

Devoted to Our Own Locality—We Labor for Its Interests.

TWENTY-NINTH YEAR.

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY AUGUST 17, 1906. NO. 16.

WHOLE NO. 1478

THE WILLITS HOME

Goes Up in a Blaze Tuesday Morning —Loss of \$2,500 Falls Heavily on Warren J. Brown.

For 50 years to the writer's knowledge the British Willits house has stood an old landmark in Birmingham, situated the extreme northern house on the east side of Woodward Avenue. A few months ago, in the settlement of the Rachel Willits estate, it came in due process of law into the possession of Mr. and Mrs. Warren J. Brown. Mrs. Brown being a granddaughter of Mrs. Rachel Willits. Mr. Brown moved out this spring, since when stone-masons, carpenters and other workmen had nearly finished a cosy and beautiful home for his owners, who expected to very soon move in.

Tuesday morning at about 12:30, after the last run from Detroit to Pontiac, Motorman Randall and Conductor Leland, on their way home from the power house noticed, as they approached the doomed house, a light in one of the back windows. As they drew near the house the crackling and snapping of the flames showed them the house was on fire. They immediately rang the fire alarm bell, and discovered that the electric alarm system was not working. Among the first to appear was Austin H. Parks, who ran to the pumping station, alarmed Engineer Randall, and immediately fire pressure on the main was secured. Over half an hour had elapsed, giving the flames such a start that the entire house was almost being extinguished. The loss falls heavily on Mr. Brown, as there was no insurance at all. Fortunately there was not a breath of air stirring. This fact saved E. G. Poppleton's home no doubt, as it stands very close to the Willits house on the south side. The fire ladies saved this place without doubt by keeping control of the burning hoags, but the paint was badly blistered.

Carpenter Willis B. Carter and Harry Lowe lose a trifling amount in ruined tools. The owners of the place do not hesitate in saying incendiarism is the cause of their great loss. For nearly a month an electric alarm had been out of order, since the big storm on a recent Sunday had burned it out. A contract had been let to Mr. Stiffer to install a four-station alarm system, and in waiting for him to do his work the repairing of the old alarm was neglected.

Some citizens are bold to say that Mr. Brown has a claim against the village for his loss. We don't know what the Supreme Court would decide on this question.

The alarm was promptly responded to. Engineer Parks had everything in readiness as soon as A. H. Parks notified him. William Baum at once ran a hose to the pumping station and to the fire alarm. In the old part of the house a lot of bedding and antique furniture was stored during the rebuilding. This was all ruined by the smoke and water.

Everybody expresses great sympathy to the losers, and their loss is heavy indeed.

Galveston's Sea Wall

Makes life now as safe in that city as on the higher uplands. E. W. Goodloe, who resides on Barton street in Galveston, Texas, needs no sea wall for safety. He writes: "I have used Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption for the past five years and it keeps me well and safe. Before that time I had a cough which for years had been coming worse. Now it's gone." Cures chronic coughs, in Gripe, Croup, Whooping Cough and prevents pneumonia. Pleasant to take. Every bottle guaranteed at Whitehead & Mitchell's and Cobb's drug store. Price 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free.

ADVERTISED LETTERS

List of letters remaining uncalled for in Birmingham post-office, on August 11, 1906. Mr. G. L. Ferguson, Mr. D. Lewis, Mr. Martin Price, R. F. D. No. 2, Mrs. Henry Young, R. F. D. JOHN HANNA, P. M.

TRUTH STRANGER THAN FICTION.

Surprising Statements Vouched for by Whitehead & Mitchell and Cobb & Cobb

All of us who know Whitehead & Mitchell and Cobb & Cobb are confident that they would make none but straightforward, honest statements, and when they tell you of the many Birmingham people who have suffered for years with indigestion and have been cured through using Pepsikola Tablets we must believe every word is true. No other remedy so quickly relieves and cures sour stomach, heartburn, coated tongue, nervousness, insomnia, debility, that runs down, tired-out feeling, and every other trouble arising from poor digestion. Whitehead & Mitchell and Cobb & Cobb continue to sell Pepsikola Tablets with the understanding that you can have your 25 cents back in case you are in the least dissatisfied. In case you face of these facts nobody should hesitate an instant to avail themselves of the opportunity to regain perfect digestion, perfect health, renewed energy, new vigor and new life. There is no risk in the use of a remedy that does not cost a penny should it fail to do all that is claimed. There is no risk to you who ever and we ask you to try it on Whitehead & Mitchell's and Cobb & Cobb's guarantee.

ROOF COLLAPSED P., O. & N. RAILWAY

Three Men Fall, and All Seriously Injured—One May Not Recover.

Tuesday afternoon Moses J. Goodell rushed into town with the startling information, that the roof of the Detroit Scenery Co.'s big building on the Randall sub-division had fallen in and four men were killed. Of course the alarm rang and every one ran to the building. Doctors could not be located, but Dr. George P. Raynale, of Detroit, who had just stepped from the electric car for a day's visit with his folks here, was pressed into service and everybody got busy. First on the scene were willing workers who hastily dug out the victims from an immense pile of broken timbers. Stretches were improvised under Dr. Raynale's orders, and the three victims carried to Francis Dunn's home near by.

Dr. C. M. Raynale and J. L. Campbell soon arrived and the three suffering men were promptly cared for. It was found that one of the men, who fell into the cellar, a distance of 50 feet, a laborer weighing over 200 pounds, was the worst injured. Mr. Kinney's home is in Denver, Col., and his mother is visiting relatives at Caro. He had a deep gash cut in his head, back a mass of black and blue ridges; his case is considered a very serious one. He is at the hotel and cared for to the best of everybody's ability.

William Thomas, the boss of the working gang, whose home is in Ionia, Mich., was badly bruised, and suffers a sprained ankle. He fell to the first floor, about 25 feet.

George Spencer, a Birmingham boy, son of H. G. Spencer, of the firm of Spencer & Wolcott, fell to the first floor and sustained a cut forehead and a sprained ankle. He is the best off of the three victims. Both he and Mr. Thomas will soon be as good as ever, but at this writing the fate of Kinney is in doubt.

WILL YOU PLEASE

The Ortonville Hustler Views Our Feelings Exactly in the Following Article.

If our readers appreciate our efforts to put out the red fire class every country weekly and wish to assist us in a way that will cost them nothing but a request, we respectfully ask that when doing business in the prolate courts at Pontiac you request the legal aid published in the BIRMINGHAM ECENTRIC. Judge Stockwell is willing and it costs no more. Too often, much too often for the welfare of the country weekly, the legal aid is turned over to the Pontiac families unless request is made that they be published in some paper. The Judge has ever used us fair in this respect but sometimes we lose out because our friends forget to mention the fact when doing business in the prolate court. It will cost you nothing and will be greatly appreciated by the ECENTRIC if you will ask to have your legal suit to us. We may be able to return the favor to you some day.

SHANGHAIED.

Two big liners of the D. & C. line were tied up at the foot of Wayne Street, in Detroit, the other day; one about to leave for Cleveland and the other for Mackinac and known as Captain Hiram Still, of Maple Lawn Farm, and his good wife on board en route for Cleveland, when the captain of the Mackinac boat was found to be very ill and unconscious in the pilot house. Now it is contrary to the law for a vessel of any kind to clear from any port without a registered navigator in its charge; and there was much bustle and hurrying to and fro until they accidentally discovered that Captain Still was aboard the Cleveland boat and he was immediately pressed into service contrary to his protestations and finally consenting he made a quick change from one vessel to the other and took the big steamer up to Mackinac and return safe and sound. With a strange vessel and a strange crew, didn't he take some sleep j's watch off, but he says the subordinate officers and crew of the vessel are all that can be desired and he knows their efficiency he would not have felt the responsibility so keenly as he did. There were 365 passengers on board and the good captain had something to think of.

THE END OF THE WORLD.

Of all classes that robbed E. H. Wolfe, of East Grove, a great deal of money came when he began taking Electric Bitters. He writes: "Two years ago kidney trouble and weakness overtook me, which I would never have survived had I not taken Electric Bitters. They allayed my fever, relieved my suffering and cured all my Stomach, Liver and Kidney Complaints, Blood Diseases, Headache, Rheumatism, and Weakness or bodily decline. Price 50c. Guaranteed by Whitehead & Mitchell and Cobb & Cobb."

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the friends and neighbors who so kindly assisted us during the sickness and death of our loving mother. Also for the beautiful floral tributes, and especially to Dr. Campbell for his ever faithful attendance.

WATERWAY OR RAILWAY.

D. & B. Lake Line Accepts Railway Tickets.

All classes of tickets reading via the Michigan Central, Wabash and Grand Trunk Railways between Detroit and Buffalo in either direction are available for transportation on the D. & B. Daily Line Steamers. This arrangement enables the traveler between Eastern and Western States to forsake the hot, dusty cars and enjoy the delights of a cool night's rest on route. Send stamp for booklet. Address: DETROIT & BUFFALO STEAMSHIP CO., 6 Wayne St., Detroit, Mich.

JULY Clearance :: Sale

From one-quarter to one-third reduction from former prices.

- 1 lot Ladies' Mercerized Steen Waists go at, each. \$1.00
- 1 lot Men's \$2.00 All-Wool Pants, go at, pair, 1.50
- 1 lot Men's Overalls (just received), go at, pair, .50
- 1 lot Men's Fine Balbriggan Underwear, go at, garment, .50
- 1 lot Men's Oxford Shoes, go at, per pair, 1.00
- 1 lot Men's Negligee Shirts, go at, each, .49

Odds and ends of Wall Paper, go at Yours for New Goods and Low Prices. BIRMINGHAM

IMPROVES WITH AGE

How often we hear this said of many things in daily use. Not often, however, do we hear it applied to coffee, nor do we allude to the coffee itself, but merely to the blend.

San Marto

Is our justly celebrated two-shilling Coffee—the same we have handled for years—and we guarantee to you uniformity of Blend you can obtain from no other at this price.

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We carry 5 kinds in stock. You can have a Roofing for a temporary covering at \$1.50 that will last three to five years. For \$2.25 and \$2.75 you can have a better one, that will last as long as Michigan shingles. The Wanigan and Carey Roofings at \$3.00 and \$3.50 will outlast the best shingles you can buy.

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Just a reminder

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Estimates on Plumbing, Heating and Lighting.

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We are direct importers of Diamonds our stock consists of the very highest grade of pure white and blue white gems, picked from the stocks of the leading diamond cutters of the European markets. These buying advantages, together with our low expenses (out of the high-rent district), enable us to sell Diamonds at prices ranging from 10 to 20 per cent less than those of other jewelry houses.

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Great output and buying capacity must be reckoned with in fixing the retail price of Watches.

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