THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC.
PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL.
Entered at the postoffice at Birmingham, Mich., as second class matter.

THEY now have a dictator in Guatemala. He will dictate until some other dictator arises who can dictate to him. It is an uneventful year so far as dictator arises in Central America.

MONKEYS who make wine and jars in which to store it have been discovered in China. Possibly the missing link for which science pines and religion incredulously calls has come to light at last.

KATE FIELD'S Washington tells of an Illinois man at the fair who seriously called the midway plaisance "the small way applicable to one thing about the average American. Even if he can't pronounce a thing he is always ready to make a stagger at it.

We observe that the statement is going the rounds that "Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller was the writer on birds, did not know one bird from another until she was past middle age." This is erroneous. Mrs. Miller learned to know chicken from turkey at a comparatively early age.

ENGLAND, having observed with jealous eye the affection between Russia and France, has now stepped southward and shed "a sisterly tear adown the neck of fair Italia. Such purely unselfish affection among nations is beautiful to see and will last till one gets a chance to take advantage of the other.

AS THE year grows old she tries to conceal her age by taking on gaudy colors. She comes out in flaunting and gorgeous attire. She has the feminine instinct for making age almost as beautiful as youth. Everyone who can should look into Nature's country for a day at least and see nature's fall fashions.

IT is remarkable that some of the recent important improvements in bicycle construction haven't been applied as yet for the improvement of ordinary carriages. This is a very conservative old world after all. It takes a long time to get it out of a rut in which it has been traveling for a good many years.

BARTHOLDI wants the American people to turn the island where his statue of Liberty now stands into a sort of American pantheon, with statues of men who have made this country great, from Washington down. Mr. Bartholdi doesn't say so, but he is probably willing to do the artistic work—at a fitting pecuniary price of course.

THE volatile French people let the corpses of Gounod and MacMahon men who have covered their nation with glory—lie unwept, unsung, till the deaths unwept, unsung, while they, the people, indecently fawned upon and caroused with the visiting seamen of Russia, in whose eyes and the eyes of the world they are indulging a "holy spectacle" of themselves

WHILE France is trying to make a partnership with Russia whether or no the czar is unexpectedly around the Pamirs and seems in a very fair way to pull on a conflict with England. Flirtatious France had best look out for how she plays a Russian pig in a poke; she may find out after she has irretrievably involved herself that she has been buying all sorts of trouble unawares.

MARSHAL MACMAHON, who played so conspicuous a part in the Franco-Prussian war, is dead at the age of eighty-five. It is only a little more than two decades since that great struggle, and yet such have been the fatalities among its leaders that scarcely anyone of note now survives. Should this grave record be renewed to-morrow it would be by new soldiers and new commanders.

IT is a great thing to own a steam yacht, and a man who gets rich enough he generally buys one. But the yacht, like all pleasures, has its dangers. More than one owner has had his life in them. Mr. Vanderbilt's yacht was sunk. Mr. Gould's yacht cut down several boats, and entailed the drowning of several persons. Now, Mr. Astor's yacht is in trouble again, and two it goes. Perhaps, after all, it is better and safer to travel in the regular way.

THE wonder is that any bills of fare in this country are printed in French. The French on them is generally of the worst, and, what is more, not one in a hundred of those who whack hands as they are set understands it. We don't look for French from a cook any more than we look to a hostler for Latin. The dishes that are put on from an average American hotel table are American in character, with sound American names. Let them be called by them.

LONDON reports affirm that peace cannot be restored in Brazil except by restoration of monarchy. Brazilians must make ready accordingly for a long suspension of peace and coffee-drinkers must prepare for say a little more for their favorite beverage. For monarchy cannot be restored on the American continent. Once out, it is forever out. A British protectorate over a pretended kingdom with a dummy heir of Don Pedro for bauble-bearer is what restoration of the monarchy there would mean.

PUBLIC libraries, like the telegraph, telephone, electric street cars, etc., are a characteristic of the people of the present generation have come to look upon them as something ancient, as if they had always existed. The first free public library ever established was in Peterboro, N. H., and that was not until 1833. Up to that date libraries of the country designed for public use were owned either by literary associations or educational bodies. Peterboro has the honor of being the initial library supported by the taxpayers.

THE Philadelphia Times says: "It is a noticeable thing in Philadelphia society that so many women have low and melodious voices, that excellent thing in women." That must be because they are trained from childhood not to disturb the holy hush.

IF the man who bumps his shoulders over the bicycle handle-bars could only see himself once as others see him, he would sit up straight afterward, even if he had to run a steel ramrod inside his shirt collar and down along his spine.

STATE NEWS MENTION.

THREE TRAINMEN CREMATED IN A BURNING WRECK.

Lansing Bank Cashier in Serious Trouble.

—Supreme Court Says Women Cannot Vote at Municipal Elections.

Female Suffrage Law Knocked Out.

The supreme court in the Kalamazoo proceedings brought to test the constitutionality of the act passed by the last legislature granting school and municipal suffrage to women, handed down an opinion written by Judge Morse Grant and concurred in by the entire bench, declaring the law wholly unconstitutional and void. The court says that the general rule is that the source of all authority to vote at popular elections is the constitution, that the electorate is constituted by the fundamental law; that the qualifications of electors must be uniform throughout the state, and that wherever the constitution has prescribed the qualifications of electors they cannot be changed or added to by the legislature or otherwise except by an amendment to the constitution.

Section 1 of article 7 of the constitution, which provides "who shall be electors and entitled to vote," is quoted, and the statement made that its terms are applicable to "all electors." The court says that to give power the legislature to confer the elective franchise upon classes of persons other than those named, besides other objections, is to ignore the constitution which confers that authority in express terms or by necessary implication.

In support of the act it was argued that the constitution in section 13 and 14 of article 15 empowers the legislature to provide qualifications for voters in village and city elections; and the celebrated case of Bailey vs. Rose, 76 Michigan, 521, was cited. It was urged to support the contention. The court says, however, that these cases involved only the right of the legislature upon females the right to vote for school district officers under constitutions which, like our own, limit the school district officers and do not prescribe or suggest how such officers shall be elected. It was held that to delegate to the legislature the duty of providing for and establishing a system of public schools, etc.

The constitution has already provided for electors, and wherever it provides that an officer shall be elected it certainly contemplates election by an electorate which it has constituted. No other election is known to the constitution, and for the legislature to attempt to divert the manner in which an officer shall be elected, is to attempt to legislate in addition to provide the details for the holding of such election. The court, therefore, unanimously held the law invalid.

Lansing Bank Sensation.

The latest sensation in the bank troubles of Lansing is the arrest of Cashier Bradley, of the defunct Peoples' Michigan Savings bank. He is charged with making a false report of the condition of the bank, the maximum penalty for which is fifteen years in the state's prison. When the bank was closed in April last State Bank Commissioner Barwise said he received a special report. This was soon prepared. It told a rather flattering story of the bank's affairs, and Mr. Barwise took it his duty to investigate. He found that the amount of rediscounted paper, which, Bradley reported, was $57,000, should have been $160,000. Overdrafts were reported at $40,000 and $81,218.37, but they should have been $120,000.

Receiver Stone makes still more damaging charges. It whilt he says is true, Bradley has been guilty of seven felonies. Mr. Stone also reports that during the past nine years he has misapplied something like $52,000 to his own and benefit. The prosecuting modus operandi was to credit the interest and exchange account of the bank to his own account and make investments in his own name. Since the bank has closed he has made good enough of this to reduce the shortage to $42,000.

Nelson Bradley has been a resident of Lansing for nearly 19 years. He became cashier 14 years ago. He entered that city almost without a cent, and is now rated at something like $200,000. He was most assiduous in attention to his duty, being at the bank early and late, and everybody had the utmost confidence in him.

Three Deaths in a Burning Wreck.

Three trainmen met a horrible death on the Toledo, Ann Arbor & North Michigan railroad at Hamburg Junction. A north bound freight train jumped the track and the engine sunk in a mire. The caboose caught on and immediately back of the tender caught fire and two of the victims were burned to death in the flames from these. The dead are: Charles Bealieu, engineer; George Roberts, fireman; Thomas Mulligan, brakeman. All were single and lived in Toledo.

The engine was completely capsized in a ditch, two oil tanks were piled on it and another turned over on the top of the latter and the wreck took fire in a flash. The bodies of the firemen and engineer were burned to ashes. Three men who were in the caboose at the time of the accident were not injured. The track was through a tamarack swamp and had recently been raised six or eight feet. The engine left the track and the entire freight train sunk the track three feet or more. All trains have had orders for the past month not to exceed ten miles per hour and to sound the alarm this spot. Engine 36 was running up grade at a slow rate when the accident occurred.

The fire was intense for a while. An attempt was made to reach the buried men before the fire caught them, but the heat was so intense that the rescuers were driven away.

Business Man Suicides.

John W. Button, member of the firm of Button & Company, leading dry goods merchants and a prominent young business man, committed suicide at his home at saginaw. He had left the store saying that he intended to look up some private bills and did not return again. But he went to his home in a coupe, accompanied by his wife. He lay down on the lounge a quarter inches thick. There is also a complete system of coal protection in the insulation and water shield. Under the engines and boilers are four bottoms, and double bottoms else where.

The old liberty bell is to be placed in a glass case in Independence hall, Philadelphia. It has been badly mutilated by relic hunters.

The stove foundry in the state penitentiary at Lincoln, Neb., burned enabling a loss of $4,000 to the state prison contractors and $80,000 upon the state.

Starvation is staring hundreds on the Cherokee strip in the face. Hundreds of people are already destitute and will be to depend upon their neighbors for sustenance.

Mr. Hicks, of Pennsylvania, introduced a bill in the House to prevent the suspension of any pension unless can be shown the information was obtained by fraud or perjury.

Some villain sent three large small-size cartridges to Mr. Muncie, Ind., to the marshal of Celina, O. The letter having been handled by several people in transit has probably spread much contagion.

Miss Daisy Garland, daughter of ex-United States Attorney-General Garland, committed suicide at her home in Washington by shooting herself. She was 24 years old and thought to have been insane at the time.

Many Girls Injured.

Over 50 feet of floor space in the second story of the Central Publishing house of the Seventh Day Adventists, Battle Creek, fell with a crash into the folding room below where forty girls were at work. On the floor that gave way were piled stacks of unbound books which fell with the floor on to the heads of the girls. Many of them were injured, three slightly, and one, Miss Ray Ravits, seriously. She was badly cut and bruised about the head and upper portion of her body.

Woman Burglar Pleads Guilty.

Mrs. Alice Church, the well known Tecumseh woman who was captured while burglarizing Editor Stacey's residence, pleaded guilty of the charge in the circuit court at Adrian. Her daughter and accomplice refused to plead, and was sent back to jail to await trial.

MICHIGAN STATE ITEMS.

Charles Marine, aged 16 years, Howard City, had the top of his head kicked off by a horse and will die.

Willie Washington, aged but 17 years, committed a bold robbery at Mrs. Johanna Lorenz's grocery at Saginaw. He was captured.

The Calumet & Hecla company has posted notice of a 10 per cent cut in miners' wages beginning November 1. A kick will be made.

The Grand Haven shipyard is infested with ghosts. Citizens are arming themselves, but the ghosts always escape from them and flee away like a phantom ship.

A West Bay City burglar was about to place a chloroform rag on the face of Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey, when the latter, Mrs. Godfrey became aroused, saving the intruder away.

Two Stockbridge farmers sold $900 worth of apples this fall for five cents prices and say it is all due to the fact that they used a spray upon the trees to kill off worms and insects.

George Roe, 30 years of age, of Union City, was arrested on a charge of brutally beating his mother. There was blood on the floor where the old woman's insensible and can scarcely recover.

George Russell, who lived near Muskegon, was arrested for the murder of his wife. He was dead. Miss Anna Howard, of New Orleans, to whom Mayor Harrison was to be married in a few days, was in the lodge at the time and her grief was most pitiable.

While Long Harrison came running down stairs to learn the cause of the shooting he passed a burglar alarm. He rushed on, struck the alarm, sounded an alarm, and a moment later a patrol wagon filled with officers dashed up to the residence, when a third shot was distant, was dashing toward the mayor's home. By the time the officers arrived all trace of the murderer had been lost, even the police force never seen in such a distress going on. Mrs. Harrison, who was ill, did not need no approval. She had fallen across the bed, weeping and wailing, while crooked and tears came to discover the murderer. Mrs. Harrison was in the midst attention of every senator and representative in the house, and cannot contemplate this condition of things much longer. "I am going to find out who it was," she said, "and I want to enter into a conversation with him. I want to know why he did not resist him, will enter upon a conversation with him and find out what motive prompted him to take my husband's life. I want to know the human race to which he belongs." Mrs. Harrison's father, Colonel Andrew Jackson Weatherly, of Lebanon, Kansas, a veteran of the civil war, and a friend of President William Clinton, of Illinois, to his seat in the house, and Mrs. Harrison was invited from ex-Representative Cannon, who is a personal friend of Lincoln. Mrs. Harrison was the first to arrive at the house after the shooting. She was in the midst of a great throng of persons who were all in great distress. Her self-possession was remarkable. She was perfectly cool and collected, and her face showed no sign of the terrible ordeal she had just passed through. She was surrounded by a number of friends, who were trying to console her, but she was not in need of consolation. She was perfectly self-possessed, and was the only person in the house who was not in tears. She was the first to speak of the tragedy, and she did so in a voice that was perfectly calm and natural. She said: "I am not afraid. I am not afraid to look at the murderer. I am not afraid to look at the murderer. I am not afraid to look at the murderer