# THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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

BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, MAR. 29.


Deaf mutes are on the increase in Germany. There are no fewer than 6,458 persons in institutions where deaf mutes are specially instructed.

As a curiosity of the recent German census, the "Gaulois" records that the returns showed the village of Reutenbourg contained 444 inhabitants, 222 being of the masculine and 222 of the feminine gender. The "Gaulois" thinks quadrilles ought to flourish in Reutenbourg.

Austria and Mexico have resumed intercourse for the first time since the execution of Emperor Maximilian. Emperor Francis Joseph has appointed Prince Khevenhuller-Metsch to represent him at the dedication of a memorial chapel to his brother on the spot at Queretaro, where Maximilian was shot in 1867.

A watch, believed to have been lost some time about 1627, which has been found on Poverty island, at the mouth of the Connecticut river, is attracting great attention from antiquarians. The watch is a large silver one, and on the inside of the outer case is engraved a name which cannot be made out, and the date, 1627.

The Rev. Dr. MacArthur of New York is going to open his church to a meeting at which the Chinese minister, Wu Ting Fang, Andrew Carnegie, Booker T. Washington, the negro educator, and two Jewish rabbis will speak. And this combination attracts as much attention as if it had not been 1900 years since Christ began preaching the brotherhood of man.

The Vicksburg national park will soon be complete as far as the acquisition of land is concerned. It will comprise in all [illegible] acres. It is proposed to restore all military features that marked it in the struggle of 1863, and all the regiments and batteries that had a part to play then will be asked to aid in the location of the host [illegible]

[illegible]

"No man knoweth the day or the hour when his soul shall be required of him."

The Chinese minister, Wu Ting-fang, was one of the eulogists of Abraham Lincoln at the late birthday celebration. "I do not look on Lincoln," said he, "as belonging to America alone. The world claims him as a benefactor of mankind." The simple fact that the representative of China thus claims a share in the interest common to all lands, which centers in Lincoln's person and work is one answer to the question, Does the Celestial Empire make progress?

The Paris correspondent of the London Standard writes: The First Chamber of the Appeal Court has just given a decision which is of considerable interest to spiritualists. Madam Rivail, widow of Allan Kardec, left a will bequeathing her considerable fortune to a spiritualistic society and persons connected with that belief. The will was attacked by Madam Rivail's natural heirs, and the court has given a verdict in their favor, annulling the will leaving the money to the spiritualistic society because it is a society which has been effectively declared null and void in the eyes of the law.

A smallpox scare at Loyalsville, Pa., is responsible for a queer election muddle. The day before election it was found that Thomas J. Bryan, in whose store the poll was located, was ill of smallpox. His house and store were quarantined, and the election board hired a hall for a polling place. The smallpox scare kept the country voters at home, only forty out of 280 coming to the polls. All the candidates chosen were residents of the village, and now the country voters have begun to contest the election, holding that the board had no right to change the polling place without an order from court.

The Indian census just completed shows that the famine cost over 1,100,000 lives, or more than five times the population of the two Boer republics. This famine was purely a matter of money; there was plenty of food in the country, but the people died because they did not have the means to buy it and the British government had other uses for its own. One-tenth of the money spent in bringing 200,000 reluctant Boers into the empire would have prevented over five times their number of British subjects from going out of it by the road of death.

Captain William Foster, who died recently at Mobile, Ala., brought the last cargo of slaves to the United States. For thirty years he had been engaged in the hazardous business of bringing Africans to this country and selling them. Against the advice of his friends he commanded the Clotilda, the vessel that brought the last cargo of slaves to America. The voyage was full of danger and hairbreadth escapes, and more than once Captain Foster was in imminent danger of being hanged by the Union authorities for slave trading.

## MINOR MICHIGAN MATTERS.

Milan is to have a new $10,000 hotel.

Fifteen cases of measles are reported at Coldwater.

One death from smallpox was reported at Pinconning on the 12th.

Hearing on the railroad taxation bills has been postponed until April 2.

The Grand river at Eaton Rapids is steadily raising and serious damage is looked for.

The court house at Manistique was burned to the ground on the 19th. Loss, $12,000.

The Montcalm county anti-saloon league has indorsed the action of Mrs. Carrie Nation.

Ionia is to have an automobile factory, a local stock company being behind the venture.

Baldwin is to have a huge portland cement plant which will mean another town for that place.

The bill raising the Detroit mayor's salary is now up to the governor, both houses having passed it.

According to the latest report Cashier Johnson of the First National bank of Niles is short $130,000.

Michigan beet sugar manufacturers will meet at Bay City, April 4 to organize a permanent society.

Charles Smith, treasurer of Bath township, Clinton county, was robbed of $640 in cash on the night of the 21st.

Two new cases of scarlet fever and and two of diphtheria are reported at Birch Run, but the smallpox scare has subsided.

Passenger train No. 14, east bound on the Michigan Central, struck and killed a young man, probably a tramp, at Wayne on the 24th.

Mrs. Charlotte Gassett, of Albion, on the [illegible] donated $[illegible] to Albion college for the erection of a library building as a memorial to a deceased daughter.

Homer stands a good chance of securing a stave and bolt mill. All that the men behind the project ask is a long lease of a piece of land upon which to locate the mill.

The newest Benton Harbor industry is a fruit package factory, which will begin business about the middle of next month and give employment to quite a number of people.

The disappearance of the snow shows thousands of quail dead in fence corners and other protected places [illegible]

[illegible]

Hon. George Willard, ex-member of congress from the third district, editor of the Battle Creek Journal, and the most prominent citizen of that city, died there on the morning of the 26th. Mr. Willard was a member of the legislature in 1866, and of congress from 1872 to 1876. He bought the Battle Creek Journal in 1868 and has been its editor ever since.

W. J. Gilbert, former mayor of Niles, reputed to be wealthy and one of the best known and most respected residents of Berrien county, was found dead in a store-house in the rear of his residence on the 24th, where he had ended his life with a bullet. Grief over the misfortune of a bosom friend is believed to have caused the suicide. Warm personal relations existed between Mr. Gilbert and Chas. A. Johnson, cashier of the First National bank, who was brought back under arrest from Ohio a few days ago, charged with wrecking the bank and misappropriating $190,000.

Mail advices say the storm which swept over New Caledonia recently, drove the steamer Hero on the rocks at Konaoua and, together with several barges loaded with nickel, she foundered.

Great excitement prevails in Rio Janeiro over the arrest of Admiral Custodio Jose Mello and others on account of the novel series of a monarchist plot through the murder of Baron du Burgal. Extraordinary precautions are being taken by the government to prevent any outbreak. [illegible] centers about the navy.

## DOINGS OF THE 41ST SESSION.

The senate passed the following bills on the 19th: To amend Detroit charter's by abolishing present board of city canvassers, and substituting therefor, board to consist of city treasurer, city clerk and senior police justice; authorizing common council of Detroit to raise $25,000 by tax for purpose of celebrating Detroit's bicentenary; increasing salary of mayor of Detroit from $1,250 to $5,000; to provide sinking fund to be used to pay bonded indebtedness of Wayne county; amending Detroit's charter so as provide for payment of policemen bi-monthly instead of monthly; to determine the territory to be embraced in school district in Marion, Osceola county; to organize a school district in Springfield township, Kalkaska county; authorizing Crawford county to issue bonds for a court house; to amend the charter of Ypsilanti; to amend the charter of city of Mason; to amend the charter of [illegible] to limit the capitalization of trust, deposit and security companies so that such companies can be organized in small towns with less than $[illegible] capital.

The following bills were passed by the senate on the 21st: To prevent a greater exemption from taxation than five years on homestead lands; to exempt G. A. R. halls, etc., from taxation; to license insurance agents; to prohibit docking horses [illegible] misdemeanor; to provide for the acceptance of bequests to the state; providing that the physician of the Industrial school for girls at Adrian need not live in the institution; providing that employes' liability insurance companies shall set aside at least 40 per cent of their gross premium receipts as a reserve fund to meet insurance liabilities; [illegible] band boxes on electric cars in Saginaw county; relative to the appointment of administrators of estates of deceased incompetent persons; requiring county school examiners having second instead of third grade certificate.

The house passed the following bills on the 21st: To incorporate the public schools of the village of Delray, Wayne county; to facilitate the commencement of suits against joint defendants residing in several counties; to revise and consolidate the laws relative to [illegible]

[illegible]

The estate of the late Benjamin [illegible] rison is estimated to be worth $[illegible],000.

# GIGANTIC NIHILIST PLOT.

## Martial Law in All but Name Exists in St. Petersburg.

## TERRIBLE MINE EXPLOSION.

**One Man Killed and 10 Injured—Milwaukee Fears a Flood and its Suburbs are already Inundated—Father Murders his Three Children With an Ax.**

**Russia Faces Grave Revolt Against Czar.**

Sedition is rampant in Russia and extraordinary precautions to protect the life of the czar have been taken. Censorship at St. Petersburg and other important points of telegraphic communication has practically reached the prohibitive point as far as the present [illegible] are concerned, but [illegible] advices received tend to prove that the empire is on the verge of revolution. Everything goes to show the existence of a gigantic Nihilist plot, beside which [illegible]

[illegible]

**Woman's Awful Deed.**

[illegible]

**Father Murdered His Three Children.**

[illegible]

**Hanged's Death Rate.**

[illegible]

**Damage by Flood Feared.**

[illegible]

**Terrible Mine Explosion.**

[illegible]

**Japan Sends a Fleet to Korea.**

[illegible]

## THE NEWS CONDENSED.

[illegible]

## NEWSY BREVITIES.

[illegible]

## CUBA AND PHILIPPINE NEWS.

The committee on relations of the Cuban convention met in Havana on the 22d to consider the report drawn up by its secretary, Senor Juan Gualberto Gomez, on the Platt amendment. In substance the report rejects four clauses—the clauses dealing with coaling stations, foreign relations, the right to intervene to preserve peace and the entering into treaties covering the points in question. The other clauses are treated on the lines of the previous report, the sanitation of the Isle of Pines being virtually agreed to. Three of the five members of the committee objected to the rejection in toto of the four clauses mentioned, and it is believed that some consideration should be given them. No vote was taken but a majority was opposed to acceptance.

[illegible]

## TRANSVAAL WAR ITEMS.

The following was received from Lord Kitchener, dated at Pretoria, March 25: Babington's force, including Shekelton's column attacked Delarey 1,500 strong, southwest of Ventersdorp, and, having defeated him, followed him up rapidly with the result that the Boer rear guard was driven in and their convoy, including the guns, captured at Vaalbank. Our troops displayed great gallantry and dash. They captured two 15-pounder guns, one pompom, six maxims, 320 rounds of big ammunition, 15,000 rounds of small ammunition, 160 rifles, 53 wagons and 24 carts, beside taking 140 prisoners. Our losses were slight. Many Boers were killed or wounded.

The new scheme of military organization in Great Britain may be roughly described as the half way house to conscription. It involves the development of the existing system of voluntary enlistment and auxiliary services under conditions which preclude reasonable expectation of success. When the experiment has been tried and the results are found unsatisfactory, the way will be opened for compulsory service. The war office will then be in a position to assert that everything was done under the voluntary system to provide an adequate army for the defense of the empire, but that men were not forthcoming, and that an elaborate paper scheme proved a failure. The only alternative, from the official and military point of view, will be compulsory service.

Severe fighting occurred between the British and Boers at Hartebeestfontein, east of Klerksdorp, Transvaal, on the 22d.

It is reported at Amsterdam that a company of American volunteers have joined the Boers.

The Boers in the Orange River colony have disbanded and scattered.

## CHINA WAR NEWS.

Commissioner Rockhill, in a communication from Pekin, says that the total of the indemnities claimed by all nations cannot be calculated at this moment, but assuming that the other powers are willing to accept the scheme of adjustment proposed by the United States, allowing a certain amount for each missionary killed or injured, and another allowance for property destroyed, the sum total of [illegible]

[illegible]

The ducks you kill, but can't find, don't count.

## THE MARKETS.

[illegible]

## The Noisiest Bird.

The bird which makes the greatest noise is said to be the bell-bird, or campanero, which is found in South America and also in Africa. Waterton, the famous traveler and naturalist, states that it can be heard a distance of three miles. Its note is like the tolling of a distant church bell, and is uttered during the heat of the day, when every other bird has ceased to sing and nature is hushed in silence. How the bell-bird utters this deep note is not known, though it is supposed that a fleshy protuberance on its head, which, when inflated with air, stands up like a horn, in some way is the cause of it. The horn-bill, a bird which is widely distributed in India, the Malay archipelago and Africa, has also a very loud note. Its call has been described as "between the shriek of a locomotive and the bray of a donkey," and can be heard a distance of a couple of miles. The barking bird also utters a very loud note. Indeed, it is impossible to distinguish it from the bark of a dog. Its English name, says Darwin, is well given, "for I defy any one at first to feel certain that a small dog is not yelping somewhere in the forest."


## NEARLY GONE.

**Mrs. Julia A. Mallahan, of Owosso, Mich., Has a Very Narrow Escape—The Doctor Had Little Hope.**

Owosso, Mich., March 25.—(Special.)—Elite Rebekah Lodge, No. 2, I. O. O. F. of this town came very nearly losing their esteemed and capable secretary Mrs. Julia A. Mallahan. Mrs. Mallahan caught a severe cold last winter, and like many others, failed to recognize the dangerous possibilities until it had settled in her kidneys, and left her with very severe bearing down pains and almost constant backache. It almost carried her off. Mrs. Mallahan tells the story this way:

"I caught a cold last winter, which I neglected until it settled in my kidneys, causing severe bearing down pains and almost constant backache. My health had previously been so good that I paid little attention to these symptoms, until the disease had gone so far that my doctor entertained but a slight hope of my recovery.

"Fortunately one of our Lodge Members mentioned Dodd's Kidney Pills. Her description of the cures they had effected sounded like a fairy tale, but I sent for a box, deciding to give them a trial. I soon found that she had but half told the story of what they could do. I bless the day I first tried them, and have nothing but the highest praise for them."

Many very valuable lives have been saved by the timely use of Dodd's Kidney Pills, and not a few of these have been in Owosso and other neighboring Michigan towns. There seems to be no case of kidney trouble or back-ache that Dodd's Kidney Pills will not cure.

They are 50c a box, six boxes for $2.50. Buy them from your local druggist if you can. If he cannot supply you, send to the Dodds Medicine Company, Buffalo, N. Y.


[illegible]

**What Do the Children Drink?**


Don't give them tea or coffee. Have you tried the new food drink called GRAIN-O? It is delicious and nourishing and takes the place of coffee. The more Grain-O you give the children the more health you distribute through their systems. Grain-O is made of pure grains, and when properly prepared tastes like the choice grades of coffee, but costs about ¼ as much. All grocers sell it. 15c and 25c.

**Two Big Pains**

seem to be the heritage of the human family everywhere, viz:

**Rheumatism**

and

**Neuralgia**

but there is one sure and prompt cure for both, viz:

**St. Jacobs Oil**

**DO YOU COUGH DON'T DELAY TAKE KEMP'S BALSAM THE BEST COUGH CURE**

It Cures Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Croup, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Asthma. A certain cure for Consumption in first stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. Large bottles 25 cents and 50 cents.

**CHEAP FARMS**

**DO YOU WANT A HOME?**

**100,000 ACRES** Improved and unimproved farming lands to be divided and sold on long time and easy payments, a little each year. Come and see us or write, THE TRUMAN MOSS STATE BANK, Sanilac Center, Mich., or The Truman Moss Estate, Croswell, Sanilac Co., Mich.