

OUR GREAT STATE.

THE HAPPENINGS IN MICHIGAN BRIEFLY RELATED.

A Supposed Miser of Near Clio was Found Dead in His Home and a Laborer is Accused of the Murder—Michigan's Dead En Route Home.

Old Man Found Dead Near Clio. Alex. Marr, aged 64, who lived alone on the old Moore farm five miles east of Clio, and was supposed to be a miser, was found dead on the floor by a boy in Clio, who had been sent over to see him, and on seeing no tracks in the snow that fell during the night tried the door, which was unlocked, and upon entering found the body lying on the face. Abraham Goodfellow, druggist and undertaker here, went to prepare the body for burial, when outside he found a chloroform bottle with his label on, and remembered selling the bottle, together with a bottle of alcohol, the night before to Wm. Spiers, who had been working in this vicinity for several months. The same night the girl, which was also seen in front of the old man's house at a late hour, Spiers was arrested at Clio and taken to the county jail at Flint.

Shows a Big Future.

An advance statement issued by Insurance Commissioner Campbell, covering the business of life, casualty, accident and fraternal insurance companies operating in the state, shows that there has been a great increase in the business. The aggregate of policies issued was \$2,405,287 over last year. The amount in force at the close of the year was \$41,253,000, an increase of \$1,215,000. The amount of premiums received was \$1,000,000, an increase of \$104,902. The Michigan companies have also increased their business and earnings, and the life companies doing business in the state have had a particular and unusual prosperity.

The Same Old Way.

Three months ago farmers in this state could not get 25 cents per bushel for their potatoes. Then came the big freeze and the reports that the crop of potatoes had been ruined, sent the price up flying. Fifty cents was freely offered by buyers, but many whose produce yielded in good condition refused to sell at that price, although they were double the top figure of a few weeks before. Now it is being found that the tubers in pits were all killed as badly injured as was supposed, and the price has dropped again, and those who had sold at 50 cents per bushel held out for a dollar, are doing some talk thinking.

Remains of Quaid Settles Home.

"I would," writes Chas. E. Kiplinger, the Michigan commissioner on the execution of the late Governor, "I would like to have on board all bodies of soldiers who died in Cal. will arrive in New York the latter part of April. In a letter from Chicago, Mr. Kiplinger says arrangements have been made to expedite the work in which he is engaged, its progress to date having been such that the bodies of the soldiers exhumed, of which 29 belonged to the 3th Michigan volunteer infantry.

A Confederate Flag to be Returned.

At the battle of Bentonville, South Carolina, on March 19, 1865, the 14th Michigan Infantry captured the flag of the 4th North Carolina regiment, and the flag is still preserved as one of the treasured trophies of the rebellion in Michigan. It was captured by the survivors of the North Carolina regiment have tried repeatedly for years to get it back, and it is now expected to be likely to be successful. The military committee presented a concurrent resolution in the house, which was adopted under suspended rules to return the same.

Shipped Out With a Widow's Cash.

Some months ago Harry P. Wells, leader of the Niles band, jumped the train, leaving behind numerous creditors. A Niles widow, who had died about a year ago, accompanied him. They went to Denver, Colo., where Wells went into business with \$500 of the widow's cash. After a few weeks ago he disposed of his business and deserted the woman, taking her money with him. It now develops that she has two wives and his right name is Wedge.

Sticks to the Throat.

John McCurdy, the oldest Michigan Central locomotive engineer in the state, whose running time dates back within a few months of 30 years, who had the first run from Jackson to Chicago, was made the generous offer by the Central management a few days ago to allow him to retire on a pension. "Uncle" John preferred to pull the throttle yet awhile, so he was given a shorter train at the same rate. He has half pay for him would be about \$80 per month.

Country Roads Effects Business.

The terrible condition of the roads in Michigan the past few weeks has had a bad effect on the business of merchants in the smaller places who depend largely on the country trade for their support, the farmers going to town more than is absolutely necessary when the roads are all but impassable, as at present.

The Seventh Day Advents will erect a school building in Lansing.

Hubbaldton has pledged \$15,000 for the proposed railroad from Marshall to Bay City.

Hay City. Michigan has appointed Rev. B. Zlewski pastor of St. Mary's church at Bronson.

There have been 20 interments in the Constantine village cemetery since Jan. 1, 1899.

Don Ross, of Deckerline, has given birth to twins which weigh 1 1/2 pounds each.

Home can get a cement factory giving employment to 75 men if a bonus of \$5,000 is forthcoming.

A postoffice has been established at Case, Presque Isle county, Christopher C. Smith, postmaster.

Mark-Land in Michigan.

Prof. I. C. Russell, of the geological department of the U. of M., has reported that he has discovered a number of lands in the southern part of the state, and found remarkably favorable conditions. The marl, mixed with oolite and fine clay, is in the manufacture of Portland cement, and Michigan will evidently take a leading place in this industry. The marl occurs as a highly calcareous or lime mud or ooze in the bottom of lakes and in marshes. It usually contains shells and appendages of animals, and is very soft, but it sometimes darkened by organic matter. The swamp-lands are covered with a thin layer of marl, and are of little value, but they are really worth more per acre than the best of agricultural land, and at the present time are in demand.

1,450,000 Pounds of Sugar Per Year.

To raise a sufficient quantity of beets to supply Michigan, this state would require 850,000 acres annually, or a total of 275,000 acres, as beets should be planted and only one in three crops. It is also estimated that 24 factories, with a capacity of over 5,000,000 pounds each per year, would be required to process the sugar. At the present rate of business, would require the payment of \$1,500,000 out of the state treasury.

Deported His Bride.

Arthur J. Snyder, the son of a well-known farmer of St. Joseph, who lived up in the city prison at St. Joseph. It is charged that a few days ago he was secretly married at Fort Valley, and that the ceremony occurred the night after the marriage he managed to get hold of his bride's purse containing \$100. It is alleged that he fled to the department and stole his bride, who has returned to her home grief-stricken.

STATE GOSSIP.

The Sterling house at Sterling, was nearly destroyed by fire, caused by defective fire insurance.

The Edward Irving, of Muskegon, tried the mercurial route, but the timely appearance of a physician saved her.

Freud Sherwood, of Okemos, was robbed of \$25 by a stranger whom he had hired. The robber is still at large.

C. George Lyman, of Lansing, complains that the water in the carbolic acid route. He had been drinking heavily of late.

Since Jan. 1, 20 boys have been arrested in a great number of cases. Some imitates now than ever before in its history.

The old Phoenix mine in Keweenaw county, which has been idle for years, is being worked again. This is the coming summer.

A party of 13 persons left Commerce last week for New York City. They had a good time and spent 20 days on the road.

Houghton will have a big coal storage plant this summer, a company having secured the right for the purpose with \$500,000 capital.

Navigation between Detroit and Cleveland was opened Mar. 27, when the Detroit left for the run in a little over six hours.

The St. Johns Table Co.'s plant in St. Johns has been damaged to the extent of \$25,000 by fire. The loss is fully covered by insurance.

Mrs. Clara Thayer, of Mason, who was recently convicted of forgery, has been sentenced to five years in the Detroit house of correction.

A water famine and a reign of darkness will prevail at South Haven for a few days. The chimney to the power Michigan is being captured by the flag of the 4th North Carolina regiment, and the flag is still preserved as one of the treasured trophies of the rebellion in Michigan.

The Rapid Railway of Detroit has applied for a franchise to build a road from Detroit to Fort Huron from the Detroit house of correction.

The positions at Clio, Elsie, Laventon, Manistowic and South Haven, will be made international money order offices on and after April 1.

It has been given out from reliable authority that the Michigan division of the Cincinnati and Great Lakes railway within 20 days to the Detroit & Lima Northern.

Because a Grand Rapids policeman had a falling out with a woman, he fell on a slippery walk to her feet again, he was suspended from duty by the police board.

While shearing is booming around Vernon, there are four men who have already shorn over 4,000 sheep since last January and they have about 100,000 more to go.

Edward Mellings, of Fenton, has purchased over 350 head of cattle and sheep of the farmers in the vicinity of Holly in the past three weeks. He has nearly \$250,000 worth of stock.

For some time past chicken thieves have been plundering farmers in the vicinity of Willow. Wm. Tablan and John Grand have been arrested and charged with being the culprits.

A compilation recently made by the secretary of state, shows that there were nine deaths by lightning in this state last year. Four in August, three in June, and one each in May and July.

Capt. J. R. Ford, head of the big Michigan Allied Works factory, has concluded negotiations for the purchase of a tract of land near Bellevue comprising 300 acres, on which is to be constructed a large manufacturing plant. The purchase price is said to be \$60,000.

At a depth of 375 feet, while work was engaged in driving a well of 12,000 barrels per day. Before it could be completed in Lansing.

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NEWSY GENERALITIES.

ITEMS GATHERED FROM ALL DIRECTIONS.

A Company has Been Organized to Produce a Second Klondike at the Paris Exposition. The Tacoma Man Killed His Wife While Dreaming.

Succeeded to German Thrones. The fighting in the Philippines is still going on with a terrible loss of life. The insurgent loss is not estimated, but it is believed to be killed and 145 wounded in one day. The latest advice is to the effect that the rebels fight Malabon and Polo and Manila, Malolos, where it is believed, they will make their last stand. Our troops are in pursuit, capturing trench after trench.

Spanish officers acquainted with the Philippine islands continue to predict the failure of Malabon, Ota, and Manila. The treasurer has decided that the men who enlisted for the war should be entitled to extra pay for those who went in after the act of April 26, 1898, which authorized the increase of the regular army.

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