

# The Lowell Ledger.

"WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE AND CHARITY FOR ALL."

VOL. III. NO. 15.

LOWELL, KENT COUNTY, MICH., OCTOBER 4, 1895.

WHOLE NO. 149.

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**LEDGER OFFICE.**

**A CYCLONE**

**Creates Havoc in Oakfield Township.**

**BARNS, HOUSES AND ORCHARDS SUFFER.**

**Burning of Monte Sayles' Farm Barn.**

**80,000 BUSHELS PEACHES SNIPPED**

**From Lowell This Year—Basket and Canning**

**Factories are very much needed.**

A NEIGHBORLY CYCLONE.

The cyclone which tore around this part of the state did much more damage than at first reported. It first dropped down in Oakfield township, Kent county, fifteen miles southwest of Greenville, at 8 o'clock last week Wednesday evening, blowing down fences on the farm of Warren Pennington, and tearing up his orchard. Two large grain barns of A. A. Thompson were lifted clear from their foundations and dropped in another place, all wrenched and twisted, and the roofs blown off. Thompson was in the shed milking, and that was blown to pieces over his head.

Just north of these barns, the wing of an unoccupied tenement house was taken off clean and carried around to the west side of the house and dashed all to pieces, except the floor, which was nailed to the west side of the house, as nicely as a carpenter could have done it. The windmill was taken up bodily, carried to the east of the house and dashed to pieces. A hen house containing forty hens and turkeys, was picked up and dashed against timbers of barns, and dead fowls were scattered all along the line. Thompson's loss is estimated at \$2,000.

The course of the cyclone was directly northeast, and the path was not over forty rods in width, but mowed a clean swath. Shade trees, orchards and forest trees and large oaks three feet in diameter, were twisted off close to the ground and one was hurled seventy-five feet from its stump. Farmer Eiseby saw an inky black funnel-shaped cloud as it flew past, before it reached the farm of Charles Childs. When the cyclone struck Childs' house, the members of the family were preparing for bed. They had no warning of coming danger, until the roof went flying in the air. The north wing swung around to the east end of its wall. The west wing followed suit and the upright was shoved off its cellar wall, two young ladies hanging to the floor to prevent their falling into the cellar. It was a miraculous thing that the family all escaped unharmed. The cyclone twisted off nearly every tree in Child's large orchard, and his loss is estimated at \$2,000.

The cyclone then visited the farm of C. O. Tower, three miles east of Childs, carrying away half of the roof of the barn beside destroying part of the orchard and mowing a swath through standing timber. East of Tower's is a piece of woods and the road through it was filled with twisted and torn trees. In crossing Wabasha like the cyclone spent its fury. The whole length of the path traveled by the cyclone is ten miles.

**BARN BURNED.**

The barn of Monte Sayles, three miles north of this place, was totally destroyed by fire on Saturday, Sept. 21, together with all its contents including fifteen tons of hay, twelve hogs, two buggies, harness, tools, etc., amounting to \$1,000. The origin of the fire is shrouded in mystery. Mr. Sayles had been to the barn only fifteen minutes previous to the discovery

of the fire, and at that time everything was all right. None of the men folks were in the habit of smoking about the barn; and Mr. Sayles can think of no enemy he has who would be mean enough to set the fire. The property was insured in the Kent County Mutual.

**WILL NOT RETURN.**

Will M. Chapman, now at Denver, Colorado, has decided to locate there, perhaps permanently, and his Lowell property, including piano and household goods are offered for sale in this paper.

Everybody in Lowell will regret the necessity for Mr. Chapman's decision, but unite in hoping that it is for the best, and that in the not far distant future he and his will again clasp hands with their Lowell friends, and sing:

"Home again, home again,  
From a foreign shore;  
And Oh, it fills my heart with joy  
To greet my friends once more"

**A LITTLE ONE GONE BEFORE.**

Mrs. Mathewson returned from Reading, the 27th ult., where she had been called by the death of her little grandson, F. J. Rhodes, who, at the time of his death, was two years and two days old. He had from his birth been a great sufferer; but bore it all with such patience as was never known of one of his tender age, and when he passed away, he simply went to sleep to wake no more in this world.

Though early called, dear child,  
Thy mission here was done.  
You were granted here awhile  
To bless a mother's home.

The dear mother and all other friends have our warmest sympathy.— [Contributed.]

**WESTWARD, HO!**

C. M. Devendorf and wife left yesterday for Grand Rapids where they will stay with friends until Monday, when they will depart for Los Angeles California, their future home. They stop at various places enroute and do not expect to reach their destination until about the last of the month. Mr. and Mrs. Devendorf carry with them the best wishes of a host of friends.

**PEOPLE VS. JOHN GULLIFORD.**

The case of the people vs. John Gulliford of Lowell came to an abrupt conclusion last Monday. The case, it will be remembered was one in which the defendant was accused of embezzling a quantity of wheat from his employer, Mrs. Pullen. The time of trial was fixed for Monday of this week and after the jury was impaneled the witnesses for the people failed to identify Gulliford as the man who sold the wheat at the mill here under the name of John Gulliford. The prosecutor therefore asked that the case be discontinued and defendant discharged. The fact remains that somebody sold some wheat under the name of John Gulliford.

Another complaint has been made by Mrs. Pullen against Gulliford. The complaint this time charges Gulliford with having taken, without her knowledge or consent, about eleven bushels of wheat on the 22nd of November, 1894. The case will probably be put to a finish this time. It will be tried in Lonia.—[Saranac Local.

**THE PEACH CROP.**

The peach crop is nearly harvested, although about 400 bushels continue to be marketed here daily. Up to October 1 there had been shipped this season, from this place, on the D. G. H. & M. railway 56,000 bushels, and by the Lowell & Hastings 20,000 bushels. Our infant industry is able to walk already. Just wait until it gets to be a man. The peach acreage is increasing in a geometrical ratio, and facilities for handling must also increase if Lowell is to hold its reputation as one of the very best market towns in the state.

**BASKET AND CANNING FACTORIES**

are needed here and needed bad, and there is money to be made in these

industries. The demand for baskets speaks for itself. There was a basket famine this year, and shippers and buyers experienced great difficulty in securing them when wanted. This industry must be started here; no use sending all that money out of town to employ workmen and pay for material bought in other towns.

Then there is the canning factory. It is an actual fact that peaches have been shipped from Lowell to other states, there put into cans and then re-shipped to Lowell for home consumption. The grower, buyer and railroad all got their money before the goods were canned. Now if that was done at a profit, and to suppose otherwise is to call the canner a fool—what under the sun is to prevent a canning factory from being a paying investment right here where we have the raw material right at hand? If a canning factory would pay anywhere it would pay here.

Some of our enterprising capitalists should look these matters up. The world is moving on. Lowell should get into the band wagon and move with it.

**BRING IN THAT WOOD.**

We would suggest to wood-be subscribers that those desiring to pay for their subscriptions with good wood, have now a fine opportunity to do so, before the roads get bad. Bring it in now, won't you? and something that will split without using a wedge and trip hammer. Joe Yeiter says he can't possibly break up our fuel for us this season, so please bring us some REAL wood, and take your crochets, green tree tops, stumps, sprouts and roots, over to the Journal. They say that Brother Quick is a boss hand at the wood pile. You can axe him if it isn't true.

**MC CARTY GETS ANOTHER BOY.**

Charlie McCarty was paying liberal prices for fruit and produce, this week, and overflowing with good nature. He wouldn't refuse anything from a mole skin to a car load of beans, and actually looked six inches taller than usual as he walked around town. It was all on account of an 8 pound boy that arrived on the 11:30 express Sunday evening. The girls say he is too lovely for anything, and Charlie is doing pretty well, thank you, ma'am.

**AN UNCLE'S WARNING.**

A bright young attorney of this city, who was recently admitted to the bar, went to Lowell the other day. A kindly uncle congratulated him upon his success in entering his chosen profession, but related the following story which he assured him was in no wise intended as a reflection. "An Irishman one day entered a cemetery. In reading the epitaphs from stone to stone, he spied out one which read: "Here lies John Jones, a lawyer, and an honest man." He pondered a moment over the simple wording, then exclaimed as light broke in upon him, "Be the powers av the saints, that's the first time I ever saw two men buried in wan grave!"—[Grand Rapids Press.]

**NEW ELECTRIC BUILDING.**

We understand the Lowell Water & Light company intend adding a brick building and more machinery to their old plant to increase their capacity for doing business in Grand Rapids.

Since writing the above, we have learned that the new brick building is to hold the new plant, that the old building is to be torn down and the entire apparatus now in use, including dynamo, shafting and wheel, is to be replaced with the newest and best machinery. The company has already made \$20,000 worth of power contracts in Grand Rapids and nearly all the right of way has been secured. Twenty miles of wire with all the poles, cross trees, etc. have been purchased, and work on the new building has been commenced. The Water &

Light company is still in the market to do Lowell's lighting; but the prospect of the motor users is not very bright.

**EDITOR OF THE LEDGER.**

I am glad to say to taxpayer, that we have not been so frantic in our efforts as to fill a column of your paper with falsehoods; what little I have done to extricate the people from bondage I have not stooped to any such means. It was not so much the gentlemen from Boston as it was the 218 tax payers names that were on that petition that so muddled the president of the Light company, that he snatched, as it were, his own proposition out of the hands of the council after they had virtually placed it in the hands of their constituents. To us, there is where the muddling began and Boss Tweed rule came to light.

2nd, if you had said, shall the power of Flat river be utilized for Lowell, or the private corporation controlling it, you would have approached the point at issue.

3rd, the difference between the board and the company, was \$50 for 25 lights, or \$65 for the same number which is \$625, instead of \$125, and the company actually paid last year, a tax of \$50.30, instead of \$300, it leaves a difference of \$594.70 instead of \$125.

4th, the game never was the council's; it has been the company's for the last five years, and when the council wanted it for even three years, they refuse to play any longer, or so pretend, at least.

We judge Taxpayer is a tory, and has forgotten how his former King George, ignored his subject's petitions, and what came of such childishness. I always supposed that when a corporation was formed for the express purpose of making money off the people, that they made sure to incorporate into it a sufficient amount of brains to take care of it, without outside help, but this one may be a notable exception. I attended the council meeting that voted to give the Light company \$63, per light, for lighting an indefinite period. A councilman stated they would do it for that, on those terms before the vote was taken. Was that done for fun or health? What does Chas. Church mean when he requested you to print that statement in the last issue? It has come to my ears several times that I am paying only a small tax, and etc.

I have paid in \$197.79, to be exact, corporation tax, in the about eighteen months that I have been a resident of Lowell village. It will be said I have had extra privileges for this large tax, which I will acknowledge, will mention some.

1st, I have lived on a dark street which has been without a light for the last five years.

2nd, I have been pounced upon twice, for the purpose of raising my water tax.

To the best of my knowledge there has not been one cent of money spent upon the street on which I live, by way of improvement. To me the situation has been like the little girl and her pig. After feeding it several weeks with a spoon, one day she was given a bowl and spoon unusual, she placed it on the floor as had been her custom, and giving the signal for the pig, to her surprise, he pushed his nose deep into the bowl, and proceeded to devour the contents, while the child cried "no, no, piggy, no, no, take it with the spoon, take it with the spoon," but the child's efforts were of no avail, the bowl was soon emptied. The fact was, the pig was no longer a pig, but had reached that stage called hog, and he had to be banished from the nursery.

If our pet refuses to take his milk with a spoon, he must abide the consequences that are sure to follow, to

[CONTINUED ON LAST PAGE]







