

The Michigan Tradesman.

VOL. 1.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1883.

NO. 12.

CODY, BALL & CO.,

Wholesale Grocers!

9, 11, 13 & 15 Pearl Street, and 13, 15, 17 & 19 Campan Street,

GRAND RAPIDS, - MICHIGAN.

We Carry a Large Stock of Plug, Fine Cut and Smoking Tobaccos of the Finest Grades, among which are

Lorillard's "Climax" Plug and

Lorillard's "Rose Leaf" Fine Cut.

—WE ARE SPECIAL AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF—

Weisinger & Bates' "Hold Fast" Plug!

McAlpin's COLD SHIELD Plug,

Harris' SENTINEL Plug,

Harris' HONEY BEE Plug,

—WE KEEP THE FINEST AND LARGEST LINE OF—

TEAS, COFFEES, SYRUPS and SPICES

In the City, and Solicit Your Orders When in Need of Anything in Our Line.

—WE HAVE ALSO A FINE LOT OF—

'Herkimer County' & 'Riverside' Cheese

FOR WINTER USE.

Will Be Pleased To Have Our Friends Call On Us When In The City.

SPRING & COMPANY

—WHOLESALE DEALERS IN—

FANCY AND

STAPLE DRY GOODS

CARPETS,

MATTINGS,

OIL CLOTHS,

ETC., ETC.

6 and 8 Monroe Street,

Grand Rapids,

Michigan.

THE NUT TRADE.

Review of the Business from a Boston Stand-Point.

From the Boston Commercial Reporter.

The nut business is usually brisk at this season of the year. The activity now is owing to the demand for the Christmas and New Year's festivals. The different classes of nuts taken in the order of their importance are peanuts, walnuts, filberts, pecans, almonds, castanas, chestnuts and shellbarks. The chestnut and shellbark trade is confined almost wholly to the last two months of the year. These nuts begin to come forward early in November, and the crops are almost entirely cleaned up before January 1.

Connecticut is the great chestnut producing State. Massachusetts and New Hampshire also grow some, but the crop is not as large as the Connecticut and the quality is poorer. Maryland is also a producer, but only a small amount is shipped to this market. The crop last year in the Northern States was a fine one. It began to come in during October and lasted until December. The prices last year ruled from \$3 to \$3.50 per bushel. This year the crop is small, being only about two-thirds the amount of last year's. It did not begin to come in until about November 1 and is now almost wholly cleaned up. The nuts have been small and the quality has not been up to last year's, but prices have ruled from \$4.50 to \$5.

The shellbark crop is not above an average this year, although it is larger than last season's and the quality is a little better. These nuts come forward the same time as chestnuts and are generally cleaned up during December. The great bulk of these nuts comes from Ohio, although Pennsylvania and Missouri produce an inferior nut, and a considerable quantity is usually received from the Hudson River region. This year the receipts have been almost entirely from Ohio and Pennsylvania, the New York crop being a failure. The prices this year are \$1.40 to \$1.50 per bushel against \$1.75 to \$2 last year. The peanut crop began to come in about the last of October and is now coming forward slowly. The crop this year is not up to the average, though of good quality, and prices are likely to rule high. The opening prices this year have been 10 to 10 1/2 c per quart against 7 to 7 1/2 c last year. The old crop is entirely out of the market. The great peanut producing State is Virginia.

In former years, North Carolina used to furnish the leading nut but the Virginia is larger and of better quality. Tennessee produces a considerable amount but they are distributed through the West and only come to Boston when there is a scarcity of Virginians which are much superior in quality. The great bulk of the walnuts comes from Naples. They are what are known as English walnuts and are of superior quality to the French Grenoble and the Spanish Marabout, small amounts of which are also imported. New Naples walnuts are just arriving. The quality this year is better than last and the crop is reported to be a very good one in size. The prices are opening at 14 to 16 c per lb against 15 to 16 c last year. California walnuts have been brought into the market during the last few years, but they are of poorer quality than the foreign nuts though they are improving each season.

New filberts have not yet arrived, but are expected in about two weeks. These nuts are produced in Sicily and the crop is expected to be a large one, though nothing definite is received. The stock of old filberts is small and they are selling at 15 c per lb. Brazil nuts or castanas are in very limited supply now and are selling at 12 to 13 c per lb., with a prospect of higher prices, as the new crop, which does not come in until March, is reported to be 40 per cent. short. The opening price for these nuts last March was 6 to 6 1/2 c.

The pecan crop is a very large one this year. The new crop is just arriving and prices range from 11 to 17 c per lb. Lower prices are expected as the arrivals increase. A small amount of pecans comes from Louisiana, but Texas is the great producing region. The pecan crop is a large and important one and brings in considerable money to the Texas gatherers.

New almonds have not yet arrived but are expected about the end of this month. Reports from Italy state that the crop is short. Old almonds are in rather short supply and are being bought readily at 17 to 18 c per lb., as higher prices are anticipated when the new crop comes in.

A Mutual Understanding.

"Well," said an Austin merchant to a young man in his office, "I understand that you desire a position in my employ."

"Yes, sir," replied the youth, "and I think I can furnish you good testimonials."

"Well," said the merchant, "to be frank with you and not beat around the bush too much, I have already obtained information concerning you."

"Ah, that pleases me," rejoined the youth. "Yes, I have been told that you quite frequently take a glass or two too much."

"Indeed! The same has been told me of yourself, but I don't believe it. No man was in the habit of taking too much liquor would have kept me waiting here so long without asking me to step out and indulge. I don't believe I want to work for you, anyway. I think you have been misrepresented to me. Good day, sir."

What Constitutes a Car-Load.

Nominally a car-load is 20,000 pounds. It is also 70 barrels of salt, 70 of lime, 90 of flour, 60 of whisky, 200 sacks of flour, 6 cords of soft wood, 18 or 20 head of cattle, 50 or sixty head of hogs, 90 or 100 head of sheep, 9,000 feet of solid boards, 17,000 feet of siding, 13,000 feet of flooring, 40,000 shingles, one-half less green lumber, one-tenth less of joist, scantling and other large timbers, 340 bushels of wheat, 400 of barley, 400 of corn, 680 of oats, 300 of flax-seed, 360 of apples, 340 of Irish potatoes, 300 of sweet potatoes, 1,000 bushels of bran.

"What is that?" inquired a New Orleans commercial traveler at a rural hotel in Texas. "Them's brains," explained the waiter, pointing to a suspicious-looking side dish. "Brains, eh?" said the Crescent City man. "Well, I can tell you, after a sojourn of only a few hours in this town, that such a wasteful extravagance of intellectual development I have never seen in the whole course of my travels. You have no brains to spare in this town, and the sooner you quit dishing them up to transient guests the more economical you will become."

TRADE TALK.

Slight Improvement in Business All Around—Comparative Statements.

DRY GOODS.

A moderate business has been done the past week, and it is not unlikely that trade will hold up to its present volume until the first of the year. Collections are reported a trifle easier, doubtless owing to the nearness to annual settlements.

GROCERIES.

In groceries jobbers think they see a slight improvement, but do not dare to call it permanent. Collections are somewhat better. Dealers who wish to maintain a good credit should make an extra effort to pay now, as prompt payment in times like these "covers a multitude of sins," or words to that effect.

Canned goods are flat, and nothing doing. Prices are too low to live at, and are sure to go higher as soon as the demand starts. Coffees are slightly easier East, but as prices here have not been up to the Eastern basis, we make no change.

Raisins are higher and firm, and of good quality. Currents are easy and the crop rather inferior. Prunes are the cheapest they have been for years and look like a safe purchase.

Fish are dull. Syrups are moving slowly (generally do at this time of the year—joke, patented); but prices are higher. They have been too low for some time, and dealers may look out for still higher prices. Rice is rather firmer, with fair demand. There is no change to note in sugars.

PROVISIONS.

Pork has lately taken a jump of \$1 per barrel, on account of an active home demand and the repeal of the prohibitory legislation affecting American pork in France. Notwithstanding the advance, the staple still has an upward tendency, and will undoubtedly go still higher before the beginning of the year.

Beef has advanced, and will probably rise in price rapidly after January 1. A local dealer predicts that spring beef will be higher than at any time since the war.

Trade in all branches of the provision business is exceptionally good, as is usual at this season of the year.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Trade continues fair, and dealers are waiting for snow and slush to make business more active. This line probably suffers from business depression less than any other, and one jobber estimates that the sales this year will be within thirty per cent. of last. Collections are exceptionally good, considering the complaint from other lines of trade.

CANDY, NUTS AND FRUITS.

The year's business in the candy, fruit and nut trade has been entirely satisfactory. There has been no "boom" in this line, but a healthy, steady demand up to this time, and sales have been fully as heavy as last year. Local dealers predict a good business during the remainder of the year.

Florida oranges are still in good supply, and quality fine, and at the low prices now ruling, are moving off freely. A new variety of oranges has found its way into the market, called "Mandarin" oranges, a native of China. This fruit is now being cultivated in Florida, and is of a very superior quality.

Lemons are improving in quality, but on account of light supply of real good stock, are firmly held at full prices.

Malaga grapes are selling freely and are a shade higher in the Eastern markets.

Figs are in good supply and of good quality, and selling firmly at ruling prices.

Almonds and peanuts show a slight falling off in price, while Brazils, filberts and walnuts are higher.

DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

The drug business has for a time resumed its wonted activity, and promises to hold its own for some time to come. Collections are fairly good. Canary seed has advanced, and Tartaric acid, oil sassafras and oil wormwood declined.

FURNITURE.

The volume of business is not so great as a year ago, and none of the factories are working as many men as they were at that time. Wholesale trade is insufferably dull, and there is no probability of much improvement in prospect. Fewer new styles will be made for the spring trade than for several seasons past. The retail trade is showing considerable activity, as is usual at this season of the year.

HIDES, FELTS AND FURS.

Hides are picking up somewhat, in consequence of a stiffened feeling of the market, although there is no upward tendency in prices. Furs are not very firm, as late European advices indicate a weakened condition of the market.

FREIGHT SHIPMENTS.

Local freight agents say that the shipments by manufacturers and jobbers are in the aggregate about 15 per cent. less than last year.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Business in the above line has been rushing for a week past, in consequence of the nearness of the holiday season. Another week will witness the end of the rush for fancy and holiday goods, after which the question of collections will naturally assert itself.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Cider—Good quality and selling freely at 18c to 20c per gal.
Celery—Active and firm at 30c per doz.
Cabbage—Firm and scarce at 8 to 10 c per 100.
Fancy heads, 10c.

Clover Seed—Not much moving. Some sales made at 6.25 to 6.50 per bu.
Timothy—In ample supply at 1.65 per bu.

Sweet Potatoes—Jerseys, Baltimores and Illinois are firm and somewhat scarce at \$5 to \$5.50 per bbl. The winter kind-dried, which will be shipped whenever the weather permits, will be in stock until about the holiday season.

Grapes—Catawaba, very scarce at 10c.
Cranberries—Cultivated Wisconsin, \$10 to \$12 per bbl. Extra fancy, \$13.

Poultry—Easy. Spring chickens in good

demand, but old rather slow. Dressed chickens, 9 to 10c per lb., and old fowls, 7 to 8c. Eggs—Fresh eggs are a little more plentiful, but there is not yet enough to supply the demand. Those in the market readily command 27 to 28c, while pickled are plenty at 23 to 24c.

Dried Apples—Quarters, 7 to 8c per lb.; evaporated, 14 to 15c per lb.

Potatoes—In corn, 16 to 18c per lb.

Potatoes—No change from last week, and the glut in the market is as great as ever. Choice Burbanks and Rose are offered freely at 40c to 45c, but nearly everyone appears to be full, and there are few takers. Carload lots can be had at 35c.

Apples—Winter fruit is firmer, and is selling freely at \$3 to \$3.25 per bbl. Extra fancy, \$4.

Butter—Very dull and a trifle lower. Dairy rolls are moving slowly at 20c to 21c, and packed at 18c to 20c. Western creamery, 25c to 27c.

Onions—Dull and slow. Sales of choice yellow made at \$1.75 to \$2 per bbl., and 65c per bu. in sacks.

Squash—Hubbard selling at 1 1/2 c to 2c per lb.

Barley—New York patent, \$4.35 per 100 lbs, and \$8.50 per bbl. For ten barrel lots, these prices can be shaded slightly.

Cheese—Full cream, firm at 13 1/2 c; skim, active at 9c to 11c.

Beans—Slow sale at \$2.25 to \$2.50 for hand-picked, and \$1.75 to \$2 for medium.

Peas—Holland \$4.25 per bu.

Pears—California \$4 per case, and scarcely any moving, except for the city trade.

Ruta Bagas—Very firm at 45c per bu.

Beets—In good demand at 75c per bu.

Accidents Due to Overloading Cars.

The frequent accidents which have lately occurred on various roads in this country on account of broken rails are a theme of general discussion in railroad circles here. When the roads used from rails accidents were of much less frequent occurrence than they are now with sixty-pound steel rails. The accidents are therefore not believed to be due to the inferiority of the rails now in use. Railroad officials all agree that the rails are as good and strong as can be procured, but the trouble is, that the habit of overloading cars has become so common, and that the rails cannot bear the heavy strain they are subjected to. Formerly a common car-load was ten tons. Now this has gradually been increased to 25 tons. The only remedy is believed to lie in reducing the tonnage loaded in a car. The present maximum amount, 25 tons, is believed to be much too large, and it is claimed that no more than from 15 to 20 tons should be allowed to be loaded into a car. It is probable that a meeting of the railroad managers and superintendents of the various roads in this country will soon be held to take this matter into consideration and try to provide means by which a remedy for this serious evil can be effected.

New Corporations Authorized.

The following corporations have lately filed articles of association with the Secretary of State at Lansing:

Three Rivers Seminary, Three Rivers. Capital, \$12,000.

Iron Star Co., Detroit. Capital, \$500,000.

Street Railway Co., of Grand Rapids. Capital increased to \$400,000.

Reserve Mutual Life Association, Grand Rapids.

Rochester Cornet Band Association, Rochester.

Detroit Evening Journal Co., Detroit. Capital, \$37,500.

Grand Rapids Novelty Veneer Co. Name changed to Peninsular Furniture Co.

Nall, Lyon & Co., Detroit. Capital, \$50,000.

Monroe Manufacturing Co., Monroe. Capital, \$50,000.

Detroit Preserving Co., Detroit. Capital, \$100,000.

Honduras Timber Co., Grand Rapids. Capital, \$60,000.

Penbrook Knitting Co., Muskegon. Capital, \$10,000.

Assurance that Paid.

"Cannot you get to the store earlier mornings, Henry?" asked his employer, as the young man came in an hour late.

"Yes, sir," replied Henry, "I suppose I could if I should dispense with my morning nap, and go without my breakfast," and Henry sat down in the most comfortable chair in the counting-room, lighted his cigar, and was soon buried in the morning paper. His employer meanwhile was hard at work. Of course, Henry was not allowed to remain in the store many weeks. His impudence and assurance were too massive. He is now a commercial traveler, with an income of \$10,000 per annum.

Paper Carpet.

What can not be made of paper is something which can not yet be safely decided. A Hartford, Conn., man has lately taken out patents for devices by which very beautiful and substantial carpets can be made of paper at prices much lower than the cost of cotton matting. This new fabric even seems to have qualities entirely superior to ordinary carpets. It can be doctored so as to resist water, fire and insects without losing any of the soft elegance which is common to fine woolen carpets. At least so say the inventor and his friends.

Out of Town.

The notorious Newmans, "Paisa" and Samuel, have taken flight, and are reported to be enjoying themselves at South Bend, Ind. Their offer to compromise at 40 per cent. has been refused by the creditors, and they refuse to make another offer, and threaten to withdraw the one already made.

J. Sachem, who failed in this city January 5, 1876, with \$3,500 liabilities and \$7,500 nominal assets, and who subsequently settled with his creditors, recently made an assignment at Big Rapids to L. S. Baker.

Kalkaska Kalkaskan.—C. P. Sweet, proprietor of the Kalkaskan, has purchased the stock of ready made clothing brought here by Houseman & May, of Grand Rapids, a few months ago.

H. F. Campbell, grocer at Manton, has sold out J. C. Bostick.

A receiver has been appointed in the Wm. Oppenheimer matter at Whitehall.

Wm. Black has rented his hotel at Free-soil to C. R. Osborn.

C. W. Pratt, jeweler at Howard City, has moved to Big Rapids.

A counter-irritant—a clerk.

During the last five months the exports of silks from Lyons to the United States have fallen off \$1,000,000.

When one patent medicine cures all diseases, it is hard to understand the necessity of making so many kinds.

"No, sir, my daughter can never be yours," "I don't want her to be my daughter!" broke in the young ardent. "I want her to be my wife."

"It's kind of rough to be troubled with affection of the scalp, isn't it?" said a sympathetic Pittsburger. "Yes," was the laconic reply, "dandruff."

A Texas country paper lost some advertising patronage by putting a picture of a marble yard immediately after a doctor's card. It was a grave mistake.

The drummer never says: "I sold so many goods to So-and-So." He says "I sold So-and-So." This shows that a drummer can tell the truth when he isn't thinking.

Employers cannot too forcibly impress upon their clerks, both by example and precept, the necessity for constant exertion and watchfulness in order to attain business success.

The growth of the lemon trade in this country during the last thirty years has been enormous. In 1850, 119,000 boxes were imported; last year this number was increased to 1,342,000 boxes.

"The Scientific Angler" is advertised. The scientific angler is the man who goes fishing with twenty-five dollars' worth of tackle, and comes home with twenty-five cents' worth of fish.

Let a man show himself active, wide-awake, economical and careful in regard to details, and he will find that every level-headed clerk he has who wishes to gain his approbation will imitate him.

A new mineral called adamascollite has been found in Missouri, and it is said that it will cut steel. Adamascollite will cut a long-felt want. Now the traveler can have a knife that will cut a railroad sandwich.

"So you are married," remarked Mrs. Smith, "when do you receive?" "O," replied the newly-wedded one, "that will depend upon our friends. We shall be ready to receive as fast as the presents are sent in."

Jones asked his wife, "Why is a husband like dough?" He expected she would give it up, and he was going to tell her that it was because she needed him, but she said it was because he was hard to get off her hands.

"My son," said a Chicago father, "I have just made my will and left all my property to you, with Smith as executor." The smart youth replied: "Then change it. Leave all the property to Smith, and make me the executor if you want me to enjoy any of it."

It is said that in Chicago there are made daily 250,000 pounds of sausages, which, if linked together, would reach a length of 36,000 feet. If this linked meatiness were long drawn out a whole year it would make a line stretching almost from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

A new adulterant of ground pepper is a finely ground preparation of the kernels of olive berries. If a sample of the suspected mixture is scattered upon a mixture of equal volumes of glycerine and water the pepper floats upon the surface while the ground olive kernel sinks.

The glass-workers are having a longer vacation than they expected. When they refused to work for lower wages, they expected to be called upon in a few days. They have waited two months, and the manufacturers have imported glass enough to fill their orders for some time to come.

Notwithstanding that the rice crop of this year was larger than the average, 240,000 barrels to 231,000 last year, and the quality good, it is said that the consumption has increased to such a degree of late that it is anticipated that large importations will have to be made to satisfy the demand.

An English mechanic has invented a horseshoe composed of three thicknesses of cowhide compressed into a steel mold and subjected to a chemical preparation. It will last longer than the common shoe, weighs only one-fourth as much, does not split the hoofs, requires no calks, and is very elastic.

While the Columbia River has been fast exhausted of Salmon, the latter are being replaced by shad in fairly amazing numbers. This fish was planted along the Pacific coast only seven years ago, but is making itself vastly at home in those waters. Whether Columbia shad will become as popular in cans as their pretentious predecessors is a question well worth thorough experiment.

Starch is one of the most salable articles in the grocery, as it is used for a great many purposes. The manufacture of starch is not a difficult process. Potatoes contain a large proportion of starch, and within a few years have been substituted in place of grain. The potatoes are ground, and the pulp washed, the mass being allowed to settle in vats, and the impurities removed with clean water. It is dried with furnace heat.

A new industry in Cleveland is that of manufacturing aniline dyes from petroleum refuse. This industry has heretofore been a close European monopoly, mainly confined to Switzerland, one firm alone annually exporting \$300,000 worth. The company which proposes to go into this manufacture at Cleveland is composed of New York and Cleveland parties, a Swede of wide experience being the leading spirit.

Some persons suppose that brown sugar is sweeter than refined sugar. This, however, is not the fact. It is not so sweet. The sensation is only apparent from the fact that the semi-liquid sugar or glucose contained in the brown sugar melts more easily on the tongue than the crystal sugar, on the same principle that a piece of soft candy melts more easily than does rock candy, and more readily gives the sensation of sweetness.

Perhaps no two classes of citizens labor under the same mutual relations as the grocer and the farmer. Four-fifths of the entire exports of the country are the products of agriculture, and the grocer handles a larger quantity of that consumed at home, while the farmer, who is usually not familiar with business matters, looks to the grocer for a supply of such things as he does not provide on the farm. The two classes have interests in common—politically and socially, and neither could exist without the other.

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MICHIGAN TRADESMAN.

A MERCANTILE JOURNAL, PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY.

E. A. STOWE, Editor and Proprietor.

OFFICE IN EAGLE BUILDING, 3d FLOOR.

[Entered at the Postoffice at Grand Rapids as Second-class Matter.]

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12, 1883.

AMONG THE TRADE.

IN THE CITY.

Chas. E. Belknap is making a covered wagon for Paine & Field, of Englishville, who will run it between that place and Grand Rapids.

W. S. Barnett, traveling agent for the Peninsular Stove Works, is spending the holiday season with his family here. His territory is Iowa and Wisconsin.

T. B. Threlkeld, general agent for Weisinger and Bate, Louisville, has returned from a successful trip around the State in interest of "Hold Fast."

Frank Crawford, formerly with Arthur Meigs & Co., but latterly with L. H. Randall & Co., now represents John Caulfield. His territory includes the G. R. & L. to Big Rapids, and the C. & W. M. North.

Frank Conlon, formerly shipper for Cody, Ball & Co., later traveler for W. T. Allen & Co., of Chicago, but now the Michigan representative of Andrews' Pearl Baking Powder, has been in town several days drumming up trade.

Valda D. Johnson, shipping clerk at the Grand Rapids Packing and Provision Co., severs his connection with that corporation to-day to accept the position of traveling agent for Welling & Carhart. He succeeded as shipper by W. P. Granger, assistant book-keeper, who is in turn succeeded by Harry Reynolds.

Stimulated by the success which attended the sale of the Grand Rapids Refrigerator last season, Mr. Chas. H. Leonard is preparing to get out a line of the same goods for next year, which will be ready for the early summer season. Five styles will be made, from new designs furnished by one of the best furniture designers of the country, the wood used being ash, and trimmed with walnut. The demand for these refrigerators is increasing.

AROUND THE STATE.

The Flint Wagon Works are undergoing extensive repairs.

Frank Demars has engaged in the hotel business at Harrison.

The Elk Rapids Iron Co. has 400 men getting out cordwood.

Geo. T. Underwood has sold out his livery stable at Howard City.

Wait & Sehm have engaged in the clothing business at Big Rapids.

R. Mayo succeeds Reese & Deterick in the grocery business at Nashville.

A Grand Haven firm has started an artists' supplies factory at Spring Lake.

Winsor & Co.'s bowl factory at Petoskey will begin business in a few days.

D. R. Crane has engaged in the grocery and crockery business at Allegan.

Fred J. Galster has begun business in his new store building at Boyne Falls.

John Lawrence will open a confectionery and cigar store at Traverse City, on the 17th.

Freed Bros., who formerly operated a shingle mill at Paris, are now out of business.

A new cigar factory employing ten hands will be added to Coldwater's industries this week.

M. B. Kelly, a dry goods dealer of Ann Arbor, has made an assignment to Edward Duffy.

A. A. Bigelow & Co. succeed W. H. Bigelow & Co. in the lumber business at Muskegon.

The creditors of the Bangor Furnace Co. have agreed to settle for fifty cents on the dollar.

The growing wheat crop in this State is unusually backward and uneven, but the color is good.

Cadillac Times: Business, which has been rather quiet with our merchants, is improving somewhat.

Miller & Lisk, who recently engaged in the flour and feed business at Howard City, have closed out.

John Monroe, Sr., general dealer at South Arm, has made an assignment to H. A. Harmon, of Detroit.

M. W. Munson has sold his buggy and harness business at Muskegon to J. A. Sterling, of Charlotte.

Henry Seaman, of Greenville, lost his shingle mill at Amsten by fire a few days ago. Loss, \$3,000; no insurance.

There is not a vacant store building in Battle Creek, notwithstanding eleven new ones have been built the past season.

W. F. Empey, who recently lost his store building and stock at East Jordan, has commenced rebuilding, and will soon be in shape to resume business.

L. D. Townsend, formerly engaged in the grocery business at Petoskey, has purchased a stock of fancy groceries, which he will open at Howard City.

D. F. Emerson, formerly engaged in the boot and shoe business at Big Rapids, but latterly at Midland, has returned to the former place, and resumed business.

C. J. Keyes, formerly one of Bronson's old merchants, has returned from Kansas, where he has been for three years, and will open a big dry goods store at Bronson again.

Geo. D. Emery, of Boston, who formerly had a branch office at Reed City, has failed, with \$250,000 liabilities, and assets nominally the same. He dealt in walnut and hardwood lumber.

Notwithstanding the depression caused by the recent failures, the usual number of Cadillac firms will put in logs this winter, though the operations of each are likely to be much more limited than usual.

The Port Huron Chief of Police cut down Marcus Young's business sign. Thereupon the Chief has been sued, the newspapers are discussing the question, and Marcus is getting as much free advertising as he could write on the side of a barn.

The Sparta Furniture Co. is represented as being in a prosperous condition, financially and otherwise. At the annual meeting, held recently, reports were made showing that the net earnings of the corporation since last May, when business was begun, amounted to 16 per cent. of the capital invested, and a cash dividend of 15 per cent. was accordingly declared.

O. S. Whitmore, whose company recently failed, went to Cadillac a few years ago with only \$7 in his pockets, and has always been an active worker for the welfare of the business interests of the place.

N. Halsted, the Greenville grocer who recently failed, offers to settle with his creditors on the basis of 50 per cent. It is stated that the offer is very likely to be accepted, as there is a chattel mortgage on the stock for \$2,000, given last July.

G. C. Sweet's mill, on the south arm of Pine Lake, burned recently. Most of the machinery was saved in shape for future use. This is the fifth mill Mr. Sweet has lost by fire within a few years, and he has not had a cent of insurance on any of them.

Muskegon News: The Montague broom stick factory turns out 10,000 of these weapons of war daily. The depravity of the age is illustrated by the fact that some of our exchanges suggest, in a roundabout way, that Montague is a paradise for married women.

The foundation walls for Chas. H. Loomis's new hardware store at Sparta are completed, and a large force of men is at work getting up the frame, which will be immediately enclosed, with a view to completing most of the inside work during the winter months.

The Newaygo Circuit Court has denied the right of the Muskegon Booming Co. to flood the banks of the streams in driving logs. This is one of the first intimations a booming company has received of late that tends to disabuse it of the idea that it owned the earth and nobody else had any rights therein.

VISITING BUYERS.

The following retail dealers have visited the market during the past week and placed orders with the various houses:

Cornell & Griswold, Griswold.
John Barker, of Barker & Lehnen, Pier-son.

W. S. Root, Talmage.
C. E. Kellogg, Grandville.

G. Bron & Ten Hoor, Forest Grove.
U. S. Monroe, Berlin.

E. Medes, Coral.
B. M. Denison, East Paris.

C. O. Bostwick & Son, Cannonsburg.
C. O. Benbow, Cannonsburg.

W. H. Struik, Forest Grove.
G. H. Walbrink, Allendale.

J. Omler, Wright.
N. Schoemaker, Cannonsburg.

W. A. Williams, Oakfield Center.
D. Kelly, Muir.

T. Saurby, Rockford.
M. Hayward, Moon.

J. N. Covert, Carlton Center.
W. J. Clark, Harbor Springs.

M. B. Nash, Sparta.
H. T. M. Treglow, Caledonia.

F. F. Taylor, Pierson.
H. Goodman, Burnip's Corners.

C. F. Sears, Rockford.
C. B. Moon, Cedar Springs.

E. LeGrange, Mecosta.
F. F. Farr, Plainwell.

Geo. W. Bevins, Tustin.
Adam Newell, New Salem.

W. W. Pierce, Moline.
John Spring, of Spring & Lindley, Bailey.

M. M. Rose, Wayland.
Shirtz Bros., Shelby.

C. E. Wells, Saugatuck.
Dexter & Noble, Eaton Rapids.

Lyman & Townsend, Howard City.
Dibble Bros., Dorr.

D. Kelly, Lyons.
C. Crawford, Caledonia.

K. L. Kinney, Maple Hill.
J. M. Dameron, Bangor.

McLeod & Trautman Bros., Moline.
Den Herder & Tanis, Vriesland.

L. J. Eckler, Westwood.
M. B. Nash, Sparta.

Geo. Luther, Middleville.
S. M. Geary, Maple Hill.

L. Kolkema, Farmore Center.
O. F. & W. P. Conklin, Ravenna.

John Guntra, Lamont.
F. C. Brislin, Berlin.

Frace & Huhn, Saranac.
John De Brie, North Dorr.

R. Osterhof, Ferryburg.
J. Ball, of Ball & Co., Grand Haven.

Mr. Walbrink, of I. J. Quick & Co., Allendale.
J. R. Harrison, Sparta.

W. H. Walker, Trufant.
L. E. Paine, Sparta Center.

Mr. Purdy, of Purdy & Hastings, Sparta Center.
J. F. A. Raider, Newaygo.

Frederick Hotchkiss, Hastings.
Fisher & Mastenbrook, Lamont.

B. N. Pettigill, Rockford.
J. Hullinger, Mecosta.

Mr. Baldwin, of Button & Baldwin, Tallman.
Geo. F. Hine, Ada.

Mr. Hunter, of Hunt & Hunter, Lowell.
Dr. J. W. Kirtland, Lakeview.

R. B. McCulloch, Berlin.
John Cole, Fremont Center.

Walling Bros., Lamont.
L. Veyer, New Holland.

Geo. B. Bartlett, Ashland.
L. D. Townsend, Howard City.

Mr. Colvoord, of Colvoord & Teravest, Hamilton.
P. Zalesman, Paris.

E. Eekman, Muskegon.
T. B. Harris, Cedar Springs.

J. C. West, Lowell.
F. O. Lord, Howard City.

H. J. Leonard, Belding.
Dibble Bros., Burnip's Corners.

Schroeder & Harris, Shelbyville.
A. F. Meers, Charlotte.

T. C. Prout, Mancelona.
A. Wagner, Eastmanville.

Wylie, Robertson & Co., Martin.

TRADE CHANGES.

Bradstreet's Mercantile Agency furnishes THE TRADESMAN with the following business changes, embarrasments, etc., occurring up to the hour of going to press:

Ann Arbor—M. B. Kelley & Co., dry goods, assigned to Edward Duffy.

Belding—M. V. Divine, burned out; loss, \$10,000 to \$11,000; insurance, \$6,000.

Big Rapids—Pierce & Hunt, produce, dissolved. A. C. Hunt retiring.

Cadillac—Conrad & Haskins, grocers, reported dissolved; W. E. Hunt, jeweler, assigned to W. C. Haire.

Edmore—C. S. Knight, drugs, failed.
Howard City—McDowell & Banks, planing mill, succeeded by Geo. McDowell.

Marshall—Cook & Tibbs, furniture, about to sell out.

Mendon—S. C. Kirkbride, boots and shoes, succeeded by Kirkbride & Strickland.

Kalkaska—Abbott & Kidder, hotel, succeeded by W. C. Kidder.

Petoskey—Annack & Young, dry goods, sold out; Hankey Bros., millers, succeeded by Hankey & Rigg.

Shelby—Graves & Son, grocers, moved to Nashville.

St. Johns—F. O. Hunt, millinery and fancy goods, succeeded by Hunt & Shaver.

LOCAL FURNITURE GOSSIP.

Joshua Speed says that he will not remain with Stockwell & Darrah another year, but is non-committal as to his intentions.

Geo. W. Gay is finishing the interior of his new building adjoining the Berkey & Gay Furniture Co.'s main factory building.

Nelson, Matter & Co.'s New York house has sent on an order for furnishing, complete, the new Lakewood Hotel, at Lakewood, N. J.

Nelson, Matter & Co. have received an order to furnish a new hotel in El Paso, Texas. The order includes both dining and chamber furniture.

Geo. Knapp, of Knapp & Stoddard, the Chicago representatives of Nelson, Matter & Co., has been spending several days in town, looking over the new spring styles.

The Grand Rapids furniture manufacturers, who were denied the privilege of exhibiting their products at the Louisville Exposition, now note with grim satisfaction the fact that the exhibition closed with a \$230,000 deficit.

The following furniture travelers have come in for the season: C. W. Jones, Widdicom; Max N. Moyer, Berkey & Gay; M. L. Fitch, Nelson & Matter; Joshua Speed, Stockwell & Darrah; Chas. W. Jacoy, Grand Rapids Chair Co.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

M. Kirk & Co., grocers, Chase, liabilities \$3,000, assets, \$1,500.

Cron Bros., furniture, Manistee, liabilities, \$9,389.01, assets, \$5,921.12.

C. R. Michelson, clothing, Manistee, liabilities, \$10,003.31, assets, \$4,255.02.

Potter & Crispe, grocers, Williamsburg, liabilities \$1,500, assets \$500.

In the failures for the quarter ending Sept. 30, in the 25 northwestern counties of the State, the assets aggregate \$210,207.15, and the liabilities \$272,245.35.

Geo. H. Holbrook, assignee for Porter, Byrne & Co., has sold the latter's Big Gulch stock to Daniel McCoy.

We call the attention of buyers to the new reduced price-list on crockery in this number. H. Leonard & Sons' quotations always show the latest changes, and a careful perusal of their column will repay any of our subscribers. Their line of Holiday Goods consists of the most staple articles manufactured, and the very large sales this season show that they are appreciated by the trade. There is a very full assortment still in stock, and "Joe" and "Fred" would be pleased to meet their friends in town after this week.

DRUG STORES FOR SALE.

DRUG STOCK FOR SALE. The F. D. Caulkins stock and business at Fife Lake. Address H. B. Fairchild, Grand Rapids, Mich.

DRUG STOCK FOR SALE at Invoice, about \$5,500. The leading store in one of the best towns of the State. Reason, engaged in other business. Will sell on time. Address Hazeltine, Perkins & Co., Wholesale Druggists, Grand Rapids, Mich.

DRUG STORE FOR SALE in Grand Rapids, for \$250 or invoice. Owner has other business. Address Hazeltine, Perkins & Co., Wholesale Druggists, Grand Rapids, Mich.

DRUG STORE FOR SALE at Orsog, Mich. \$2,000. Address Hazeltine, Perkins & Co., Wholesale Druggists, Grand Rapids, Mich.

DRUG STORE FOR SALE at Kent City, Mich. \$1,200. Address Hazeltine, Perkins & Co., Grand Rapids, Mich.

F. J. DETTENTHALER

Successor to H. M. Bliven.

—WHOLESALE—

OYSTERS

AND CANNED GOODS.

Agent for Farren's Celebrated "F" Brand Raw Oysters.

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GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

Furniture Manufacturer!!

I keep and sell at wholesale and retail a good assortment of Bed-room and Parlor Suits, Upholstered, Camp, Rattan, Office, and all kinds of Common Chairs and Rockers; Marble Top, Wood Top, Extension and Breakfast Tables; Fancy Bed and Common Lounges; Common Beds, Bureaus, Mattresses and Springs, Mirrors, Fine Assortment of Fancy Office Furniture, Bookcases, Hall-Trees, etc., etc. I sell very cheap for cash, and will make special discount to all kinds of merchants. Send in your orders, or give me a call when you come to the city to buy goods.

W. A. BERKEY,

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GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

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DRUGGISTS

Prices in No Instances Higher than those Quoted in this Paper. Write us for Special Quotations.

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LIME, HAIR, COAL and WOOD.

ESTIMATES CHEERFULLY FURNISHED.

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ALABASTINE!

Alabastine is the first and only preparation made from calcined gypsum rock, for application to walls with a brush, and is fully covered by our several patents and perfected by many years of experience.

It is the only permanent wall finish, and admits of applying as many coats as desired, one over another, to any hard surface without danger of scaling, or noticeably adding to the thickness of the wall, which is strengthened and improved by each additional coat, from time to time. It is the only material for the purpose not dependent upon glue for its adhesiveness; furthermore it is the only preparation that is claimed to possess these great advantages, which are essential to constitute a durable wall finish.

Alabastine is hardened on the wall by age, moisture, etc.; the plaster absorbs the admixtures, forming a stone, cement, while all kalsomines, or other whitening preparations, have inert soft chalks, or glue, for their base, which are rendered soft, or scaled, in a very short time, thus necessitating the well-known great inconvenience and expense, which all have experienced, in washing and scraping off the old coats before refinishing.

In addition to the above advantages, Alabastine is less expensive, as it requires but one-half the number of pounds to cover the same amount of surface with two coats, is ready for use by simply adding water, and is easily applied by any one.

FOR SALE BY—
ALL Paint Dealers.
—MANUFACTURED BY—
THE ALABASTINE COMPANY
M. B. CHURCH, Manager.
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.



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—AND—

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Having purchased the Eagle Job Printing Establishment, and having added largely to its facilities, we would respectfully announce that we are prepared to execute in first-class style such orders for Book and Job Printing and Blank Book Manufacturing as may be entrusted to us.

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BOOKSELLERS, STATIONERS

PRINTERS, and

BLANK BOOK MANUFACTURERS.

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PAINTER AND DECORATOR,

—AND DEALER IN—

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43 and 45 Kent Street.

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SPECIALIST IN DISEASES OF THE

Ear, Eye and Throat

WITH DR. JOHNSON & BOISE,

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Wholesale Druggists,

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Manufacturers' Agents,

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