THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.

BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, SEPT. 14.

Kentucky's whisky product for the year just ended was nearly 22,000,000 gallons, an increase over last year of nearly 2,000,000.

The Trans-Siberian railroad will be completed at the present rate of working in about two years, the cost probably considerably exceeding the original estimate of $75,500,000.

Twenty-nine historic spots in Portland, Me., are to be marked with tablets prior to the return of the absent sons and daughters in Old Home week. They include several noted in pre-Revolutionary days, the birthplaces of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Thomas B. Reed, Nathaniel Parker Willis, his sister, Mrs. James Parton (Fanny Fern), Alexander S. Wadsworth and Sargent S. Prentiss.

Siberia has recently furnished a new game bird for the sportsmen of Europe. It is called the Siberian partridge and is found in the mountains south of Omsk in southern Siberia, but its original home is said to be Manchuria. Its principal food consists of wild nuts which always abound in Siberia to its finish. Large flocks, which have begun to appear by thousands in the markets of London are shot during the winter and forwarded to England by way of the Baltic.

In France, Monsieur Dufour has succeeded in making the finest tubes of pure quartz. Not only are these tubes exceedingly transparent, but they resist heat and cold, and, as Verlaine makes the proposition to glass for Paris, can be introduced into a ship's compartment in which thermometers, melted by fire, take the place of mercury, and the mercury rises from about 39 degrees Fahrenheit up over 1000 degrees. It could be run up to 1,500 degrees, but quartz becomes soft below that temperature.

The largest time ball in the United States is being erected on the roof of the Fourth street end of the bourse in Philadelphia. The ball, being under the supervision of the navy department. The ball, which is four feet in diameter and weighs 700 pounds, will be hoisted to the top of an iron column 190 feet above the water five minutes before noon each day, and dropped electrically. It will be an astronomical exactitude, as the naval observatory is in Washington. The object of the time ball is to enable all the mariners in Delaware and Schuylkill rivers to regulate their chronometers before sailing.

An explanation has been given in the houses of commons of the reason why American capitalists were allowed to take a large share of the new British loan. The war had greatly depleted the treasury of the Bank of England. Meanwhile there was a great accumulation of gold in this country. The plan of shipping of a part of the loan gold was to draw gold to London. It is simple enough for the fact remains that it only very lately that the economies were rigid enough to save the loan. Perhaps the management and terms of the affair is that capital at interest now earns so little that the possessors of it are content with 3 per cent if the security be unimpeachable.

The well-spread impression that people living in a primitive condition possess more acute vision than civilized men enjoys receives a little support from the investigations of Dr Rivers during the recent British expedition to Torres Straits and New Guinea. The visual powers of the people there were found to be superior to those of normal Europeans, although the degree of superiority was not great. The natives of Torres Straits could see better in the dark than most Europeans can. Their sense of touch was also slightly superior, and in the discrimination of weight they were more accurate than a practised European. Dr. Rivers ascribes their acuteness of vision to their habits of constant observation.

The editor of an anarchistic newspaper in this country hailed the murder of King Humbert with an editorial paean of joy. He frankly conceded that Humbert was kind and estimable, personally, and that he had not been guilty of oppressing his people, yet this man rejoiced in his death merely because he was a king. What sort of a man it is who preaches such doctrines what sort of men anarchy breeds is well brought out by the comments of a Chicago paper on this editor. "He is not a worker, but a 'dead beat.' He spends most of his time consuming beer and giving utterance to the desire that people may be killed. He is not even a brave man. When he was last wanted by the police he had to be dragged out from under the bed where he had hidden." This is a just arraignment, not merely of an anarchist, but of anarchy.

The remains of another giant dinosaur have been found by Prof Rices of the Field Columbian museum of Chicago, on the banks of the Gunnison river, near Grand Junction, Col. By accident he unearthed one of the bones of a dinosaur and subsequent excavations have brought to light nearly a perfect skeleton. It will be shipped to Chicago to be mounted. One bone is nine feet long and others are so large that it is almost beyond the strength of one man to lift them. Half of the skeleton already has been taken from the ground.

One of the oldest inhabitants of Banagher, Kings county, is Mrs. Bell, who is now close upon 100 years old. This venerable lady lives with her son-in-law, the Rev. A. B. Nicholls, who was the husband of the celebrated novelist, the late Charlotte Bronte.

It has been estimated that the recent rains which broke the drought in the west have saved $83,000,000 in corn alone in Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. Even the least arithmetical of readers cannot call statistics of that sort dry.

Current Topics

May Die in Prison.

When Mark Shinburne, who got over a million dollars by robbing the Ocean Bank of New York city, is discharged from Dannemora Prison on October 10 next he will find Robert Pinkerton, the detective waiting at the prison gate. He will be taken to prison in Concord, N. H., to serve a term of 19 years. Shinburne is now 67 years old, and he will die doubtless in jail, it is scarcely possible that he will live to be 86. Mark Shinburne, or Maximilian Schonbein, is the most successful bank robber in this country. He is of fine physical proportions, five feet eight or

MARK SHINBURNE

nine inches in height and weighs 190 pounds. He is a German by birth and education. He came to this country in 1848. He was a student in Heidelberg University when the revolution of 1848 broke out. He was a student of Kossuth and was a fiery orator. He was a member of the Kossuth club and was a leader in the revolution. He was a member of the Kossuth club and was a leader in the revolution. He was a member of the Kossuth club and was a leader in the revolution