THE FIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE
SMITHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIR 'INGHAM, FRIDAY, DEC. 30.

It's a dangerous thing to negotiate a forged note over a national bank counter.

England and Thibet have signed a treaty. Thibet wasn't anxious to, but—well, Thibet signed.

Now that Sarah Bernhardt has completed her memoirs, sundry people must brood'he a little easier.

The Congressional Record again? Now we know why we have lonesome since last summer.

Banker Irl Reynolds of Cleveland will bear us out in saying that you must not believe all you hear.

A Jersey man got married and then re-enlisted in the army, which indicates that he is far from being a hero.

Another American girl is to marry an English nobleman. We are doing what we can to put the nobility on its feet.

Poker is coming bridge from the favor of the British aristocracy. Another example of the American invasion.

A convention is to be held shortly at Shreveport, La., to devise ways and means of not doing a thing to the boll weevil.

Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt has set the fashion for a different opera cloak to match each gown. But don't tell your wife.

We sometimes find that while we have been standing up for our rights all the more desirable seats have been occupied.—Puck.

A she doctor in London says that "the mystery and charm of sex are passing." Down this way they never pass a bargain counter.

Andrew Carnegie may not know exactly how much money he has but he insists that he continues to have a correct list of his daughters.

If Mrs. Chadwick gets a five year sentence, with the usual allowance for good behavior she will say that her financiering was frenzied.

Dr. Chadwick is said to be in a cheerful mood. Perhaps he cannot help being thankful that the sea is between him and the will servers.

A Scotch minister says that the playing of bagpipes will drive rats from a house. Did you ever know before that the rat has an ear for music?

A native Hollander now in New York says that the proper spelling is "kermis," not "Kirmess." People who are thinking of having one please notice.

It is generally supposed that Mr. Carnegie will have to take somebody along to identify him the next time he wants a check cashed in a strange bank.

Every man who has worried his hair out trying to freeze five dollars must lift his hat to Mrs. Chadwick, queen of high finance, with her $13,000,000.

The sultan may not be much of a ruler, but when it comes to turning loose the long green, his favorite rule is one that obstinately refuses to work both ways.

"Chat on the Care of Children," formerly a feature of the woman's page, has given way to "Timely Tips on the Treatment of Toy Dogs."—New York Herald.

This season's crop of peanuts amounts to 4,000,000 bushels, and it is getting most the tremendous roast that has happened since Mme. Patti's latest farewell visit.

The census figures showing that there are fifty-one boys born in the United States to every forty-nine girls, indicate that the bachelor girl didn't get there a bit too soon.

A New York clubwoman says: "All women cannot marry handsome men." Somebody might add that the rule works both ways, but, of course, it wouldn't be gallant to spy so.

A Connecticut woman who went down to the bottom of a harbor in a diving suit probably found herself for the first time in her life in a place where she didn't care how she looked.

The work of exterminating the mosquitoes in the tidal marshes of New Jersey will be resumed next season with great vigor. No fears are entertained that there will be any lack of raw material.

The clergy of Trinity parish, New York, have agreed not to remarry the divorced hereafter, but the justices of the peace in Gotham, not to mention numerous ministers of different denominations, are still ready to do business.

New York detectives arrested a man the other day for being insane, because he had a check for $500,000. They probably took it for granted that he was crazy, owing to the fact that he wasn't trying to marry a chorus girl or find his way into Wall street.

It is interesting sometimes to take a look through a lot of old newspapers. For instance, here is an item on the back of a clipping cut from a paper published in the spring of 1903: "Russia will evacuate all but one Manchurian province by Oct. 8." If it only had been true!

South Dakota may be interested to learn that a great wave of matrimony has swept through New York society this fall. Not in many years have so many confirmed bachelors sworn to love, honor and cherish.

THE MICHIGAN NEWS

Showing What's Doing In All Sections of the State

FOR LIFE.

Murder on Friday, Capture on Sunday, Sentence on Monday.

George Bearss, the murderer of Mrs. Abel Brown, of Berville, was on Monday morning started through the cutter at Port Huron from which he will emerge into the state prison for life. Bearss pleaded guilty in both the justice's court and the circuit, and at 9:30 Judge Law sentenced him to Marquette for life, and started the same evening for his life home.

The explanation of the cold-blooded murder as told Judge Law follows: He said that he was in the hotel at Berville Friday morning and became drunk. He then procured a bottle of whisky and started for the Brown place. He said that his purpose was only over there was to sell Brown some old rubber as Brown is accustomed to buy such stuff. When he got to Brown's house he asked Mrs. Brown for some cider and she took a pitcher and went down cellar for it. He took the lamp and followed, and at the foot of the stairs he stumbled and fell against the woman, striking her with the lamp. She screamed and he thought that he had killed her. He then took a club and beat her to death, he said.

Bearss said that if the woman's throat had been cut he must have done it, but he does not remember anything about it. He said that he does not remember anything having committed an assault or of having attempted to commit one. His own words in pleading guilty were: "I did it. I plead guilty, but I wouldn't have done it if I hadn't been drunk."

Abel Brown, husband of the murdered woman, heard Bearss sentenced, and when the judge came down from the bench he clasped Bearss's hand.

"The law has taken its course, Mr. Brown," said the judge. "We feel very sorry for you, and we have done all that we could do."

"You have," said Brown. "You have done all that could be done. It was a terrible affair. I have been in a daze ever since it happened."

When Brown left the court room he was accompanied by several men, friends and neighbors.

They all expressed themselves as satisfied with the outcome, although one of them remarked in a solemn sort of way:

"It's too bad we ain't got a hanging law."

The murder was committed Friday afternoon, after which the murderer made the journey to Port Huron, which place he reached Sunday morning, and was soon after arrested. Sunday afternoon he was taken to Port Huron arraigned, plead on trial, pleaded guilty, sentenced and was on his way to Marquette Monday night.

Delinquent Tax Lands.

Auditor-General Powers is opposed to the talked-of change in the general tax laws at the coming session of the legislature. In his annual report he will say that these changes have been prevented because the people are already familiar with the present law and the constructions which have been placed upon it by the supreme court. The law has resulted in the sale of more than 300,000 acres within the past two years for about $375,000. During many years past these lands have been a source of increasing expense to the state. They were valueless to the counties through the fact that no taxes could be collected upon them and by reason of their non-improvement and progress of the townships and communities to which they were related was retarded. It is said that the operation of this law has resulted in a reduction of the delinquent advertising expense of the state from a maximum of $56,000 to an expense last year of $23,000.

Bennett Paroled.

Gov. Bliss brought Christmas cheer to Edward T. Bennett and family, of Bay City, by the issue of a parole for Bennett. Bennett was sent to Jackson three years ago for manslaughter, to serve a seven-year sentence. The parole was recommended by many leading citizens of Bay City and by the pardon board. Bennett has secured employment as advertising manager of a Bay City paper.

A pathetic feature of the case is that Bennett has a mother, 87 years old and blind, who does not know that her son has been in prison. He has written to her regularly, and promised her in all his letters to come home soon.

Building Dedicated.

The Michigan Employment Institute for the Blind was formally dedicated in Saginaw Thursday night, a large audience being present. Gov. Bliss presided and received the keys of the building in behalf of the state from William G. Van Auken, president of the board of trustees, in his address Gov. Bliss said that in his message he would recommend all existing state buildings be enlarged, rather than build new ones.

Made a Bonfire.

The officers of Van Buren county celebrated the holidays with an expensive bonfire, in which fuel consisting of 31 nickel-in-the-slot machines, the cost of which was about $1,500. The machines were seized by Sheriff Britton in South Haven and run over the finest make. They were burned by order of the court, cut court and their contents, consisting of $20 in nickels, was conveyed into the county treasury.

Gave $10,000.

Hon. Ezra Rust, of New York, has subscribed $10,000 toward the fund for the proposed memorial memorial buildings at the University of Michigan. Mr. Rust gives the largest sum that would be accepted from any one individual.

The Saginaw members of the Spanish war crew of the good ship Yosemite have formed "The Bine Jackets of '98."

While hunting rabbits near Norway, Harry Wasley was accidentally killed by the premature discharge of his gun. The en.ire charge of shot entered his abdomen.

Frank Whistle, an employe of the Durant-Dort carriage factory in Flint, is said to be the heir to a fortune of $500,000 as the only living descendant of Thomas Whistle, who died about a year ago at Birmingham, Ala. He has engaged attorneys to look up the matter.

Reuben Bennett, a farmer residing near Sidnaw, is having considerable success killing wolves with wild cats. He killed in a comparatively short time five wolves and three wildcats and the entire bounty on this game was $84. He reports that wolves are numerous near Sidnaw and he will hunt them all winter.

DEADLY SOUVENIR.

A Navy Shell Does Deadly Work in a Peaceful Home.

Lifeless and horribly mutilated, the body of Mrs. Mamie Barnes, aged 26 years, was found Thursday noon across the threshhold of a doorway at the family home, 253 Pine street, Detroit.

A shell, containing a powerful explosive, which had been sent as a curio to Mrs. Barnes by her brother, Wm. Mayhu, a United States navy gunner stationed at Newport News, was the cause of death, although murder was at first feared.

The condition of the room, which was used as a back parlor, strengthens the explosion theory. The floor, walls and ceiling were besmeared with human blood and fragments of human skin and flesh. They were also badly damaged by the force of the explosion.

Mrs. Barnes' fingers and hands had been practically blown into shreds. Many of the latter were hanging from the ceiling.

At 8:30 o'clock neighbors heard the detonation of a terrific explosion. Rushing out of doors in their alarm they sought the cause, but failed to find it. Mrs. Barnes home, as well as others in the vicinity, was quiet.

A few minutes before 12 o'clock a passing milkman noticed smoke issuing from an open window of the Barnes home. With William Shea and William Kane, neighbors, he entered the dwelling.

Mrs. Barnes shockingly disfigured, lay in a pool of flames.

Seizing the woman the men dragged her out of the fire and called firemen. The blaze was extinguished after a brief fight.

The fire had evidently been smouldering for several hours, and was just gaining headway. Had the rescuing party been much later the body would have been frightfully charred. Only two little children, one only a few months old and the other less than 3 years old, would probably have been killed also.

Mrs. Barnes was preparing for Christmas when the fatality occurred. She was stringing popcorn for decorating a Christmas tree. Special preparations were being made as her brother, the one who sent her the deadly souvenir, was to be their guest on Christmas day. He now on his way to Detroit, ignorant of the fate of his sister.

RED WINS.

The Pottawatomie Tribe Are Paid an Old Claim.

Indian Agent S. L. Taggert, of Dunbogue, Ia., was just paid the famous government claim of $78,000 to the remnant of the Pottawatomie Indians on the Athens reservation, an apportionment of $600 to each young or old Indian. The payment of this claim has been awaited for years. In the early days the Pottawatomies were induced to sell their valuable lands and settle at Athens. The deal was a bad one, as never made, it has been claimed, and for years lawyers have been working for the claims for the remaining descendants of the original owners of the fortune owned them by Uncle Sam. Congress allowed $78,000 for the red men. "Carpenter" knocked out about $10,000 and the balance was divided among the heirs of the original braves—heirs that range from blinking papooses to gray headed old warriors, strapping young bucks and corpulent, pipe-smoking squaws. In fact, it is alleged that some of the enterprising Pottawatomies worked overtime to increase their family trees since each new baby arriving before a certain time was entitled to a share in the boodle. At any rate, Athens has been a lively spot for supper ha bles this summer sufficient to give joy to all anti-race suicide people.

Clerks Happy.

Secretary of State-elect Prescott his proceeding upon the theory that all appointments in the state department expire by limitation on Dec. 31. He is not, therefore, sending out notices of dismissal, but is rather notifying these clerks who are to be appointed. All the heads of the regular clerks have received notices of appointment and 17 of the census clerks have been notified that they will be retained temporarily.

It Was Easy.

Archie Gagnon and Lawrence Smith, who escaped from the Alpena jail Friday night, walked in and gave themselves up Saturday night, after being out 24 hours. The men said they thought they would show the officers how easy it was to get out of the Alpena jail.

STATE NEWS NOTES.

Gladwin will build a $15,000 school house.

G. R. Brockway, the man killed in the fire at Sioux City, Ia., Friday night, was formerly a resident of Hopkins, Mich.

The old Catholic church, built in 1850, one of Lapeer's oldest landmarks, was destroyed by fire. It was built by the early missionaries.

The council has granted a franchise to the Grand Rapids & Indiana & Inland Lakes Interurban Co. This ends a big fight over the matter.

The remains of John Gournoe, the last of the original settlers of the valley of St. Mary's river, were laid to rest in Riverside cemetery, below Sault Ste. Marie, Thursday.

Sheriff Burgess, of Saginaw, received letter from a divorcee female who wanted to marry Ollie Freeman, colored, sentenced to five years in Jackson prison for burglary, before his incarceration.

Col. Harry Bandholtz, of Constantine, who has been in charge of a division of the Philippine constabulary, and who for a few days for Manila, was tendered a banquet by military men in Grand Rapids.

The inauguration of Gov.-elect Warner, January 2, will be a simple affair. Chief Justice Moore, of the supreme court, will administer the oath of office. The United States senators and the former governors of Michigan will be invited to participate in the above in the evening.

In the selling of the Arthur Mitchell farm in Palmyra township, Lenawee county, to George L. Thompson, of Parsons, Kan., an old land grant figured. Mr. Mitchell had lived on the old farm 71 years and the land formally became the possession of his father, Wm. Mitchell, October 9, 1835, when Andrew Jackson issued the grant.

Internal revenue collections for November were $21,262,332, an increase as compared with November, 1903, of $414,497.

Judge Steere has denied a new trial for former Police Captain Frank Sevene, of Battle Creek, who was fined $1,000 for conspiracy.

James Doletto, the crazed Italian who wrecked the Fifth Reformed church in Grand Rapids, will be taken to Kalamazoo asylum.

Battle Creek is getting a reputation for burglaries and hold-ups. Two of the former and one of the latter occurred Monday night about 6 o'clock.

A waiting sentence Saturday for robbing the D. & C. office, Lawrence Smith and Archie Gagnon sawed their way through the bars of Alpena jail Friday.

Gov. Bliss gives an interviewer the impression that neither McGarry nor Murderer Ashley, who killed Adj. Mc-Gee's brother, will be freed during his administration.

Conscience money amounting to 45 cents has been received by the Mineral Range Railroad through a local minister from an unknown person who beat the Osceola to Hancock 10 years ago.

Philip Brushardt, of Bearlington, passed his 100th birthday last week. He was born in Rhynebeyer, Germany, in 1804, and came to America in early youth.

Battle Creek's peculiar epidemic of dog poisoning, in which none but the valuable canines have been victims, continues, despite offers of reward for the arrest of the poisoner.

Believing it needless, Postmaster Edwin Mecham, of Bannister, drank a quantity of concentrated lye. He underwent agony in spite of prompt medical attention.

The freight wreck of the "Cannon Ball" on the Michigan Central east of Marshall Sunday was caused by a drawbar working loose upon one of the cars and then dropping down and striking a tie.

Grant M. Hudson, representative-elect of the second district of Kalamazoo, fell down stairs and is suffering from a dislocated hip, which will prevent his attending the early sessions of the legislature.

Great joy reigns among the fisher folk about Benton Harbor, for all records were broken last week in the size of large fish. Whole hauls brought a ton of fish from the lake in several instances.

A man giving his name as George W. Ward, and who is evidently demented, has several times made purchases in Lansing, giving in payment checks for logiks in which he has no funds. He is under arrest.

A good looking respectable, colored girl from Grand Rapids was very angry with Judge Wiest of Lansing, when he refused to permit her to marry Wm. Seabolt, one of a score of colored burglars serving time at Jackson.

"The Grand Rapids Muskegon Water Power Electric Co. was recently organized under the laws of Maine with a capitalization of $1,000,000, for the purpose of developing power more dams on the Muskegon river.

The wood portion of Cheboygan Novelty Turning works, consisting of a large two-story stock building, boiler house and engine room, was burned Monday night. Loss $4,000, partially insured. The brick machine room was saved.

While shredding corn in a large barn in Algansee the men were surprised to find that the entire barn all ablaze. The building was soon destroyed with its thirty tons of hay, 150 bushels of corn and nearly $200 worth of farm tools. Loss, $2,500.

George W. Hunter, the newly elected Republican judge of probate of Calhoun county, has appointed Miss Louise Powers deputy probate register. Miss Powers has been a clerk in the office of the register of deeds and S. F. Snyder's abstract office for several years.

Charles F. Hacker sat in a chair in the North Lansing saloon dead for nearly two hours before the fact was discovered. He came into the saloon, obtained a drink and sat down at the table. Others remained for the same position so long that the keeper of the place made an attempt to rouse him, thinking that he had fallen asleep.

John Luppen, a Kalamazoo celery grower, two years ago sent $75 to bring his family from Holland to this country. Menko never paid the money back, but declares that John and two of three of his friends came to his home, called him out and shot him after a terrible skirmish. He says with a balanced accounts. John doesn't think his head is worth $75, and sues to recover the amount. Menko brings counter suit for $5,000 for malicious injuries.

Thomas Green and his wife and daughter, Mrs. Dan McCollum and little Marie McCollum, of Oakwood, were going to Oxford Wednesday, and when near the Grand Trunk-Detroit Northwestern railway crossing the horse became frightened at a train and ran up the track ahead of the engine. Mrs. Green was killed and was ayerted by the trainmen stopping the engine until the party could be extricated.

A stick of dynamite in the Chicago drainage canal at Golden near Lockport, Ill., when struck by the steam shovel of a dredge, and 100 men working near by were thrown to the ground. Engineer Jacques Hill, assistant, and an Italian laborer were fatally hurt, and 23 others were injured.

It was a gloomy Xmas at Fall River, Mass., where the textile operatives have been on a strike since last July. Tons of food, warm clothing and many little luxuries were distributed, yet the Salvation Army leaders report much financial suffering which they could not relieve.

Ceasing his exhortations to penitent folk and sinners in the Methodist church in Union City, Ind., Rev. C. F. Conly stepped to the side of a woman who was kneeling at the mourners' bench and in front of the altar felled with one blow the husband who would have taken her away. When the affair was ended he resumed his exhortation.

More than one million Christmas trees have been taken from the sides of the Green mountains to supply in part the wants of New York and Boston, and now Vermont is stated to be practically destitute of young spruce trees.

Wads of paper in a safety deposit box in Columbus, O., were represented by Leroy Harding, it is alleged, to be $250,000 worth of securities. He is on trial in Cincinnati on a charge of representing that he had that above amount, was president of the Viaduct bank of Columbus, and that a $200 check he had made out was good. It is alleged the check was worthless. Harding is being termed a male Cassie Chadwick.

Eight hundred old sailors, living at Sailors' Snug Harbor, a home for indigent "salts" on Staten Island, N. Y., turned out en masse to fight a fire which finally gutted their chapel.

NEWS OF THE WORLD

A Brief Chronicle of All Important Happenings

HORRIBLE DEED.

A Father Throws His Baby Girl to Wolves.

Bereft of all reason in his mad desire to save his own life, as well as that of his wife, Henry Shoreby, a farmer, cast his six-months-old baby girl to starving wolves when attacked by a ferocious pack while driving through the pine forests of northern Minnesota to a friend's house, where they were going to eat their Christmas dinner.

The mother is prostrated with grief at the loss of her little one, and when the news of the cowardly father's inhuman act had become generally known in the little woodmen's settlement of Willerton, there started out late and feather the farmer.

While sleighing through the forest at an early hour this morning, Shoreby and his wife were followed by wolves. Seeing his predicament, the farmer pulled out his rifle from under the seat and shot one of the animals. The result was startling. Instead of driving off the few, the scent drew on an enormous pack, which surged around the vehicle, their tongues hanging out.

Lashing the horses frantically, Shoreby started a race for life. Although the light sleigh flew over the snow, the pack gained on him with each step. Then, fearing that there was only one way in which he could save the life of himself and his wife, Shoreby snatched the infant from his wife's breast and threw it to the ravenous wolves.

The frightful ruse was successful, and the farmer and his wife reached their destination in safety. The child's fate is prostrated and it is feared that she may lose her mind.

A Dashing Assault.

The Telegraph's correspondent at Chefoo, in a dispatch dated December 24, says:

"A messenger from Port Arthur describes a Japanese attack on the evening of December 22, with a light column of 5,000 and many machine guns, on the northern defenses. They dashed along the railway, crossed the trench after trench, and succeeded in reaching the wafer course beneath Payuisenn mountain, where the Russian artillery, worked by electric execution. Then a bayonet fight occurred at midnight, strong Russian force, advancing east ward of Payuisenn mountain, threatened the retreat of the Japanese who, after desperate struggles, fled in the north, leaving several machine guns, 200 rifles and 50 prisoners. Their loss is 1,000; partially insured. The brick machine room was saved.

More Captures.

From Tokio comes a report received from the designers at Port Arthur of more captures. It says: "A body of our cavalry while surprised the enemy at Houseng-Shui-Ho, between Haicheng and Sitaitoun, the latter about 12 miles and a half miles northwest of Port Arthur, at 10 o'clock Saturday night and after a short fight completely dislodged the enemy, who occupied the whole of Talihuhsiam (about five miles northwest of Port Arthur), at 2:30 o'clock this morning.

"Our repeated attacks during the past few days were uniformly successful and now the whole of the enemy's entrenched position fronting our right wing is in our hands."

"We Are All to Blame."

Admiral Birileff in a caustic letter to the St. Petersburg newspapers, blames officers who have entered into a newspaper controversy over the chance of Rojdestvensky with Togo. Admiral Birileff regards the preparations of a third squadron as imperative.

He says every day's delay is a misdemeanor and every week a crime. It is the business of naval officers, therefore, he remarks with grim humor, to lay aside their pens till the war is over and attend to business. There is no time now to try to locate the blame for the fact that Russia's navy was no better prepared. "As a matter of fact," Admiral Birileff says, "we are all guilty. If our heads are still on our shoulders, it is due to the forbearance of my long-suffering emperor."

The Patterson Jury Disagreed.

Nan Patterson heard the announcement that the jurymen trying her for the murder of Caesar Young had disagreed, fainted, was revived and, trembling hysterically and hardly able to walk was half led, half carried, back to jail on the Tombs. Later she was in such a complete collapse that the doctor said her condition was serious. The jury stood six for acquittal and six for conviction, but so far as can be learned there was no jurymen in favor of a degree verdict. After the disagreement it was said to be an even chance that District Attorney Jerome will nolle prosse the case and order her release.

John Barloga, Greenfield, Wis., bought a new stove and found $1,500 in currency hidden in the stove. He lugged the money back to the dealer, who had hidden it there and forgotten about it.

Seven months' liberty since 1879 is the record of Jail Bird Harriet Wheeler, of Chicago, who has been sentenced to his fifth term in Joliet for burglary. His first term in 1879 was for eighteen months. The next he got two years, in 1885 five years and in 1901 fifteen years.

With a hatpin in her eye Miss Jennie Fairbanks, niece of Vice-President Fairbanks, is now in a hospital in Bloomington Ill. Friday, where every effort is being made to save her sight. While putting on her hat with a hatpin in one hand, a friend accidentally jostled Miss Fairbanks's arm, sending the pin squarely into the eye.

Detectives have discovered girl clerks in large department stores in plots to beat the street railways. The girls always ask for transfers in mornings, take them to stores, paste colored paper cleverly in the holes punched by conductors, take store punches used to punch sales cards, and punch the transfers so they can be used as tickets to ride home on evenings. The Metropolitan Trolley Co. estimates its loss at $75 per day.

Life is like a good book. There is just as much in it as there is in you to take out of it. Most people only skim over it.

TRUSTED—BUSTED.

Twelve Millions Lost—Nine Cashiers Suicide—Banks Fail.

Speculative fever, operations on the Board of Trade, and last, but by no means least, the decision of the people to trust that cattle and hog prices must go down, along with the rise in the price to the consumers of the country, have combined to wreck 40 Iowa banks in a year, drive one-fourth of the cashiers of these banks to dishonored graves by suicide and scatter to the winds over $12,000,000 savings of the people.

The report of the state auditor to be made public in a few days will be the most startling that Iowa has ever known. The record of failures will be about forty. But these records fail to disclose the more astounding feature that these failures have been attended in many cases by suicide. Another feature of which the state keeps no record is defalcations and petty larceries which have been discovered in several banks. The Senie case, at Iowa Falls, where the cashier is alleged to have made away with $40,000, is the latest and more recent embezzlement of $35,000 by an official of the Wapello bank are cases in point. The shortage in each case was promptly made good. Senie and the Wapello official are serving their time in the state penitentiary.

"Frenzied Finance."

Thomas W. Lawson made the sensational announcement Wednesday that he had been poisoned twice during the last three weeks. His life was saved, he declares, by physicians, who pumped him out.

"I have been suddenly and mysteriously stricken down twice within the last 20 days," said Lawson. "Once the doctors worked over me for 24 hours before they pronounced my life out of danger. In both cases the symptoms were severe digestive pains, nausea and other signs that usually accompany poisoning." Lawson said physicians were called in and employed the stomach pump. In the most serious attack, which was after dinner in a Boston hotel, Lawson's muscles were rigidly contracted and there was intense bodily pain and a complete loss of strength. The attack was almost of a cataleptic nature. In general many of the symptoms of strychnine poisoning were noted, violent muscular contractions, marked effect upon the action of the heart, sudden convulsions and racking pain. Lawson and his friends refuse to say in what direction, if any, their suspicions point.

The Czar Grows Liberal.

An imperial ukase issued Monday night makes decided changes in several points under a number of heads. It promises existing laws; assures the zemstvos the fullest possible measure of self-government; the abrogation of the laws now existing in their behalf; promulgates a scheme of workmen's insurance; extends the liberty of the press, and promises a full legal trial to all persons accused.

At the meeting of the Moscow zemstvo Tuesday in the presence of a great audience resolutions of confidence and congratulation were voted on the appointment of Prince Peter Sviatopolk-Mirsky as minister of the interior and at the prospect of closer relations and sympathy between the people, government and the people. The zemstvo then voted $250,000 for the construction of school houses to mark its satisfaction.

Japs Still Capturing.

The Japanese troops have captured some important positions on Pigeon bay.

A dispatch from the Japanese army before Port Arthur says: "The right column of the army at 5 o'clock Thursday morning, taking advantage of the enemy's excitement, drove the enemy off an eminence north of Housanyetao on Pigeon bay and occupied the position, and at 7 o'clock dislodged the enemy from a position on the peninsula west of Housanyentao, which we occupied, capturing one small gun. After the Japanese occupation of the positions the enemy made a counter attack, but was repeatedly repulsed. At present our occupation of the positions is practically secure."

Nicholas Refuses.

Emperor Nicholas formally notified the country today that the agitation for a constitution and the convocation of a national assembly is useless. Such is the construction placed upon the indorsement written in his own hand on the resolutions telegraphed by the Zemstvo congress of November 20, begging him in the most humble manner to convoke legally elected members of the zemstvos to present a program of reforms for his consideration.

The emperor wrote the following dispatch:

"I consider the action of the president to be presumptuous and tactless. Questions of state administration are not concerns to the zemstvos, whose functions and rights are clearly defined by the law."

Electrocuted.

J. W. Griffith, one of the wealthiest oil operators in Lima, O., was electrocuted in his bathroom yesterday. He received a severe voltage of electricity from contact which he made by an iron register and an electric light chandelier. His fingers were burned through the skin and part of the gas fixture broken when he fell to the floor.

Mormon Elder McQuarrie has purchased property in Harlem, N. Y., for a church which there is a great outcry. The greatest indignation was manifested by heads of religious bodies all over Harlem, and by tenants in the neighborhood of the proposed headquarters of the sect when the news reached them. It is probable that an anti-Mormon organization of all Harlem religious bodies will be attempted to oppose the fruition of the plans.

John Donner, New York, has eaten thirty-four quail in thirty days on a wager of $5,000 that he couldn't.

Six men will share responsibility of hanging Jim Goode Thursday in Richmond, Va. Sheriff Smith built the gallows and began to look for someone to spring the trap. But his deputies, one and all, declined the task and each intimated that he would resign before he would cause the death of a man, when Smith announced that he would attach a number of springs to the trap and give an end to each man and let all pull together at a given signal. This proposition proved satisfactory to the deputies.

Chicago merchants estimate special Christmas trade will bring them $10,000,000 by Saturday night.

CONGRESS.

As objection by Mr. Mann, of Illinois, to unanimous consent to take up the inaugural resolution in the house of representatives, sent the whole matter over until after the holidays.

Mr. Morrill, of Pennsylvania, on behalf of the committee on the District of Columbia, was directed to move the passage of the senate resolution, which among other things provided for holding the inaugural ball in the pension building, as heretofore, but Messrs. Underwood, of Alabama, and Mann, insisted that a quorum of the house should be present to consider the matter.

Immediately after Mr. Mann's objection the house adjourned until January 4, 1905.

After a session of four minutes duration the senate adjourned at 12:04 p. m. today until January 4 next. The proceedings, consisted of a prayer by Chaplain Hale, the reading of the journal of Monday's brief session and the reading of a number of nominations from the president. The attendance was small and no other business was attempted.

It is most unquestionably a bill will be introduced in the house to change the whole present system of managing the Panama canal construction. Rep. Hepburn plans to introduce a measure after the holidays to knock out the present commission and to create in lieu thereof Wallace the whole charge. This bill will go to the committee on interstate and foreign commerce, and it is said to be evenly divided for and against the measure, with the vote of Charles H. Townsend, of Michigan, not taken into consideration.

It is not known definitely in Washington how Mr. Townsend stands on the question. It may rest in the Michigan man's power to change the whole status of things in Panama, or to force matters to be left as they are.

THE MARKETS.

Detroit—Extra dry fed steers and Leifers, $5; steers and heifers, 1,000 to 1,200 lbs., $4@4.25; steers and heifers, 800 to 1,000 lbs., $3@3.65; fair to good cows, $2@3.25; good, fat cows, $2.50@3; common to fair, 1,000 lbs., $2@2.50; choice heavy bulls, $2.50@3; fair to good light bulls, $2.50@3; stock bulls, $2@2.25; choice feeding steers, 900 to 1,000 lbs., $3@3.65; fair feeding steers, 800 to 900 lbs., $3@3.25; choice stockers, 600 to 700 lbs., $3@3.25; fair stockers, $2.75@3; milkers, large, young, medium age, $30@45; common milkers, $20@25. Veal calves—Market active at 50c per cwt. above last week's prices. Best, $6@7; fair to good, $4@5.50.

Milch cows and springers—Market about steady at last week's prices for quality not very good; range, $25@47.

Hogs—Market dull and 5@10c lower than last Thursday. Range of prices: Light to good butchers, $4 30@4 40; pigs, $4 40@4 50; light yorkers, $4 20@4 30; roughs, $3 75@4; stags, one-third off.

Sheep and lambs—Market 25c lower on all grades; common sheep hard to sell. Best handy weights of fed native lambs, $5@6 25; light to common lambs, $5@6; fair to good mixed sheep, $3 50@4; culls and common, $2@3 25.

Chicago—Good to prime steers, $6 20@6 75; poor to medium, $4@5 90; stockers and feeders, $3 15@4 15; cows, $1 25@4 60; heifers, $2@4 75; canners, $1 35@2 40; bulls, $2@4; calves, $3 50@6 50.

Hogs—Mixed and butchers, $4 30@4 60; good to choice heavy, $4 50@4 65; rough heavy, $4 25@4 40; light, $4 10@4 45; bulk of sales $4 25@4 50.

Sheep—Lambs, $5@6 25; wethers, $4 25@5 25; common and choice mixed, $3 75@4 70; native lambs, $4 75@6 85.

East Buffalo—Best export steers, $5@5 25; few, $5 50; shipping steers, $4@4 50; good to choice butcher steers, $4 65@4 75; 900 to 1,000 lb steers, best fat cows, $3 25@3 60; fair to good, $2 50@3; best heifers, $4 10@4 60; best fat heifers, $4@4 25; medium heifers, $3 75@4; best feeding steers, $2 25@2 40; best feeding steers, 800 to 900 lbs., $3@3 25; best yearling steers, $2 75@3; common stockers, $2 25@2 50; export bulls, $2 50@3; best butcher bulls, $2 25@2 50; stock bulls, $2 25@2 50. The cow market is slow on light and medium weights, extra, $4@4 50; medium to good, $3 50@4; common, $1 50@3.

Hogs—The market is from 5c to 10c lower than last week.

Sheep—Lambs, $6 80@6 85; fair to good, $6 50@6 75; culls, common, $5@6; mixed sheep, $5 10@5 75; fair to good, $4 25@4 50; culls and bucks, $3@4.

Grain, Etc.

Chicago—Cash quotations: Flour steady. No. 2, spring wheat, $1 03@1 17; No. 3, $1 01@1 15; No. 2 red, $1 17; No. 2 corn, 46@46¼c; No. 2 yellow, 46@46¼c; No. 2 oats, 34½c; No. 3 white, 33¼c; No. 3 white, 33¼@33½c; No. 2 rye, 73c; good feeding barley, 37@38c; fair to choice malting, 41@48c; No. 1 flaxseed, $1 16. No. 1 Northwestern, $1 16½. Timothy seed, $2 72½; clover, contract grade, $12 75.

Detroit—Wheat—No. 1 white, $1 17½; No. 2 red cash, $1 17; No. 2 red, December, 5,000 bu at $1 18¼, 8,000 bu at $1 18¾, 15,000 bu at $1 19, 10,000 bu at $1 17⅞, closing $1 17¾ asked; May, 5,000 bu at 93¾, 5,000 bu at $1 20¾, 10,000 at $1 20¾, 5,000 bu at $1 20⅞, 5,000 bu at $1 20, 8,000 bu at $1 19⅞, closing $1 19¾ asked; July, 2,000 bu at $1 03¾, 2,000 bu at $1 03⅞, 5,000 bu at $1 04, 2,000 bu at $1 03⅞, in manner bu at $1 01⅞, 3,000 bu at $1 01⅝; No. 3 red, $1 09½; by sample, 2 cars at 95c per bu.

Corn—No. 3 mixed, 45c bid; No. 2 yellow, 2 cars at 46c on track; by sample, 1 car at 44¾c per bu.

Oats—No. 3 white sent were quotable at 32½c, 1 car at 33c. Receipts of 1 carload for special location.

Rye—No. 2 cash, nominal at 85c bu.

Beans—December, $1 59; January, $1 61; February, $1 62 per bu, all nominal.

AMUSEMENTS IN DETROIT.

Week Ending Dec 31

LYCEUM THEATER—"Under Southern Skies." Last Wed. and Sat. Mats. Next week.

LAFAYETTE THEATRE — The Byron Douglas Stock Co. Mats. Wed. and Sat. Mond'ay. Wednesday and Saturday. Best seats 25c.

WHITNEY THEATRE—"A Hot Old Time." Mat., 10c, 15c, 25c. Evgs., 10c, 15c, 25c.

TEMPLE THEATRE AND WONDERLAND—Afternoon and evening. Admission 10c and 15c.

AVENUE THEATRE—Vaudeville — Afternoons 15 25, and 50c Evenings. 25, 35, 50 and 75.

Died of Joy.

Louis Simon, the 6-year-old Chicago boy whose joy over receiving his long wished for Christmas present was so great that he was seized with an attack of heart failure, is dead at a hospital of paralysis of the heart.

When he awoke Christmas morning and saw the pony on the floor beside his bed his delight knew no bounds. He was stricken with the attack which culminated in his death.

His parents are prostrated.

Satan invariably smites when a woman fails in love with the wrong man.

F. G. Holley, of Port Jervis, N. Y., mourned a dead fox for fourteen days. He writes relatives that he is just out of a nasty jail in Colombia into which he was cast by jealous Colombians distinctly sore.

Mayor Kemple, of Akron, O., was among the contestants in a wood-sawing contest in front of the Akron Savings bank, for the benefit of the Salvation Army dinner to the poor. A large amount was realized.

Thomas Costello, of Manton, who ran away with Dalzell's livery team three weeks azo and was captured at Elk Rapids last week, was bound over for trial at the circuit court.