Birmingham Eccentric

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, Pubs.

BIRMINGHAM, . . . MICH.

None of the magazines begin the new year with more brilliant prospects than the Atlantic Monthly, of which the number for January, 1888, has just been issued. The excellent steel portrait of Miss Murfree ("Charles Egbert Craddock"), which forms the frontispiece, will gratify the admirers of this famous writer. The number opens with the first chapter of "Yone Santa: A Child of Japan," the new serial story by Edward H. House, and a most refreshing and entertaining chapter it is. "The Secret," a charming poem, will attract special attention. Unpublished Letters of Benjamin Franklin, to his brother printer, Strahan of England, are full of value and significance, throwing a new light upon certain of the best aspects of Franklin's character, as well as upon provincial politics and society. A spirited beginning of "The Despot of Broomsedge Cave," the new story by Charles Egbert Craddock, is made in this number. In lighter vein, the descriptive articles on Southern California, by Charles Dudley Warner, and on Constantinople, by Theodore Child, are delightful reading, in particular to those whose good fortune it has been to visit "The Golden Hesperides," or the Queen City of the Golden Horn. Notable articles on "The History of Children's Books" by C. M. Hewins, on "A Liberal Education" by Edward J. Lowell, a postscript to his charming "Hundred Days in Europe" by Dr. Holmes, and a short story of farm life and character entitled "Judson's Remorse" by Lillie Chace Wyman, are included in the January number, which also contains a poem of conspicuous excellence by J. T. Trowbridge, entitled, "The Lost Earl," and the usual book reviews and Contributors' Club. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

A year ago Gen. Alger gave suits of clothes to five hundred newsboys of Detroit and sent coal or wood and flour to hundreds of homes in that city. This year he repeated his gift, only on a larger scale. From lists furnished to his secretary by persons who have the means of knowing who are the legitimate and deserving newsboys of Detroit the needy newsboys were selected and sent, one hundred at a time, to certain designated clothing stores, where they were carefully fitted out with coats and trousers of stout cloth made to wear, and with good shirts and stockings. The second part of Gen. Alger's benefit was to supply one thousand families in Detroit with a cord of wood or a ton of coal each, together with a barrel of flour. In the list of families aided by Gen. Alger appeared brief notes of the causes which entitle them to the help extended. In these brief notes is epitomized many a story of misfortune, suffering and wrong. There are poor widows with from three to nine dependent little children; a family where the father and husband is insane; another where he is a decrepid old soldier, almost blind and entirely incapable of work; another in the Soldiers' home, while his wife struggles heroically to supply the wants of eight children; a deserted wife with five small children, the wife deformed yet struggling against the decree of fate.

Prof. Philip Schaff contributes the opening paper in the January Century. His subject is "The Roman Catacombs," their origin and character, and their historic value. Illustrations accompany the article, showing the rough sculpture and symbolic art of the martyrs' tombs. John Ruskin's portrait is to be the frontispiece of the number. The magazine has a frank estimate of Mr. Ruskin, as a critic and teacher, by one who has traveled and studied with him, Mr. W. J. Stillman, the well-known art critic and correspondent. Mark Twain, who has discovered great dramatic virtues in a popular language system, has written a three act play illustrating them. He calls it "The Patent Universally-applicable Language Drama." It will be found in the January Century.

Sir Charles Dilke, in his article in a recent number of the Fortnightly Review, refers to the American army. "The United States," he says, "can afford to be unprepared. They have never tried their troops against any of the modern European organizations, nor are they likely to do so." After observing that they have an excellent military college at West Point he remarked that "soldiers may be rapidly improvised, but officers must be prepared for their work by a thorough course of training."

The Oklahoma boomers are still actively scheming for possession of the coveted lands. One of the leaders will bring his powerful personal presence to bear upon congress with a view to inducing that body to open the territory to settlement. In the event of refusal tremendous trouble is prophesied. But the past history of the "boomers" teaches that there is no occasion for alarm.

A deeply religious old fellow in Whiting, Me., has built a saw and grist mill on the top of a lofty hill. He says he built there to convince the world that God answers prayer. He has constructed a large tank on the roof of the mill, and he declares that whenever he prays for it God will send enough rain to run his mill.

The Baroness Burdette-Coutts, and other philanthropic people of London are about to establish a scheme, to provide workshops furnished with sewing machines where poor seamstresses can go and have the use of the machines at a very low charge.

The young ladies of White Cloud, Kan., have signed a pledge that they will abstain from the use of gum and slang, and not keep company with young men who use tobacco, strong drink or profane language.

It is beginning to be the custom in California to write "Calif" when it is desired to abbreviate the name of the state. It is thought that "Cal" is too much like "Col."

Arkansaw raveler: It is mighty hard fur er man d t neber wuz in trouble to be yer true frien'. It takes a fress ter sweeten a wild grape.

STATE NEWS.

Barry's Trouble.

Thomas B. Barry of the knights of labor executive board was sued by the Hoyt estate for damages to mill property claimed as the result of the great strike in East Saginaw in which Mr. Barry played an important part. It resulted in a judgment of $290 18 against Mr. Barry with costs at $107 20. This was affirmed by the supreme court. Mr. Barry has not paid the money. William L. Webber, who is executor for the Hoyt estate, intimates in a letter through his attorney that, if he doesn't settle up he may find himself imprisoned. It is reported that Mr. Barry won't pay.

Michigan News Briefly Told.

A dispatch from the Congo says: "No news of Stanley has yet reached Boma, but no uneasiness is felt there. The steamers expected from Yamongs on Jan. 20 are almost certain to bring news of the expedition. The native reports are reassuring.

The Dublin Gazette publishes an order signed by Commissioners Lytton and Wrench, prescribing reductions of judicial rents throughout practically the whole of Ireland, ranging from 6 to 21 per cent., the average being 14 per cent. The aggregate reduction is estimated at £2,000,000. The reduction is permanent and applies to arrears since 1881. Judge O'Hagan at aches a note dissenting from the decision of his colleagues.

A bank is to be started at Gladstone early the present year.

An association has been formed for the improvement of the west branch of the Escanaba river by deepening the channel and constructing dams and channels to connect therewith. The name of the corporation is the "North Fork Improvement Company." The capital stock is $15,000, divided into 150 shares of $100 each. The term of existence is limited to twenty-five years.

The oval wood dish factory in Mancelona was burned Dec. 27. The loss is about $50,000, partially insured. The factory was the largest of its kind in Michigan, and employed 250 men.

John Miller, for 40 years a resident of Hillsdale, is dead.

Vassar had a $10,000 fire the other day.

Another mysterious crime is engaging the attention of the Detroit police. Mrs. Gauer, was found dead in her home the other day, by her husband when he returned from work. Whether it is a case of murder or suicide, is still undecided. Suspicions point strongly to her husband and he has been arrested.

Sink hole eight miles west of Grand Ledge on new extension of Detroit, Lansing & Northern road, 300 feet across, is swallowing up wagon loads of earth, trees and all available rubbish for miles around. Company proposes to fill in all winter if necessary, for to go around would necessitate deflecting road one mile.

Ingham county votes on local option Jan. 31.

The reunion of the Sixth Michigan Cavalry was held in Ionia Dec. 28. Gen. Alger was present and received a royal welcome from his old comrades. The next reunion of the regiment will be held at Ionia Dec. 12, 1888. The following officers were elected: President, Gen. J. H. Kidd; secretary, S. P. Curtis, treasurer, Levi Barnard; chaplain, Dr. J. H. Potts, and historian, Gen. J. H. Kidd.

George Dowing of Fort Gratiot whose limbs were crushed on the Grand Trunk road, has since died of his injuries.

Proposed Detroit, Charlevoix & Escanaba road survey has been completed from Kalkaska to Mackinac City and right of way between Charlevoix and Kalkaska is largely secured.

E. D. Colbath of Dethl, Ingham county, a farmer and dealer in agricultural implements, committed suicide by cutting his throat. Financial embarrassment is the reason assigned, for disease had been investing quite heavily in graveyard insurance upon his father-in law, and a short time ago increased a mortgage upon his property, which is supposed to have been swallowed by insurance assessments.

The G. R. & I. road will soon be equipped with 10 new locomotives ordered from the Pittsburg locomotive and car works.

Experts from Pennsylvania oil fields say the petrolum found near Alma is of excellent quality and worth utilizing.

At the annual meeting of the state teachers' association resolutions were adopted demanding that the township, instead of the district, be made the unit of our educational system, and urging the county secretaries to establish a more uniform course of study in district schools. The following officers were elected: President, D. P. Church, Greenville; vice-presidents, W. D. Clizbe, Ionia, and P. M. Parker, Quincy; secretary, F. C. Thompson, Saginaw; treasurer, Miss C. D. Chaffee, Flint; executive committee for three years, George F. Moshier, Hillsdale; Miss M. Louise Jones, Charlotte; Austin George, Ypsilanti; to fill vacancy, Isaac M. Demmon, Ypsilanti; members of the council of state reading circle, W. S. Perry, Ann Arbor; David Putnam, Ypsilanti.

George James, while chopping near Alpena, was killed by a falling tree.

Mrs. Benk Shattuck, aged 75, of Fenton was married Dec. 21 to John Deagan, aged 35. She died a few days later, and bequeathed a handsome property to Deagan.

Dr. E. S. Holmes of Grand Rapids, president of Michigan sportsmen's association, has appointed standing committees on law, enforcement, nomenclature and publication. They will report at annual meeting in Detroit Jan. 24-25.

State swamp land board has appropriated 1,500 acres of land for improvement of Grand river from Jackson city limits to confluence of Portage river, distance of four miles. Alpena county state ditch was approved and also profile of Swan Creek state improvement.

Hay scales in East Saginaw have been "doctored" so that purchasers have been paying for 400 pounds of hay more than than they have received.

Commander-in-chief John P. Rea of the G. A. R. has issued the third general order, appointing aid de-camps on his staff from the various states and territories. The Michigan appointments are: Capt. W. A. Gayett and Mr. Don J Leathers of Grand Rapids. Gen. Wm. Stoughton of Sturgis, Maj. Wm. L. Ryan of Muskegon, Mr. Henry Spaulding of Hartford, Mr. C. P. Lesher of Lansing, Capt. F. F. Coon of Shelby, Mr. A. F. Whelan of Hillsdale, Col. A. Goebel of Detroit, Mr. Henry Lever of Newaygo, Mr. Geo W. Burkhart of Detroit, and Mr. C. L. Eaton of Mattawan. These gentlemen will now rank as colonels. Mr. Oscar F. Lockhart of Flint was also appointed a member of the Grant memorial committee for Michigan.

Browning & Co.'s flour and feed mill in Vermontville was burned Dec. 31.

Gov. Luce has called a special election for Tuesday, February 14 next, to choose a successor to congressman Moffat.

Shiawassee voters will settle the question of local option in that county Jan. 24.

The 21st Michigan Infantry hold a reunion in Grand Rapids Jan. 12.

Gov. Alger sent his check for $25 to the new Methodist church at Bellaire.

Co. F., Sixth Michigan Cavalry, holds its annual reunion at Cedar Springs January 17.

The Grand Rapids & Indiana will contribute $500 to the burned out oval dish company at Mancelona to help them continue, and citizens have subscribed $1,500 toward making up the loss.

There are 110 business men's associations in Michigan.

Rev. J. T. Robe, the first minister of the gospel who ever preached a sermon in Kalamazoo county, is dead, aged 81 years. He was born in New Jersey, educated in Pennsylvania and came to Michigan in 1831. He was a member of the M. E. conference. He leaves a widow aged 81 and three children, one son and two daughters.

Michigan teachers propose to make a summer resort of St. Helena's island in Lake Michigan.

The new year found 383 old veterans in the soldiers' home.

Following is the list of books approved by the State Board of Education for the study of physiology and hygiene in the public schools: Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene by Jerome Walker; The Human Body by H. N. Martin; Hygienic Physiology by J. D. Steele; Eclectic Guide to Health, E. T. Brown; Principles of Hygiene, Ezra Hunt; Intermediate Anatomy, J. C. Cutter; Anatomy and Physiology, J. Hutchison; The House I Live In, E. T. Brown; Beginners' Physiology and Hygiene, Joseph Cutter; Child's Health Primer, Hygiene for Young People; Child's Book of Health, Practical Work in the School Room, no author assigned; Lessons on the Human Body, O. M. Brands; Good Health for Children, O. M. Brands. The following four books will be approved as soon as a sufficient amount of matter relating to stimulants is added to meet the requirements of the law: Human Body and Its Health by W. T. Smith; Primer of Physiology and Hygiene by W. T. Smith; Our Bodies and How We Live by A. T. Blaisdell; How to Keep Well by A. T. Blaisdell.

Dr. Hal C. Wyman says that the insane asylums at Kalamazoo and Pontiac are overcrowded. In the four state asylums there are 2,100 cases. The doctor would like to see county asylums established and thinks that many cases of acute mania now hurried off to asylums might be cured if properly treated. He further says that the improper use of coffee is an alarming cause of insanity.

The Michigan Masonic home association held its annual meeting at Grand Rapids a few days ago, and elected Wm. Dunham president and R. D. Swartout vice president. The following directors were chosen to serve three years from date: Dr. T. W. Bradfield, Sam F. Watson, W. C. Denison, Thos. W. Strahan, E. D. Benedict, H. N. Moore and Julius Houseman. The work of the association is in a flourishing condition, and the home will be commenced next spring, with every indication that ample funds will be forthcoming for its completion.

DETROIT MARKETS.

WHEAT.—No. 2 red spot, 22 cars at 89½c., 3 cars at 8[illegible]c. closing with 8[illegible]c bid for Michigan; January, 5,000 bu at 87c, closing with 87[illegible]c bid; February, 87¼c bid, offered at 88c; May, 2,000 bu at 91½c, 30,000 at 91[illegible]c, 5,000 bu at 91⅝c, 25,000 bu at 91[illegible]c, 10,000 bu at 91½c, 25,000 bu at 91¾c, 10,000 bu at 91[illegible]c 25,000 bu at 97¾c, 110,000 bu at 92c, 10,000 bu at 92[illegible]c, 20,000 bu at 92¼c; rejected, offered at 78c; No 1 white spot, 8 cars at 86[illegible]c, 2 cars at 87c, 1 car at 87¼c, closing with 87[illegible]c bid; May, 10,000 bu at 93c, closing with 93⅝c bid.

CORN.—No 2 spot was called nominal at 5[illegible]c early in the day, and later at 55½c. December, 10,000 at 5[illegible]c; No 3 spot, 2 cars at 53c; No 4 spot, 1 car at 52½c.

OATS.—No 2 white spot, 1 car at 56¾c; No 2 spot, 34½c bid.

CLOVER SEED.—Prime spot, 52 bags at $4.10; January, 50 bags at $4.15; February, 100 bags at $4.22½; No 2 spot, 27 bags at $3.90.

BARLEY.—State barley is firm at the following prices: No 2, $1.50; No 3, $1.30@ $1.40 per cwt

FLOUR.—The flour market is quiet and firm at the following prices:

Michigan patent	$4 75@5 00
Michigan roller	4 25@4 35
Minnesota patent	5 00@5 25
Minnesota bakers'	4 25@4 50
Illinois rye	3 50
Buckwheat, per bbl	4 50
APPLES, new, per bbl	1 75 @ 2 25
CRANBERRIES, per bu	3 00 @ 3 50
QUINCES, per bbl	4 00 @ 4 50
BEANS, picked	2 10 @ 2 20
" unpicked	75 @ 1 00
BEESWAX	25 @ 30
BUTTER	18 @ 20
CHEESE, per lb	12 @ 12½
DRIED APPLES, per lb	4 @ 6
EGGS, per doz	19 @ 20
HONEY, per lb	18 @ 20
HOPS	32 @ 30
HAY, per ton, clover	9 00 @ 9 50
" " timothy	10 50 @ 11 00
MALT, per bu	70 @ 75
ONIONS, per bbl	2 00 @ 2 25
POTATOES, per bu	70 @ 75
POULTRY—Chickens, per lb	9 @ 10
Geese	6 @ 7
Turkeys	11 @ 12
Ducks per lb	9 @ 10
PROVISIONS—Mess Pork	14 25 @ 14 50
Family	15 75 @ 16 00
Extra mess beef	7 00 @ 7 50
Lard	7 @ 7¼
Dressed hogs	6 25 @ 6 50
" Beef	2½ @ 4
" Calves	6 @ 7
" Lambs	5½ @ 8
Hams	10 @ 11
Shoulders	7 @ 8
Bacon	11 @ 11½
Tallow, per lb	3½ @ 4
HIDES—Green City per lb	5 @ 5½
Country	6¼ @ 7
Cured	7½ @ 8
Salted	9
Sheep skins, wool	50 @ 1 25

LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—Market stronger; good to choice steers, $4@5; stockers and feeders, $2 20@3 40; cows, bulls and mixed, $1 40@ $3; Texas cattle, $1 60@3 25.

HOGS—Market dull good heavy, 5c higher; mixed, $5 05@5 40; heavy $5 30@ $5 75; light, $4 85@5 20; skips, $3 25@ 4 60.

SHEEP—Market stronger; natives, $3@ $5 25; western $4@4 90; Texans, $2 50@ $3 70; lambs $4 75@5 50.

Gov. Marmaduke Dead.

Gov. John S. Marmaduke died of pneumonia at the executive mansion in Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 28.

John Simpson Marmaduke was born in Saline county, Missouri, March 14, 1833. He attended Yale and Harvard colleges, and in June, 1853, entered the West Point military academy, from which institution he graduated four years later. He was assigned to a regiment under Gen. A. S. Johnson. In April, 1861, he resigned and came to Missouri, where he organized and commanded a regiment of Missouri state guards. He resigned after the battle of Boonville and went immediately to Richmond, where he tendered his services to the confederacy. He began as first lieutenant and gradually rose until at the battle of Shiloh he commanded a regiment. He was wounded in this battle and was made a brigadier general. In the latter part of the war he commanded in numerous engagements in Missouri and Arkansas. In October, 1864, he was captured, but was released in 1865. He engaged in commercial pursuits in St. Louis from that time to 1871, after which he filled several minor state offices, among them railroad commissioner. In 1884 he was nominated for governor by the democrats and elected by a reduced majority.

Cleveland's Gift.

The Washington Post publishes the following with reference to the president's gift to the pope:

It is learned from an official source that President Cleveland's gift of a copy of the constitution of the United States to Pope Leo XIII. on the occasion of the golden jubilee of his ordination as a priest was suggested indirectly by the holy father himself. When Cardinal Gibbons returned from Rome last summer he brought a very cordial and congratulatory message to President Cleveland from the pope on the success of his administration, and well wishes for him personally. The pope in his interview with Cardinal Gibbons expressed much satisfaction with our constitution and great interest in its operation. This suggested to the president the character of the gift. No letter was sent with it, but on the fly-leaf in the president's handwriting is the inscription presenting the book to the pope on the fiftieth anniversary of his entrance into the priesthood.

Increased Railroad Mileage.

During the year 1887 the new mileage actually constructed on railroads in the southwest aggregates 4,356 miles as follows: Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, 1,368; Missouri Pacific, 1,266; Rock Island, 1,200; Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf, 366; Kansas City, Wyandotte & Northwestern, 90; Kansas City & Southern, 45; Union Pacific, 21. Total, 4,356. The most of this work has been done in Kansas, Indian Territory, Texas and Nebraska, although the Santa Fe's new line to Chicago is included. The construction in Kansas is far ahead of that in any other state.

Died a Pauper.

M. D. Babcock, inventor of the fire extinguishing apparatus bearing his name, died at the alms-house in San Francisco Christmas day, aged 70 years. The cause of his death was softening of the brain. At one time he was in receipt of $10,000 a month for royalty on his machines, but after selling the patent and rights the money was soon spent, and for some years he wandered about the state in a destitute condition. About six years ago he was admitted to the alms-house, where he remained until his death.

THE MEN WILL STRIKE.

Philadelphia & Reading Employes Ordered to Stand Firm.

An Anarchist Letter.

The convention of Reading railroad employes, after being in session all night at Reading, Pa., ordered a strike of all employes of the Reading railway on the whole system, from Elizabethport, N. J., to Williamsport, Pa. This order does not include the passenger train service and signal tower men. Street-crossing men, flagmen and track-walkers are also excepted. It is left to the discretion of local assemblies as to whether switchmen shall be allowed to work or not.

It is understood that there will be no miners' strike, at least not before the end of the year. The convention indorsed the action of Chairman Lee of the executive committee and a reward of $2,000, to be paid by the executive committee, is offered for evidence that will lead to the conviction of any person using violence to the company's property.

The order for a general strike called out the following circular, printed in German and English, which was distributed freely all along the lines of railroads:

"Fellow workmen: The hour has come, the agencies of science must play a part in the struggle of the future. Yesterday it was the slaughter of our comrades at Chicago to-day it is the assassination of 60,000 of our brothers on the Philadelphia & Reading railway system. True the sword is the weapon of circumstances, but their victims perish all the same. Do not waste your force on the scabs—they are only the effect of the present damnable commercial and competitive system. Destroy by all the agencies at your command the great representatives of the system—the Corbins, the Maxwells and the Goulds. Let the torch, the bomb or the bullet strike them now. Let all they possess to the flames be given night and day. The strike must be made the war of the classes against the masses.

"Brothers, remember Chicago and your oath."

LEO FAINTS.

The Pontifical High Mass of the Jubilee.

The pontifical high mass Jan. 1 was a great success. Thousands of people thronged St. Peter's square early in the morning, attending the opening of the cathedral. The cathedral was packed. The pope entered at 8:30 a. m. followed by the cardinals in procession. His holiness was received with loud and long continued shouts of "Long live the pope." The music of the mass was deeply impressive and many persons in the audience were affected.

Forty-eight cardinals and 238 archbishops and bishops were present at the mass, and it is estimated that there were 30,000 persons in the audience.

The pope prayed for a long time in his private chapel and then received the homage of the court cardinals in the saladucale. While assuming the sacerdotal vestments the pope was overcome with emotion and fainted. Strong salts were administered and he soon returned to consciousness. He then ascended the gestatorial chair and was borne on the shoulders of the sediari attended by the cardinals, into St. Peter's cathedral.

Just before he was fully vested for the altar he again fainted, remaining unconscious a few minutes.

The mass occupied twenty-eight minutes. After pronouncing the benediction the pope again seated himself in the gestatorial chair and was borne completely around the altar to the capale de sacraments, where he offered up a prayer of thanksgiving.

During the ceremony the pope wore the triple crown presented to him by Emperor William.

The pope blessed all present and left the cathedral at 11 a. m., the whole audience expressing its joy by clapping hands, waving hats and handkerchiefs, and enthusiastic acclamations.

Later in the day King Humbert expressed himself to a deputation from parliament as being highly satisfied with the smoothness of the ceremony, which, he said was the best proof of the pope's liberty in Rome.

Two battalion of the line and a large number of carbineri regulated the movements of the crowd at the cathedral and 1,000 policemen in plain clothes were stationed inside the edifice. A few ladies fainted in the crush, but no accident occurred.

In the chapel the columns and pilasters were hung with red damask. The statue of St. Peter was clothed in pontifical garments with a tiara on the head. The orchestra included the famous ancient silver trumpets. Many members of the nobility were present. The pope wore a pastoral ring presented by the Austrian archdukes. His tiara was covered with 1,000 pearls. The chalice used by his holiness was the gift of the king of Portugal, and the golden plate used in the service was a present from Queen Victoria.

Railroads Built in 1887.

The Railway Age says: The year 1887 has surpassed all others in the extension of railway mileage constructed in the United States. Returns show that in 1887 no less than 12,724 miles of new main line track were added to the railway system in the United States. No account is taken in this of hundreds of miles of side tracks built, nor of the thousands of miles of main line tracks re-laid. It is not improbable that some scattering additions may yet be received, so that it is safe to state that during 1887 13,000 miles of new main line track were constructed. When in 1882, during a period of extraordinary activity, 11,568 miles of new road were built, it was generally believed that these figures would not again be equalled. In the following year the new construction fell to 6,741 miles; in 1884 to 3,825, and in 1885 to 3,608 miles. The year 1886 witnessed a considerable revival of activity, and 9,000 miles of new road were built—a greater mileage than in any previous year with the exception of 1881 and 1882.

The greater part of this prodigious increase of railways has taken place in a few western states. New England and New York and the great middle states contribute very little, and additions in the southern states are not as large as many anticipated. The northwestern states, including Michigan, Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota, have shown very considerable activity, but the great rush of railway building has been in the central belt west of the Missouri river. Kansas leads with the total of 2,070 miles. Nebraska come next with 1,101 miles, almost equalled by Texas with 1,055 miles. Then in order come the following: Colorado, 818; Dakota, 760; Michigan, 700; Montana, 616; Missouri, 554; Indian Territory, 499, and so on.

It appears that not far from $325,000,000 have been expended on lines completed during the year. The money which has thus been expended has temporarily employed a large army of workmen and has also furnished permanent employment to another great army, probably aggregating 65,000 persons.

Six Persons Killed.

A collision occurred on the Cincinnati Southern, one mile south of Greenwood, Ky., on a sixty-foot embankment midway between tunnels 7 and 8. The collision was caused by Conductor Schrumm misreading orders delivered to him at Winfield. He mistook Summit for Somerset and hurried his train down the grade at fifty miles an hour to make that point, probably running at that speed when the collision occurred. After the collision Conductor Bennett ran up to Schrumm and said: "I am not to blame for this; read your orders and see." Schrumm took out his orders and, looking carefully, threw up his hands and exclaimed: "Oh, my God! I have made a mistake."

The two engines collided with such force that they were impacted together, the boilers shattering and discharging all their contents in a few minutes. An attempt to pull the engines apart failed, and they were rolled over the embankment to clear the track. The baggage car and smoker of No. 2 rolled down the embankment and the ladies' car of this train was thrown on the engine, the inmates thereby being scalded. Six persons were instantly killed. About 20 others were injured, some of whom will die.

For Farmers.

The list of institutes arranged by the state board of agriculture for this winter is as follows:

South Haven, Van Buren county, Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 24 and 25, to be attended by Profs. Bailey and Cook of the agricultural college, and Will W. Tracy of Detroit.

Grand Rapids, Kent county, Thursday and Friday, Jan. 26 and 27. This institute will be a forestry convention under the auspicies of the independent state forestry commission, and attended by Prof. Beal of the agricultural college, and Mr. Garfield, secretary of the state horticultural society, who constitute the board of directors of the commission, also by Prof. Bailey of the agaicultural college, and by B. E. Fernow, chief of the forestry division of the United States department of agriculture.

Maple river, Shiawassee county, Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, to be attended by Prof. Cook, Beal and Carpenter.

Ithaca, Gratiot county, Thursday and Friday, Feb. 2 and 3, to be attended by Profs. Johnson, Grange and Carpenter.

Harrisville, Alcona county, Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 8 and 9, to be attended by Profs. Beal and Bailey.

Cassopolis, Cass county, Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 13 and 14, to be attended by Profs. Grange, Carpenter, Durand and MacEwan.

Adrian, Lenawee county, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 14, 15 and 16. This institute is held in connection with the annual meeting of the state dairymen's association, and will be attended by Profs. Johnson, Cook, Grange and MacEwan.

Tecumseh, Lenawee county, Thursday and Friday, Feb. 16 and 17, to be attended by Profs. MacEwan, Cook, Johnson and Grange.

President Willitts and Secretary Reynolds will attend each of the institutes.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Rev. James Powell, corresponding secretary of the American Missionary Society, died in New York Dec. 28th.

John Barclay, for many years journal clerk of the house of representatives, is dead.

The White River Utes are off their reservation, and trouble is feared.

Miss Phœbe Couzins announces that she is a candidate for governor of Missouri.

Louisville, Ky., is suffering from a coal famine.

Senator Shultz, one of the oldest settlers of the Red River district, has been appointed lieutenant-governor of Manitoba.

Hon. G. W. McIlvaine, an ex-judge of the supreme court of Ohio, and one of the most prominent republicans of the state, is dead.

John Crosby of Minneapolis, president of National Millers' association, is dead.

The wool growers and dealers of Senoma and Mendocino counties, California, held a meeting and adopted resolutions appealing to congress to maintain the present tariff; indorsing the views of the national wool growers' association and favoring co-operation with them.

From the annual report of the bureau of labor, containing statistics for the six years ending December 31, 1886, it is seen that nearly one and a half million of employes were effected by strikes and lockouts, and that the wage loss during this period amount to about $59,948,852.

The Virginia legislature has elected John S. Barbour United States senator, to succeed Mr. Riddleberger. Barbour received 87 votes to 48 for Mahone.

The executive committee of the rated service pension association has issued a call for a national convention of veterans to meet in New York March 1.

Gov. John M. Thayer of Nebraska has sent a letter to the Nebraska senators in congress protesting against the confirmation of L. Q. C. Lamar as justice of the supreme court. He alleges that Lamar was a bold and defiant rebel, and is not a fit person to interpret the constitution.

Advices from some of the counties in western Kansas, particularly Clark, are to the effect that the farmers are suffering for the want of food and clothing.

The indications are that the 1888 crop of winter wheat in Texas will be double that of 1887.

Gen. John C. Fremont has decided to settle in Southern California, and has accepted the gift of a home near Los Angeles.

Judge Joel Parker, ex-governor of New Jersey, is dead.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Lord Stanley of Preston has accepted the governor-generalship of Canada.

The reduction of 14 per cent. in Irish rents dates from August 23 last.

Emphatically denied that Gladstone has gone to Italy to plead the cause of Ireland.

Over $500,000 worth of oil paintings stored in the seminary chapel in Quebec were burned Jan. 1. The chapel was built in 1735.

Caused by a Monkey.

A monkey overturned a kerosene lamp in O'Brien's variety theatre at Wakefield, and soon the whole establishment was in flames. The water supply was limited, and the entire block in which the theatre stood was also on fire. The flames spread with great rapidity, and when morning came the entire business portion of the place was in ruins, over 40 buildings having been destroyed. They were nearly all of flimsy construction, the town being new. There is practically no insurance, and the loss is stated as aggregating $100,000—a too large figure, perhaps. There was no fire-fighting apparatus in the place.

The lawless element had full control of the town during the progress of the fire. Hundreds of shots were fired by the roughs to intimidate the merchants who were endeavoring to save some of their stock. They went into a number of stores in a body and while some of them would cover the inmates with revolvers, others would be robbing the stores of the most valuable goods. The whisky secured from the large number of saloons in the burning block made the men perfect demons, and people who had property stood by aghast. They were powerless and made no efforts to interfere with what was going on.

The streets were filled with hatless women, some rushing about searching for lost children, and others wringing their hands and crying as they watched the destruction of their homes.

Strikes and Their Cost.

From the annual report of the commissioner of labor, we take the following table showing the number of strikes occurring during each of the last six years, and the average number of establishments involved in each strike:

Years.	Strikes.	Establishments involved.	Average in each strike.
1881	471	2,928	6.2
1882	454	2,105	4.6
1883	478	2,759	5.8
1884	443	2,367	5.3
1885	645	2,284	3.5
1886	1,412	9,893	7.6
Total	3,903	22,366	...

General average, 5.7.

In 1887, the report says, there were according to the best information obtainable, 853 strikes, details of which are not available. The wage losses during this period are placed at $58,948,852.

Murdered the Family.

In Lee County, Georgia, a man named Nathan Reed, who did not live happily with his wife, brutally murdered the whole family and then committed suicide. He sent a half-grown boy who lived with him after a doctor. When the doctor and the boy returned they found the cabin a heap of smoking ruins and the charred body of Reed's wife and their six children. A search of the premises disclosed Reed's body in the well with his throat cut.

A Coal Famine Feared.

The Ohio river at Cincinnati is frozen over and navigation is entirely suspended. This closes all hopes of a coal supply by river sooner than February unless there is an extraordinarily warm January. The prices of coal are now double what they were a year ago, and must still go higher.

The Cultivation of Patience.

How often do we hear the expression "my patience is all worn out." True, at times we feel that we cannot bear up under the weight of some misfortune, some evil surrounding us and goading us on to the very brink of despair. But need we surrender our patience under such circumstances? Has patience a limit?

The early Christians, we are told, suffered all manner of tortures and remained patient to the end. The wounded soldier, left to die on the field of battle, bears his agony patiently until relieved by death. "Patience unto death" is an extreme test, and were we, to-day, called upon to lay down our lives, submitting to the ignominy and terrible torture borne by the early martyrs, would we be patient? I fear not.

But it is not to the extreme test of patience I wish to refer.

Every day we meet with petty trials that seem to magnify as our patience decreases, and finally we succumb to the test and exclaim, "my patience is all worn out." Whereas, if we remain firm at such times, our patience may meet with due reward.

To those who are termed quick-tempered, the cultivation of patience is most essential; their happiness in life depends upon it. In the columns of the newspapers is daily chronicled the result of being a slave to one's temper. Murders are committed without hesitation or thought as to the consequent punishment so certain to be dealt the offender of the law.

The American people especially require a cultivation of patience. In the bustle and confusion incident to the rush of a business life, they are, as a general rule, found to be very impatient, and, as is well known, in their eagerness to reach the million dollar mark on their road to fortune, they too often resort to "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain."

Some are born with the desirable inheritance of patience, and prove themselves equal to the test of trying ordeals, through which they pass without a ruffle of the temper. The patient person may be borne down with a load of sufferings, and yet hope and wait for a favorable turn in affairs with the consoling thought that "things might be worse."

It is the possession of this great virtue that renders possible the hiding of an aching heart underneath a pleasant smile. It is patience that lightens the burden of cares in the sick chamber, and brings comfort to the invalid. It is patience that makes a life of poverty bearable, and in its possession the poor victim still finds much in life that is sweet to live for.

The world's progress is due to a cultivation of patience, and to it we are indebted for the wonderful inventions whose resulting benefits we now enjoy. Genius fosters it, and without its benign influence the inventor would never meet with a realization of his hopes. Patience has given the world numberless men who have devoted their lives to the welfare of posterity. Many a midnight lamp now burns with some cherished object in view which patience may yet develop into a discovery that will startle the world with its wonderful power.

Patience makes the model parent, and rears the child to become a useful member of society. It may and should be cultivated by all as it is daily proven an essential requisite in the proper conducting of life's affairs.

If you are impatient cultivate patience, and note how much more contented and happy you will be.—*M. J. Adams, in The Current.*

Love in the Bud.

It was a very small boy, who was just beginning to appreciate things. Like grown people, he did not talk idly about the little girl at school who had made an impression on his young heart, that still beat beneath a kind of pinafore. It was too serious a matter. His mother, who had doubtless been all through it herself, and, like grown-up people, had forgotten all about it and lost sympathy with it, did not treat him well. She hurt his feelings. It was the hour he ought to be at school, and she found him crying in a dark corner.

"Why havn't you gone to school?"

"I don't want to go to-day."

"Well, you've got to or I'll spank you good. Be off, now."

"Mamma, I don't want to go."

"I'll have to take you, then."

"Mamma, don't take me to school to-day. I can't go to school to-day."

"Why?"

"Because."

"Because why?"

"Because you've given me a dirty pinafore."

"It's perfectly clean."

"No, it isn't. There's a spot on it, and Gladys will see it, and she won't like me."

"Gladys won't see a little thing like that. Run along or Gladys won't like you."

And when she had persuaded him that it did not ruin his appearance entirely he ran off. It was not indisposition to learn. It was learning. It was love.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

Handsome Is That Handsome Does."

A famous lady who once reigned in Paris society was so very homely that her mother said one day, "My poor child, you are too ugly for any one ever to fall in love with you." From this time Madame de Circourt began to be very kind to the pauper children of the village, the servants of the household, and even the birds that hopped about the garden walks. She was always distressed if she happened to be unable to render a service. This good-will toward everybody made her the idol of the city. Though her complexion was sallow and her gray eyes were small and sunken, yet she held in devotion to her the greatest men of her time. Her unselfish interest in others made her, it is said, perfectly irresistible. Her life furnishes us a valuable lesson.

Prohibition in Rhode Island.

New York Man (to Rhode Island man)—What is the effect of the Prohibitory law in your State?

Rhode Island Man—It promotes pedestrianism.

New York Man—How is that?

Rhode Island Man—Everybody walks a mile or two into Connecticut for his drinks.—*Pittsburg Chronicle.*

A NEW TORPEDO BOAT.

Gen. Berdan Proposes to Blow the Biggest Man-of-War Out of the Water.

There has been on exhibition in this city, says *The New York Evening Post*, for the past few days a model for a new torpedo boat, the invention of Gen. Berdan, which it is claimed will very effectively blow out of existence the largest ironclad afloat. Contracts have been made with the chief European powers for the use of this boat, and Gen. Berdan says that it has been practically accepted by the United States government. A stock company with a capital of $1,000,000 has been formed in this country for the manufacture of this class of boats.

Gen. Berdan said, in conversation with a reporter: "There always has been a great number of difficulties in the way of the successful working of a torpedo boat. The netting having put an effectual stop to the attack of torpedoes, it was necessary to find some way of circumventing it. It is a well-known fact that in order to disable a vessel it is necessary to attack her from below. A torpedo put against her side would only injure one of her compartments, and she might get away. Shooting a torpedo at a vessel would be a good deal like throwing a knife at a man across the street, with more chances of missing than hitting him, and still fewer chances of hitting him in a vital part. The problem to be solved was how to go up to the vessel, place a torpedo under her bottom, and destroy her completely. This I have solved.

"A heavily armored ram, of high speed, a double-ender, is used. The spur of the ram is only six feet long, and the method adopted for its protection is something quite new in the construction of war-ships. A ram is effective only with a direct blow; a glancing blow will bend or break the spur and render the boat useless. To save the spur I have adopted the ordinary ferry-boat deck; the glancing blow will be against this and the spur will be saved. The great stability of this deck will enable the boat to stand a great shock without danger to it. Underneath this deck there are four screws for the propulsion of the boat, two on each side. These are connected with shafts so that they can be run in opposite directions and the boat can be turned on her own center. In order that she may not be obliged to attack small boats that may attack her, another and smaller boat of the same design will go with her to protect her.

"The torpedo is attached to a long arm, which, when not in actual use, is run up against her side, under the buffer deck. The boat is sent directly against the enemy, and as soon as she strikes this arm is swung down, under the netting hung out around the ship, and the torpedo exploded against the bottom of the vessel. One torpedo will be quite sufficient to destroy any war ship. This arm is run by a shaft which drives it against the bottom of a vessel at a speed of thirty feet a second. The force of a revolving shaft continues the pressure, and the cartridge is exploded. After the explosion the torpedo boat can back out, the arm can be sent back into its place and another torpedo attached, and she is ready for another attack. There is one of these arms on each side of the boat, so that both or either can be used according to the need. I expect before long to make a trial against a ship anchored out at sea properly protected by netting, and I will blow her up at the first attack. We are all ready to go ahead, the company has been formed, and the money to build will be forthcoming."

He Was Kind to His Father.

Some years ago a gentleman, who was at that time in an impoverished condition, left this state and located in Utah, and some time after his settlement there he embraced the Mormon faith. This fact became known to some of his grown-up children who still reside in this county, and they exhibited considerable displeasure. Recently the old gentleman came here to visit his children, and in consequence of his affiliation with the Mormon church he received a very chilly reception from his offspring, who even went so far as to disown him. There was one exception, however, a son, who treated his father with kindest consideration, and acted in every way that becomes a child to its parent. This son was not as well provided with this world's goods as some others, and just prior to his departure the father said to him: "My boy, you have been kind to me, and I desire to reward you therefor. Pick out the best farm you can find in Pottawattamie county, let me know the price of it, and I will send you the money as soon as I get home. I have prospered since I went to Utah, and have ample means to provide for myself and those who show their friendship for me." The chagrin and surprise of the remainder of the family when they learned of the brother's good fortune may be better imagined than described. This is a true statement of facts, and the persons therein live not more than twelve miles from Council Bluffs."—*Council Bluffs Nonpareil.*

No More Mushrooms.

A good lady of this city was recently overheard conversing with a neighbor.

"Yes," she said, "we are very fond of mushrooms at our house. We used often to get them from the market, and always found them very nice. But"—with a sigh—"we don't have them any more."

"Indeed! Can't they be had?"

"Oh, yes, always; but you see we have a new girl."

"What has that to do with it?"

"Well, if you must know, our former girl was as fond of mushrooms as our family were, and she was always very glad to eat them—she ate them warm and we ate them afterward, cold warmed over. You see it was a little delicate, but they are such uncertain things to buy, and you never can tell when a mess is going to poison you to death—and so you see, it was only judicious that the girl should eat them first—and then—well, you must see that if she was all right it was perfectly safe for us to eat them a few hours later. But you see, our new girl doesn't care for mushrooms, and so we don't buy them any more."—*Buffalo Express.*

West Point and Its Cadets.

And so here I am, in the heart of "R D's" country—his very "stamping-ground," *i. e.*, Highland Falls, with its Dutch gables and dumpy cottages, lolling lazily in the sunshine almost beneath the window where I write. Irving indicates a spot somewhat lower down and on the other side of the river as the scene of that long and dreamless slumber. But I am sure "Rip" has danced many a time on the hillslopes hereabout, and had many a carouse in the old tavern down by the water's edge. From the east portico of Cranston's may be seen the roof of a house which witnessed a transaction second only to the betrayal of Christ. Within that house, whilst "Rip Van Winkle" lay asleep upon the mountains, Benedict Arnold sold his country for a price, and from that house John Andre proceeded across the Hudson and down the Tarrytown to his doom. The world was going very ill in those days, particularly for the American patriots. It is going better now, bless God!

If there be anything in christendom more picturesque than the views about West Point, the place is unknown to me. Surely nothing in Alpine scenery can surpass them. But they are summer not winter pictures. Here Shakespeare's "brownies" had found a loveliness far in excess of their Warwickshire, and Drake's "fays" made such revels as had given a new conception of fairyland to "Puck" himself. The forest of Arden was not richer in woody virtues than these deep greeneries; the River of Crystal that flowed through the gardens of the Enchanted Palace gave back no such reflections as the Hudson, nor bore upon its bosom freights so precious. Far be it, however, from this old gray goosequill of mine to plunge into the descriptive, I mention the circumstance to mark a very striking contrast, which may be observed, between the cadets at West Point and the grandeur of the topographic setting in which they appear and to which they seem its chief animation. There is nothing, I am sorry to say, very imposing about them. They are a sad-eyed, pale-faced, stumpy set of lads. Old Winfield Scott, who lies over there in the churchyard—nearly seven feet in his skeleton—must go back to his coffin from his nightly rounds, sick at heart, to see these meagre striplings and to consider the future of the army with them as its captains. The competitive examination demagogy, I fear is doing the business for the coming crop of martial heroes. They are to be a race of scholars, not soldiers. The boy who can get the most medals at a public school does not thus signalize his fitness for a military career. It is exactly the reverse. But the competitive system is popular, and as long as it relieves congressmen from the embarrassment of making selections, it is likely to send to the military academy studious milksops, who, answering well enough the needs of these piping times of peace, are no more meant for war than threshed straw for ramrods. What the army wants are men, not book-worms.—*Henry Watterson, in Courier Journal.*

The Land of Rest.

Beyond the valley lying low
Through which our feet some day shall go—
Beyond the hills so purple haze
That stretches far beyond our gaze—
There is a place, so happily blest,
Which here we call the land of rest.

A land with hills and valleys fair,
And many of our loved are there;
So silently and one by one
They went the lonesome journey on—
All, with white hands upon their breast,
Went out into the land of rest.

I long that happy bourne to see,
I long to know how it will be
When first these eyes of mine behold
The land of which the prophets told.
Of my inheritance possessed,
When shall I reach the land of rest!

O blessed land! O time so slow!
Not with reluctance I shall go,
But on my lips a happy song,
That it, the day looked for so long,
Has come to take me to the blest,
That peaceful land, the land of rest.
—*Helen A. Manville.*

A Twenty Flush.

Treasurer Fulton, of a combination which played at the Central theater last week rushed into the Girard house last night after the show and planted two overcort pocketfulls of greenbacks on the counter, to be put away for safekeeping. Chief Clark Carmack was counting a fist-full of bills.

"I call you," said Clerk Carmack to the natty little treasurer. "What have you got?"

"Two full hands," was the reply.

"The pot's mine," said Clerk Carmack, "I've got a twenty flush."

"What's that?" asked the treasurer.

"Twenty one hundred dollar bills. So he had. Yesterday was the first of the month, and the monthly boarders had stepped up to the captain's office during the day. The theatrical treasurer only had three one hundred dollor bills in his pile. It was only fun, and Clerk Carmack told the Stroller that the bluff didn't go.—*Philadelphia Times.*

What Ailed the Worm.

A father had been lecturing his son upon the evils of staying out late at night and getting up late in the morning. "You never will amount to anything," he continued, "unless you turn over a new leaf. Remember that the early bird catches the worm."

"How about the worm, father," inquired the young man, borrowing the old sarcasm, "wasn't he rather foolish to get up so early?"

"My son, replied the old man, solemnly, "that worm hadn't been to bed at all. He was on his way home."—*Youth's Companion.*

A Musical Composer.

"I see," remarked Miss Keebored, turning around on the piano stool, that the duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha can compose music very readily."

"I think I'll invite the duke in, then," replied her father; "there's some music about this house that sadly needs composing."

The Same With a Difference.

Omaha Teacher—Yes, my children, always remember there is no human love equal to a mother's love.

Little Girl—Womens love their childrens better than their husbands, don't they?

"Very often."

"Yes, indeed. When we gets the hiccoughs mamma gets sorry and tries to cure 'em, but when papa gets the hiccoughs she gets mad."—*Omaha World.*