

SAMUEL H. LITTLE, Editor.

SATURDAY, MAR. 13, 1875.

Pioneer Sketches.

BY DAVID CLARSON.

NORTHVILLE POSTMASTERS

A post office was first established in Northville, in 1831, and Jabish M. Mead was the first post master. The mail arrived once a week. The principle mail route in the Territory, was from Detroit to Chicago. Detroit was a small village on the west bank of Detroit river, a few miles below Lake St. Clair, and Chicago was a stopping place at the head of Lake Michigan, where there was a tavern and two or three stores. The mails were put into small leather bags, and securely locked with large iron padlocks; each post master had a key. The Michigan stage company had the contract for carrying the mails. They used large heavy coaches, hung on leather springs with a seat in front on the outside for the driver and the mail bags, and a large boot behind for eight to twelve passengers. They were drawn by four horses. The driver had a whip, the stock of which was made of tough Michigan hickory, and a long lash of buckskin, with a skein of silk braided on the end, for a cracker, and when he wanted to wake up his leaders, he would crack his whip, which sounded like the firing of a pistol. Whenever the stage approached a post office the driver would blow a tin horn, so as to give notice of his coming. He would drive up to the post office, throw out the bags which the post master would take in, and unlock, empty out on the floor or

his office, place the rest back in the bag, lock it securely and throw it back to the driver. No driver, or other person was allowed to handle the mails, without first being sworn to support the constitution of the United States &c. After J. M. Mead, H. M. Perin was post master for a while, then David H. Rowland, held the position some time, when Wm. H. Ramsdell was appointed, after him D. H. Rowland again. Then Wm. H. Ramsdell a second time, afterwards David H. Rowland was appointed again and held the office a long time, when W. D. Whelan took the office, after Whelan our present popular post master Edward S. Horton who has served the citizens in that capacity. When the office was first established, the entire receipts, would not pay the post master for the time he had to give to the duties of his office. Now the receipts of the office pays the government a large sum of money and the salary of the post master is several hundred dollars. At first the postage on letters was from 61 to 25 cents according to distance and it was not required to be prepaid. Those that received letters then, had to pay the postage, and the post master frequently trusted those who received letters for their postage. What a contrast between then, and now. Then we could send dunning orders and have the postmaster pay the postage to the amount of twenty five cents. Now we can send letters any distance for three cents and we cannot dun a man and make him pay the postage. Then we had to wait a month to get an answer from a letter to New York or Boston, now we can do so in forty eight hours. Up to 1800 letters and newspapers was the only mailable matter in this country. In 1861 maps, engravings, seeds and cuttings not weighing over eight ounces, and books not over thirty two ounces were included. Now we can send by mail any thing, not exceeding four pounds in weight. This is considered a great convenience by the people, and a great nuisance by post masters.

What changes a few years bring about—don't they? Yesterday the citizens of Arbor Hill were aware of a woman madly tearing along, potato masher in hand, giving chase to her husband who was flying from her presence like a deer. Eight years ago the same female took a model at an Eastern seminary for a graduating essay on "Repose of Character." A school in Vermont is presided over by a cross-eyed teacher. A few days ago he called out: "That boy that I am looking at will step out on the floor." Immediately twenty-seven lads walked out in front of the astonished pedagogue. Puzze! young man. You want to get married, and it is about time you did! But recollect that unmarried men don't have to sit up all night once a week with a shot gun, watching the clothes line. A negro woman in Pitt County, N. C., recently gave birth to triplets, the first was white, the second mulatto, and the third black. This all comes from Civil Rights. A dressmaker's apprentice speaks of her cross-eyed lover as "the fellow whose looks are not bad."

Many of the lumbermen in the northern counties have closed operations for the winter and are breaking up their camp.

Detroit boasts of a stone-cutter who keeps ready-made tomb-stones with the name Smith cut upon them.

A company has been organized at Three Rivers for the manufacture of printing paper from straw.

Detroit is agitating the question of a house of industry for the unemployed poor.

The Detroit & Milwaukee railroad company has reduced its tariff.

A company of grangers have visited Bay City for the purpose of contracting household supplies for 400 families in that county for the coming summer.

A Mr. Fry, of Ogden, Lenawee county, took a ton of pure white honey in boxes to Adrian one day last week. The average yield per acre of hay in Michigan in 1874 was one ton, potatoes 37 bushels, oats 27 bushels.

The loss to the peach-growing region of the state by the severe cold is estimated at over \$1,000,000.

A tree cut near Westgate's short time since made five 16-foot logs.

The St. Louis Herald says that the closing of the only whiskey shop in Ithaca has caused such a run on the wells that they are all dry.

The Grand Rapids Times anticipates celebrating the 4th of July by a skating carnival.

The Baptists of Charlotte are advertising their creed in the Charlotte papers. They will find that advertising pays.

The Methodists of Port Huron are building a church to cost \$50,000. It is intended to be one of the finest pieces of church architecture in the state.

Dr. Schetty, rector of Trinity church, Bay City, is holding ten-minute services Wednesday and Friday mornings for the benefit of business men.

The high-school museum of Battle Creek contains 3,500 specimens, all scientifically labeled and arranged.

The "knights of Madrock" is the name of a secret society of which a lodge has been formed in Detroit.

Birmingham, a village of 300 inhabitants, has a Methodist church which cost nearly \$30,000.

Prof. Johns, a music teacher of Alpena, got intoxicated Feb. 19, laid out in the cold, and froze his feet. It is thought some of his toes will have to be amputated. He was taken to the county house.

Adrian boasts of having the oldest hotel keeper in the state,—a Mr. S. Sammons, who is 80 years old and never engaged in any other business.

W. D. Williams, a lawyer of Marquette, and formerly a member of the legislature, is to be a candidate for judge in the 12th judicial circuit.

The new colored post of Dawg, Ala. is said to be second cousin of Henry Clay and grandson of an ex-governor of Alabama.

Duane Doty resigned his position as superintendent of Detroit schools Feb. 25, and Prof. J. M. B. Still takes the place.

Lyons, Iowa county, has a centenarian,—Capt. Enoch Scott, who was born Feb. 12, 1775.

At Greenville, Feb. 26, the Potter block was damaged by fire to the amount of about \$3,300. The fire caught from a kettle of ashes in the second story.

David Potter of Augusta, Washenaw county, thought he would give his horse and oxen some condition powders Feb. 16, and by mistake administered Paris green. The animals all died.

Three barns, belonging to P Francisco, two miles east of Grass Lake, were burned Feb. 24, together with seven horses and all his hay and grain. Loss \$6,000; insurance \$4,000.

A deaf and dumb man walking on the railroad track near Flint, Feb. 18, was struck by a locomotive and received injuries from which he died Feb. 21.

Mezars Curry & Morrill's shingle-mill, about four miles from Midland, was burned Feb. 24. Loss \$4,000; insurance \$1,000.

Saginaw boasts of a grasshopper sufferer who walked all the way from Nebraska.

A bald eagle measuring six feet three inches from tip to tip, was killed recently on the farm of Wm. Sturkey near Marine City.

The name of the postoffice at Tuscola village has been changed from Worth to Tuscola.

Postoffice war in Port Huron. Four candidates in the field, one of them a lady.

A woman in Bronson has cut and corded up 110 cords of store-wood this winter.

Detroit is organizing a colony for the San Joaquin valley, California.

Mezars. Sanborn of Port Huron, lumbermen on the An Sable river, have lost 27 horses by poisoning.



Don't Forget to Leave your MAGAZINES

at the Record Office, to

HAVE THEM BOUND. Taking orders daily.



JAMES NALL JR. & CO., NEW SPRING GOODS, DRY GOODS & CARPETS. Special Bargains in Brown Cottons at 8c, 8c, 9c, & 10c; 40 Inch Brown Cotton (extra) 12c; Barystins in Bleached Cottons, Linens, Towels, Napkins, Quilts &c; Ginghams only 9c; Finest Stock Black Alpaca and Mohairs at 25c, 28c, 37c & 50c; don't fail to see them; Two Button Kid Gloves all shades only \$1.60; Every pair warranted; Try them. Just received a handsome line of stripe silks only 87c, cheap at 1.25. Black Silks 1.25, 1.50, 1.70, 1.90, cheapest in the market. New DRESS GOODS at Bargains lower than the lowest.

MABLEY, the Clothier, is very busy OPENING UP NEW SPRING GOODS.

Don't Forget to Leave your MAGAZINES at the Record Office, to HAVE THEM BOUND. Taking orders daily.

A. S. LAPHAM & CO BANKERS, Northville, Mich.

CHANDIER, 71 and 73 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. Men's Furnishing Goods.

JUST ISSUED! TEMPER ANEW GLEE BOOK FOR TEMPER'CE USE.

FRENCH YOKE SHIRTS. CHANDLER DETROIT.

GET THE BEST! The Best Piano Instructor: Peter's Edictic Price, \$3 25.

TALMAGE'S PAPER. The Christian at Work. "THE BEST RELIGIOUS PAPER."

J. L. PETERS, 599 BROADWAY, N. Y. JUST ISSUED! We would call the attention of Teachers to our new work, "FAIRY ECHOES"

EISENLOD'S HOTEL, DETROIT, MICH. The House has just been overhauled and changed throughout.

RAILROADS. MICHIGAN CENTRAL RAILROAD. On and after Nov. 1874.

Det. Lansing & L. M. R. R. On and after Feb. 21, 75. Trains will leave as follows:

TRAINS WESTWARD. LEAVE DETROIT: 5:30 P.M. 7:30 P.M. 9:30 P.M.

CANADA SOUTHERN RAILWAY LINE. LOW RATES. QUICK TIME.

FRUIT FLOWERS! Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

POWELSON'S! Photographs, BEST PICTURES IN THE STATE.

\$25 A Day. Ten \$25 00 a day is guaranteed using our Well Auger and Drills.

