct as the pines in a forest or the tigers in a jungle. The dispositions of the stones are as diverse as those of animals. They throb with unseen currents of energy. They grow in size as long as they have opportunity. They can be killed, too, though not so easily as an oak or a dog. A strong concentrated shock discharged through a crystal will dissolve its life-force. It very rapidly if it is of soft structure, causing the particles to gradually disintegrate in the reverse order from that in which they grew. Another thing lies in a dead shapeless ruin.

It is true the crystal's life is unlike that of higher creatures But the difference between them is not greater than that between mineral and vegetable life. Linnæus, the great naturalist, declared the three kingdoms by saying, "Stones grow; plants grow and feel; animals grow and feel and move."

Real Trouble With Dakota Weather.

"Have pretty cold weather in Dakota, don't it?" asked a friend of Mr. Wash, the West hotel of a resident of the northern part of the territory.

"Oh, not much, n'.

"I heard that it was so cold up there that the natives all wear under clothing made of sand paper, so's to warm 'em up with the friction."

"Yes, and paper and emery cloth."

"I should think you'd be in danger of freezing to death."

"Oh, that don't trouble us."

"No?"

"Nope. The greatest difficulty is that it gets so cold that it freezes the memory of half the people so hard that they forget to pay their debts, and their creditors can't get a cent unless they money that their creditors can't get a cent That's the only objection to Dakota weather.—Minneapol s Journal.

He Got a Prompt Answer.

Church was out, and as usual a company of young women were standing about the doorway talking and laughing, though probably not concerning the sermon.

Soon a young man acquainted with the group approached, saying:

"Girls, may I speak?" You are blocking up the way like Balaam's ass."

"You are wrong there," replied a young lady with a tone of her head. "It was the angels who blocked the way and the ass made the fuss about it."

A three-year old answered an application of things the other day. "Will you give me a kiss, dear?" coaxed a lady. "I don't want to," said the little one. "Then give the lady a kiss. Florence," said her father. "No I'll not, papa."