THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.

BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, MAY 31

King Victor Emmanuel has just completed the first volume of the history of Italian coins and medals, upon which he has been engaged for a long time. The book contains about 12,000 illustrations. It is estimated it will cost $100,000.

A tablet has been placed upon the house in Richmond, Va., in which Gen. Robert E. Lee's family lived during the war. The building is a plain three-story and basement red brick house on Franklin street, near Seventh, and has been occupied by the Virginia Historical Society for some time past. The tablet reads: "The residence of Gen. Robert E. Lee from 1861 to 186[illegible]."

[illegible]

...ing in a miserable hut, edified all the locality by his austerity and piety. Some weeks ago, however, he came under police surveillance, and to escape their undesirable attentions he determined to set fire to his hut with a view of giving rise to the idea that he had perished in the flames. Unfortunately for the success of this device he was recognized at the West station at Buda-Pesth by a detective who took him to the police station. On the way the holy man amused himself by throwing money at the crowd, but unfortunately, the coins were bad. The "hermit" was in reality a base coiner and he now occupies a "cell" in the prison of the capital of Hungary.

Doctor Nagusha, the Japanese bacteriologist, has made a formal proposition that all civilized nations unite in an organized effort to rid the world of rats. His own government, he declares, stands ready to bear its part, and the suggestion has called forth a remarkably unanimous verdict of approval from the doctors of many lands. Ways and means have not yet been formulated, and it is in that direction, of course, that the greatest difficulty lies. Whether or not rats can be exterminated, or anywhere near exterminated, is a question yet to be determined. But in any event their numbers can be enormously reduced and the certainty with which the spread of the bubonic plague in India and in Hawaii has been traced to rats makes even a reduction in numbers worth the effort it requires.

Andrew Sandager, President of the State Bank of Lisbon, N. D., and a former State Senator of North Dakota, has introduced an innovation in marriage ethics. Without consulting even the bride-elect he procured a license to wed and then summoned Miss Carrie Johnson, who was visiting at the soldier's home here, to present herself before Justice Grover. Upon reaching there she met Mr. Sandager and showed much surprise when he stated his purpose. She did not object, however, and the Justice performed the ceremony.

A team of athletes from St. John's College, Shanghai, defeated a team from a Confucian institution. The victors stayed to "eat rice" with their rivals. There was a moment's hesitation before the meal began; then one of the St. John's men stood up, and his comrades with him, and said grace. An unusual episode after an athletic contest. The Confucians could not well take exception to the quiet performance of an act of duty, nor could the Christians reproach themselves for neglecting it.

FROM ALL OVER MICHIGAN.

Happenings of the Week Briefly Related.

WILL INTEREST MICHIGANDERS

Have You Money Coming From the State as the Result of Paying Double Taxes—Petoskey Barber in Trouble—Jackson Woman Sues Her Hubby.

Oakman Ousted From Tax Commission.

The supreme court has ousted Robt. Oakman as a member of the state tax commission. The opinion was written by Chief Justice Montgomery and concurred in by the four other justices. As soon as the order of the court is served upon Mr. Oakman he must relinquish his office to Wm. T. Dust, who was appointed by Gov. Bliss. [illegible]

[illegible]

Have Money Coming.

[illegible]

Petoskey M. D. Fled on His Wheel.

[illegible]

Sues Her Husband for Damages.

[illegible]

Followed His Sister's Suggestion.

Lera Winchester, of Grand Rapids, committed suicide on the 27th by hanging himself through the heart. He was a furniture worker and 20 years old. He recently lost his job and on the 26th went home drunk. His sister said she would rather see him dead than drinking. The following day, in the absence of his family, he shot himself and left a note saying that he had followed his sister's suggestion.

Court Must Decide.

Suit for $7,000, growing out of the recent failure of the First National bank of Niles, has been begun in the U. S. circuit court against the First National bank of Chicago. The action is brought by Jos. W. Selden, receiver of the insolvent Niles bank, to recover drafts presented at the defendant bank after notice of the insolvency of the other institutions had been sent out.

Married a Negro.

Miss Reack Gerber, a pretty Grand Rapids white girl, claiming to be a graduate of the U. of M., was married at St. Joseph on the 27th to Edward Mitchen, a Benton Harbor Negro. The bride had several suitors among the promising white men of the city, but turned them down to become the Negro's wife. This is Mitchen's second white wife.

A warm rain put out the forest fires that have done such damage in West Branch and Oscoda counties.

Aug. Zimmer, aged [illegible], of Grand Rapids, suicided on the [illegible] by shooting himself in the head. Drink and matrimonial troubles led to this suicide.

Counterfeit money is in circulation at Alpena. Dollars of 18[illegible] and nickels of 1901 are the most numerous. It is believed they are of local manufacture.

During a heavy windstorm at Ainger on the 23d, C. A. Newcombe was killed by the overturning of his barn. Minor damages by the queer pranks of lightning were experienced at Albion, Benton Harbor, Battle Creek, Galesburg, while at Cassopolis a lady was killed by lightning.

MINOR MICHIGAN MATTERS.

Manistee is to have a modern flour mill.

There are several cases of smallpox in Tuscola county.

South Haven is to have free mail delivery service on July 1.

The Central Michigan band tournament will be held at Lansing, June [illegible].

Nearly $[illegible] worth of property was destroyed by fire at [illegible] the afternoon of the 2[illegible].

[illegible]

...the state. [illegible] rheumatism, [illegible] tonsilitis and influenza, in the order named caused the most sickness in Michigan during the week ending May 25. Cerebro-spinal meningitis was reported present at 4 places, whooping cough 19, typhoid fever [illegible], diphtheria 18, measles 1[illegible], scarlet fever [illegible], smallpox [illegible], and consumption at 2[illegible].

CUBA AND PHILIPPINE NEWS.

Capt. Barrows, Capt. Reed and Lieut. Boyer, the former U. S. army officers sentenced to five years, three years and one year, respectively, for participation in the commissary frauds recently exposed at Manila, were lodged in Bilibid prison on the 23d.

Further cases of smallpox have been discovered on board the U. S. transport Indiana and the 9th regiment, U. S. infantry, which left Pekin on the 22d on its way to Manila, has gone into camp at Taku. The doctors have been instructed to make a report as to what length of time must elapse before it will be safe to allow the troops on board the transport.

On the 2[illegible] El Mundo claimed that the Cuban constitutional convention stood 14 to 14 on the Platt amendment, President Capote being opposed to it and controlling the deciding vote.

Four hundred men are given employment in Ottawa county on the building of [illegible]

[illegible]

...man was found on the [illegible] the top of a [illegible] known as Buzzard's Roost, which overlooks the Vermilion river in Illinois. From the fact that the head was cut off it is thought he was decoyed there and murdered. The man had been dead about six months.

One man was killed, one fatally injured and six others injured by the falling of a part of the sidewalk in front of Central Music hall, Chicago, on the 21st, which is being demolished to make way for an addition to a department store.

DOINGS OF THE 41ST SESSION.

The house passed the following bills on the 23d: Abolishing office of chief deputy game warden; Detroit police pension act; amending charter of Port Huron; amending Saginaw charter; appropriation upper peninsula prison $[illegible]; providing that officers making levy on personal property shall file a statement within 48 hours of where goods are stored; setting aside certain state lands in Crawford and Roscommon counties for the use of the forest reserve commission; dairy and food commission appropriation; [illegible]

[illegible]

...held at Manistee.

Gov. Bliss has appointed the seven members of the state [illegible] commission, which was recently created, [illegible] as follows: Senators [illegible] and [illegible]; Reps. McKay, French, [illegible]; and Capt. E. P. Allen, of Ypsilanti, and C. J. Monroe, of South Haven.

The senate has practically wound up its work for the session, but the house keeps grinding away on bills more to keep busy than anything else. A lot of work is being done to slide through numerous salary bills, but the schemes do not seem to work out with much success, as there is a fight every time an attempt is made to give some bill preference.

Former Gov. John R. Tanner, Illinois, died at Springfield, Ill., suddenly in the Leland hotel on the 23d, from rheumatism of the heart.

A dispatch from Batavia, Java, dated the 23d, says: The volcano of Keloet is in eruption. The lava is threatening the Blitar coffee plantations and has endangered Kediri. The district is in total darkness.

A number of miners were scalded by the explosion of a boiler at the Slope mine, near Lisbon, O., on the 2[illegible]. Others received lesser injuries. The engine house and a [illegible] nearby were demolished.

[illegible]

...their places closed.

It is reported [illegible] that Rear Admiral Sampson has asked for voluntary retirement on account of his health. The navy department will grant his request. He cannot regularly be retired under the statutory clause until late [illegible].

The loss of life thus far reported as a result of the floods in Tennessee is 14.

PRESBYTERIANS IN SESSION

At Philadelphia—General Assembly Takes Up Question of

REVISION OF THEIR CREED.

Fifty of the 2[illegible] Members Ask Dismissal of Subject—Many Ask Revision of an Explanatory Statement—An Indian Outbreak Looked for in Wyoming.

Revision of Presbyterian Confession.

[illegible]

Constitution Must Follow the Flag.

[illegible]

King Edward had a Narrow Escape.

The most dramatic incident in the history of the America's cup occurred on the 22d when a sudden squall struck the Solent completely wrecked the new challenger and endangered the life of King Edward and several distinguished persons, including Sir Thomas Lipton. Sir Thomas estimates that a delay of three weeks or a month in the date of the contest in American waters will enable him to come to the scratch. He says that he is greatly handicapped by the fact that he has no duplicate mast for the Shamrock II, but by an unlimited expenditure of money and energy he hopes the defects can be remedied in time to sail this year.

Pounded to Death by Robbers.

Christian Stauss, a farmer living near Navarre, O., was brutally murdered by two men [illegible]

[illegible]

WRECK ON LAKE HURON.

Twelve Persons, Including a Woman, was Drowned—Two Rescued.

A dispatch from Bay City, dated the 24th, says: A terrific northeaster blew all day and last night on Lake Huron. The steamer Baltimore, coal laden, broke in two and sank between Au Sable and Fish Point about 6 o'clock this morning. Twelve were drowned, including a woman. The steamer Baltimore was sighted from Au Sable early this morning about midway between the dead Au Sable and Au Sable Point with her engines apparently disabled and drifting in a helpless condition. The Ottawa life-saving crew were telegraphed for but were delayed in reaching the scene and were unable to locate the wreck until late this afternoon. The tug Columbia, of Detroit, with a government steam dredge and one loaded lighter for the Soo, was caught in the storm. The lighters and dredge was lost, parting their six inch cable, but were afterward rescued with their crew of six men. While searching for her tow, the Columbia picked up an engineer and a deckhand of the Baltimore on a raft. They were almost dead, and were taken to East Tawas. The deckhand went insane on the trip.

Allen's First Annual Report.

Gov. Charles H. Allen, of Porto Rico, has submitted to the President, through the state department, his first annual report. He expresses the opinion that a scheme of colonial administration, such as is found in the Danish, French and English West Indies, might be safely instituted with variations dependent upon the future policy of the home government. The governor refers to the many suggestions offered that the form of territorial government adopted by the U. S. be applied to Porto Rico, but points out that a standard form of such government, which exists in the U. S., would not apply accordingly to this island possession. He calls attention to the fact [illegible]

Ghastly Scenes in Albany.

[illegible] cost five [illegible] the 26th, by [illegible] over 40 [illegible], some [illegible]. The [illegible] about [illegible] N. Y., on [illegible] Hudson railroad [illegible]

21 Men Killed in Mine Explosion.

At the Richland mine of the Dayton Coal & Iron Co., two miles from Dayton, Tenn., on the 2[illegible] a terrific explosion of [illegible] resulted in the death of 21 [illegible]. The explosion was caused by what is known among miners as a "windy shot." It is the custom of the miners to place blasts and fire them off at quitting time each afternoon, leaving the coal thus thrown down to be loaded and hauled from the mine next morning. The Richland mine is destitute of water and great volumes of fine particles of coal dust, invisible to the naked eye, accumulate at the eye of the mine. The dust is subject to explosion if exposed to flame. Thirty-four men were in the mine at the time and 21 of them were killed and nine of them burned, most of them fatally.

TRANSVAAL WAR ITEMS.

Marthinus Wessels Pretorius, the first president of the Dutch African Republic, the title of which was changed in 1858 to the South African Republic, died May 19 at Potchefstroom, Transvaal Republic.

A superior force of Boers made a determined attack on a convoy between Ventersdorp and Potchefstroom, May 23, but were driven off. The British loss was four killed and 30 wounded. The convoy arrived in safety.

The estimates for Ontario rivers and harbors passed by parliament amount to $460,000.

Heavy rains caused much damage to property in North Carolina and Tennessee on the 21st.

Bresci, the assassin of the late King Humbert, has committed suicide at the penitentiary at San Stefano, Italy.

The village of Esparragosa, province of Badajoz, has been almost destroyed by a storm. One woman was killed.

The First National bank, of Mineral Point, Wis., was robbed of $20,000 on the 25th. The loss is covered by insurance.

Two men, Barney Johnson and Thomas O'Malley, were killed by a flyer on the Erie railroad in Cleveland on the night of the 22d. Their bodies were badly cut up. A card found near one of the men showed that he held membership in the longshoremen's union of Lorain, O.

The story that Chief Pokegan and [illegible] will invade Chicago [illegible] on the lake front is [illegible]. Transportation has already been arranged for. The chief and his [illegible] claim title to a large portion [illegible] ground on which Chicago is [illegible] press their claim.

The Philippine commission has passed the weather bureau act and [illegible] a loan of $[illegible] for each province to help pay the expenses till the land taxes are available. These loans are payable at the end of 1902. The commission has imposed a registration tax of one peso annually on all males over 18, excepting soldiers.

Up to the first of this year the total royalty collected from the Klondike placer mines by the Canadian government amounts to $2,040,192. The total revenues collected by the Canadian government from Yukon territory since 1896 amount to $4,376,673.

CHINA WAR NEWS.

The state department has been made fully acquainted by Mr. Rockhill with the character of the proposition as to the floating of the indemnity loan unfolded at Pekin. While grave objections are perceived to the Russian project for a joint guarantee of the loan, because of the immense difficulty of securing the assent of congress to an agreement which would entangle for more than a quarter of a century at least, there is nothing in Mr. Rockhill's instructions which would cause him to antagonize the proposition, provided it is fully developed so as to secure the safety of the loan while assuring the integrity of China. It is suggested that these objects can be best secured by causing China to deliver to each nation bonds bearing 4 per cent interest to the face value of the nation's indemnity claim. The nation holding the bonds could dispose of them at its pleasure, it could affix its own guarantee and sell the bonds in the open market. England, too, is opposed to a joint guarantee of loan.

The U. S. legation guard at Pekin has had its first trouble. Legation street is being repaired near the legation and an American sentry was placed at the point with orders to direct people around by a side street. Everybody obeyed the request with the exception of the Germans, both officers and soldiers, who have caused the American sentries much trouble. One of the German officers drew his sword and charged an American soldier who brought his bayonet to "charge," whereupon the officer desisted. Subsequently, a German soldier charged past the sentry, who fired, hitting another German soldier near the German legation, a quarter of a mile off. This fortunately was only a light flesh wound.

Reports have been received from Pekin to the effect that Field Marshal Count von Waldersee has informed the Chinese that the troops will not leave Pekin until the court returns, and he himself is received in imperial audience. The French have withdrawn from the Shansi expedition, and the English have refused to take any part in it. It is probable, therefore, that the Germans will be compelled to go alone. In spite of constant and threatening difficulties, Count von Waldersee, single handed, continues to maintain the prestige of foreigners in this part of China.

A dispatch from Taku says that Gen. Chaffee was told as he was about to leave Pekin that there were two cases of smallpox among the Indian troops now in camp at Tonku, where the Americans were to proceed to board their transports. Gen. Chaffee is now awaiting developments. In the event of being held by quarantine he will probably move up the Pei river for two weeks.

The foreign ministers' meeting at Pekin on the 23d was very unsatisfactory. No power was willing to accede to the Americans' idea of a reduction of the Chinese indemnity to $200,000,000, though Great Britain recognizes the advisability of some reduction.

A dispatch received at the war department from Gen. Chaffee at Taku, says that the transports Sumner and Lennox sailed on the 27th and that all of the troops that are to leave China are off for Manila.

BASE BALL.

Below we publish the standing of the American and National league clubs up to and including the games played on Monday, May 27.

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

	Won.	Lost.	Per ct.
Chicago	20	8	.714
Detroit	18	11	.621
Washington	14	9	.609
Baltimore	11	9	.550
Boston	11	11	.500
Milwaukee	10	17	.370
Cleveland	8	17	.320
Philadelphia	8	18	.296

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

	Won.	Lost.	Per ct.
New York	11	7	.607
Cincinnati	15	10	.600
Philadelphia	15	12	.556
Pittsburg	14	12	.538
Brooklyn	12	13	.480
Boston	10	13	.435
St. Louis	11	16	.407
Chicago	11	19	.367

THE MARKETS.

LIVE STOCK.

New York	Cattle	Sheep	Lambs	Hogs
Best grades	$4 75@5 80	$4 70	$7 00	$6 23
Lower grades	2 40@4 00	3 25	5 00	6 00
Chicago				
Best grades	5 40@6 00	4 65	5 75	5 95
Lower grades	4 15@5 20	4 15	5 00	5 60
Detroit				
Best grades	3 80@5 00	4 75	5 25	5 80
Lower grades	2 75@3 75	3 75	4 85	5 65
Buffalo				
Best grades	4 50@5 25	4 75	5 80	6 10
Lower grades	3 65@4 00	3 00	5 63	5 85
Cincinnati				
Best grades	5 40@5 75	4 25	6 50	5 80
Lower grades	2 50@4 60	3 50	4 50	5 30
Pittsburg				
Best grades	5 75@5 85	4 30	5 30	5 95
Lower grades	3 50@5 10	4 00	5 10	5 25

GRAIN, ETC.

	Wheat No. 2 red	Corn No. 2 mix	Oats No. 2 white
New York	79@79¾	49@49	33@33¼
Chicago	72@73	42@42¾	28@28¼
***Detroit**	75@75¾	44@44¼	32@32
Toledo	74@74¾	44@44	29@29
Cincinnati	75@75¾	44@44	31@31
Pittsburg	77@77¼	46@46¼	34@34
Buffalo	76@76¼	45@45¼	33@33

*Detroit—Hay, No. 1 Timothy, $12 75 per ton. Potatoes, 45c per bu. Live Poultry, spring chickens, 11c per lb; fowls, 10c; turkeys, 11c; ducks, 10c. Eggs, strictly fresh, 11c per dozen. Butter, best dairy, 14c per lb; creamery, 18c.

Emperor William has issued stringent orders henceforth to exclude newspaper representatives from all public and semi-public functions where the emperor intends to speak.

Servia is on the verge of a revolution. The Obrenovitch dynasty, always hated, is certain to be overthrown now because of what is regarded as a swindle in which both the king and queen were involved. Alexander is showing strength for the first time in his life and has repelled all suggestions from the cabinet that he divorce his queen.

A special from Galien says the late frosts did considerable damage to strawberries, blackberries and raspberries, and these crops in the high lands will be a total failure, it is said. Pears, apples, plums and peaches are looking well in this, the southern section of the fruit belt, pears especially promising to yield the heaviest crop in many years.

Italy has demanded satisfaction from Turkey for the death of Decrocis, the Italian who was summarily shot by the sultan's order on suspicion of being an emissary of the young Turkey party.