# THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC.

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It is not believed that the committees of justice will rise in insurrection because a proofreader was benched with a lot of editors sent to jail recently by the president of the republic.

"Broken down foreign counts come to this country and get rich young wives for the asking. Foreign singers, piano players and actors come over here and take back with them independent fortunes in a few months. No wonder foreigners despise Americans.

Americans will note with a sigh of resignation that Madam Adelina Patti Farragut is being mentioned by the English press as "the biography of the great Confederate admiral." The blunder is so delightful that it ought to console him for having dailies' ought to embrace it at once.

Announcement is made that a Tacoma gentleman has gone East for the purpose of having bands grafted upon a pair of stumps that are all that remain of his arms. The person making the announcement should also go. Perhaps a conscience could be grafted into his system at the same institution.

Another hatchet has been dug up in the Borden murder mystery at Fall River. If there was ever anything the tragedy did not seem to need to round it out it was more hatchets. There are now about as many as the defendant has fingers and toes, and if she used them all and only killed two people there must be a merciful strain in her composition.

When a contractor balances an iron girder so delicately that a chance touch knocks it over, and the crash kills a pedestrian, it would almost seem time for a verdict of guilty by the coroner's jury may rise in its might and declare censure. This is believed to be the limit of punishment so far precedent for contractors careless to a homicidal degree.

A Philadelphia paper inquires with some degree of interest: "Can you regulate the liar?" Particular reference is had by it to the warmly imaginative novelist in charge of circulation statistics. But here the scheme is not simply to regulate the person in question. It goes even so far as to embody the hope of reforming him. But the Philadelphia liar may be more set in his ways.

Current events have furnished at least two fruitful themes for press comment the past few days, and for pulpit treatment Sunday—the fugitive act decision and the opening of the world's fair on Sunday. Each of these questions has a patriotic side and a boycott side, and it is the credit of the newspapers it should be added that they have supported the patriotic side in both cases by a large majority.

An amendment has been added to the code of ethics governing the medical profession. A Denver physician sued the estate of an ex-patient for a fee, and the fact was then brought out that he had been engaged to see patient. The court opined in effect that the administration of pills and potions under the circumstances was clearly a labor of love. A doctor of mercenary instincts should in cases similar, hire a fellow practitioner and whack up on the fee.

There is certainly room for improvement in the outfit of life-boats when a life-saving crew going to rescue others are themselves overturned and drowned. A recent catastrophe was due, it is said, to the breaking of an oar. Isn't it possible to make an oar that will not break, or a life-boat that will not capsize when an oar does break, or some device by which the crew can save themselves when the life-boat capsizes? American ingenuity ought to be equal to such a task.

The ease with which electric cars are stopped as compared with those run by steam makes residences along electric lines more desirable. It is not unlikely that railways with electricity as motive power will within a few years radiate for several miles from every large city to certain places, where beauty of scenery and good society make residences desirable. To make their home neighborhood more attractive is therefore often the best investment land owners near a city can propose.

The folding bed is becoming more or less a vampire. Scarcely a month goes by that the newspapers do not report a case of one of them shutting up like the flying-lock lid to a cedar chest and smothering its occupants. The machinery about these automatic affairs ought to be so adjusted as to make their closing impossible, except as they are made to close by human agencies. In other words, their natural condition should be open, their unnatural, shut, and then no more such accidents would be reported.

Henry Gorbel, the modest gentleman who invented incandescent electric lamps twenty-five years ago, Edison had thought of such a thing, is now engaged in establishing his claim. Doubtless when he has been established, another gentleman even more modest will make clear the fact that not Goebel, but himself, conceived the original idea. If the matter could be indefinitely followed to the beginning, the fact might appear that Adam and Eve strolled on moonless nights by the light of incandescent lamps.

The law-makers of Germany have learned a way to compel the most scrupulous care about the machinery in all manufacturing establishments. Under this law the maiming of a workman means that the cost of his doctors bills and his maintenance, and if he dies, a pension to his dependents, shall fall on his employers. As one of the results of such a law the German workmen find it almost impossible to secure a situation in Germany. Such a law if applied to railroads, would at once lower the mortality on them fifty or seventy-five per cent.

# THE MICHIGAN NEWS.

## GOV. RICH'S APPOINTMENTS ARE APPROVED BY THE SENATE.

### Gen. Kidd Tendered a Reception by the G. A. R. of Detroit—Quinby Honored.

Gov. Rich appointed and the Senate confirmed the following named state officers:

Bank commissioner—Thomas C. Sherwood, of Plymouth—a reappointment.

Board of health—Dr. Edmund Shiels, Samuel G. Milnes, of Grand Rapids; George H. Granger, of Bay City, each six years from Jan. 1, 1893.

Live stock sanitary commission—Jonathan J. Woodman, of Paw Paw, to act six years from second Tuesday in July, 1893.

Trustees of Northern Michigan Asylum—Lorin Roberts, Traverse City, and William A. French, of Bell, to act six years from Jan. 1, 1893.

Prison Board—C. H. Barnes, of Lansing, two years; W. H. Elliot, of Detroit, six years; Albert Sibley, of Jackson, four years.

State House of Correction—A. F. Kelsey, two years; Jerome Croul, four years, and Louis Klintz, six years.

Marquette Prison—E. F. N. Davis, two years; J. M. Wilkinson, four years; Richard M. Hoar, six years.

Colonial Insane—C. C. Reid, two years; C. C. Vaughn, four years; W. H. Mattison, six years.

State Public School—Byron M. Sprafford, of Coldwater, six years; Thomas Mars, of Berrien Center, four years; Isaac Francher, of Mt. Pleasant, two years.

Industrial School for Boys—Nathan Dogeson, of Lansing, four years; Harvey Rowlson, of Hillsdale, two years; Ira Sayres, of Flushing, six years.

School for the Blind—Thomas Holmes, of Lansing, six years; Charles Montague, of Caro, four years; T. W. Crissey, of Midland, two years.

Industrial School for Girls—Sarah Brown, of Flint, two years; J. A. Trotter, of Vassar, four years; C. B. Turner, of Detroit, six years.

Industrial Home for Girls—Lucy Metcalf, of Adrian, six years; Mrs. A. C. Bliss, of Detroit, four years; Mrs. Sarah Spaulding, of Monroe, two years.

Railroad crossing board—Wm. D. Campbell, of Coldwater, two years; Albert Stephens, of Detroit, four years.

### Her Murder Is Unavenged.

After three days' search the coroner's inquest in the Silderland case finished their labors at Cadillac. Their verdict is not very satisfactory, and does not fasten the blame for the girl's death upon any particular person or persons. The jury found that Hulda Silderland came to her death from asphyxia, caused by dilute prussic acid administered with criminal intent by some person or persons unknown to the jury, at the house of Mr. Dwyer. While the evidence shows conclusively that deceased came to her death by the administration of prussic acid, there is really nothing which points to the guilty party, who gave her the poison and planned the girl's death. There being no evidence connecting Emil Anderson, who was arrested last week with the affair, he was brought before a magistrate recently and discharged from custody. It is not possible that any further arrests will be made, although suspicions are certained in regard to other parties, as the evidence is not such that a conviction could not be hoped for and the matter will be dropped.

### Detroit Has a Great Death Rate.

Secretary Baker, of the state board of health, has issued a bulletin, presenting in the interests of the isolation hospital in the city of Detroit. It says that in 1890 deaths from diphtheria and croup in Detroit were 6.9 per cent per each 1,000 inhibitants, while in Detroit there were 60, the ratio of deaths to cases being greater than in the entire state. It claims that the deaths in Detroit from these causes in 1892 was a money loss of over $300,000, and contained in Detroit except with well equipped and well managed isolation hospital, and if the city does not move in the matter the state should, as a matter of protection, provide for it, as it is a dangerous center of infection for the entire state.

### A Reception to Gen. Kidd.

Department Commander J. H. Kidd was tendered a reception by the Kidd Post No. 137, G. A. R., in the Palace Rink at Ann Arbor. It was also used as the occasion to present Col. Henry S. Dean with a past commander's badge. Mayor Thompson delivered a hearty address of welcome, which was responded to by Commander Kidd. Assistant Adjutant-General Phelps made a presentation speech and pinned the past commander's badge on Col. Henry S. Dean's breast. The latter responded very feelingly and expressed the high esteem and honor in which he had regarded the little bit of gold. He spoke in high terms of the W. R. C. and its work.

### A Detroit Editor Honored.

President Cleveland has honored Detroit and Michigan by appointing Wm. E. Quinby, of Detroit, to be United States minister to The Hague, the country of the Netherlands. The salary is $7,500. The present minister is Samuel R. Thayer, of Minnesota. The position is second only to the ambassadorship to Great Britain and France and to the ministers to Russia and Germany. It will naturally be coquinded in Michigan that this appointment is coming so soon after the recent visit of Mr. Dickinson to Washington will be the result of his efforts, but that conclusion appears not far from correct.

### Drowned at Muskegon.

Two young men, Mary Good and Thomas Slager, were drowned in Muskegon Lake while out boating. The boat in which they were sailing capsized, though both were excellent swimmers, they became chilled and sank to the bottom. The body of Slager was recovered. The double drowning occurred in the presence of a half brother of one of the young men.

Hon. W. S. Wilcox is president of the new savings bank at Adrian.

The new Boles monument in the Hudson cemetery was set up last week.

Pomona and Lenawee county granges will give a joint picnic at Rawbeese lake, August 3.

Fire destroyed the barn of E. P. Marr, of Cass City, fell into a post hole head first. The earth caved in and the boy was smothered before he was discovered.

Bicycle riders in Dundee must take to the middle of the road. A new ordinance there prohibits their using the sidewalks.

It has been discovered that the recent big fire at Saginaw was caused by the overturning of a kettle of pitch which a waterman was using in the repair of his boat.

The Calumet & Hecla mining company has settled with the widows of the victims of the late mine disaster $2,000 each, orphans $500 each and relatives of the single men $1,000.

Burglars broke into the dry goods store of W. S. Culver of Brooklyn. The safe was blown open, but only $50 in cash secured. The thieves overlooked $600 that was concealed in the ledger.

Cornelius Hood, of Benton Harbor, has invented a portable safe made of asbestos and wood, to be worn in the wallet, large enough to contain money, watch and small valuables. When in use it is fastened by clasps to the inside of the vest.

## MICHIGAN STATE ITEMS.

Heavy rains have extinguished the forest fires.

A big macaroni factory is to be built at Iron Mountain.

A hive of Lady Maccabees has been instituted at Alma.

Hillsdale's new electric plant is to cost not to exceed $15,000.

Martin Bousch, aged 80 years, fell dead at his home in Coldwater.

Hudson wants a local building and loan association to help boom the town.

Thomas M. Crocker has been appointed collector of customs at Port Huron.

Diphtheria is raging at Hastings again, several fatal cases being reported.

Chesaning has a new pickle factory, and 150 acres of ground have been planted to cucumbers.

The nineteenth annual convention of the diocese of western Michigan will meet at Muskegon, June 6 and 7.

Fifteen-year-old Ida Rapelje, daughter of Mrs. Rapelje, of Ypsilanti, was killed by being hit by a train while walking with her 15-year-old daughter Minnie.

The Woman's Relief Corps, of Jonesville, has raised sufficient money for the erection of a fine soldiers' monument.

Flushing is the latest place where coal has been found. At a depth of 44 feet a vein 7 feet thick was unearthed.

The new Adrian state savings bank is organized by a holding W. S. Wilcox president, and Channing Whitney, cashier.

Hudson is making big preparation for the Michigan and Ohio band tournament that will be held there August 17.

Miss Clara Graecen, of Kalamazoo, has been selected as one of the official stenographers of the patent office at Washington.

The Hardscrabble saw mill in Whitewater township, Grand Traverse county, was burned, by a forest fire, loss about $10,000.

The Congregational society will sell their church at Ithaca and disband. They have failed after an sufficient numbers to pay expenses.

Traverse City servant girls have formed a union and propose to strike for higher wages just before the state board of health meets.

Miss C. R. A. Nelson, of Michigan has been promoted from a $720 to a $900 clerkship in the office of the first assistant postmaster-general.

Mrs. Gustaf Helm, of Muskegon, has become a raving maniac. The other day she tried to kill her husband, and frightened the children.

The West Bay City council has granted a telephone franchise to W. T. Martin and others, who propose to fight the Bellephone people.

Carter, the religious crank of Watervliet, is in jail. Edward McKee charges Carter with taking improper liberties with his 16-year-old sister.

Firebugs are again at work in Brock township. Three barns, the planing mill of William Haskill, which burned, loss about $12,000; insurance $7,000.

H. S. Carhart of the University has been appointed one of the state commissioners delegates to the electrical congress to be held at the World's Fair.

Lillian Leatherd has begun suits against Chris Sheele and Louis Meygarth at Jackson for $5,000 in each case for selling liquor to her husband, who is now serving a sentence for simple larceny.

Secretary of State Jochim has asked H. J. Wright, of Ionia, to prepare a chapter on state taxes and state laws for the new edition of "Michigan and Its Resources" to be distributed at the World's Fair.

Six horses belonging to A. H. Chamberlain, a farmer residing near Leesburg, were struck and killed by a Grand Trunk train. The horses were all thoroughbred and Chamberlain's loss is heavy.

If the prospects for a crop of apples are as good in other parts of the state as in Lenawee county, where not more than one in 50 trees has blossomed Michigan people will be obliged to go elsewhere for apples.

It is said that a number of Chicago & Northwestern agents and operators in the upper peninsula who went out with the strikers have asked to be reinstated, but were told that their services were no longer needed.

George Warwick and Michael Sullivan were fined for disorderly conduct and language at a dance at Ada. They pleaded guilty to the offense in the justice court at Grand Rapids, and each was fined $25, and Sullivan was sent up for thirty days in addition to a $25 fine.

Snow fell on the 24th at Ishpeming. Two hundred miles east and west of Ishpeming it was several inches deep. At Iliel Lake there was a foot of it. It is not entirely gone and lumbermen are complaining bitterly of the deep snow and high water. The season is simply unprecedented.

Mrs. Van Ilen Berg, of Kalamazoo, a grass widow, aged 55, whose husband is in the poor house, sold her property for about $600 and gave the cash to a painter half her age, intending to elope. He left her in the depot all night, waiting and cried like a baby, says she only thing to do now is to die.

Kalamazoo had the legislature pass a new charter bill changing the city limits. It now transpires that there was an error in the original draft or in the copy and the bill as passed includes a line of the city limits one quarter of a mile west of what was intended. A petition to correct the error was started by some of the council, but others object to this and this and the whole thing may fall through.

### A Cigarette Causes a $40,000 Fire.

Fire broke out in the stable sheds in Garfield Park, Chicago. The noted resort is being used by a band of Arabs in giving performances somewhat similar to those of the wild west shows. Several of the Arabs were asleep, and seven blooded Arabian horses and 900 feet of sheds were consumed. There was a wild scene during the conflagration. The Arabs were frantic and considerably hampered the work of the fire department. Police Captain asserts that the loss is $40,000. A spark from one of their Bedouin cigarettes is supposed to have caused the blaze.

### A Strange Fatal Accident.

A freight train on the Wisconsin Central railroad was wrecked at Gray's Lake, Wis., and three tank cars filled with gasoline were burst open. About 200 people gathered to view the wreck and some careless person struck a match. A flash followed and the crowd was surrounded by the burning oil. One man was suffocated, the conductor and one other man had their clothing burned off and were seriously injured. Several others were badly burned.

### A New Jab at the Geary Law.

Washington special: Attorney-General Olney has received a telegram from the New York district attorney that Judge Lacombe of the circuit court of New York has decided that section 6 of the Geary Chinese exclusion law, though decided to be constitutional, was still ineffect ual because no provision is made as to how or by whom the order of deportation of Chinese is to be executed. This is said to be a new question which does not relate in any way involved in previous appeals.

Symes Bros.' steam sawmill at Mc-Bain burned; loss $3,000.

# STATE LEGISLATURE.

Senate.—Ninety-ninth day—Bills passed: To establish a contagious disease hospital for Detroit; amending the charter of Kalamazoo; providing for a law department in the city of Detroit; amending the charter of Agnew; for the taxation of drawing palace and sleeping car companies; providing for commission for establishment of a normal school in the upper part of the lower peninsula; fixing salaries of the justices of the supreme court at $7,000 per year; for county and township supervision of roads; to create a board of pardons for the state, consisting of seven members; fixing the salaries of the superintendent of the Detroit, Mackinac & Marquette railroad; providing for the appointment of four assistant prosecuting attorneys for the city of Detroit; amending the law relative to the election of county and township officers; for appointment by the governor of a commissioner of orphan children to take charge of the estates of drunkenness to establishments of the care of the drunkard; providing for the appointment of a commissioner of deeds for the city of Detroit; providing for the appointment of a commissioner of deeds for the city of Detroit; providing for the appointment of a commissioner of deeds for the city of Detroit