

The Plymouth Mail.

VOLUME XII, NO. 16.

PLYMOUTH, MICH., DEC. 16, 1898.

WHOLE NO 588

CROWDS OF CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS.....



Through this store daily. There's much to interest, to attract, to please them here. No other season have we shown a holiday stock so comprehensive, so up-to-date, so thoroughly fit to supply appropriate gifts for every age and condition, for every purse and taste. We're a little enthusiastic over this stock we'll admit, but it's a stock which should inspire even a wooden Indian. Certainly our ad. man can ill do it justice. Only a customer's own eyes can fully take in its full merit. Therefore we invite, most cordially, a visit or as many visits from you as you would have time to make.

Don't forget our Crockery Department. We have the Largest and Finest Stock in town. This line was selected and bought for the Holiday Trade.

Those Cape Values Which we are offering at cost are the talk of the town, and justly so. You would hardly expect to receive such elegant garments at the price, even at this end of the season. It's our policy to sell as we go. No season closed with a stock of cloaks on hand here. That isn't our way of doing business. We can convince you if you visit our Cloak department that you shouldn't think of buying a garment elsewhere.

Our Grocery Department will have a full line of Holiday Fruits, Celery, etc

Gramophone Concert every afternoon and evening FREE. Come and hear some good music by the best artists.

J.R. Rauch & Son

Plymouth, Mich.

POTATOES WANTED

We will pay the Highest Market Price at all times. Bring 'em along. We can take them in anytime as we have storage in case we are out of cars.

C. HOUGH & SON, Plymouth.
F. & P. M. ELEVATOR

RACE MATINEE

WILL BE HELD AT PLYMOUTH ON SATURDAY, DEC. 17th.

No Charge to See the Sport.— A Good Programme.

In addition to the usual excitement of a large crowd of people looking for holiday bargains, there will be an extra attraction at Plymouth tomorrow (Saturday) in the shape of a race matinee to be given by a number of our business men. The races will take place in the afternoon on Main street, and will consist of a 3 minute trot or pace, a green race trot or pace, and a free-for-all trot or pace. There will be three prizes for each race, consisting of blankets, robes and whips. American Trotting Association rules to govern. There will be no entrance fee for horses and no charge for spectators. W. E. Marsh is secretary of the meeting and all desiring to compete should see him.

This is an innovation for Plymouth and will probably be the means of bringing a number of people into the village who, under ordinary circumstances, might go somewhere else or stay at home. It is the intention to give one of these matinees every two weeks providing the first one proves a success and those who furnish the expense part of the scheme can see value received for their money.

A scheme of this kind, if handled properly, besides furnishing amusement for those who are fond of such sport, should bring considerable money into town. A trial, however, will prove its worth.

Crop Report.

The average condition of wheat in the State, December 1st was 100, comparison being with average years. The percentages by sections are as follows:

Southern counties 101; central, 97, and northern 98. One year ago the percentage for the State was 88, southern 84, central 91, and northern 101.

Fine growing weather prevailed nearly all the fall, and wheat has made unusual fall growth, but correspondents very generally report the plant looking yellow at the time snow came, and are not certain as to the cause. A large proportion believe it due to insects, principally Hessian fly, and others to excessively wet weather. The ground has been lightly covered with snow much of the time since about the middle of November.

The total number of bushels of wheat reported marketed by farmers since the November report was published is 1,964, 611, and in the four months, August, September, October and November, 7,890, 568. This is 168,250 bushels more than reported marketed in the same months last year.

Fall pasture was remarkably good until late in the season. In answer to the question regarding fall pasture 422 correspondents report "good," 171 "average," and 43 "poor." The condition of live stock is practically a full average. The figures are: horses and cattle, 97; sheep, 98; and swine, 90.

In answer to the question, "Are there any diseases prevalent among live stock?" 62 correspondents in the State answer "yes," and 533 "no."

A Card.

I, the undersigned, do hereby agree to refund the money on a 50-cent bottle of Greene's Warranted Syrup of Tar if it fails to cure your cough or cold. I also guarantee a 25-cent bottle to prove satisfactory or money refunded.

611 J. G. MILLER.

Holiday Gifts at Hillmer & Co.'s.

A fine line of Perfumes.
Blocks, 5 cents to 50 cents per set.
Dolls, 2 for one cent up to 35 cents.
Dolls dressed and undressed.
Dolls heads 5 and 10 cents.
Pocket books from 5c up.
Games and toys for children.
A nice line of handkerchiefs and towels.
Christmas books for the young.
Christmas cards, Christmas tree ornaments, Christmas tree candles and candle holders, toy fasteners, etc.
Toilet soap, 5 and 10 cents.
Candies and nuts of all kinds.

HILLMER & Co.

For Kidney Troubles

There is nothing better than Foley's Kidney Cure, everyone who tries it will agree to this.

10-Cent Feed Barn.

I wish to announce that I have opened a ten-cent feed barn in the Hotel Plymouth barn on Ann Arbor street, where your horse will be taken care of for 10 cents.

WALTER KERRICK.

Plymouth Savings Bank Elect Directors and Officers.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Plymouth Savings Bank held Tuesday afternoon the following board of directors was elected: E. C. Leach, L. H. Bennett, L. C. Hough, I. N. Starkweather, J. B. Tillotson, T. V. Quackenbush, G. S. Van Sickle, W. O. Allen, E. K. Bennett. At a meeting of the directors held the same day the following bank officers were elected: E. C. Leach, president; L. C. Hough, vice-president; E. K. Bennett, cashier; C. A. Fisher, assistant-cashier.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATER.

Old-Time Fashionable London Playhouse to Be Demolished.

The coming demolition of the old Prince of Wales theater, off Tottenham Court road (its proper address is 21 Tottenham street), may be mourned by those who remember the days when it was one of the most fashionable and crowded playhouses in London, but the majority of the people will hear of its disappearance without a pang of regret, says London Graphic. Even in its palmy days, when the Bancrofts had it in hand, the theater could never lay claim to much external beauty, and nowadays, with its walls a patchwork of ugly posters, and its dirty and squalid surroundings, it is really a most deplorable looking object. As a playhouse it was closed a decade or so ago, and since then its only attempt at notoriety was when the Salvation Army took it over for a time. Originally it was the concert room of Sig. F. Pasquall; then the directors of the concerts of ancient music bought and enlarged it and built a magnificent royal box for George III, and Queen Charlotte. Next, it became the home of "The Picnic," a body of amateur players, "whose celebrity," writes Mr. Timbs, "rendered them objects of alarm to the professional actors of the day and exposed them to the attacks of the caricaturist Gilray." About 1807 it was transformed into a sort of circus, but it could never be compared in this line with Astley's. Converted into a theater, it passed through many hands and under almost as many titles. Among its earlier names were the Regency, the New theater, the Theater of Varieties, the West London, the Queen's and the Fitzroy. It was a dingy, dirty enough theater in those days, so much so, indeed, that it was popularly known as "the dusthole." When, however, the house was taken over by Miss Marie Wilton (afterward Mrs. Bancroft), who improved the construction of the building and gave it its name as the Prince of Wales, the tide in its fortunes took a decided turn for the better and the days of its prosperity began. During the fifteen years in which it was under the management of the Bancrofts it lived up to the best traditions of the English stage and was associated with the names of Fanny Brough, Madge Robertson (Mrs. Kendal), John Hare, Charles Coghlan, and a good many others. When the Bancrofts gave up the management the house was taken over by Edgar Bruce, but it was finally closed as a theater sixteen years ago. Its name, however, has been handed down to what was formerly the Prince's theater, in Coventry street west.

RAINS MONEY IN NEW JERSEY.

Telegraph Linemen Surprised by a Shower of Greenbacks from the Clouds.

Trenton, N. J., special to Chicago Tribune: History records no instance of the clouds raining greenbacks, but a half dozen linemen working at the top of tall poles on West State street the other afternoon thought a storm of that kind had arisen. Joseph Harrison was mending a wire at the top of a telegraph pole when something floated gracefully through the air a few inches from his nose. It had the appearance of a piece of grimy paper. While he was contemplating it another and another square bit of paper resembling the first floated down from somewhere over his head. One of the pieces came so near his face that he grasped it. He nearly fell off the pole on finding that it was a \$10 bill. He wound his leg around the pole with a grapevine twist and snatched desperately at the bills that were now swinging around his head in a perfect deluge. Another lineman at the top of the adjoining pole yelled "The world is mine" as he swept his arms through the air endeavoring to gather in a score of greenbacks that were whirling around his head. By this time six linemen had spied the fortune that was falling, and they one and all slid to the ground. They engaged in a rough-and-tumble scramble for possession of the bills, but just then a woman's shrill voice from the second-story window of an adjacent house rang out: "Gentlemen, that's my money. The wind blew it off my dressing case." It was Miss Emma Titus, a wealthy maiden lady. The linemen were disappointed, because they had gathered into themselves about \$4,000. The bills were handed over to Miss Titus, who rewarded the men by giving each a \$5 bill.—New York Journal.

Friends of the Mail, having business in the judge of probate's office, will confer a favor on us if they will request that their legal notices be published in the Plymouth Mail.

Raisins
Currants
Citron

And all the Good Things for Christmas Dinners at . . .

GEO. W. HUNTER & CO.

Say!

Why Don't You Do Something

For That Cold?

They Can Stop It At

G. W. Hunter & Co

J. L. GALE.....

Drug Store.

Now is the time to be thinking about Xmas We are receiving

New Goods for Xmas Presents

daily. Our line this year will be very large. We will have presents in

China, Glassware, Lamps, Silverware, Jewelry, Albums, Books, Games, Dolls dressed and undressed, Wooden Toys, Tin Toys, Iron Toys, Perfumery in all shapes and odors, Fancy Pictures, Dressing Cases, Manicure Sets, and many other articles.

Everyone invited to come in and see the stock whether they buy or not.

Come in and see our 5 and 10c Tables.

Something new—Raymo's White Pine Cough Balsam—best thing out. 25c a bottle.

John L. Gale's Rheumatic Tablets for Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Gout, etc.

This tablet contains 10 of the most valuable drugs known at the present time for Rheumatism. It is not only a Rheumatic medicine but a strong blood purifier—regulates and strengthens the Liver and Kidneys. Persons who have Rheumatism are requested to call and get a sample. Try them. They must do you good.

J. L. GALE.

MICHIGAN NEWS SUMMARY.

Doings of the Week Recorded in a Brief Style.

CONCISE AND INTERESTING.

The Supreme Court Hands Down a Number of Most Important Decisions—Woman Shoots Her Doctor, Kills Her Daughter and Then Suicide.

Oleomargarine Law Knocked Out.

In a unanimous opinion written by Justice Hooker, the supreme court holds the oleomargarine law to be invalid. The merits of the law are not discussed in the opinion, the court simply holding that the law is defective inasmuch as the legislative journals show that it was without an enacting clause when it passed the senate, and that the house failed to remedy this defect. This clause was inserted previous to the signing of the bill by the governor, and the attorney-general urged that this was a sufficient compliance with the constitution. This contention is denied by the court, on the ground that the constitutional provision is not merely directory, no part of the legislative power being vested in the governor. The court says: "It will be much better that the legislature shall correct its mistake than that the courts shall sanction the irregular correction in this case."

The court's reference to the legislature correcting its mistake is taken as an indication that it believes the law is otherwise constitutional.

"Bible Readings" in the Schools.

In a case appealed from the Wayne circuit court—which granted an order compelling the board of education of Detroit to discontinue the use of "Bible Readings" in the public schools—the supreme court reversed the order, declaring that the use of such book is not unconstitutional. The court says the precise question involved is not whether the pupil can be compelled to attend religious exercises, nor necessarily whether the reading of the Bible or an extract from it constitutes a teaching of religion or amounts to a restriction of civil or political rights or privileges of such students as do not care to attend upon the exercises. The conclusion of the court after a review of the authorities and laws is that the reading of extracts from the Bible without comment, is not in violation of any constitutional provision.

Justice Hooker wrote the decision and only Justice Moore dissented.

Silver Dollars are Legal Tender.

About a year ago Fred A. Baker, of Detroit, refused to accept 364 silver dollars from Stephen Baldwin, of Pontiac, in payment of a mortgage. Baker took steps to foreclose the mortgage and Baldwin filed a bill in chancery in the Oakland circuit court asking that the mortgage be discharged since he had tendered the payment to Baker. The latter contended that the congress of the United States had treated silver as a debased metal and that the money offered by Baldwin was, therefore, not a legal tender. Judge Smith decided that the tender of the silver in payment for the mortgage was good and accordingly ordered the mortgage discharged as paid. The case will be appealed to the supreme court of Michigan and from there it is expected that it will go to the U. S. supreme court.

Express Companies Must Pay War Tax.

The Michigan supreme court has decided the case brought by Atty.-Gen. Maynard on the relation of numerous Detroit merchants and manufacturers against the American Express Co., to compel the company to pay for the U. S. revenue stamp attached to shipping receipts. The Wayne circuit court granted such a mandamus and the company appealed to the higher court, where the case was elaborately argued. The main question in the case related to the construction to be placed upon the revenue act, and the court concluded that as the shipper has nothing to do with issuing the receipt, it was the clear intent of the law that the company shall give such a receipt as will bring the government the revenue provided, and therefore the company must pay the tax.

Growing Wheat in Excellent Condition.

The official crop report for December says that the average condition of wheat in the state Dec. 1 was 100, comparison being with average years. The percentages by sections are as follows: Southern counties 101, central 97, and northern 98. One year ago the percentage for the state was 88.

Fall pasture was remarkably good until late in the season. The condition of live stock is practically a full average. The figures are: Horses and cattle, 97; sheep, 98, and swine, 96.

Detroit Woman's Terrible Deed.

While temporarily deranged, Mrs. Frank D. Brooks, 1657 Russell street, Detroit, shot and wounded her attending physician, Dr. O. S. Bell and after he had escaped she shot and killed her 9-year-old daughter, Bernice, and then suicided. The husband and father found the dead bodies of his loved ones when he returned from his work.

Seven Albion Stores Burned.

Fire broke out in Rosseau's harness store at Albion and the whole block of seven stores were destroyed. The loss is about \$6,000, with \$3,500 insurance.

The Automatic Sweeper Co.

with a capital stock of \$30,000, was organized at Marine City to manufacture the King carpet sweeper. The factory will begin operation at once.

The coroner's jury in the inquest over the men killed in the new Wonderland disaster, at Detroit, placed the responsibility of the horror upon John Booth & Co., the supervising architect.

A Crazy Farmer's Terrible Deed.

A farm hand named Walter Hitchings butchered three people on the farm of Wm. Hunt, two miles west of Free Soil, Manistee county, with an ax and a knife. The murderer afterwards cut his own throat. The dead are: Wm. Hunt, Mrs. Hunt, Thomas Hayward, a hired boy, and Walter Hitchings. There are no living witnesses of the awful tragedy, but the story is told by surrounding circumstances. Hitchings was known to be slightly demented, but he was never very violent although quick tempered. He was a brother of Mrs. Hunt and made his winter home with the farmer. Hayward was 15 years old. The three men started out to cut wood, and it is evident that they had not long been at work when Hitchings was seized with an insane desire to kill, and raising his ax he brought the sharp blade down on Hunt's head, cutting the skull open. Young Hayward turned and ran in terror, but stumbled and fell and the madman was upon him in an instant and crushed his skull at a blow. The two died almost instantly. Hitchings returned to Hunt's body and dragged it to a brush heap where he carefully covered it up, but Hayward's body was only partially hidden.

The insane man then ran hastily to the house, grabbed his sister and with a big, dull jack knife terribly slashed and cut her in several places before he succeeded in cutting her throat. That the poor woman made a desperate fight for her life was evident, but her strength failed. The murderer made two gaping wounds in the back of her head, from which the brains oozed and then pushed the body under the bed. He then went up stairs and tried to cut his throat with the jack knife, but it was too dull so, with blood flowing from his hacked neck, he began to search for a razor. At this point Mrs. Kritzen, a Polish neighbor, and Hunt's eight-year-old daughter, ran over in response to Mrs. Hunt's screams. Hitchings started at the woman, brandishing the bloody knife, and she caught up the one-year-old baby from the floor and ran out, slamming the door behind her, and fled to her home with the children. By the time help had been called and reached Hunt's home Hitchings had completed his awful work and lay at the foot of the stairs with his throat cut from ear to ear, and a bloody razor beside him.

Hunt lived with his second wife, who was a sister of his first. A son by the first wife, aged 18, lives near Seattle, Wash., and another, aged 20, was at work at Millerton at the time of the tragedy. By his present wife Hunt had two children, a girl of 8 and a boy one year old, who are being cared for by kind neighbors. Hitchings and Hunt were each about 50 years of age. Mrs. Hunt was about 45 years old.

Murder at Lansing.

A murder was committed in Lansing, the victim being Lawrence Edwards, aged 23, who was shot and instantly killed within a block of the heart of the business section, under the glare of an arc light, and the murderers in their terror ran directly through the principal business streets. Thos. and Bob Hanifin had been drinking with Edwards and quarreled with him shortly before the murder. They were arrested soon after the deed was committed. Both have criminal records and Bob had been released from Ionia prison only the day before.

35th Michigan May Go to Havana.

It was rumored at corps headquarters at August, Ga., that the 35th Michigan would be transferred to the Seventh army corps, now commanded by Gen. Fitzhugh Lee. That corps is under orders to go to Cuba by Dec. 20, and if the regiment is transferred to that corps the boys will eat Christmas dinner somewhere near Havana.

STATE GOSSIP.

John Cope drank himself to death at Mayfield.

Mrs. Geo. Heimert, of Galien, has gone insane over spiritualism.

The huge tank of the Roscommon waterworks burned. Loss \$500.

Marquette people figure on building an ice palace like that at Montreal.

Louise E. Bahle has been appointed postmaster at Sutton's Bay, Leelanaw county.

The total season's shipments of iron ore from the Crystal Falls district was 345,000 tons.

Peter Kouing, a steward on a steam barge, suicided at Menominee by drowning.

The National Prohibitionists of Shiawassee have again amalgamated with the old party.

M. O. Youngs, of Detroit, was fined \$50 and costs at Lansing for violating the liquor law.

Senator Burrows has introduced a bill to appropriate \$100,000 for a public building at Battle Creek.

A syndicate of Detroit and eastern capitalists propose to connect Detroit and Saginaw by an electric railway.

Two F. & P. M. freight trains collided at Northville. Both engines and 12 loaded cars were completely wrecked.

George Webster hung himself in the county jail at West Branch. He was arrested for beating his wife while he was drunk.

The official vote shows that a total of 421,144 votes were cast in the state election. Piagree's exact plurality was 75,097.

John Reid, aged 22, of Grand Rapids, went to a dance. He quarreled with his best girl, then went home and killed himself.

Carmon Rooks, a clerk, aged 19, while hunting near Stanwood, was accidentally shot by a companion. He died from hemorrhage.

Heaton's large flour mill at Lake Odessa was burned to the ground. The loss is \$7,000, with small insurance. It will be rebuilt.

George W. Lee was instantly killed by a Michigan Central train at Avery, while across the tracks. Lee's neck was broken. The horses were uninjured.

Frank Sutton and James Nichols, who blew open a safe in the depot at Martin and who shot the assistant agent, were each sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.

Mrs. Elijah Corby, aged 65, widow, was burned to death at her home in Ray township, Macomb county. The house was destroyed and the body burned to a crisp.

Charlotte disputed with her electric light company and has been in darkness for 10 months. An understanding has been reached and all night lighting will begin Jan. 1.

Frank Debore, aged 23, Co. G, 32d Michigan died at Grand Rapids from consumption. He was in excellent health when he enlisted and the disease was caused by exposure.

Jonathan McGee, of Ypsilanti, who is over 108 years of age, applied at Ann Arbor for a marriage license. He forgot the lady's name and went back to Ypsilanti to ascertain it.

Wm. Valente, aged 30, while hunting near Egland, placed the butt of his gun on a log. Gun slipped, was discharged, and the top of Valente's head nearly blown off. He died instantly.

I. M. Weston, formerly one of the most prominent Democratic politicians of the state and a business man of Grand Rapids, died in New York City and was buried in his native town, Madison, Me.

Harry Randall, a popular young man of Port Huron told his wife some time ago that he was going to die at certain time. He was then in fair health, but last week he died within an hour of the time he had predicted.

A little 6-year-old son of Aug. Rumber, of Jackson, while left alone for a few minutes, upset a kerosene lamp. The blazing oil set the little one's clothes afire and before assistance reached him he was burned to death.

The following new postoffices have been established: Jack Pine, Crawford county; George Hartman, postmaster; Oliver, Lake county; Alex. Wolcott, postmaster. Postoffice at Manton to be raised to presidential Jan. 1, with postmaster's salary \$1,100.

Rev. P. J. Sloane, of Owosso, gave a note for \$350 as premium insurance policy. When the note came due he denied the signature and refused to pay. He was sued and the jury awarded a judgement for \$357.45 against him, with costs.

Thomas Curtis, a convict at Jackson prison, was severely scalded while cleaning a boiler in the wagon shops, and died of his injuries. He was 53 years of age and came to Detroit last April on a two years' sentence for stealing a contribution box from a church.

Miss Ellen May Tower, a Detroit hospital nurse who went to Camp Wikoff to care for sick Michigan heroes returning from Santiago, and later went to Porto Rico to continue her heroic work at the call of Uncle Sam, succumbed to typhoid fever in Porto Rico.

Ann Arbor entertained the State Horticultural society at their annual meeting. The addresses, papers and discussions were of unusual interest. Officers elected: President, J. C. Monroe, South Haven; secretary, E. C. Reid, Allegan; treasurer, A. W. Slayton, Grand Rapids.

OF INTEREST TO HOUSE-KEEPERS.

Inasmuch as the World's Fair and the Iowa and Minnesota State Boards of Health, condemned baking powders containing alum it will be of use to our readers to have an official list of some of the powders in order that they may be able to distinguish between them and the pure and wholesome cream of tartar article. This is not an easy matter, as none of the alum compounds is labeled as such, but all masquerade as "pure," "best in the world," "none so good," etc. Our space will not permit of a complete list and we give the powders most generally sold in this section, which are known to contain alum:

- Calumet. I. C.
- Chapman's. Jaxon.
- Chicago Yeast. Kenton.
- Crown. Loyal.
- Climax. Perfection.
- Davis O. K. Rocket.
- Dellcatesse. Snow Ball.
- Grant's Bon Bon. Unrivaled.
- Immense Value.

Reject all brands sold with a prize or at twenty-five cents or less a pound, as they are made of alum. Beware of the side and accept none other than Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder, which received the highest praise and honors at the World's Fair.

While the steamer Aurora, with the Aurania, from Duluth for Buffalo with wheat, was working through the ice fields at the mouth of Detroit river flames broke out and the captain scuttled her in 13 feet of water to prevent total destruction. The wheat cargo is a total loss. The barge Aurania went aground on Bar point. The steamer C. A. Black, wheat, from Duluth, went west aground at Bar point, also.

The Homeopathic Medical college of the U. of M. has arranged for post graduate lectures and a practical clinical course for the present collegiate year. The courses are arranged especially for physicians with a regular practice and little time for study. The clinical course will be free. The lectures begin on February 14 and continue until March 3. The clinical course begins Feb. 28 and continues for one week.

The state supreme court has affirmed the constitutionality of the law fixing a standard for all cider vinegars offered for sale in Michigan.

TICKINGS OF THE TELEGRAPH

News of the Day as Told Over the Slender Wires.

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN NEWS

Enormous Increase in Our Exports and Large Decrease in Our Imports—Balance of Trade With All Countries Greatly in Our Favor.

The report of Secretary of the Treasury Gage shows that our foreign commerce of the fiscal year 1898 in many respects have been phenomenal. The exportations of the products of both field and factory exceeded in value those of any preceding year, and the grand total of exports was the largest ever recorded—averaging more than \$100,000,000 per month, the total being \$1,231,482,530, against \$1,050,093,536 in 1897 and \$1,030,378,148 in 1892. The value of agricultural products exported was \$853,683,570, surpassing by \$54,365,338 the highest record, that of 1892. Our manufacturers also made their highest record, \$290,607,354, against \$277,355,301 in the preceding year. For the first time also in the history of our foreign commerce, the exports of domestic manufactures were greater than the imports of foreign manufactures, while the total exports of the year were twice as great as the total imports—a condition heretofore unknown. Nearly all branches of the great manufacturing industries shared in this increase, particularly manufactures of iron and steel, leather, boots and shoes, and mineral oils. Nearly all classes of the great agricultural products made their highest record of exports in the past year. The prices realized on nearly all important articles of export were higher than in the preceding year.

In importations, the year has shown an equally remarkable record, the value of foreign imports being less than in any previous year, with a single exception, 1893, though the population has increased 50 per cent since that time. The total imports were but \$616,049,654 in value, against \$764,730,412 in the preceding year, and \$779,724,674 a year earlier. The falling off was almost entirely in manufactures and articles of food. The importation of wool manufactures was \$14,823,771, against \$19,163,992 in the preceding year; of cotton goods, \$27,267,300, against \$34,429,803 in 1897; of manufactures of iron and steel, \$12,626,431, against \$16,094,557 in the preceding year; of earthenware and china, \$6,687,360, against \$9,977,297 a year earlier; of glass and glassware, \$3,782,617, against \$5,608,463 in 1897; and of tin plate, \$3,800,148, against \$5,344,638 in the preceding year.

This satisfactory condition of our foreign trade extended to our commerce with practically every nation. Our sales to Europe alone increased \$160,420,601, while our purchases from that section of the globe decreased \$124,258,514; and to all the great divisions, except Oceania, there was an increased sale, and from all, except Asia and Oceania, decreased imports. Our exports to Asia show a gratifying gain, those of 1898 having been \$44,707,791, against \$35,630,029 in 1896 and \$11,645,703 in 1880, thus having quadrupled since 1880, and nearly doubled within two years.

Report of Hawaiian Commissioners.

President McKinley has handed to congress the report of the Hawaiian commission together with three bills drawn by the commission for the government of the islands as a part of the United States. The principal one provides for the erection of the islands into a territory of the United States to be styled the territory of Hawaii. A governor, secretary of territory, U. S. district judge, a U. S. district attorney and a U. S. marshal are to be appointed by the President, and an internal revenue district and a customs district are to be created.

Section 4 provides that "all white persons, including Portuguese and persons of African descent, and all persons descended from the Hawaiian race, on either the paternal or maternal side, who were citizens of the republic of Hawaii immediately prior to the transfer of the sovereignty thereof to the United States, are hereby declared to be citizens of the United States."

Provision is made for a legislature to consist of two houses—a senate of 15 members, and a house of representatives with 30 members. These are to be elected biennially. Voters for representatives must be male citizens, 21 years of age and of one year's residence in the territory, must have paid all taxes due the government, and must be able to read and write the English or Hawaiian language. To be qualified to vote for senators he must, in addition to the above, own \$1,000 worth of real property upon which the taxes have been paid, or must have an income of not less \$600 per year.

The bill provides for the election of a delegate to U. S. house of representatives, and also provides that the constitution and laws of the U. S. locally applicable shall have the same force in the territory of Hawaii as elsewhere in the United States.

The American peace commissioners have rejected Spain's request that, for a term of years, the ships of that country and its products be admitted to Cuban and Porto Rican ports under the same regulations and customs tariff as American ships and products. The Spanish commissioners were given such consolation as they may derive from the permission to reapply, when the diplomatic relations have been renewed, for shipping concessions under the reciprocity scheme of the Dingley law, for which Senator Dunny de Loma was negotiating in Washington when the war broke out.

CONGRESS AT WORK AGAIN.

During the second day's session Senator Vest, of Missouri, opened the battle in opposition to expansion by introducing the following joint resolution: "That under the constitution of the United States, no power is given to the federal government to acquire territory to be held and governed permanently as colonies. The colonial system of European nations cannot be established under our present constitution, but all territory acquired by the government, except such small amounts as may be necessary for coaling stations, correction of boundaries, and similar governmental purposes, must be acquired and governed with the purpose of ultimately organizing such territory into states suitable for admission into the Union." Navigation laws were briefly discussed and then the Senate adjourned. House—A session of half an hour was held, at which the deficiency bill carrying the extraordinary expenses of the army and navy from Jan. 1 to July 1, 1899 was reported. The report of the Hawaiian commission was laid before the house and referred, together with bills offered by Mr. Hitt to carry out the recommendations of the commission.

Senator Vest (Dem., Mo.) called up his resolution declaring it to be unconstitutional for this government to acquire foreign territory except for coaling stations or some like purpose, unless its intention was to confer statehood upon the territory and citizenship upon its inhabitants. In a lengthy speech Mr. Vest said that it was a basic principle of this government that "the powers of the government were derived from the consent of the governed," and maintained that the federal government had no authority either in morals or in the constitution to go beyond that principle. Senator Platt (Rep., Conn.) opposed Mr. Vest and said that at a later date he would go into the subject at length to show wherein the Missouri senator was wrong.

During the consideration of pension bills Senator Vest (Mo.) protested against the rushing of such bills through the senate when there was not a quorum present and with only the title being read. He was willing to pay munificently and liberally in pensions, but insisted that these bills should receive proper consideration. Mr. Gallinger (N. H.), chairman of the senate pension committee, agreed with Mr. Vest.

Senator Hoar precipitated a lengthy debate when he opposed the appointment by the President of senators as members of commissions whose acts would have to be passed upon by the senate. The confirmation of the appointment of the Hawaiian commissioners was under discussion at the time, and the matter was finally referred to the judiciary committee, with instructions to investigate and report.

Rep. Hepburn, of Iowa, introduced a bill authorizing the President to acquire by purchase from the states of Costa Rica and Nicaragua full ownership, jurisdiction and sovereignty of such land as may be desirable and necessary to construct and defend a ship canal from ocean to ocean. The bill also appropriates \$140,000,000 to construct the canal.

The house passed the anti-ticket scalping bill by a vote of 119 to 101.

Rep. Hull, chairman of the house committee on military affairs, introduced a bill increasing the regular army to approximately 100,000 men. The bill was framed at the war department and is not the bill framed by Gen. Miles. It gives a total of 14 regiments of artillery, 12 of cavalry and 30 of infantry.

Senators Hale (Vt.) and Hoar (Mass.) presented resolutions of citizens in their states, remonstrating against the extension of American sovereignty over the Philippine islands and against the acquisition of foreign territory without the consent of the people of such territory.

Senator Morrill presented a petition from the legislature of Vermont, asking for the revival of the grade of admiral, and recognition of Rear Admiral Dewey. Mr. Hale presented a bill to revive the grades of admiral and vice-admiral.

Senator McCaffrey (La.) introduced a resolution requesting the President to enter into negotiations with Great Britain for the purpose of modifying the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in so far as it interferes with the United States constructing, owning or controlling an inter-oceanic canal across the isthmus of Darien.

Senator Vest introduced a resolution providing for the appointment of a joint commission composed of three senators and five members of the house, to investigate the charges of corruption in the conduct of the war with Spain.

The urgent deficiency bill to provide for the support of the military and naval establishments was passed by the house practically without opposition. There was not a word of criticism of the war during the debate.

In response to the President's message Senator Hoar introduced a resolution for a committee to prepare and carry out plans for the celebration of the centennial of the city of Washington as capital of the United States.

The anti-scalping bill passed by the house was laid on the table in the senate, a similar bill having already been reported by the interstate commerce committee.

Senator Elkins introduced bills extending the laws relating to customs, commerce and navigation to the Hawaiian islands and Porto Rico.

Senator Hawley offered a bill on the lines suggested by Gen. Miles for the reorganization of the army with 100,000 men.

A bill has been introduced in the senate authorizing the raising of the battleship Maine.

PEACE TREATY SIGNED.

Spanish and American Commissioners Finish Their Work at Paris.

The United States and Spanish peace commissioners concluded the work and finally settled the terms of the treaty of peace. The Spaniards are exceedingly bitter over the result, though observing the forms of friendliness and courtesy to the end. One of the Spanish commissioners said: "The European nations have made a great mistake in deserting Spain and leaving her to spoil by the brute force of a conscienceless giant. They all know that in the Philippines America has taken more than she can digest. She will ultimately sell the islands to England or Germany, and when the transfer is attempted it will precipitate general European strife. We have refused to sell any island in the Carolines. We never thought of considering an offer. Nor have we consented to negotiate upon any questions except those directly involved in the protocol signed at Washington."

The Treaty is Signed.

As soon as the treaty of peace was engrossed the commissioners held their final meeting and signed the document, which contained 17 articles. After the treaty had been read in both Spanish and English two copies were passed around the table, the commissioners signing them in the order of their rank; William R. Day, Senator Cushman K. Davis, Senator William P. Frye, Whitelaw Reid and Senator George Gray; Senator Montero Rios, Senor Abarzuza, Senor Galanica, Senor Villaurutia and Gen. Cererero y Saons, each commission signing its opponents' treaty. Both were tied with the Spanish, American and French colors.

Each copy contains the English and Spanish texts of the treaty in parallel columns.

Washington: The official news of the signing of the peace treaty was received in Washington with a general feeling of relief.

May Cause a Cabinet Crisis.

A special dispatch from Madrid says the position of the cabinet is most critical and that the resignation of the ministry is expected.

Gen. Garcia is Dead.

Gen. Calixto Garcia, the distinguished Cuban warrior and leader, and the head of the commission elected by the Cuban assembly to visit this country to confer with President McKinley and members of congress, died at the Hotel Raleigh, at Washington, where the commission has its headquarters.

The sudden change from the warm climate of Cuba, with the hardships he had there endured, to the wintry weather of New York and Washington is responsible for the pneumonia which resulted in his demise. In his dying moments, as all through his busy and active life, his thoughts were for his beloved country and its people.

Gen. Garcia was 60 years of age. He leaves an aged mother in Havana, a wife, two daughters and two sons. One son was with him when he died.

Maj.-Gen. Jas. F. Wade, president of the U. S. evacuation commission at Havana has received certain instructions from President McKinley which seem to indicate that he will be appointed military governor of western Cuba. Gen. Greene will be governor of the city of Havana. He has already virtually taken hold.

The U. S.-Canadian commission is nearing the end of its negotiations. But it is feared the reciprocity features will prevent an agreement. The Americans have made a proposition showing what concessions they can make, but it is said to fall short of what the Canadians expected. The latter will offer counter propositions and on these the work of the commission must rest or fail. It is expected that the lumber schedule will be the principal point of difference.

THE MARKETS.

LIVE STOCK.

New York—Cattle Sheep Lambs Hogs
Best grades... 11 1/2 @ 11 5/8 11 1/2 @ 11 5/8 11 1/2 @ 11 5/8
Lower grades... 11 1/4 @ 11 3/4 11 1/4 @ 11 3/4 11 1/4 @ 11 3/4

Chicago—
Best grades... 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2
Lower grades... 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4

Detroit—
Best grades... 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2
Lower grades... 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4

Buffalo—
Best grades... 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2
Lower grades... 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4

Cleveland—
Best grades... 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2
Lower grades... 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4

Cincinnati—
Best grades... 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2
Lower grades... 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4

Pittsburg—
Best grades... 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2 10 1/2 @ 11 1/2
Lower grades... 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4 10 1/4 @ 11 1/4

GRAIN, ETC.
Wheat, No. 2 red 1 1/4 @ 1 1/4 1 1/4 @ 1 1/4 1 1/4 @ 1 1/4
Corn, No. 2 mix 3/4 @ 3/4 3/4 @ 3/4 3/4 @ 3/4

New York 7 1/4 @ 7 1/4 7 1/4 @ 7 1/4 7 1/4 @ 7 1/4
Chicago 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4
Detroit 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4

Toledo 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4
Cincinnati 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4
Cleveland 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4

Pittsburg 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4
Buffalo 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4 6 1/4 @ 6 1/4

Detroit—Hay, No. 1 Timothy, \$8.00 per ton.
Potatoes, 3 1/2 per bu. Live Poultry: spring chickens, 7c per lb; fowls, 6c; turkeys, 74c; ducks, 6c. Eggs, strictly fresh, 22c per doz. Butter, best dairy, 15c per lb; creamery, 21c.

"Hero" Hobson will go to Manila to superintend the raising of several of the Spanish war vessels sunk by Dewey last May.

The secretary of the treasury's report of the government's receipts and expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1898, shows that Michigan's total contributions to Uncle Sam's exchequer from customs, internal revenue and sale of public lands, were \$3,108,489. The government's expenditures in the state, in addition to salaries and other fixed charges of



A MERRY CHRISTMAS



THE CHRIST-CHILD.



HIS world has whirled on in its way
For nineteen hundred years.
Since Bethlehem's babe, who came in Love,
Wept over us His tears.
Still swings above the golden star
That on that night stood still
Above the humble village inn,
By the Judean hill.
And wise men seek the path today
The crowned Magi found—
The mother heart of womanhood
Makes that, Earth's holy ground.
The singing angels hover now
Above the manger, there,
Where God's light shone upon His brow,
The Prince of Peace so fair!
The wondrous story, never old,
Thrills on the awakened heart,
Who led us to His Heavenly Fold,
Who walked from men apart.

Awake, today, in spirit strain,
The song that never dies!
Find out that glittering star again,
The scales dropped from our eyes!
For God's dear love is potent now
As when His reign began;
The chanting of the seraph band
Shames restless heart of man.

Here, in our midst, the Heavenly Dove
Seeks an eternal rest;
Descending from His throne above
To hide within each breast.

Wake! Better Natures, sleeping long!
Cast off the thralls of sin!
List to the chanting angels' song
And let the White Dove in!

Mute by the graves of vanished hates,
Greet all in love today!
Lift up your brows with hearts elate,
And meet Him on our way.
—Richard Henry Savage.



HERE did the Christmas tree originate? This is a question that doubtless would puzzle most people to answer. It came to us from England, and it is pretty well settled that it was taken there from Germany, for the custom of setting up a tree hung with gifts at Yule-tide was by no means universal in Britain until after the marriage of Queen Victoria to a German prince.
Prior to this there was a sort of Christmas tree in England. The

"Wassail bob," a bunch of holly or other evergreens on a pole, decked with ribbons and hung with oranges and apples, and sometimes bearing a pair of dolls, was carried about in Yorkshire at Christmas nearly a century ago. And until 1830 the "besant" was escorted by a procession with music at Shaftesbury—it being a tree-shaped framework covered with ribbons, flowers and peacock feathers, on which were hung jewels, coins and other articles of value, loaned by the local gentry. Hutchins' history of Dorset states in 1803 that the decorations of this "besant," or "byzant," or "bezon," as it was variously called, were sometimes worth as much as £1,500.

These and kindred customs prevailing in the England of a century ago are generally regarded by archaeologists as survivals of tree worship, which seems to have existed everywhere.

Germany probably received the tree from Scandinavia, where the ancient legend tells of "Yggdrasil," the ash, which binds together heaven, earth and hell; its branches spreading over the whole world, and reaching above the sky; its roots running in three di-



"THE WASSAIL BOB."

rections, one to the Asa gods in heaven, one to the Frost giants, and the third to the under-world.

In the far East, Japanese sacred books, written a dozen centuries ago, relate how the gods pulled up by the roots on the mountain Kager the Saka tree, on the branches of which they hung jewels, a mirror and blue and white pease offerings to the shining goddess of the heavens.

The Hindu Parjata and Kalpavriksha yielded all the objects of the desires of gods and mortals, and, so, too, did the Iranian Harvispokhm, "the tree of all the seeds."

At cremation ceremonies in Buddhist Siam a framework representing a tree, to which are tied limes and nutshells containing money and lottery tickets, occupies a prominent place, and after the rites these "fruits," which are called "karaphruk," are scrambled for by the crowd.

In Upper India the scavenger caste carry in processions, in honor of their god Zahr, a bamboo framework decked with bright colored cloths and peacock feathers, and hung with fans and bunches of cocoa nuts.

Lucian described trees covered with ornaments and sacred attributes which were brought each year to be burnt offerings to the goddess Atergatis at Hierapolis of Syria; and he told also of great trees, loaded with goats, sheep, garments and gold and silver objects which were burned before the Syro-Phoenician gods.

bois) is the central spot of the earth, while its fruits—obviously the stars—are of brilliant crystal and reach into the liquid vast.

The pine of Cybele and Attis is still to be seen on the ancient bas reliefs, hung with bells, a reed flute, a wheel and other objects, and there are sacred birds among the branches and a ram



FROM A BASRELIEF.

and a bull standing beneath, ready for sacrifice.

Pictures and other votive objects were attached to the laurel of Apollo. Summing up all the evidence, it certainly seems that the Christmas tree hung with gifts has descended to us from the times when decorated trees laden with offerings were worshipped as representatives of the abstract "Universe tree," whose trunk was the cosmic axis, whose roots were in the under-world, and whose branches, lifted aloft into the skies, bore up the heavenly hosts.

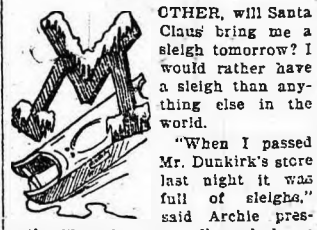
The custom of decorating the churches with greenery at Christmas had its origin in a pagan ceremony. The great feast of Saturna was held in December, when the worshippers hung the temple with such green things as they could find; and the Christians adopted the same method to celebrate the birth of the Savior, giving it an emblematic turn by referring to the "righteous branch," and justifying it from Isaiah 55: 13—"The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree and the box together to beautify the place of my sanctuary."

The holly, or holy tree, is called Christ's thorn in Germany and Scandinavia, from its use in church decorations and its putting forth its berries at Christmas time.

THE YULE LOG.

Christmas day in the primitive church was always observed as the Sabbath day, and like that preceded by an Eve, or Vigil. Hence our present Christmas Eve. On the night of this Eve, people were wont to light up candles of an uncommon size, called Christmas candles, and lay a log of wood upon the fire, called a Yule log or Christmas block, to illuminate the house, and, as it were, to turn night into day. This custom is still kept up in the north of England. The size of these logs of wood, which were in fact great trees, may be imagined from the fact that in the time of the civil wars of the last century, Capt. Hosier burnt the house of Mr. Barker of Highmond Abbey, near Shrewsbury, by setting fire to the Yule log. At the bringing in of the Yule log at Christmas Eve in the ancient castle of England, the great hall of the castle was profusely decorated with ivy and holly berries. As soon as the log was lighted the Christmas festivities began. The servants were then given a general holiday and did not go to bed at all, but rambled about until the church bells called them to prayer at 11 o'clock. The word Yule signifies Christmas, which was called in the Latin or Western church the Feast of Lights, because they used many lights or candles at its celebration in honor of Christ, the Light of all Lights.

PLAYING SANTA CLAUS



OTHER, will Santa Claus bring me a sleigh tomorrow? I would rather have a sleigh than anything else in the world.
"When I passed Mr. Dunkirk's store last night it was full of sleighs," said Archie presently, "but they were all marked one dollar and a half, and I have only twenty five cent pieces in my bank."
"Bring me the back," said his mother, opening her pocketbook.
In another moment Archie stood before his mother rattling the coins in the small tin box.
"If I give you ten more five-cent pieces," said his mother, smiling, "how much will you have then?"
"One hundred and fifty cents," cried Archie, laughing aloud. "May I go and buy the sleigh now?"
"Yes," said his mother, "but I want some of those lovely red berries I saw in the wood yesterday. They would look so nice among the evergreens. And besides, grandma and your aunts love them so."

"I'll bring you a lot," said Archie. In a few moments he was running down the road toward Mr. Dunkirk's store.
As he passed a tiny cottage on the way a very small boy pushed open the window and shouted:
"Santa Claus is going to bring me a sleigh tonight."
"How do you know, Dick?" asked Archie.
"Ellen told me so," said Dick.

Archie had never seen the little fellow's face look so bright and happy. He knew that Dick lived alone with his sister, who, though only 15 years old, worked hard all day long in the big silk factory to support herself and her brother. And as Archie walked toward Mr. Dunkirk's store he thought a great deal of Dick's happy face.

Archie took a long time choosing his sleigh, so when his selection was made and he started off peniless but happy, dragging a wonderful red and green sleigh after him, it was almost dark.

As he turned a corner suddenly he ran against a girl standing in the road. It was Dick's sister, and she was crying.

"What is the matter?" asked Archie. "Why don't you go home?"
"I—I can't bear to see Dick. I promised him a sleigh and I spoiled a lot of silk today and have been dismissed from the works without my week's pay."

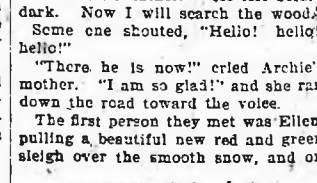
She gave one look at Archie's new sleigh and hid her face on the fence rail.
The tears were in Archie's eyes as he went on his way. When he reached the little cottage he stood still behind a great bush outside of the gate. Little Dick was still peeping out. Archie watched the eager face for several moments, then, when the child left the window, he stole softly through the little garden and up the rickety steps. Then, fastening the rope of his beautiful new sleigh to the door knob, he gave three loud raps and ran away.

He heard Dick open the door and shout:
"Oh! oh! oh! See what Santa Claus has brought me!"
Suddenly Archie remembered the berries he had promised to bring his mother.

"It is not dark yet," he said, "and I know just where to find them." He climbed the fence at the side of the road and went toward a thick clump of trees.

It was eight o'clock on Christmas Eve and at Archie's house his mother stood at the door looking white and frightened. His father, with a lantern in his hand, stood in the road. Archie had not come home.
"I have been to Mr. Dunkirk's store," said Archie's father. "He left before dark. Now I will search the woods." Some one shouted, "Hello! hello! hello!"
"There he is now!" cried Archie's mother. "I am so glad!" and she ran down the road toward the voice.

The first person they met was Ellen, pulling a beautiful new red and green sleigh over the smooth snow, and on



MADH TWO HAPPY.

It was little Dick, and Archie with his arms full of red berries.
"Oh, where have you been?" said his mother, as he ran to meet her.
"I went to the woods for some berries and my coat caught in a branch and I could not get it away. If it had not been for Ellen I might have been hanging there yet."

"How can I ever thank you?" said Archie's mother, turning to Ellen.
"I saw him go into the wood," replied Ellen, "after he put this beautiful sleigh on our doorstep for Dick."

Sharp Pains

Darting from one point to another, stiff and swollen joints, inflammation, intense suffering, are characteristics of rheumatism. All these painful symptoms are cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla which purifies the blood and neutralizes the acid which is the cause of rheumatism. Why continue to suffer when you may be relieved by

Hood's Sarsaparilla
America's Greatest Medicine. Price \$1.
Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.
Hood's Pills cure all Liver Ills. 25 cents.

Holiday Excursions.
Excursion tickets will be sold at all stations on the North-Western line (C. & N. W. R'y. C. St. P. M. & O. R'y. S. C. & P. R'y. and F. E. & M. V. R. R.) to all other points on this system and on the Union Pacific Railroad, within 200 miles of the selling station, at greatly reduced rates, December 24, 25, 26 and 31, 1898, and January 1 and 2, 1899, good until January 4, 1899. Apply to agents Chicago & North-Western R'y for full particulars.

Pacific Coast Limited.
To California in three short days via last winter's route of Sunset Limited. No high altitudes; no snow blockades; sunshine and comfort all the way from Chicago and St. Louis to Los Angeles and San Francisco. Write for lowest rates and illustrated pamphlet, giving complete particulars, to James Charlton, General Passenger Agent, Chicago & Alton Railroad, Chicago, Illinois.

Can You Solve This Puzzle Verse?
"A simple go-between am I,
Without a thought of pride;
I part the gathered thoughts of men,
And liberally divide.
I set the soul of Shakespeare free,
To Milton's thoughts give liberty,
Bid Sidney speak with freer speech,
Let Spenser sing and Taylor preach,
Though through all learning swift I glide,
No wisdom doth with me abide."
If you can solve the foregoing, and send the correct answer to George H. Heafford, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, Old Colony Building, Chicago, together with a two-cent stamp, he will send you what it calls for.

A woman never forgives a man his failure to ask to be forgiven.
A lazy liver makes a lazy man. Burdock Blood Bitters is the natural, never failing remedy for a lazy liver.

When marriage is a failure the husband sometimes liquidates.
TESTS PATIENCE.

The Most Patient People Must Show Annoyance at Times.
Nothing spoils a good disposition quicker.
Nothing taxes a man's patience like any itchininess of the skin.
Itching piles almost drive you crazy. All day it makes you miserable. All night it keeps you awake. Itch. Itch. Itch. With no relief. Just the same with eczema. Can hardly keep from scratching it. You would do so but you know it makes you worse.

Such miseries are daily decreasing. People are learning they can be cured. Learning the merits of Doan's Ointment.
Plenty of proof that Doan's Ointment will cure piles, eczema, or any itchininess of the skin.
Read the testimony of a Battle Creek citizen.

Mr. A. G. Ayers, bookbinder of 197 West Main street, Battle Creek, says:
My hands became so sore from eczema that it was with difficulty I could bend my fingers. The skin cracked open, large sores formed and in addition to the spots being tender they itched intolerably. I tried everything I could hear about or get hold of to stop the trouble but I was unable to do so until I procured Doan's Ointment. I had heard it spoken about by several people but as I thought it would act like all the other preparations which I tried I waited some time until I was compelled from the condition of my hands to do something. Doan's Ointment cured me. Up to date, and this is some months after I stopped the treatment, I have had no indication of any return.

Doan's Ointment for sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Mailed by Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the U. S. Remember the name Doan's and take no substitute.

Satan smiles every time he sees two men trying to trade horses.

CHRISTMAS CAROL.
Hark! those strains, so sweetly falling,
On that festive morn!
On our hearts are they recalling,
Christ, our King, was born.
He has come to give a blessing
To the poor, the sad;
He has come with kind caressing,
Making children glad.
Chorus:
Hark! those strains so sweetly falling,
On that festive morn;
To our hearts are they recalling,
Christ, our King, was born.

Hie we to the lowly manger,
At the village inn;
Let us greet the wondrous stranger
Saving all from sin;
Let us bring a royal treasure,
Like the wise of old;
Love sincere and without measure,
Better far than gold.
Chorus.—Hark, etc.

What though wintry winds are blowing
Leaves from off the tree;
And no more the flocks are lowing,
On the upland lea;
Christ each little lamb is tending,
Folding it with care;
From the storms of life defending,
From its chilling air.
Chorus.—Hark, etc.

May those angels, at the dawning,
Singing in the sky,
Ever with a kindly warning
Bid the tempter fly.
When no more on earth is given
Joy like this today,
May such messengers of heaven
Bear our souls away.
Chorus.—Hark, etc.

A Phenomenon.
When Christmas comes with merry pace
The small boy is a peach;
His stomach is the resting place
Of everything in reach.

Sharp Pains

Darting from one point to another, stiff and swollen joints, inflammation, intense suffering, are characteristics of rheumatism. All these painful symptoms are cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla which purifies the blood and neutralizes the acid which is the cause of rheumatism. Why continue to suffer when you may be relieved by

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Read the testimony of a Battle Creek citizen.

Mr. A. G. Ayers, bookbinder of 197 West Main street, Battle Creek, says:
My hands became so sore from eczema that it was with difficulty I could bend my fingers. The skin cracked open, large sores formed and in addition to the spots being tender they itched intolerably. I tried everything I could hear about or get hold of to stop the trouble but I was unable to do so until I procured Doan's Ointment. I had heard it spoken about by several people but as I thought it would act like all the other preparations which I tried I waited some time until I was compelled from the condition of my hands to do something. Doan's Ointment cured me. Up to date, and this is some months after I stopped the treatment, I have had no indication of any return.

Doan's Ointment for sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Mailed by Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the U. S. Remember the name Doan's and take no substitute.

Satan smiles every time he sees two men trying to trade horses.

CHRISTMAS CAROL.
Hark! those strains, so sweetly falling,
On that festive morn!
On our hearts are they recalling,
Christ, our King, was born.
He has come to give a blessing
To the poor, the sad;
He has come with kind caressing,
Making children glad.
Chorus:
Hark! those strains so sweetly falling,
On that festive morn;
To our hearts are they recalling,
Christ, our King, was born.

Hie we to the lowly manger,
At the village inn;
Let us greet the wondrous stranger
Saving all from sin;
Let us bring a royal treasure,
Like the wise of old;
Love sincere and without measure,
Better far than gold.
Chorus.—Hark, etc.

What though wintry winds are blowing
Leaves from off the tree;
And no more the flocks are lowing,
On the upland lea;
Christ each little lamb is tending,
Folding it with care;
From the storms of life defending,
From its chilling air.
Chorus.—Hark, etc.

May those angels, at the dawning,
Singing in the sky,
Ever with a kindly warning
Bid the tempter fly.
When no more on earth is given
Joy like this today,
May such messengers of heaven
Bear our souls away.
Chorus.—Hark, etc.

A Phenomenon.
When Christmas comes with merry pace
The small boy is a peach;
His stomach is the resting place
Of everything in reach.



THE **Old Made Young**
THE **Weak Made Strong**
THE **Sick Made Well**
BY THE USE OF
ROYAL
Life Tablets.
A WONDERFUL REMEDY—
LIFE ITSELF
Perpetual Health by their Daily Use
NO ONE NEED BE SICK.
They will put an END to all
Manner of Diseases; Restore
Vitality; Give New Life,
Power and Energy to All
The Only Perfect Tonic
Ravages of old age Stopped
Used by "VICTORIA"
50 Tablets 50 Cents.
At Druggists, or sent by mail on
receipt of price by
ROYAL TABLET CO.
28 Lafayette Ave.,
DETROIT, - - MICH.
Geo. W. Hunter & Co., Plymouth Agents.

PLYMOUTH MAIL.
H. J. BAKER, Editors and
M. F. GRAY, Proprietors.
\$1.00 a Year, in Advance.
Single copies 5 Cents.
Entered at Plymouth P. O. as second class matter.
Cards of Thanks 25c.
Copies of Confidential notes.
Paid notices set a word; in local sets a word.
Selling notices where charges are made sets a line.
Friday, Dec. 16, 1898.

Queen Lil wants her flag back. But Miss Berry, who now owns it, believes in the American war motto, "no surrender."

All the new Detroit street railway franchise needs to make it a worthy relic is the dropping of the apostrophe before the 93. It certainly should never bear 1893.

If Dr. Stewart only had the knack of making well people sick as successfully as he can make sick people well, what a blessing he would receive from his fellow medics, and incidentally get rid of many staunch supporters without a direct slap.

It is in order for John Scott & Co., the architects of the new Wonderland building, to petition the legislature to grant them a new name. They could then prove they were not John Scott & Co. But by established rule they will never be required to answer the verdict of the coroner's jury.

If Gov. Pingree would drop the Senatorial fight, and give his attention to State questions, on which he asked the people to return him, he would come pretty near doing what the people desired of him. Burrows has just as big a slice of the people's hearts as our worthy governor, and it don't pay to buck the people.

Kind Acts in Season.

As another Christmas draws near how few of us realize the full significance of this holy time. It is the anniversary of Christ's birth and should be observed in a more serious manner than the most of us are wont to observe it. This time should be made more reverent than is done in most homes but we should not go too far and succeed in making it only dreary and dull. It should be the most joyful, pleasant time of the whole year. At this season we should feel so grateful for the many mercies and comforts that have been thrown around us that we should remember the trials and burdens of the less fortunate, and endeavor to lighten their load with kind words and generous acts.

We all have a great many opportunities for doing good. The fault is we are always looking for something greater, grander and more noble, and are not willing to accept the smaller opportunities which are presented to us. We can brighten so many lives by such small effort on our part that it is a display of mean selfishness when we do not. We should not deny ourselves the joy and satisfaction which comes to us through a knowledge of having made some poor soul happier and the world better. Then let us look around us, among our neighbors and acquaintances, and see if there are not some among them in need of a kind act or loving deed. A small gift to some poor child, a slight remembrance to some aged person, no matter how trivial, will gladden their hearts on this happy occasion, far more than we can tell.

A white deer was shot in Mackinac county last week but the hunter who did it was not aware that such a one had any exceptional value and made no effort to preserve the skin. Now he wishes he had for he has found out that a perfect mounted specimen of a white deer is worth \$500 on the market.

Wayne village has \$20 in its exchange with which to pay bills until May 1st next.

An electric railroad from Pontiac to Milford is among the possibilities of the near future.

Three hundred citizens of Northville have signed a petition to have the electric cars go up Main street.

A newspaper whose columns overflow with advertisements of business men, has more influence in attracting attention to and building up a city or town than any other agency that can be employed. People go where there is business. Capital and labor will locate where there is an enterprising community. No power is so strong to build up a town as a newspaper properly patronized. It will always return more than it receives.—Rev. T. De Witt Talmadge.

Rev. H. E. Ryerson, the Episcopal clergyman at Pontiac, comes from a line of preachers, and he relates a remarkable incident in the life of Rev. John Ryerson, his grandfather's brother, who was a Methodist minister. At Victoria, Norfolk county, Canada, two men had mounted the scaffold to be hung for cattle stealing, and John Ryerson was called upon to offer prayer before they were swung into eternity. He prayed for the men and those in authority; he swung around to the antipodes, crossed the ocean, and prayed seemingly for every class and condition of men and every legitimate subject of prayer that memory could recall or ingenuity devise. His hearers got tired out, but still he prayed. In fact, he prayed for 10 mortal hours. At the end of that time a messenger from the governor general arrived with a reprieve for the condemned men.—Milford Times.

Some time the latter part of this month a meeting will be called to organize the Electric Tri-County league which will be composed of the best base ball towns on the lines of electric roads radiating from Detroit. The matter has been kept quiet by the promoters of the scheme but it gradually leaked out. John Fitzgibbons, the local base ball magnate, when seen by the Review, said, "Yes, the league is a sure go and will be organized the latter part of this month. The circuit will include Wayne, Northville, Wyandotte, Mt. Clemens, Ypsilanti, Maricou City, Pontiac and two of the teams of last year's Detroit city league. Prominent among the managers are Tucker, of Mt. Clemens, Roehrig, of Wyandotte, and Torryson of Pontiac. The organization will be strictly amateur and each club will be allowed to participate in games. A \$50 guarantee to play out the season will be deposited by each manager and the league will be carried on a national league. As to players Wayne will be represented by about as good an aggregation as there is in the league.—Wayne Review.

You forgot to mention Plymouth, Bro. Ellsworth. You can always count us in on anything of that kind.

For Pneumonia.
Dr. J. C. Bishop, of Agnew, Mich., says: "I have used Foley's Honey and Tar in three very severe cases of pneumonia the past month with good results."

How to Look Good.
Good looks are really more than skin deep, depending entirely upon a healthy condition of all the vital organs. If the liver be inactive, you have a bilious look; if your stomach be disordered, you have a dyspeptic look; if your kidneys be disordered, you have a pinched look. Secure good health and you will surely have good looks. "Electric Bitters" is a good Alternative and Tonic. Acts directly on the stomach, liver and kidneys. Purifies the blood, cures pimples, blotches and boils and gives a good complexion. Every bottle guaranteed. Sold at J. L. Gale's Drug Store. 50 cents per bottle.

A Northville foot ball delegation went over to Plymouth the other day and got two things. They got licked, and got a big supper. The first they couldn't help and didn't like. The second they couldn't better, and didn't shun. It was at the banquet, where they had the ball on Plymouth's 15 yard line, and scored a touchdown on everything in the course. They couldn't get a chance in the game to kick goal, and at the supper they had no wish to kick.—Adrian Press.

A Noted Actress Whose
Name is withheld for personal reasons, once said to an interviewer who inquired as to the secret of her remarkable beauty: "Give me three things, good food, fresh air, and Cleveland's Celery Compound Tea, and I can make of any woman a beauty." The proprietors of this noted beauty medicine are offering to the people of Plymouth \$250 in cash prizes in order to introduce it. For full particulars and free samples apply at once to Geo. W. Hunter & Co.

Holiday Rates on F. & P. M.

There will be reduced rates for Christmas on the F. & P. M. R. R. between all stations on its line, December 23-24-25-26-30-31, 1898, and January 1st and 2nd, 1899. Excursion tickets good for return until January 3rd, 1899, inclusive. Apply to ticket agents for detailed information as to rates, time of trains, etc. H. F. MOELLER, G. P. A.

Christmas and New Year Holiday Rates on Ohio Central Lines.

For the Holidays the Ohio Central Lines will make excursion rates between all stations and to points on connecting lines. Tickets on sale Dec. 23, 24, 25, 26, 30 and 31st, and Jan. 1 and 2, good returning until Jan. 3 inclusive. See

Work Offered in the University.

The literary department of the University of Michigan offers to its student 500 different courses, covering a range of about fifty different subjects. Reckoned in terms of recitation or lecture periods, these courses occupy a little over 1,400 hours each half year or semester. As students may not elect more than 16 hours of work a week during any semester of their course, it may easily be computed that in order to take all the courses offered in this one department, a student would be obliged to spend at the University almost forty-four years of his life. But this is only a fraction of the work done on the University campus. If there be added to this period the time required to graduate in the other six departments of the University the result will be a total of about sixty years which one might spend at Ann Arbor before he had exhausted the resources of the institution, assuming that the University made no progress during that period.

MARVELOUS RESULTS.

What a well-known Citizen of Lansing Mich., says of Drake's Dyspepsia Cure and Nerve Restorer.

"I have had dyspepsia for eighteen years. My troubles were indigestion, sour stomach, acid fermentation, palpitation of the heart, sleeplessness and terrible sick headache, which at times would entirely unfit me for business. I have had special treatment by seven physicians, and it seems as though I have tried nearly every known or supposed remedy, with some little relief, but would soon relapse to the old condition. I commenced using Drake's Dyspepsia Cure and Nerve Restorer a few weeks ago, have used about two and one-half boxes which have done me more real good than all the treatment and so-called remedies I have ever taken. I would advise any person afflicted with stomach troubles, to try this treatment."

Respectfully,
EDWARD N. WOOD,
North Lansing, Mich.
March 22nd, 1898.

Drake's Dyspepsia Cure and Nerve Restorer is not propped up by fictitious testimonials, but is demonstrating its curative power every day, in stubborn cases of acute, chronic, and nervous dyspepsia. A trial will substantiate all that is claimed for it. For sale by John L. Gale leading druggist of Plymouth.

A book on stomach and nerve troubles, their symptoms and cures, given free for the asking at the above store.

—The Markham Manufacturing Co. wishes to purchase 100,000 feet of soft maple logs. 589

In one place in Southern Michigan the ladies wear red, white and blue garters. Their loyalty was put to test, however, when, in a crowded church, the minister was preaching a patriotic sermon, and after exhorting the men to do their duty to their country, said there was much the men could do, and finally exclaimed, "Ladies, show your colors!" There was some indignation as they declared they just wouldn't do it for a preacher or any other man.

What Shall We Do.

A serious and dangerous disease prevails in this country, dangerous because so deceptive. It comes on so slowly yet surely that it is often firmly seated before we are aware of it.

The name of this disease which may be divided into three distinct stages, is, First, Kidney trouble, indicated by pain in the back, rheumatism, lumbago, frequent desire to urinate, often with a burning sensation, the flow of urine being copious or scant with strong odor.

If allowed to advance, this reaches the second stage, or Bladder trouble, with heavy pain in the abdomen low down between the naval and the water passage, increasing desire to urinate, with scalding sensation in passing, small quantities being passed with difficulty, sometimes necessary to draw it with instruments. If uric acid or gravel has formed, it will prove dangerous if neglected.

The third stage is Bright's disease. There is comfort in knowing that Dr. Kilmer, the great kidney and bladder specialist, has discovered a remedy famous for its marvelous cures of the most distressing cases and known as Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root.

It is sold by all druggists. As a proof of the wonderful virtues of this great discovery, Swamp-Root, a sample bottle and book of valuable information will be sent absolutely free by mail on application to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. When writing kindly mention that you read this liberal offer in the Plymouth MAIL.

Homeseekers' Excursions to the West, South-west and South Via Ohio Central Lines.

On Nov. 15th, Dec. 6th and 30th, the Ohio Central Lines will sell Homeseekers excursion tickets at rate of one fare for the round trip plus \$2.00. One way settlers tickets on same dates will be sold at greatly reduced rates. For full particulars call on or address 588 W. A. PETERS, M. P. A., Detroit.

Lost.

Many have lost confidence and hope as well as health, because they have been told their kidney disease was incurable. Foley's Kidney Cure is a guaranteed remedy for the discouraged and disconsolate.

Big Wreck at Northville.

Northville, Michigan, December 12th.—Along the Flint & Pere Marquette Railway Northville has doubtless been the scene of more wrecks than any other point on the entire line. Last night's midnight disaster was the most expensive one ever turned out here and not less than \$20,000 is chargeable to someone's criminal carelessness.

North bound freight No. 49 got orders at Plymouth about 11:30 p. m. to meet southbound freight No. 46 at Novi and the operator at Wixom was given a 'hold' order on No. 46, with a duplicate of the same order. The operator claims he put out his red light and that the crew paid no attention to it, but the trainmen say there was no signal displayed, and that they knew of a meeting point was when both trains came together just south of the depot here. There is a sharp curve at this point and neither was able to see the other until but a few hundred feet apart. Both trains were going at nearly full speed, neither having occasion to stop here, and they came together with a crash that shook the buildings round about. The engineers had but a moment for action and to blow a few shrill blasts upon the whistle, reverse the levers and follow their firemen into the snow banks. The engines as they came together rose high in the air, where they remained in an almost perpendicular position locked in each other's iron arms until pulled apart by the two wrecking cars early this morning. They were both completely demolished, as was some five cars that followed each. The south-bound train, owing to its going down a heavy grade, suffered the most. Four cars, containing wheat, lumber, furniture and potatoes respectively, were piled up in such a mass that it took an expert to tell which was which. The wheat was purchased by one of the mills here at twenty-five cents per bushel, while the potatoes went in quantities to suit purchasers at ten cents per bushel. The lumber and furniture was transferred into other cars. The only man hurt was a brakeman named Lang, who managed to sprain an ankle. All traffic was delayed until 2 o'clock this afternoon, and it will take another day or two to gather up the wreckage.

General Supt. Trump, of Saginaw, with a special train and his private car, was early on the scene and directed operations all day, but neither he nor any of the employees would discuss the matter of who was responsible for the accident.—Free Press.

No Humbug.

Foley's Honey and Tar does not claim to perform miracles. It does not claim to cure all cases of consumption or asthma, but it does claim to give comfort and relief in advanced stages of these diseases and to usually cure early stages. It is certainly worth trying by those afflicted or threatened with these dreadful diseases.

Excursion rates for Christmas and New Year.

C. & W. M. Ry., and D., G. R. & W. R. R. agents will sell tickets on December 23-24-25-26-30-31, and January 1 and 2 at one and one-third fare on account of holiday season. All tickets good to return until January 3rd.
GEO. DEHAVEN, G. P. A.

A Double Accident at Wayne.

The Kline Cinematograph Co., which showed at Wayne last Saturday night, met with an unfortunate accident which stopped the show and scattered the people in double quick time. Just as the manipulators were showing the Maline in the harbor of Havana a boy upset the lamp. The films used in the machine were made of celluloid and burned rapidly. The audience broke for the door and succeeded in escaping without injury. About the only damage done was the destruction of the films, and curtains which enclosed the operator. Shortly after the accident at the opera house, John Kline, son of the owner of the machine, shot himself while in his room at the Zehfuss House and is in a dangerous condition. Whether it was an accident or an attempt at suicide is not positively known.

The remedy par excellence for all Kidney troubles. Knill's Blue Kidney Pills. 25c a box.

The person who disturbed the congregation last Sunday by coughing, is requested to call on their druggist and get a bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar, which always gives relief.

—FARMERS— and horse owners get your harness oiled by an expert at cut rates. For the next 15 days I will wash and oil single harness for \$1.00, double harness with either pad or breeching, \$2.00, with both pad and breeching, \$2.50.
J. E. BARKER,
opposite the Daisy shops, two doors south or leave word at harness shop. 2

COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE. In the matter of the estate of WILLIAM TYLEY, deceased. We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the Probate Court, for the County of Wayne, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands of all persons against said deceased, do hereby give notice that we will meet at the residence of the late Wm. Tyley, in the township of Cassio in said county on Thursday, the sixteenth day of March, A. D. 1899, and on Thursday, the 16th day of June, A. D. 1899, at 10 o'clock a. m. of each of said days, for the purpose of receiving and allowing said claims, and that six months from the 16th day of December, A. D. 1898, were allowed by said court for creditors to present their claims to us for examination and allowance.
HERBERT W. BRADFORD,
ROBERT C. SUFFORD,
Commissioners.
Dated December 16th, 1898. (38-91)

NEW
Boot and Shoe Store.
NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS.

Men's Grain Domestic Boots.
Choice Rubber Boots.
Men's and Boys' Felts.
Ladies', Gentlemen's and Children's Rubbers of Every Description.

LARGE STOCK OF MEN'S SHOES.
LARGE STOCK OF WOMEN'S SHOES.
LARGE STOCK CHILDRENS SHOES

Complete Line of Ladies' and Gents' Slippers.
EVERYTHING NEW.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
I will also pay the Highest Cash Prices for Butter and Eggs.

Very respectfully,
JOHN G. STRENG.
Starkweather Block. North Village.

TRY OUR
The
House Keepers Delight!
A Step-ladder.
TRY OUR

One Free with every lb of
Globe Baking Powder.
Shredded Wheat Biscuit, 13c.
5 pound sack Fallis Pan-cake Flour 20c.
1 pound Coffee and fancy canister 25c
Jardinieres 10c, 25c, 30c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25
Flower Crocks, 5c, 7c, 10c, 12c, 15c.

Try our Teas and Coffees, we have the best.
Bogert & Co.

TRY OUR
Holiday Goods.

The ever perplexing question of what are we going to give for Christmas and where to get it is easily solved by looking over our unusually large assortment of

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry,
Sterling Silver Novelties,
Silver-plated flat and hollow Ware
Cameras
And Camera Outfits
Celluloid Goods and Musical Instruments.

Early purchasers not only secure the choice goods but avoid the usual rush of December.

C. G. DRAPER,
Sutton St. JEWELER

CHRISTMAS

A Tedious Undertaking

Selecting Christmas Gifts is Hard Work.

Everybody knows how well a good article is appreciated. Everything points toward one of the most enjoyable old time Christmas days we have seen for many years, and this year we have made an extraordinary effort to select a grand assortment of Christmas novelties for Ladies, Gents, Girls, Boys and Little Folks.

Be sure and see our white counter. Everything to satisfy lovers of Spatchel Doilies, Mats, etc 50 dozen Fancy and Plain Handkerchiefs at 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25c.—beauties Everything arranged so you can easily examine. A pleasure to show them.

Christmas Ties. A beautiful line of 50, 75 and \$1 values, all go at 50c These are beauties. See window display.

Christmas mufflers. Gorgeous patterns 50c to \$1.50. The new made up Muffler \$1.50.

Suits and Overcoats. An elegant new line for Christmas week at Big Reduction. New line of Fancy Shirts for Xmas presents.

Christmas Gloves, Christmas Suspenders, Christmas Hats and Caps.

Christmas Shoes, Christmas Overgaiters, All useful and seasonable.

Brand new lot of Pleated Collars and Ruschings for Xmas.

Bed Spreads, Quilts, Blankets, Sheets and Pillow Cases. Reliable Prices.

Horse Blankets and Robes are useful articles. We can save you money in this line.

Big Reduction in Capes and Jackets. If you need one come and see us. It pays. Every third one a pair of Gloves for xmas

Christmas Jewelry. For admirers of these goods we have this year selected for our Christmas trade a large line of Cuff Buttons, Collar Buttons, Scarf Pins, Stick Pins, Baby Rings, Hat Pins, Pin Sets, Waist Sets, Silk Guards, Watch Chains, Belt Holders, Belt Buckles, Beauty Pins, Side Combs, Hair Pins, Back Combs, etc. This is a grand line of reliable goods and guaranteed by the manufacturers and we personally recommend them. Prices from 25 to 50 per cent less than you are accustomed to paying.

Christmas Silk Waist Patterns, worth \$1.00 for 84c worth 85c for 74c

A limited amount of extra fine Table Linens at a very low figure. Elegant line of medium priced also.

Christmas Towels. Very large line extra values at 15, 20, 25 and 50c.

Fascinators, Veils, Collarettes, Gloves and Mittens are very appropriate Christmas Gifts.

A Pug Dog Given Away with every purchase, little or big, on Saturday, Dec. 17, only.

RIGGS

RIGGS

CHRISTMAS

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST.

Service 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday school 11:45 A. M. Wednesday evening meeting, 7:30. Safford Hall All are most cordially invited. Subject for next Sunday will be: Morning "Is the Universe, including Man, enveloped by Atomic Forces?" Evening, "The Captivity of Judah."

The weather this week brings a contented smile to the faces of the ice and coal men.

Bassett's furniture house contains many happy suggestions for Christmas buyers. Read his ad.

MILLINERY—10 per cent off on all cash purchases at F. H. Bailey & Co., until January 1.

Plymouth stores have taken on a decidedly metropolitan appearance during the past two weeks.

A Christmas tree and an appropriate programme will be given at the Baptist church on Christmas eve

About a dozen members have been added to the Odd Fellows' lodge here during the past six months.

Charlie Hubbard was given a surprise at his home on Wednesday night by a number of his young friends.

A large number of subscriptions to the MAIL fall due this month. We hope they will be promptly renewed.

Mrs. B. L. Chamberlain, of Saginaw, formerly of this place, visited Mrs. C. H. Nevison the latter part of last week.

—Make the Christmas of '98 a cheerful one by presenting your friends with some of these many beautiful gifts at Draper's.

—Our store will be open every evening next week.

RAUCH & SON.

The Young Men's Club of Northville, will give a Christmas hop on Friday evening, Dec. 23rd. Music by Finney's orchestra.

—That old key wind watch has had its day and should be replaced by one of Draper's "Boss" stem winders with non-pull-out bow.

If no hitch occurs in the proposed change of location by Huston & Co., the store vacated by them will be occupied by Bogert & Co.

Mrs. C. M. Duntly, who has been spending the past five months with her daughter of Traverse City, returned home Friday last.

The stock for John Streng's new shoe store arrived Monday and is now ready for inspection. He is located in the Starkweather block.

The remains of Mrs. Nellie Weiss, who died at her home, 85 Howard street, Detroit, on Friday, December 9th, were brought to Plymouth and buried in Riverside cemetery on Monday. Mrs. Weiss was 88 years of age and a daughter of Alexander Black of this place. The deceased formerly lived in Plymouth.

Why wouldn't it be a good scheme for some of our young ladies to take up a subscription for the purpose of sending a barrel of good things to eat to our soldier boys for Christmas? It is being done in other towns.

Mrs. Leonard Vickery, who has had a three weeks' run of intermittent fever is able to be up around the house. Dr. Cooper attended her.

Dr. F. W. Pulford, of Detroit, came to Plymouth Tuesday, at the request of Dr. Cooper, to visit Mrs. Kinyon who has been very ill with lung trouble.

Avaleta Cole gave a party to a number of her little friends on Thursday afternoon, Dec. 8th, in celebration of her fourth birthday. It was a happy occasion and will long be remembered by the little ones.

The newspaper man can wisely advocate almost any kind of united action among merchants, like the establishing of street markets, building of free horse sheds, suppression of fake fire sales, unauthorized street vending, etc., but when all is said and done the great engine of trade is the ad. in the local paper, telling the truth about good things offered at good prices.

MILLINERY—10 per cent off on all cash purchases at F. H. Bailey & Co., until January 1.

Chas. Lutz, age 23, of Plymouth, and Rose Maynard, aged 24, of Stark, were married in Detroit on Wednesday of last week by Justice Woodruff.

A car to Denver would cost about \$90—prefer to close out goods—call and buy at your own price at Potter's.

The MAIL acknowledges receipt of a season ticket to the meeting of the Northville Poultry and Pet Stock Association which was held there this week.

We will send the Scientific American and Plymouth MAIL to any address one year for \$3. The regular subscription price of the Scientific American is \$3 per year.

The young men of Plymouth expect to give a New Year ball on Friday evening, Dec. 30th. A meeting was held on Monday evening to arrange for it. As this will be the first party of the season it will probably be a hummer. Finney, of Detroit, will furnish the music.

Episcopal church service will be held in the Presbyterian church Sunday evening, December 18, at 7:45 o'clock. The offertory, "O, Come All Ye Faithful," will be sung by Miss Helen Lapham. The Rev. E. P. Smith, assistant rector of St. Paul's church, Detroit, will officiate.

Continued on last page.

THE STORM CENTER OF TRADE FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPERS.

We desire to say to the public that we have made extra exertion this year in purchasing some of the LATEST, up-to-date Novelties in the way of HOLIDAY GIFTS that has ever been shown in this city. It is our desire to give you the

BEST POSSIBLE VALUES

FOR THE

LEAST POSSIBLE PRICE.

Remember we have two large floors which are full to overflowing with

Bright New Goods

At prices which will surely make them move

It is needless for us to mention over the endless amount of different pieces of Furniture we carry in stock, and space would not admit of it. But we would say this that we are better prepared to meet your wants than any previous year. We have some of the best values ever shown at this store. Keep your eye on this space for the next month to come. We may be able to do you some good.

BASSETT & SON,

Masonic Temple Bldg. PLYMOUTH

MILLINERY!

Special Sale—All trimmed Hats in stock at 1/2 off for cash only. Sailor Hats at 25c and 50c.

A chance to buy something pretty and useful for Christmas at

Maud Vrooman's

Main St., Plymouth.

When it Comes to Prices

LAPHAM

Is always in it. Another lot of those Dress Skirts, rich patterns, will be sold at about what it would cost you for the making and trimmings.

- New Stock Overcoats \$5.00 to \$10.00 each
- New Suits \$5.00 to \$10.00 each
- Red Cross Water White Oil and Gasoline same old price 6c gal
- 18 pounds of Granulated Sugar \$1.00
- Lion and XXXX Coffee 11c
- Arm & Hammer Saleratus 7c pound or 4 pounds for 25c
- Bulk Starch 4c pound or 7 pounds for 25c
- Silver Gloss Starch 7c
- Corn Starch 7c
- Best Rice 7c pound or 4 pounds for 25c
- New Raisins 7c pound or 4 pounds for 25c
- New Prunes 7c pound or 4 pounds for 25c
- New Figs 15c pound or 2 pound for 25c
- Rolled Oats 10 pounds for 25c
- Good Syrup per gal 20c
- 9 Bars Queen Ann Soap for 25c
- 10 Bars Santa Claus Soap for 25c
- 10 Bars Lenox Soap for 25c
- 4 pound Sal Soda for 5c
- 1 dozen Clothes Pins for 1c

All kinds of Salt and Smoked Meats at Bottom Prices.

A. J. LAPHAM,

Free Delivery.

North Village.

Merry Christmas

At A. A. TAFFT'S STORE

Here you will find almost anything that you may want. **Black Skirts from \$1 to \$3.**

Handkerchiefs galore, the largest assortment in the country, at prices ranging from 2c to 50c.

Stamped Goods, Doilies, Napkins, Table Spreads, Table Linen, Lunch Cloths, etc., etc.

If you want a good Dress Pattern from Storm Serge down to 3/4 cent calico, I have it.

Silk Neckscarfs of all varieties.

Gents' Neckwear, Hosiery, Silk Umbrellas, White Aprons, Quilts, Bed Blankets, Ladies' and Gents' Night Robes, and many other articles.

A. A. TAFFT.

We have a fine line of.....



..... See them and get Prices.

- Large Pail and Dipper 15c
- Water White Oil 53c
- Large size Tin Cup only 3c.

Conner Hardware Co.

Plymouth, Mich.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS AND PERSONAL MENTION.

What Our Scribe Gathered on the Outside.—Other News Items.

Sleighbing still continues fine.

Attend the race matinee tomorrow.

Dewey Berdan, of Dakota, is in town.

—Buy Bibles at Potter's and save 50 per cent.

Zero weather in these parts on Tuesday morning.

Vertical writing books 7c at Potter's.

E. P. Baker is having a big run of trade at his gallery.

The MAIL office continues to be rushed with job work.

Have you heard the gramophone concert at Rauch's?

Baptismal service at Baptist church Sunday morning.

Mrs. Jennie Voorhies, of Ann Arbor, was in town Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Bennett are expected home next week.

We have a few calendars left. You can get one for the asking.

H. C. Wilson, of Ridgeway, was a caller at the MAIL office Monday.

There seems to be a big slump in the egg market in this vicinity.

Will Travis is clerking in the new shoe store in Starkweather block.

—Gramophone concert at Rauch & Son's every afternoon and evening.

A very successful poultry show was held at Northville this week.

Full line Christmas goods below cost at Potter's.

W. H. Hoyt was on the streets again Thursday after a two weeks' illness.

A force of about 20 men are at work stringing feed wires for the electric road.

Ralph Rea was the first man in Plymouth township to pay his taxes this fall.

Mrs. Ed Laufer, Mrs. Shafer and Earl Laufer spent part of last week visiting in Detroit.

The Carleton Times was eight years old last Friday. We have noticed a marked improvement in the Times during the past year.

THE PLYMOUTH MAIL.

BAKER & GRAY, Publishers.

PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

Even the worm will turn—perhaps into a butterfly.

The best place for practical jokes and bolts is on others.

When marriage is a failure the husband sometimes liquidates.

The man who has no price is the only one really worth buying.

A woman never forgives a man his failure to ask to be forgiven.

There are people who actually believe their troubles interest others.

Some feminine matchmakers seem to make a specialty of friction matches.

It's a sad blow to the boxer when the box-office receipts fail to pan out.

A man should never tell his wife to hurry up when she is coming down stairs.

A man may be able to write a dozen volumes and still be unable to fill one pocketbook.

Women are naturally given unto self-denial. No one ever heard of "Jennie the Klaser."

The stock operator who buys and sells for future delivery evidently believes in a hereafter.

An Ohio man wrote a 300-line poem entitled "Come Back to Me," and every time he sends it to an editor it does.

Colonel Ingersoll has a new lecture ready for delivery and the pulpit will relieve him of much anxiety concerning the most thorough way of getting it before the public without expense.

The broad-minded woman who understands the science of cookery was the ideal generally approved at the recent gathering of collegiate alumnae in Philadelphia, an ideal in nowise limited to collegiate alumnae.

In a recent report, United States Consul Hughes, stationed at Coburg, says: "I would respectfully suggest that a warning be given to American grass raisers and dealers that they should not ship hay in any shape or on consignment to this part of the German Empire, as the crops of all kinds of grasses have been enormous, and to consign for sale here will entail not only the loss of the hay, but heavy additional expenses."

It would seem to be an appropriate season for congress to awaken to the importance of improving its consular service. It is not to be expected that this republic can adopt a diplomatic school similar to that of Great Britain which really has developed into an office-holding aristocracy, but the United States government can do much in the direction of improvement by eliminating common office-seekers from the rolls of the consular service.

There are now seventy-five cotton-spinning mills in Japan, says the Pall Mall Gazette, with an aggregate capital of \$4,000,000, half paid up, with 1,000,000 spindles working and nearly 200,000 more in course of erection or projected, giving employment to over 14,000 men and over 50,000 women, the wages of the former ranging from 5d. to 8d. a day, and the wages of the latter ranging from 2 1/2d. to 5d. a day. Of the 115,000 tons of raw cotton worked up by these mills last year 62 per cent were Indian, 18 per cent Chinese and 17 per cent American. The amount of native-grown cotton was under 500 tons. Down to the last year or two the only market for the output was found in Japan itself. With the removal of export duties, however, a foreign outlet was found in China, where Japanese yarn is now competing severely with that of India.

William T. Stead, editor of the London Review of Reviews, is at Livadia, in the Crimea, where he has had an interview with the czar regarding the autocrat's peace plans. In a letter to the Lokal Anzeiger Mr. Stead says that the delegates to the peace conference of the powers next spring will not be long in finding out that the Russian emperor means business. The practical aim of the conference is directed only to putting a stop to further military armament and to settling the question whether it is not possible to prevent the sudden outbreak of war before neutral powers have tried peacefully to settle the matters in dispute. "The czar is different," Mr. Stead adds, "from what he is commonly supposed to be. He is healthy and active and self-contained, with a constitution stronger than that of his father, the late Alexander III. His main idea—indeed, his life object—is to carry out the purpose with which in view the coming congress has been called."

We regret to observe that Mr. Thomas Sharkey shows symptoms of a willingness to "hippodrome." His match with Charley Mitchell will be a palpable and obvious attempt to get the public's money under false pretenses. If Mr. Sharkey wants to divide gate receipts with some pugilist-antique why not give John L. Sullivan or Jake Kilrain a chance? Why go to England for a "back number"—and a particularly unpopular and offensive "back number" at that? Mr. Sharkey ought to be ashamed of himself.

TALMAGE'S SERMON.

"THE SHUT IN" LAST SUNDAY'S SUBJECT.

From Genesis vii. 16. as follows: "The Lord shut him in"—Address to a Class of Persons Perhaps Not Before Addressed in a Sermon.

Cosmogony has no more interesting chapter than the one which speaks of that catastrophe of the ages, the submersion of our world in time of Noah, the first ship carpenter. Many of the nations who never saw a Bible have a flood story—Egyptian flood story; Grecian flood story, of which Deucalion was the Noah; Hawaiian flood story; New Zealand flood story; Chinese flood story; American Indian flood story—all of which accounts agree in the immersion of the continents under universal rains, and that there was a ship floating, with a select few of the human family and with specimens of zoological and ornithological and reptilian worlds, although I could have wished that these last had been shut out of the ark and drowned.

All of these flood stories represent the ship thus afloat as finally stranded on a mountain top. Hugh Miller, in his Testimony of the Rocks, thinks that all these flood stories were infirm traditions of the Biblical account, and I believe him. The worst thing about that great freshet was that it struck Noah's Great Eastern from above and beneath. The seas broke the chain of shells and crystal and rolled over the land, and the heavens opened their clouds for falling columns of water, which roared and thundered on the roof of the great ship for a month and ten days. There was one door to the ship, but there were three parts to that door, one part for each of the three stories. The Bible account says nothing about parts of the door belonging to two of the stories, and I do not know on which floor Noah and his family voyaged, but my text tells us that the part of the door of that particular floor on which Noah stayed was closed after he had entered. "The Lord shut him in." So there are many people now in the world who are as thoroughly shut in—some by sickness, some by old age, some by special duties that will not allow them to go forth, some surrounded by delugues of misfortune and trouble, and for them my sympathies are aroused, and this sermon, which I hope may do good to others, is more especially intended for them. Today I address the shut-in. "The Lord shut them in."

Notice, first of all, who closed the door so that they could not get out. Noah did not do it, nor his son Shem, nor did Ham, nor did Japheth, nor did either of the four married women who were on shipboard; nor did desperadoes who had scoffed at the idea of peril, which Noah had been preaching, close that door; they had turned their backs on the ark and had in disgust gone away. I will tell you how it was done. A hand was stretched down from heaven to close that door. It was a divine hand as well as a kind hand. "The Lord shut them in."

And the same kind and sympathetic Being has shut you in, my reader or my hearer. You thought it was an accident, ascribable to the carelessness or misdoings of others, or a mere "happen so." No! no! God had gracious design for your betterment, for the strengthening of your faith, for the advantage you might gain by seclusion, for your eternal salvation. He put you in a schoolroom, where you could learn, in six months or a year, more than you could have learned anywhere else in a lifetime. He turned the lattice or pulled down the blinds of the sickroom, or put your swollen foot on an ottoman, or held you amid the pillows of a couch which you could not leave, for some reason that you may not now understand, but which he has promised he will explain to you satisfactorily, if not in this world, then in the world to come, for he has said, "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter!"

The world has no statistics as to the number of invalids. The physicians know something about it, and the apothecaries and the pastors, but who can tell us the number of blind eyes, and deaf ears, and diseased lungs, and congested livers, and jangled nerves, and neuralgic tempers, and rheumatic feet, or how many took no food this morning because they had no appetite to eat, or digestive organs to assimilate, or have lungs so delicate they cannot go forth when the wind is in the east, or there is a fog rising from the river, or there is a dampness on the ground or pavement because of the frost coming out? It would be easy to count the people who every day go through a street, or the number of passengers carried by a railroad company in a year, or the number of those who cross the ocean in ships; but who can give us the statistics of the great multitudes who are shut in? I call the attention of all such to their superior opportunities of doing good.

Those of us who are well and can see clearly, and hear distinctly, and partake of food of all sorts and questions of digestion never occur to us, and we can wade the snowbanks and take an equinox in our faces, and endure the thermometer at zero, and every breath of air is a tonic and a stimulus, and sound sleep jets us within five minutes after our head touches the pillow, do not make so much of an impression when we talk about the consolations of religion. The world says right away, "I guess that man mistakes buoyancy of natural spirits for religion. What does he know about it? He has never been

tried." But when one goes out and reports to the world that that morning on his way to business he called to see you and found you, after being kept in your room for two months, cheerful and hopeful, and that you had not one word of complaint, and asked all about everybody, and rejoiced in the success of your business friends, although your own business had almost come to a standstill through your absence from store or office or shop, and that you sent your love to all your old friends, and told them that if you did not meet them again in this world, you hoped to meet them in dominions seraphic, with a quiet word of advice from you to the man who carried the message about the importance of his not neglecting his own soul, but through Christ seeking something better than this world could give him—why, all the business men in the counting-room say, "Good! Now, that is religion!" And the clerks get hold of the story, and talk it over so that the welder and cooper and blackman, standing on the doorstep, say: "That is splendid! Now, that is what I call religion!"

It is a good thing to preach on a Sunday morning, the people assembled in most respectable attire and seated on soft cushions, the preacher standing in neatly upholstered pulpit, surrounded by personal friends, and after an inspiring hymn has been sung, and that sermon, if preached in faith, will do good; but the most effective sermon is preached by one seated in dressing-gown, in an armchair into which the invalid has with much care been lifted, the surrounding shelves filled with medicine bottles, some to produce sleep, some for the relief of sudden paroxysms, some for stimulant, some for tonic, some for anodyne, and some for rebrutement, the pale preacher quoting promises of the gospel, telling of the glories of a sympathetic Christ, assuring the one or two or three persons who hear it of the mighty reinforcements of religion. You say that to such a sermon there are only one or two to three hearers. Aye! But the visitor calling at that room, then closing the door softly and going away, tells the story, and the whole neighborhood hears it, and it will take all eternity to realize the grand and uplifting influence of that sermon about God and the soul, though preached to an audience of only one man or one woman. The Lord has ordained all such invalids for a style of usefulness which athletics and men of two hundred healthy avoirdupois cannot affect. It was not an enemy that fastened you in that one room or sent you on crutches, the longest journey you have made for many weeks being from bed to sofa and from sofa to looking-glass, where you are shocked at the pallor of your own cheek and the pinchedness of your features; then back again from mirror to sofa and sofa to bed, with a long sigh, saying, "How good it feels to get back again to my old place on the pillow!" Remember, who it is that appointed the day, when, for the first time in many years, you could not go to business, and who has kept a record of all the weary days and all the sleepless nights of your exile from the world. Oh, weary man! Oh, feeble woman! It was the Lord who shut you in. Do you remember that some of the noblest and best of men have been prisoners? Ezeiel a prisoner, Jeremiah a prisoner, Paul a prisoner, St. John a prisoner, John Bunyan a prisoner. Though human hate seemed to have all to do with them, really the Lord shut them in.

Do you forget when, in childhood, you danced and skipped because you were so full of life you had not patience to walk, and in after years you climbed the mountains of Switzerland, putting your alpenstock high up on glaciers which few others ever dared, and jumped long reaches in competition, and after a walk of ten miles you came in jocular as the morning? Oh, you shut-ins! Thank God for a vivid memory of the times when you were free as the champs on the rocks, as the eagle going straight for the sun. When the rain pounded the roof of the ark the eight voyagers on that craft did not forget the time when it gaily pattered in a summer shower, and when the door of the ark shut to keep out the tempest, they did not forget the time when the door of their home in Armezia was closed to keep out the spring rains which came to fill the cups of lily and honeysuckle and make all the trees of the wood clap their hands.

Notice, also, that there was a limit to the shut-in experience of those ancient mariners. I suppose the forty days of the descending and uprising floods, and the 150 days before the passengers could go ashore must have seemed to those eight people in the big boat like a small eternity. "Rain, rain, rain!" said the wife of Noah. "Will it never stop?" For forty mornings they looked out and saw not one patch of blue sky. Floating around amid the peaks of mountains, Shem, and Ham, and Japheth had to hush the fears of their wives lest they should dash against the projecting rocks. But after awhile it cleared off. Sunshine, glorious sunshine! The ascending mists were folded up into clouds, which instead of darkening the sky only ornamented it. As they looked out of the windows these worn passengers clapped their hands and rejoiced that the storm was over, and I think if God could stop a storm as that, he could stop any storm in your lifetime experience. If he can control a vulture in mid-sky, he can stop a summer bat that flies in at your window. At the right time he will put the rainbow on the cloud and the deluge of your misfortunes will dry up. I preach the doctrine of limitation, relief and disengagement. At just the right time the pain will cease, the

bondage will drop, the imprisoned will be liberated, the fires will go out, the body and mind and soul will be free. Patience! An old English proverb referring to long-continued invalidism, says, "A creaking gate hangs long on its hinges," and this may be a protracted case of valetudinarianism; but you will have taken the last bitter drop, you will have suffered the last misinterpretation, you will feel the gnawing of the last hunger, you will have fainted the last time from exhaustion, you will have felt the cut of the last lancet, you will have wept under the last loneliness. The last week of the Noachian deluge came, the last day, the last hour, the last moment. The beating of the rain on the roof ceased, and the dashing of the billows on the side of the ship quieted, and peacefully as a yacht moves out over quiet Lake Cayuga, Como or Luzerne, the ark, with its illustrious passengers and important freight, glided to its mountain wharfage.

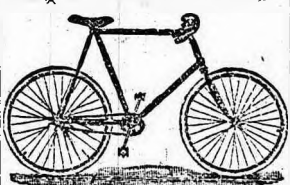
Meanwhile you have all divine and angelic sympathy in your infirmities. That Satan thoroughly understood poor human nature was evidenced when, in plotting to make Job do wrong, the great master of evil, after having failed in every other way to overthrow the good man, proposed physical distress, and then the bolt came which made him swear right out. The mightiest test of character is physical suffering. Critics are impatient at the way Thomas Carlyle scolded at everything. His seventy years of dyspepsia were enough to make any man scold. When you see people out of patience and irascible and lachrymose, inquire into the case, and before you get through with the exploration your hypercriticism will turn to pity, and to the divine and angelic sympathy will be added your own. The clouds of your indignation, which were full of thunderbolts, will begin to rain tears of pity.

By a strange Providence, for which I shall be forever grateful, circumstances with which I think you are all familiar, I have admission through the newspaper press, week by week, to tens of thousands of God's dear children, who cannot enter church on the Sabbath and hear their excellent pastors, because of the age of the sufferers, or their illness, or the lameness of foot, or their incapacity to stay in one position an hour and a half, or their poverty, or their troubles of some sort will not let them go out of doors, and to them as much as to those who hear me I preach this sermon, as I preach many of my sermons, the invisible audience always vaster than the visible, some of them tossed on wilder seas than those that tossed the eight members of Noah's family, and instead of forty days of storm and five months of being shut in, as they were, it has been with these invalids five years of "shut-in," or ten years of "shut-in," or twenty years of "shut-in." Oh, comforting God! Help me to comfort them! Give me two hands full of salve for their wounds. When we were three hundred miles out at sea, a hurricane struck us, and the life-boats were dashed from the davits and all the lights in the cabin were put out by the rolling of the ship and the water which through the broken skylights had poured in. Captain Andrews entered and said to the men on duty, "Why don't you light up and make things brighter, for we are going to outlive this storm? Passengers, cheer up! Cheer up!" And he struck a match and began to light the burners. He could not silence either the wind or the waves, but by the striking of that match, accompanied by encouraging words, we were all helped.

And as I now find many in hurricanes of trouble, though I cannot quiet the storm, I can strike a match to light up the darkness, and I strike a match: "Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." I strike another match: "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." I strike another match: "We have a great High Priest who can be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, and he was in all points tempted like as we are." Are you old? One breath of heaven will make you everlastingly young again. Have you aches and pains? They insure Christ's presence and sympathy through the darkest December nights, which are the longest nights of the year. Are you bereft? Here is a resurrected Christ, whose voice is full of resurrectionary power. Are you lonely? All the angels of heaven are ready to swoop into your companionship. Here is the Christ of Mary and Martha when they had lost Lazarus, and of David when he had lost his son, and of Abraham when he had lost Sarah, and of your father and mother when in time of old age they parted at the gates of the tomb. When last I was in Savannah, Georgia, at the close of the Sabbath morning service, I was asked to go and see a Christian woman, for many years an invalid. I went. I had not in all that beautiful city of splendid men and gracious women seen a face brighter than hers. Reaching her bedside, I put out my hand, but she could not shake hands, for her hand was palsied. I said to her, "How long have you been down on this bed?" She smiled and made no answer, for her tongue had been palsied; but those standing around said, "Fifteen years." I said to her, "Have you been able to keep your courage up all that time?" She gave me a very little motion of her head in affirmative, for her whole body was paralytic. The sermon I had preached that morning had no power on others compared with the power that silent sermon had on me. What was the secret of her conquest over pain and privation and incapacity to move? Shall I tell you the secret? I will tell you: The Lord shut her in.

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Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup For children teething, cures croup, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25 cents bottle.

Art may be long at times, but it's usually too short to make both ends meet.

My doctor said I would die, but Pils' Cure for Consumption cured me. Amos Kehler, Cherry Valley, Ill., Nov. 23, 1893.

Some feminine match-makers seem to make a specialty of friction matches.

There are no cross babies or sick babies in families that use Brown's Teething Cordial.

It's a sad blow to the boxer when the box-office receipts fail to pan out.

A cheap coat doesn't necessarily make a cheap man, but it makes him feel that way at times.

Did you ever See a Snow Storm in Summer?

We never did; but we have seen the clothing at this time of the year so covered with dandruff that it looked as if it had been out in a regular snow-storm.

No need of this snowstorm. As the summer sun would melt the falling snow so will

Ayer's Hair Vigor

melt these flakes of dandruff in the scalp. It goes further than this: it prevents their formation. It has still other properties: it will restore color to gray hair in just ten times out of every ten cases.

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Climate, Water, Scenery and Hotels are unequalled. Thirty days' time allowed and any amount of F. & M. V. R. R. or J. H. Gable, Traveling Passenger Agent, Sioux Falls, S. D., can tell you more about it. The next date will be

December 22, 1898.

When Advertising Advertisements Please Mention This Paper.

MY POOR WIFE.

BY J. P. SMITH.

CHAPTER XV.—(Continued.)

"My dear boy, wait a moment, just a moment," pleaded my uncle, his hand grasping my arm. "We will give you all the particulars we have gleaned. Don't—don't be afraid. Unfortunately up to the present we—we have no reliable clue to your wife's whereabouts more than the letter has probably given you; but we hope—"

"There's her hat—the hat she always wears in the garden; it looks all wet and muddy—she must have dropped it in the grass. Give it to me—give it to me! Finlay, what on earth have you jingling there? It—it looks—"

"I don't know what it is; do you recognize it, Mr. Dennys?" he answered, holding up a block of bruised metal from which hung a light rusted chain entangled in a rag of blue ribbon.

"That rubbish?—no. At first in the shade there I thought it looked not unlike a steel girde and chateleine my wife wears—one that I bought her at the Palais Royal last spring. I—I don't know what put it into my head. Give me the hat. Where was it found? Answer me, answer me! Are you all struck dumb?"

Then they told me, two or three of them taking up one another nervously, that the hat was picked up the morning before by the children of the Grange lodge in a bed of rushes down the river; that the chain and mass of metal had been found twisted round the big wheel of the Red Mill, and that it was recognized by Carter, my wife's maid, as part of the chateleine she undoubtedly wore the day she disappeared.

"You—you wish me to understand that my wife went down the river under the mill machinery like the girl long ago? You—you want me to believe that? Great heavens!"

"My dear boy—no, no. As long as there is no further confirmation, of course we—we must hope for the best; but—but you see, unfortunately the night was dark, and the river unusually swollen; it is so dangerous down by that broken bridge, so easy to miss one's footing in the—the—I say, catch him, catch him! Oh, poor fellow, he's falling!"

I saw their faces crowding round me, the room seemed to heave convulsively, and then I remembered nothing more for many weeks.

CHAPTER XVI.

One cold gusty evening in October, seven years after the pen had fallen from Paul Dennys' hand, two women, wearing the garb of the good Sisters of Nazareth, wended their way across the little country churchyard of Colworth and stood silently before a white marble cross bearing the following inscription—

"Sacred to the memory of Helen, the beloved wife of Paul Dennys of Colworth, who died 22nd of July, 187—, aged 19."

"It stood a few yards away from the huge stone monument under which generations of Dennyses slept, the reads and rushes from the river, flowing close by, rustling mournfully around it, making the spot so dismal and ghastly that the elder sister, a woman of a vigorous and unimaginative disposition, shuddered involuntarily and exclaimed half-pettishly to her silent companion—

"Well, sister, is our journey at an end? Is this the spot we have traveled over two hundred miles to visit?"

"Yes, I wanted to know if this Helen Dennys was buried here, and I find she is. I am ready to go back now, Sister Agatha, when you wish." She stooped to pick a spray of ivy growing round the cross, held it in her hand irresolutely for a moment, then flung it into the river and moved heavily away.

"No; wait a moment and rest yourself—you look quite exhausted. Don't sit on the grass, child; do you wish to get your death of cold? Sit here on the slab beside me," cried Sister Agatha, laying a motherly hand on her companion's shoulder.

She obeyed, tossing back her heavy crape veil, and lifted a wan listless face to the low murky sky.

"Poor Helen!" she sighed presently, with a weak laugh. "They haven't given her a very dry bed, have they? They might have moved her a little farther, even though it were only her memory mouldering there."

Sister Agatha made no reply, but read aloud the inscription, commenting softly, aged nineteen. That was young to bid good-by to earthly happiness. Was this Helen a relation—any one you loved—Sister Clothilde?"

"I knew her all her life; though she died young in years, she was old in sorrow."

"Let me speak, let me speak now. It will do me good, and I will be better after that for the rest of my life! Let me tell you the story of the 'beloved' wife who lies here; it will do me good."

"Very well, my dear, if it will ease your mind, I will listen," she answered soothingly, looking at her companion with keen anxious glance.

"It's not a long story, and a common-place one enough. She—that Helen—lived up in the red house the chimneys of which you can see smoking among the trees, and she believed herself beloved as that cross asserts she was; but in a very short time she found out her mistake—found out her husband had only married her out of pique and disappointment—that he loved another woman fairer than she. Her rival came to stay in the house with her; the wife was tried, tortured, maddened to despair, and one day she disappeared from her home, leaving a letter saying she had gone never to return. No trace was found of her, but after a few days sufficient evidence was had to lead her husband to believe that she had been drowned in that river flowing there under the wall, and her body ground to pieces in some mill machinery half a mile further down."

"What a horrible story! Poor soul—poor soul! Was it proved to be accidental—or otherwise?"

"That no one will know until the day all things will be made known. They have not judged her harshly here; let not us do otherwise."

"And the husband, sister?"

"He—the story says—went raving about the country seeking her, at first, as if he had lost the treasure of his life, and, five months after her death, married her rival."

"Five months? They live very happily together now surrounded with their children. That's the whole story, and it ends in the orthodox style with a happy marriage, you see. Now let us go, or we shall miss our train."

With a glance toward the chimneys, Sister Agatha put her arm within her companion's, and they walked quickly and silently through the long wet grass, over the old bridge above the mill, to the station half a mile away. When they arrived there the up train was slowly moving away from the platform, and to their dismayed inquiries the station-master informed them there would not be another until 15. It was then only half-past seven. Four dreary hours stretched before them, to be got rid of—how? Sister Agatha, who had been up the three preceding nights nursing the sick, and who had a week of hard work before her, prior to her departure for New Zealand, where she, her companion, and three other nuns were going to found a convent, lost no time in making up her mind how to dispose of the time before them. Seating herself in a retired corner of the waiting-room, she fell into a heavy sleep, after having urged her companion to follow her example.

Clothilde tried to do so, but it was in vain, sleep would not come. Visions of past days, past happiness, hope, and sorrow floated before her—voices she had loved before she left the world sounded in her ears.

When the last train from town arrived, the quiet station became a scene of bustle and excitement—porters, guards, passengers flitted hurriedly by, doors were slammed; but Sister Agatha slept placidly through it all, and her companion drawing her thick veil over her bitious funnel-shaped bonnet, shrank farther into her corner. Two or three travelers invaded the room for a moment, then hurried out, and the train slowly moved on. Clothilde had just pushed aside her stifling veil, when the door opened again, and a plump unglowed hand, sparkling with diamonds, thrust two children hastily in, a gay, vibrating voice, that sent the blood rushing to the nun's white face, calling out—

"Children, stay there until nurse comes to fetch you; don't attempt to leave this room. Percy, take care of your sister, do you hear?"

"Don't be afraid, Cissy, I'll take care of you," said the boy, a beautiful child of about five with golden curls falling over his face. "The room is dark, but—"

"Who are you? What's your name? Tell me quick—quick—I must know!"

The little fellow started back, threw his arm around his sister, as he stared awe-struck into the white face and burning eyes of a woman in a long black cloak towering over him, a woman he had never seen before, yet whom he knew perfectly on the moment—the white witch of Carving Knife Cave who sucked the blood of crying children, that nurse told them about when they were naughty.

"I am Percy Edward Stopford Dennys of Colworth, and this is my sister, Edith Cicely Stopford Dennys, and—oh," quavered the child, his hands clasped entreatingly, "if you will let us off this time, we will never—never be naughty again, never stick pins into Reggie, or get out of our coats in the night, or—"

"Hush—hush! I am not going to touch you. Go away—away into that corner near the door. Don't speak to me—don't look at me again, and you are safe. Go—go!"

They went; and Helen Dennys, who was supposed to have been drowned seven years ago, sank back into her seat and covered her face with her hands in a passion of despair and stormy revolt, almost as fierce as that which swept her the morning she tried to take her husband's life.

CHAPTER XVII.

Presently the door opened again, and a portly nurse, laden with a gorgeously-clad baby, waddled in, speedily followed by the owner of the gay voice and begemmed fingers, namely, Mrs. Dennys of Colworth, a stately well-conditioned lady, on whose lovely blooming face not the faintest trace of shame, remorse, regret lingered—a face that was the embodiment of supreme self-satisfaction and unshadowed prosperity. Helen looked into it long and deeply with hungry eyes, then turned to the wall, when a shower of hot tears dimmed her sight.

"I tell you, Halpin, the box is somewhere in the station; the porter distinctly saw it being lifted out of the last train, and I won't leave the station until it is found. I really never met such a helpless and stupid woman as you; it is unbearable!" cried Mrs. Dennys angrily, stamping her foot.

"Hullo, Hullo, wife, what's the storm about?" interposed a man's voice. "Is half your net nursery missing, or what?"

"My bonnet-box from Elsie's is missing, Mr. Dennys, and I am telling Halpin that I won't leave the station until it is forthcoming; I'll not have the history of my emerald bracelet repeated."

Mr. Dennys made a half-scolding, half-bantering reply; at the same time, seizing his little girl, he perched her on his shoulder. The child clung to him fearfully, her eyes fixed upon the dark figure, which nobody seemed to notice.

Helen's lips moved in incoherent terrific prayer, her hands pressed to her eyes.

"Help me, help me, O Heaven!" she prayed. "Oh, do not desert me after seven years' struggle, don't let my sacrifice be all in vain! I have suffered, I have struggled! Oh, for pity's sake help me now, or I—I ruin—ruin him I love! Paul, Paul, if you love your wife, your children, your happy home, go—go quick, before my strength leaves me, before I look at you—before I look at you again."

She leaned forward rocking herself to and fro in the fever of temptation, moaning feebly, until some one touched her upraised arm, and her hand fell instinctively. Edith's husband was standing beside her, speaking to her.

"I beg your pardon, madam, there is a parcel under your seat. Would you allow me to see if it is the one we are looking for? No, it is not; thanks. I am sorry for disturbing you."

He moved away, not a gleam of recognition in his face, and she looked after him dumbly, her hands lying on her lap.

At first she could not see him plainly for a red mist shrouded her eyes; but it passed away, and he stood clear before her, a man in the prime of life; stalwart and shapely, with a handsome sunny face as insouciant, free from frowns and care as Edith's own, a man whom the world used well, who had obeyed her last request in the spirit as well as the letter. Changed; oh, so little changed since the summer days long ago, when she watched him die on her lips, the tumult in her body and redder in face, but otherwise unchanged, unchanged!

(To be Continued.)

WHEN TOLSTOI WRITES A BOOK

Count Leo Tolstoi is such an original author that it is not in the least surprising that his modus operandi when writing a book is equally so. As soon as he has decided what the plot of a new novel is to be he makes a rough sketch of the whole, leaving out details, using for the purpose quarto paper of the commonest description, probably from motives of economy, as his handwriting is so large that he uses an enormous amount of paper for very little work; this he gives to his wife or one of his daughters to rewrite and reduce to something like neatness. As soon as the first manuscript is ready he works up the plot and fills in some of the details, writing his own comments and ideas, for future alteration, in the margin.

From the first copy a second and third are made, each in the same way. If there is any part with which Count Tolstoi is very much dissatisfied, he will take the trouble to write and rewrite it as many as eight or nine times, sooner than pass anything with which he is not quite pleased; he very seldom succeeds at once in describing any very remarkable scene, and when any great difficulty presents itself he adopts the highly original way of getting over it and collecting his ideas by playing a game of "Patience."

Critical as he is about his own work, Count Tolstoi meets with still sharper criticism from his wife and family, and as he places great reliance on their judgment and good taste in all things relating to literature, as soon as a new novel is completed he reads it over to them, in order that they may suggest such alterations as they think advisable; some of which suggestions he acts upon. When the proofsheets are sent in their correction absorbs his whole time and attention, and it is said that no living author gives his publisher so much trouble, owing to the numberless alterations he insists upon.

Champagne was first made by monks in the seventeenth century.

WESTERN CANADA PRAIRIES.
 Future Welfare of the Continent Lies in Their Fertile Fields.

The rapid progress that is being made in the settlement of the fertile prairies of Western Canada is leading to the investigation of its resources by those interested in having provision made for those living in the crowded east, for those who have been struggling for years on impoverished farms, for the renter who is unable any longer to bear up under the strain imposed by the landlord, and for the farmer who, unable to purchase farms for his sons in his own neighborhood, has to look around for lower priced lands. The investigation shows that it is impossible to meet these conditions successfully outside of Western Canada. Already millions of bushels of wheat are being grown there each year, while as many as 50,000 head of cattle were shipped out this year. A representative of the Germania, Milwaukee, one of the leading German papers in the United States, recently made a trip through Manitoba, Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, where lie the free government lands of Western Canada, and in a future issue will appear extracts from flattering letters contributed to the Germania and other papers by their special correspondents. As an inducement for immigrants to make their homes in Canada, the Canadian government offers 160 acres of land free of cost to any settler.

For further information apply to Canadian Government Agent, Department Interior, Ottawa, Canada, or residents of Michigan address M. V. McInnes, No. 1 Merrill Block, Detroit, James Grievie, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., or D. L. Caven, Bad Axe, Mich.

A man can always tickle his wife with a feather—if it happens to be an ostrich feather.

Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup seems especially adapted to the needs of the children. Pleasant to take; soothing in its influence; it is the remedy of all remedies for every form of throat and lung disease.

A sandbag in the hands of a hold-up man is a stunning affair.

"Itching hemorrhoids were the plague of my life. Was almost wild. Doan's Ointment cured me quickly and permanently; after doctors had failed." C. F. Cornwell, Valley Street, Saugerettes, N. Y.

The boy with made-over trousers takes after his father.

Ordinary household accidents have no terrors when there's a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil in the medicine chest. Heals burns, cuts, bruises, sprains. Instant relief.

It is the silent man that is usually worth listening to.

As a Poker Stiff; As a Boil Sore—from a cold. Warm up with a rub of

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It drives out the Cold and Cures.

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Nothing but wheat as far as the eye could reach on either side: what you might call a sea of wheat," was what a lecturer speaking of Western Canada said while referring to that country. For particulars as to routes, railway fares, etc. apply to CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AGENT, Department Interior, Ottawa, Canada, or residents of Michigan address M. V. McInnes, No. 1 Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.; James Grievie, Bad City, Mich., or D. L. Caven, Bad Axe, Mich.

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 TIME TABLE.

In effect Oct. 15 1898.

Trains leave Plymouth as follows:

STANDARD TIME	GOING SOUTH	GOING NORTH
Train No. 4, 10:05 a. m.	Train 1, 9:10 a. m.	
" No. 6, 2:25 p. m.	" 3, 9:12 a. m.	
" No. 8, 8:45 p. m.	" 5, 2:50 p. m.	
" No. 10, 6:40 a. m.	" 7, 7:05 p. m.	

Trains Nos. 3 and 9 run through to Alpena.
 Train No. 3 connects at Ludington with steamer for Manitowick and Milwaukee (weather permitting) making connections for all points west and Northwest.
 Sleeping Parlor Cars between Alpena, Bay City, Saginaw and Detroit.
 Train No. 8 runs daily, from Bay City to Detroit. On Western Division it runs daily, except Sunday. Trains leave for Toledo at 6:30 a. m., 10:35 a. m., and 2:35 p. m.

For further information see Time Cards accompanying.

ED. PELTON, Local Agent.

DETROIT Grand Rapids & Eastern
 SEPT. 25, 1898.

GOING EAST	GOING WEST
Grand Rapids 7:15	7:15
Lansing 7:30	7:30
Flint 7:45	7:45
Ann Arbor 8:00	8:00
PLYMOUTH 10:50	10:50
DETROIT 11:40	11:40

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 Our Rates and Terms Stated.

Plymouth Markets.
 The following is the market report for Plymouth as corrected every Friday:

Wheat, No. 2 red,	62
Wheat, No. 1 white,	62
Oats, new	25
Rye, No. 2,	47
Butter,	16
Eggs,	20
Potatoes,	25
Beans, according to sample,	60-80

CORRESPONDENCE.

Livonia Center.
 Harry Peck is able to again attend school.
 Sleighting in this vicinity is fine but cutters are scarce.
 Mrs. S. Turnbul is able to be out again after her serious illness.
 Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Flint, of Detroit, called on acquaintances the fore part of the week.
 John Stringer took a business trip to Detroit, Wednesday. Now look out for Xmas presents.
 Mr. and Mrs. Will Smith visited the latter's brother, Charley, last Sunday; and then spent the evening with the former's Aunt, Mrs. Stringer.
 Thanks to the East Livonia scribbles for his insinuation about our Center blacksmith shop. We have a good shop and good work done too and the customers are willing to pay for it, and not stand back and find fault and growl and let their debts go unpaid. Everyone has enough to attend to if they attend to their own affairs.
 —The Markham Manufacturing Co., wishes to purchase 100,000 feet of soft maple logs. 589

Do You Want \$250 in Cash?
 The proprietors of Cleveland's Lung Healer, the greatest cough medicine of modern times, are offering to the people of Plymouth \$250 in cash prizes in order to introduce their wonderful remedy, which never fails, and which is sold on a positive guarantee, no cure, no pay. The prizes are offered for the correct solutions of Picture Puzzles taken from incidents in the Spanish war and are very interesting. For full particulars and free sample apply at once to Geo. W. Hunter & Co.

East Livonia.
 Winter has come in good earnest. This is the coldest December weather that we have had in thirteen years.
 Fred Milroy has purchased a fine lot of sawing timber of Charles Liverance and is converting it into lumber for the Detroit market.
 There is no potato that can compare in yield with the White Giant, having yielded this year over 400 bushels per acre. For sale by J. F. Criger, East Livonia.

Charley Rutenborn has rented the forty acre farm one-half mile north of Elm known as the Palmer farm and will move onto it as soon as Frank Rosco moves off.
 The infant child of August Crum, died on Monday last of throat trouble. The doctor was unable to decide what the disease was. The remains were interred in Clarenceville cemetery on Thursday last.
 John Baur butchered two March pigs that weighed 500 pounds. How is that for March shoats. Not many men would have got them to reach that weight, but John is a thorough farmer and attends to feeding at just the right time.

The taxes here in Livonia seem to be no higher than last year although Pingree used a very large amount of money to help the war with Spain along. Some thought the state taxes would be so high as to raise our taxes considerable but our supervisor is on the alert to keep down expenses and watch out for the people.
 The electric road running out Grand River road to Farmington has changed its course. Instead of going from Sand Hill to Farmington it will cut off at Five Points on Grand River road and run straight west on Northville road to Northville village. The township board signed the franchise Saturday last. So Farmington, to all appearances, will be left out in the cold.

An Entertaining Druggist.
 There are few men more wide awake and enterprising than J. L. Gale who spares no pains to secure the best of everything in his line for his many customers. They now have the valuable agency for Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. This is a wonderful remedy that is producing such a furor all over the country by its many startling cures. It absolutely cures Asthma, Bronchitis, Hoarseness and all affections of the Throat, Chest and Lungs. Call at above drug store and get a trial bottle free or a regular size for 40 cents and \$1.00. Guaranteed to cure or price refunded.

For Hoarseness.
 Benj. Ingerson, of Hutton, Ind., says he had not spoken above a whisper for months, and one bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar restored his voice. It is used very largely by speakers and singers.
 Don't be fooled and pay 50-cents for Pills or Tablets when you can buy Knill's Red Pills for Wan People. Worn out people, Knill's Blue Kidney Pills, Knill's Dyspepsia Tablets, strongest. 25c

Continued from fifth page.
 T. C. Sherwood has been invited to speak next Sunday morning in the Methodist church on the subject, "Some of the Discouragements of Life." All are cordially invited.
 There will be a Christmas tree at the M. E. church on Saturday night, Dec. 24, and on Sunday night, Dec. 25th, a Christmas concert will be given by members of the Sunday school.
 Men are at work this week putting in the water pipe extension on Ann Arbor street. There is about 150 feet of four inch pipe which will be taken up and replaced with six inch.
 A. D. Prout, the barber, will occupy a part of the building recently vacated by the Conner Hardware Co. It has been fixed over to suit the tenant and will make a very desirable location.
 Mrs. James Rawson, of Newburg, died Wednesday, Dec. 14th of spinal meningitis. Deceased was sick just two weeks. The funeral will be held at the Newburg church Saturday at one o'clock p. m.
 The Dohmstreich store will be fixed over and occupied by Huston & Co. as a hardware store. This is probably the largest store in town and if Mr. Huston fills it with hardware he will have a good sized stock.
 Eight more days till Christmas. This leaves plenty of time for holiday buying. Don't miss the many bargains offered by Plymouth merchants. They never had a larger or more varied assortment than at the present time.
 When Huston & Co. get ready to move into the Dohmstreich store, G. G. Draper, the jeweler, will be forced to vacate, in consequence of which Mr. Draper has rented a part of the Conner building and will move January 1st.
 A large number of our young people took advantage of the fine sleighing and went to Newburg last Friday night to attend a social given in the hall by the Epworth league. The only drawback to a splendid time is the fact that there were not boxes enough to go around and several of the boys had to call on "Bob" for sardines and crackers.
 Next week the annual donation from the citizens of Plymouth to the Sly orphan home at Lansing will be sent. We urge those who desire to contribute money or clothes (old or new) to this worthy cause to leave same with Mrs. L. C. Hough at once. Let this be the best donation Plymouth has ever made, to relieve poor orphan children.

Why isn't a drunken steer corned beef? Why are not two bootblacks a pair of rubbers? Why shouldn't one expect to find ticks on a watch dog? Why don't more people follow the advice they give to others? Why will men chew boarding house mince pie and eschew ordinary hash? Why does the desire to make a fool of one's self, spring eternal in the human breast? Why does a man boot a dog shoo a hen, foot a bill, cap a climax and steal a glance?
 The "moving picture" entertainment which was given at the opera house last Friday night by the Kline Cinematograph Co., was not a fake, as many imagined it would be, but a real live biograph show. There was a good attendance and several signified a desire to have the company remain another night, but as they were billed at Wayne it was impossible for them to do so. If they should ever return to Plymouth they will be given a warm reception.
 O. Westfall & Son of this city and J. White of Saline have purchased the livery business of C. Y. Yost, who will retire. The sale does not include all of the stock owned by Mr. Yost, who will dispose of that retained by him later. Mr. Yost has kept a model livery, and enjoyed deserved success. Westfall & Son have also earned a fine reputation in the same line, and will continue a first-class business.—Ypsilanti Sentinel.

Frederick Stearns, of Detroit, has given to the University of Michigan his famous collection of musical instruments, the most valuable one of its kind in the country. The collection contains over 1,000 rare musical instruments, and Mr. Stearns has spent fifteen years and a vast amount of money in getting it together.
 From an exchange: "When you ask an editor to suppress an item of news because it does not suit you, then go and ask your grocer to exclude pickles from his store because you can't eat them, or your butcher to quit keeping, Bologna because it goes against your stomach. There is just as much fairness in one as in the other. News is the editor's stock in trade. So are pickles to a grocer and Bologna to a butcher."

The Vermont Plant.
 The plant known as vervain, which is not distinguished for its beauty, and which grows now-a-days utterly disregarded, was so sacred to the Druids that they only gathered it for their divinations when the great dog-star arose, in order that neither sun nor moon should see the deed.
 Don't kick an infuriated dog when you have slippers on.

Are You Going to Build?
 If so call on us for Figures.
 We will not be undersold by any retail yard. We handle all kinds of
 Lumber, Lath, Shingles, etc.
 Get our figures before going elsewhere.
COAL COAL
 We have on hand the best grade of both Scranton and Lehigh Coal, \$5.75 per ton delivered, \$5.50 at the yard.
 Also a fine lot of Cedar Shingles at \$2.45 per thousand.
C. A. FRISBEE,
 E. C. LEACH, L. H. BENNETT, Pres. Vice-Pres
 C. A. FISHER, Assistant Cashier

PLYMOUTH SAVINGS BANK
 CAPITAL \$50,000.
 3 Per Cent paid on certificates and savings deposits
 A portion of your business solicited.
E. K. BENNETT, Cashier

REPORT OF THE CONDITION
 OF THE
PLYMOUTH SAVINGS BANK,
 At Plymouth, Michigan, at the close of business Dec. 1st, 1898.

RESOURCES.	AMOUNT.
Loans and discounts	\$131,154 73
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	1,778 57
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	47,352 29
U. S. Bonds	1,957 91
Banking house	4,500 00
Furniture and fixtures	3,922 98
Other real estate	7,522 98
Due from banks in reserve cities	11,550 00
Exchanges for clearing	47,040 27
house	220 41
Checks and cash items	415 90
Nickels and cents	60 31
Gold coin	4,361 80
Silver coin	2,008 35
U. S. and Nat'l Bank Notes	55,067 34
Total	\$256,765 25

LIABILITIES.
 Capital stock paid in \$50,000 00
 Surplus fund 10,000 00
 Undivided profits, less taxes, expenses and interest paid 3,261 19
 Dividends unpaid 60 00
 Commercial deposits 43,432 13
 Certificates of deposit 25,896 25
 Savings deposits 94,165 65
 Total \$187,484 06

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
 COUNTY OF WAYNE,
 I, E. K. Bennett, cashier of the above named Bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of Dec., 1898.
 EUGENE P. LOMBARD, Notary Public

Correct—Attest:
 L. N. STARKWEATHER,
 L. H. BENNETT,
 E. C. LEACH,
 Directors

REPORT OF THE CONDITION
 OF THE
First National Exchange Bank,
 at Plymouth, in the State of Michigan, at the close of business, Dec. 1st, 1898.

RESOURCES.	AMOUNT.
Loans and discounts	\$88,791 83
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	619 42
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	12,500 00
U. S. Bonds	1,375 00
Banking-house, furniture, and fixtures	7,383 45
Due from approved reserve agents	32,578 25
Notes of other National Banks	6,809 00
Fractional paper currency, notes, and coins	221 58
Specie	6,835 80
Legal tender notes	6,535 50
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer, 5 per cent of circulation	562 50
Due from U. S. Treasurer, other than 5 per cent redemption fund	37 80
Total	\$155,084 33

LIABILITIES:
 Capital stock paid in \$50,000 00
 Surplus fund 5,000 00
 Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid 2,634 50
 National Bank notes outstanding 10,691 00
 Dividends unpaid 60 00
 Individual deposits subject to check 39,911 83
 Demand certificates of deposit 49,285 00
 Total \$155,084 33

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
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 I, O. A. Fraser, cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of Dec. 1898.
 EUGENE P. LOMBARD, Notary Public, Wayne Co.

Correct—Attest:
 R. C. SAFFORD,
 HENRY F. HOEVER,
 E. W. CHAFFEE,
 Directors.

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 C. A. FISHER, Assistant Cashier

A. PELHAM,
 DENTIST.

GRINDING
 5cts. A BAG.

No extra charge for shelling.
Phoenix Milling Co.,
 PLYMOUTH, MICH.
 Be sure and ask your dealer for Plymouth Rock Flour.

Horse Blankets
 Square and Shaped.
 Stable Blankets. Plush and Fur Robes.
 Look at these prices!
 9 lb. Square Blanket, \$1 75
 7 lb. " " " 1 50
 6 lb. " " " 1 25
 5 lb. " " " 1 00
 4 1-2 " " " 75

The genuine Burlington Stayon Stable Blanket, \$1.25 to \$2.50
 The largest and most complete line of Plush and Fur Robes, Gloves and Mittens ever shown in Plymouth.

F. E. LAMPHERE, PLYMOUTH, MICH.

The Detroit & Lima Northern Railway.
 Time Card in effect May 12, 1898.

No. 1 Daily Ex. Sun.	No. 2 Daily Ex. Sun.	No. 3 Daily Ex. Sun.	No. 4 Daily Ex. Sun.	No. 5 Daily Ex. Sun.	No. 6 Daily Ex. Sun.
7:15 am	8:00 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	12:10 pm	10:30 am
7:27	8:12	6:42	6:42	11:40 am	10:00
7:42	8:28	6:57	6:57	11:30	9:52
7:50	8:36	7:05	7:05	11:20	9:40
8:02	8:47	7:17	7:17	11:00	9:27
8:15	8:59	7:30	7:30	10:55	9:16
8:28	9:09	7:39	7:39	10:54	9:11
8:38	9:14	7:44	7:44	10:48	9:00
8:49	9:25	7:55	7:55	10:38	8:55
8:58	9:34	8:00	8:00	10:33	8:50
9:05	9:40	8:07	8:07	10:18	8:35
9:13	9:45	8:15	8:15	9:43	7:50
10:08	9:47	8:18	8:18	9:21	7:25
10:46	9:53	8:25	8:25	8:46	7:54
10:52	9:59	8:29	8:29	8:40	7:48
11:10	9:56	8:32	8:32	8:28	7:31
11:20	9:58	8:34	8:34	8:16	7:19
11:30	9:58	8:35	8:35	8:06	7:08
11:33	9:58	8:35	8:35	7:46	6:58
12:08	9:58	8:35	8:35	7:32	6:41
12:26	9:58	8:35	8:35	7:14	6:23
12:37	9:58	8:35	8:35	7:01	6:14
12:49	9:58	8:35	8:35	6:53	6:02
1:03	9:58	8:35	8:35	6:42	5:52
1:17	9:58	8:35	8:35	6:32	5:42

For information relative to rates to all points East, West, North or South call on nearest agent or address the General Passenger Agent, J. R. MEGRUE, General Mgr., Detroit. C. A. CHAMBERS, G. P. A.

WE ARE DOING
A BIG BUSINESS
 Because our customers are treated right at our market.

Our Trade is Increasing
 Because we sell the Best Meats that can be procured.
Chickens and Turkeys for the Holidays.
 Orders called for and delivered.

H. HARRIS.
YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO BE RUINED.
 Laundry Work is Worth Doing Well, if at all.
SEND US YOUR LAUNDRY.....
 work, and you may be sure it is in good company.

The Plymouth Star Cash Laundry.
 REA BROS., Proprietor.
 Subscribe for your Magazines at Mail Office.