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

Now look out for war poems.

Some people tolerate contrariness for originality.

Having got our back up England must back down.

There are probably as good fish in the sea as were ever lost about.

New York patriotism is to be measured by the dollars and cents system.

Wall street has discovered that its influence was disposed to overplay its boundary line.

The boys will have that same old swing whether the tune is "Yankee Doodle" or "Dixie."

Sixty cents an oath is what the court made Grover Reeves of Red Bank, N. J., pay for swearing at a man.

A fisherman at Au Sable, Mich., last week saw a sea serpent with hair on it. The story has a full beard.

Wall street has undoubtedly discovered that the country declines to sneeze every time it chooses to take snuff.

Senator Cameron should bear in mind the fact that there can be no emergency which will call for a revision of his recent decision.

As there are only four congressmen from the state of Maine, the pine tree bullwhack had to put up with only four committee chairmanships.

A 17-year-old messenger boy in San Francisco has just been divorced from his 16-year-old wife. He believes in being a little he's young.

W. P. Ogden of Harrietta, Mich., who was drowned last August, has turned up alive at Eagle, Wis. He insists that drowning is an easy death.

Hon. M. D. Harter has taken himself out of the list of presidential possibilities, thus giving the public the first intimation that he was in it.

Philadelphia's traction company has recognized that the spirit of the age is for arbitration and that the party refusing it is sure of serious trouble.

If the vocal indignation of all the warrior writers could be utilized in the shape of torpedoes we could easily blow the British navy out of the ocean.

David Jones, the "sleepless man," of Elwood, Ind., is at it again.—He frequently goes three months without closing an eye. David would make a good detective.

While England is notified that it will not be permitted to capture territory down in Venezuela to which it has no rightful claim the same remark applies to Alaska.

The recent message of the president was read in all the public schools of Buffalo. Every boy and girl in the land should hear and study the important state paper.

Joe Blackburn has secured a political manager. It seems that a politician ought to be able to get into retirement without much assistance aside from what the voters give him.

A Bloomington (Ill.) man has been fined $150 for threatening to shoot an editor from whom he demanded a retraction. We are surprised that so foolish a man lives in Illinois.

Some preachers are asking us to arbitrate the matter with England. That is just what we asked John Bull to do. He wouldn't do it. Now if he insists on getting whipped is isn't Uncle Sam's fault.

William Waldorf Astor, it is reported in a morning paper, has given up all idea of ever again making his home in America. Mr. Astor's dislike for his native land is exceeded only by his kindness to it.

A dispatch from New York says that when the import of the president's message became generally known whisky went down seven points. When last heard from it was directly under the second veg. button.

That is a pleasing paragraph going the rounds of the press declaring that a daughter of George M. Pullman draws $10,000 a year from the P. P. C. Co. for furnishing names for the cars. It would be utterly incredible except for the fact that the management of great corporations of this character often, and, indeed, usually, affords illustration of more crying cases of extravagance and favoritism than the despised city politician could hope to equal.

Some gamblers in stocks lost money over the war scare and other gamblers made money. It was engineered by two classes, those for rearing up one for the money in it. The more of these classes hurt, the better it will please patriotic people.

The same kind of old grannies now reminding Uncle Sam that he is short of ships and had "better stop blowing until he gets more armed cruisers" did the same kind of work in 1776 and 1812 and 1861. But the old gentleman got there.

The mugwump person has been revealed in his true colors since the war talk began. Instead of being a superior citizen, chock full of patriotism, he turns out to be an original package of sneering selfishness, a coward, a hater of the republic and its institutions.

A Boston paper indulges in a fling at the size of the Chicago girl's Christmas stocking, and the Chicago Tribune replies thusly: The Chicago girl's stocking is about the size of her Boston sister's, but when she puts it on she fills it.

It is not generally known that the rajhor of that stirring ballad, "Yankee Doodle," was a young surgeon of Albany, named Dr. Richard Shackburg. "Yankee Doodle" has probably had more influence upon the course of public affairs than many more ambitious pieces of literature.

Charles T. Yerkes, the street railroad magnate of Chicago, last week shipped his art gallery to New York on a train of parlor cars. This may be said to have been a picturesque method of freight transportation.

IN TWO PARTS OF THE PENINSULAR STATE.

NEWS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE PENINSULAR STATE.

Condensed Items of Interest Gathered from all Portions of the Commonwealth Known as the Wolverine State—Michigan, My Michigan.

Knights of the Grip Meet.

Commercial travelers are famous for their jollity and good cheer, when 600 of them gathered in Lansing from all parts of Michigan it can be imagined that there was a lively time. It was the occasion of the annual convention of the Michigan Knights of the Grip. The game with half a dozen bands of music and found the Capitol city splendidly decorated in their honor. Maj. J. W. Jacklin, of Detroit, presided over the business sessions. It was shown that the membership had been largely increased, it now rating 1,151. The reports, for the year were: General fund, $2,331.42; trust, $1,264.29; Sunshine Sabbaths, general, $1,568.19; trust, $6,000. At the annual banquet nearly 1,000 guests were seated to the feast, which was universally brilliant. The street parade was large and interesting and the grand ball on the second evening closed two days of enjoyment.

The officers elected were: President, Samuel S. Symons, of Saginaw; secretary, Geo. F. Owen, of Saginaw; treasurer, A. J. Frost, of Lansing. A vice president for each of the congressional districts was chosen as follows: Mr. Howam, of Detroit; E. A. Aylward, of Jackson; W. J. Richards, of Union City; Henry Basher, of Kalamazoo; J. J. Koster, of Grand Haven; T. K. Jeffrys, Lansing; Frank Kusher, of Port Huron; Fred J. Fox, of Saginaw; Wm. Averill, of Muskegon; J. J. Sagus, of Bay City; George Lane, of Traverse City, and Geo. De Jenner, of Marquette.

Left Him to Freeze to Death.

Edward Cross, a respected citizen and deputy sheriff of Ovid, was found by Daniel Babcock, of Kalamazoo, in his face in the road in front of Babcock's residence buried in the snow and unconscious. Mr. Cross restored to his senses Cross said a stranger had called at his house and represented himself as an officer from Saginaw and asked Cross to help him recover some stolen horses he had located. They sleighed, but when they reached Babcock's the stranger sandbagged Cross, and after going through his clothes left him to freeze to death. The villain missed $200 in Cross' inner vest pocket.

MICHIGAN NEWS.

Standish has electric lights and is happy.

Jackson county's insane increased 100 per cent during 1895.

The Ionia asylum of dangerous and criminal insane is overcrowded.

Mrs. J. Phillips' residence at Lawton was destroyed by fire. Loss, $1,500.

The Home National bank at Saginaw has consolidated with the Second National.

Livingston county supervisors will submit the local option question to their electors.

The dwelling and store of John Fairchild burned at New Boston, causing a loss of $2,000.

The old high school at Allegan was destroyed by fire. Loss, $6,000; insured for $3,000.

The annual meeting of the Michigan Sparrow Clubs will occur at Lansing Feb. 4 and 5.

Jackson county paid nearly $100 in sparrow bounties last year. The rate was two cents a head.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Armstrong, of Hudson, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage.

Mrs. Geo. Murray, of Lansing, took chloroform to alleviate pain, but an overdose caused her death.

St. Louis business men are organizing to build a threshing machine factory with $10,000 capital.

The clothing stock of Wicking & Storer at Owosso was destroyed by fire. Loss $20,000; insured for $10,000.

The Northville Furniture Co. has received orders for seat some of the city schools of Japan with their school seats.

A harmless insane boy—Frank Smith—wandered away from Benton Harbor and was fatally frozen before being found.

William Waldorf Astor, it is reported in a morning paper, has given up all idea of ever again making his home in America. Mr. Astor's dislike for his native land is exceeded only by his kindness to it.

A dispatch from New York says that when the import of the president's message became generally known whisky went down seven points. When last heard from it was directly under the second veg. button.

The mercury has dropped in the upper peninsula, snow has fallen and lumbermen are again pushing work at their camps.

The steamer Puritan, owned by Seymour Bros., burned to the water's edge at Manistee. Loss $70,000; insurance $30,000.

Fire gutted the Swan store building at Ionia city. The loss was on the millinery stock of Conklin & Churchill; no insurance.

Gov. Rich granted a pardon to Charles Scamerhorn, who was sent from Genesee county in 1883, no prison for 25 years for rape.

Hon. Chas. H. Hackley, of Muskegon, has resigned as regent of the University of Michigan. He has been connected with the institution 25 years, and has been assigned as the cause.

A hog which weighed 691 pounds when dressed, was raised by Owen Wood, of Atwood and sold to the Charlevoix Cold Storage Co.

Joseph Cussley, a Michigan Central employe, jumped from one engine in front of Another and was killed at Bay City, and his body was cut in two.

The survivors of the Thirteenth regiment, Michigan infantry will meet at Kalamazoo, Feb. 11 and 12 in their thirty-first annual reunion.

The dead body of John Staples was found hanging to a tree about a mile from Ionia. In life he had evidently committed suicide after a spree.

The German Lutheran bund of Michigan met at Saginaw. The membership is increasing. John Petz, of Detroit, was elected president.

The total tax levy of Michigan for the year 1895 is $3,013,919.57, or a total equalized valuation of $1,000,000,000, an increase of $1,136,000,000.

Ishpeming and Negaunee capitalists will operate the Gibben and Richards mines, south of Negaunee, which have been abandoned for a long time.

The Queen mine at Negaunee has suspended work because of the royalty of 40 cents per ton demanded by fee owners, 700 men are out of work.

Nearly 1,000 newsboys of Grand Rapids were given a New Year's feast and were served by the leading business and professional men of the city.

George Jefferson, the Ludington fireman who was sent to jail for 20 days, has confessed that he set fire to the city hall, and says he did it just to see the boys run. He gives no other reason. Jefferson is also implicated in the fire which destroyed the Eliot house.

The reunion of the Michigan branch of the Warner family, over 200 of which are living, was held at Albion.

The report that vandals had been at work destroying trees on Mackinaw island early in the season is turned it over to the state of Michigan is untrue.

Wesley Hagerman's farm residence near Forest was destroyed by fire with his household goods and his wheat crop, which was stored in the building.

The warehouse of J. H. McAuley at Manistee was consumed by fire, together with 84 contents. Loss on building and contents $5,000; insured for $4,000.

Rev. Dr. C. O. Brown, formerly of Kalamazoo and Galesburg, now of San Francisco, has had a well-known woman arrested on a charge of attempted blackmail.

Ed. J. Jenks, aged 19, son of the Port Huron's alderman Mer. committed suicide at Sandusky, O. Hemp afflicted with an incurable disease caused his despondency.

The F. M. C. A. of Northville, will ask the people of that place to provide funds for a convenient set of rooms for their use. They have a flourishing society of 100 members.

The F. & P. M. Railroad Co., has let a contract for a mamoth car ferry to Lake Michigan between Ludington and Kewaunee. She will be 350 feet over all, and will cost $300,000.

Mrs. James Harris died at Decatur. She was the 13th daughter of the family to die who belonged to the "children of God"—faith healers—who would not call a physician.

At Ypsilanti, Rev. Nat Kirk married Chas. F. Dolbee and Wm. Dolbee, Mrs. Mary J. Bailey and Nellie Bailey. The parents of the brides, father and son and the brides were married in a double.

Two sons of Thomas Coulson, a farmer, near Midland, were playing with an old musket, supposed to be unloaded, when the younger shot and instantly killing the younger brother.

The search for A. W. Knopfel, the well-known Bay City broker, who was last seen at Cincinnati acting in a peculiar manner, has been given up without gaining a clue to his disappearance.

Port Huron's military is still in trouble. A split occurred, when an attempt was made to organize a new company and now two companies will try to secure the sanction of the governor.

Adjt.-Gen. Greene issued commissions to the officers of Co. B, first infantry, of Jackson, which will take the place of the Hunnet Rifles, recently mustered out at that place. Charles H. Russell is captain.

Christ Larson, an inhuman husband at Manistee, got 90 days in the Detroit House of Correction for using a horse whip on his wife. He tore an earring from her ears and then kicked her out of doors.

The third annual meeting of the Michigan council of Patriarchs Militant, the military contingent of the Order of Odd Fellows, convened in Odd Fellows' hall, Detroit, with 65 delegates present.

Andrew Hickey, a well digger, was suddenly killed at Cadillac while digging a well for Louis Fuller. He was down in the well when a bucket full of sand fell, striking him on the head and breaking his neck.

Dr. Amos Barlow, superintendent of the Children's Home Society of Michigan says that at the home at Benton Harbor over 100 children have come to them the past year and as many have found good homes.

The Mansfield mine, near Crystal Falls, will be opened. About two years ago a man was drowned by the river and 27 men, were killed. The effort will be made to turn the Michigan river from its natural course.

Rachael A. Bailey, of Hastings, has been appointed by Lillian M. Hollister, great commander of the ladies of the Maccabees, to fill the office of past commander of the great hive for Michigan, made vacant by the resignation of Leola Becker Maxwell.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Williams, of Jasper, gave an informal reception and dinner in honor of the new supreme justice, Joseph H. Moore. Judge H. P. Smith, the newly elected circuit judge, and the members of the Lapeer County Bar association, of which Judge Moore is a member.

State Treasurer Wilkinson reports the following relative to the condition of state funds: balance on hand, as per statement from ledger December 31, 1894, $96,894.24; received from all sources during 1895, $1,075,725.39; disbursed on warrants of the auditor general, $1,070,960.76, leaving a balance on hand of $97,658.87.

Muskegon citizens who succeeded in evading the payment of their taxes because of an error in the returns find the victory will profit them nothing. The supreme court declares that the taxes may be spread on the rolls again and the kickers will not only have to pay their taxes, but cut the money they put into the fight to invalidate the old assessment.

The Michigan supreme court submitted the validity of the several acts of the legislature of 1895 passed previous to the last five days of the legislative session and approved by the governor after adjournment of the legislature. The constitutionality of several acts, notably the Hommesteads college removal act, are settled by the present case. It is undoubtedly one of the most important decisions rendered by the supreme court for a long time.

PEOPLE AND THINGS.

The twin sister of the new battleship Kearsarge has been named by Secretary Herbert after the state of Kentucky.

George W. Love, who killed a squaw near Bellaire, has been convicted and sentenced to Jackson for life. The defense was insanity, but it was proved that Love killed the woman in cold blood.

The James W. Sanborn estate's family residence at Port Huron was damaged by fire to the extent of $11,000. The house, which is one of the handsomest residences in the city, had the whole upper portion entirely gutted and destroyed and the remainder damaged by water.

Two passenger trains collided on the B. & O. S. W. railway, near Coal City, 14 miles from Cincinnati. Two people were killed and six injured, two probably fatally. Both engines and four cars were totally wrecked, as the expenses of the collision were little time to check their speed.

John Martin, an American prospector, who has returned from the gold fields of Sonora, Mex., brings news of a horrible story of cannibalism which occurred in that republic. Several weeks ago a party of five had Indians driven to desperation by hunger, ambushed and killed three Americans working in the gold field in the state of Sonora, about 300 miles south of Hermosillo and then cooked and ate the bodies.

Gen. Duffield, the chief of the coast and geodetic survey, has presented to the secretary of state the joint report upon the Alaskan boundary, which was agreed upon by him and the Canadian representative, Mr. King. It shows a difference of only six feet and seven inches in their lines and effect nally cuts off any controversy with England as to the boundary, unless the interpretation is given the Russian treaty, which has never heretofore been considered.

By an explosion of powder at Milnesville, Pa., Andrew Lawrence, Bart Romney and William Girard were instantly killed.

WHIPPED THE BRITISH.

The Boers Defeat Their Republic Against British Invasion.

The eyes of the political world have been turned from the Venezuelan dispute by the recent warlike developments in the Transvaal or the South African republic. The Boers—the descendants of Dutch colonists—in 1854 assumed the title of the South African republic and declared their independence of English rule, which had been forced to leave their fields for years. Several conflicts between the Boers and the British resulted in later years, particularly in 1881, when the former showed great fighting proclivities and maintained their supremacy, controlling the internal government of the republic, with strict rule. The rich gold fields proved a great attraction for the British, however, and have drived the Transvaal population of 600,000 in an area of 120,139 square miles. Pretoria is the capital of the republic. Johannesburg, the city built in seven days, in the center of the gold fields, is the principal city. Paul Kruger is the chief magistrate of the republic and leader of the anti-British Boers. The Transvaal Britishers, who are chiefly Hollanders, have been working the gold fields have become wealthy and form a large portion of the population. They consequently pay most of the taxes, but they are denied any part in the government. The Transvaal Britishers began to start an armed rebellion, but, remembering previous contests with the sturdy Boers, called upon the Cape South African Co. to fight for them. Consequently upon receipts of a letter from leading inhabitants of Johannesburg, Dr. Jameson, administrator of the British South African Co., in cape colony, organized a force of 500 englishmen to invade the Transvaal. The Boers were prompt to meet such the attempt of the foreign foe. They received from Dr. Jameson's force, was that they had met the Boers before Johannesburg and after a brief loss of life the British had surrendered. London: The colonial office has received information of the defeat and surrender of Dr. Jameson. The government has received information that further forces of the chartered South Africa Co. are mobilizing in the Transvaal and the Kafir commander within the Transvaal reports the British border of the Transvaal ready to assist the British in Transvaal.

London: Telegrams from Sir Hercules Robinson, governor of Cape Colony, said that he had delivered orders from British Colonial Secretary Chamberlain to Dr. Jameson, ordering him to retire immediately from the Transvaal, but that he disregarded the orders and proceeded, with the result already stated.

London: A dispatch from The Hague says that Dr. Jameson's action in the Transvaal is regarded as a most flagrant example of British arrogance. It is admitted that Holland can do nothing to help the Boers, but expresses the hope that Germany will come to the rescue.

Berlin: It is reported here in official circles that the German government has been informed by Great Britain that the latter strongly disavows the invasion of the Transvaal republic by the British South Africa's forces, and that it has sent the most positive orders to Cape Town and to the officers concerned for the company's troops to withdraw from the Transvaal territory immediately. Nevertheless it is felt that Great Britain is morally responsible and that reparation must be made and a repetition prevented.

The effect of Dr. Jameson's little excursion has been to place England and Germany at swords points. Emperor William of Germany, sent dispatches to President Kruger, of the Transvaal republic, congratulating him upon repelling the invasion and offering German support in such aggressions. This has stirred the British up to the boiling point and the Venezuelan war cloud is entirely forgotten in the denunciation of the German rebel. The British point to their treaty with the Transvaal republic, giving them external control of that republic, and express language resented in demanding the emperor for such an unfriendly action as communicating with the Transvaal government without first consulting Britain. The London newspapers are extremely bitter and threatening and their expressions toward the United States on the Venezuelan controversy are as honeyed words in comparison.

DOINGS OF THE STATESMEN.

SENATE—Twenty-second day. During a two hours session Mr. Morgan (Ind. Ala.) made a speech for the restoration of the Mashipee Indians to tribal relations, and in favor of the investigation by the committee on naval affairs of the charges of fraud in the matter of ship armor. The resolution contained a broad allegation that the officers of the government were interested in armor plate processes, and charged that Secretary Herbert gave the results of his tests to the firm that had come to the knowledge of the government. Responsibility for investigating the injury done to the government by the alleged fraud, perhaps, was a proposition offered by Mr. Shoup (Rep. O.) for the restoration of the land reserve, which hereafter should be held for the exclusive benefit of the public land states. Mr. Kyle (Rep. S. D.) introduced a resolution, approve of the action of the president in vetoing the bill for the payment of $10,000,000 to the Pacific railroads, and should be disposed of by the senate. The bill was passed over the veto, by a vote of 40 to 14. On the following tariff bill taking an additional duty on wool and woolens and increases of the bill. Mr. Peffer (Pop. Kan.) offered a resolution for the payment of the expenses of the Populist party in the late contest. The resolution was referred to the committee on elections. Mr. Elkins (Rep. W. Va.) offered a resolution for the consideration of the senate that the bonds of the United States should be sold at private sale or for private contract, but should be disposed of by advertisement for the highest bidder. Mr. Hoar objected. Mr. Nelson (Rep. Minn.) made his report from the committee on the Indian tariff bill taking an additional duty on wool and woolens and increases of the bill. Mr. Peffer (Pop. Kan.) offered a resolution for the payment of the expenses of the late contest