

Republican Progress

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WILLIAM A. GAGE, Editor and Publisher.
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—Take up the 6 per cent. county orders by the issue of 4 per cent. bonds which can be readily sold at par, and save ten or fifteen hundred dollars per year. Why not?

Citizens of Indiana are proud of the capital city—it is without question as fine as any in the land—with its new State house, the new union depot in course of construction, its broad avenues and numberless fine buildings, both public and private. Now she is known to be within the natural gas belt, and her manufactures will soon be doubled in number, and in addition to being the greatest railroad center in the country she will also be the manufacturing center of the great west. The Progress is proud of our capital city.

—People may thank God and take courage over the fact that there is no political campaign this year, and that they will be permitted to attend to business and endeavor to make a respectable living for their families. Come to think of it 'tis a little singular that the business interests of an entire State are permitted to suffer every two years because a half dozen men in each county are fighting over offices that profit nobody but themselves! Did you ever take this view of it?

—Sixty-eight years ago Tuesday, April 26th, the order of Odd Fellows was instituted in this country. It is true that prior to 1819 there had been a Lodge in New York, but it soon ceased to work. The movement of Thomas Wilsey and John Welch, in Baltimore, April 26th, 1819, can be traced back with certainty, and therefore the Sovereign Grand Lodge has formally fixed that date as the starting point of the order in this country. Through-out this country and Canada the Lodges will commemorate the event. The character of the order and the men that compose it is very much different in 1887 from what it was in 1819. Then it was looked upon as nothing more than a convivial club, and this was nearly true. The men who entered its lodges were illiterate, but honest and determined. Thomas Wilsey, their leader, was not a learned man, but he possessed all the characteristics of a successful leader of men. But the practices which obtained in the lodges in the early days of the order have been corrected and the order now is regarded by all unprejudiced persons as one of the greatest moral and benevolent institutions in the land. It is practically a workingman's order, and at least three-fourths of its members are wage-workers, who conduct its business and perform all the benevolent duties enjoined.

—The death of Major Jonathan W. Gordon occurred at the Grand Hotel, Indianapolis, at 5:30 o'clock last Wednesday morning, from congestion of the brain, after an illness of ten days' duration. Its fatal termination was not unexpected. For nearly a week he had been unconscious, except for short intervals of semi-lucidity. On Saturday he became somewhat better, and there was a slight hope of his recovery, but on Monday night he suffered a relapse, from which he did not revive. The end of a busy and eventful life came almost imperceptibly, for he had not rallied from his unconsciousness for more than twenty-four hours, and had made no demonstrations of any kind. He was born in Washington co., Pa., Aug. 13, 1820, and so was in his 67th year. He was of Scotch-Irish descent. Maj. Gordon was a brilliant orator, though somewhat eccentric. He made many speeches in Bloomington, and was always listened to with pleasure by men of all parties.

Ind. News: The real estate craze is spreading all over the country, and in the multitude of booms with slight foundation many thousands will be ruined. Gold mining was never half so entrancing and seductive as dealing in real estate, where speculation is driving headlong. The air is full of stories of fortunes made in a few days. But, as in lotteries, where we always hear who draw the large prizes while nothing is said of the thousands who have lost, so the wrecks of fortunes and crushed lives will never be heard of. The wise man will beware of the booms, and if he buys real estate, either pays cash or has the means provided to pay it out. But the foolish man buys mainly on credit, and sometimes makes a hit, but more often gets caught and loses what he has.

RECOLLECTIONS

O F
Early Days.

Our old friend, Jno. W. Throop, when here this winter, promised to jot down some recollections of old times for the Progress, and gives us the first installment this week. Mr. Throop is now in his 77th year and in the enjoyment of good health. He resided 65 years in Bloomington, coming to the town before it was a town, and remembers many incidents that are of general interest to the older citizens, at least:

My father moved to Bloomington in the summer of 1822. When we arrived there the first college was just commenced and I worked there, carrying brick at 25c. per day until the brick work was finished. My father took pay in corn meal.

The court house was not then finished; it was held in an old log house down the alley on the back of the lot on which the present jail is. There was not a church in the town. There was a log school house back of where the National Hotel now is, where all the preaching was heard and had, and ones in a while there was school there.

There were very few houses in the town and most of them log cabins. There were three feed stores, Wm. McColough had one where W. J. Allen's hardware store now stands. The house still standing below the widow Bollenbacher's and the old jail that stood north of the court house and Jas. Slocomb's small brick house which they still own.

The stumps were green on the public square. The first house my father lived in was on the lot. Mr. Lindquist now lives on the lot, his house is a log cabin.

McColough's son, and Squire Kile lived in a log house on the alley just above us.

One evening father had some money, some silver, and dropped a half dollar that went through the floor to the ground; he raised a punchen and fell down for his money and felt something cold and not right; so he told my mother he would get his money in the morning when he could see better.

On the morning when he got his money the large rattlesnake came from under the house, it had 18 rattles and a button. Squire Kile saw it and killed it—it was making across the street.

There was the heaviest timber I ever saw in town, in fact all the way to the college was heavy timber. I feel very much dissatisfied, as a boy, at Bloomington, for you could hear wolves every night, howling. I have seen deer in the woods, in the morning when I could see better.

On the morning when I was riding around town and saw the largest kind of a buck in the Widow Dunn's lot. I got back home as quick as I could and went to old man Armstrong, an old deer hunter, and told him to load his gun carefully, as I wanted to kill the deer. He did so and I went back. The deer was still there, broadside to me. I got a large tree between us, and got within sight. I shot and missed it; and with the same gun I could have knocked the deer off a squirrel.

The soil around town was very rich; the spuce bushes were as high as a man's head on horse back, and pine trees two or three feet high all through the woods.

Castle kept fox on it. The timber was all green when we arrived in Bloomington, and it was a great place for wild animals and snakes.

It was quick to camp two miles west of the college of the Altona.

Mr. Murphy, and myself I had a lame mate, but the first I ever wore. I had intended to stay all night and stayed on the 10th or 11th clock when Alexander Roseberry and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Patterson, wanted me to go to town with them. I refused at first, but at last consented to go with them. It was a clear night but very dark in the woods. I walked before us, and at one I saw something before us. It was the dark horse of the Altona. We stopped, and there was something before me I did not like, and as I spoke a panther sprang to one side and gave a scream. My palmetto seemed barking like a dog, and the old lady made a very curious noise. The panther however followed us.

My father had at one time thirty head of sheep, and when morning a buck went out and came home. We went out and saw twenty-eight lying around the eight acre lot, all with their throats cut and the blood sucked from them. Another boy and myself took one of the dead sheep and hung it up and concealed ourselves but no wolf came that night. My father one morning sent me south of town, on some errand. I got down to the town line, on a little rise of ground, and happened to see a fox. We both stopped. I had nothing to defend myself with. We looked at each other, I thought a half hour, but it was a very short time. The wolf got tired and strolled off and I went on.

—The W. C. T. U. met in Walnut St. Presbyterian church on Monday night—S. B. Harrash is visiting relatives in Northern Indiana—Rev. Mac. Philip of New York is expected here on a visit to relatives soon—Dr. Jordan left Bloomington on Thursday for a lecturing tour in the Southern portion of the State—Hon. Geo. W. Cooper of Columbus, Ind., lectured in the College Chapel Sunday afternoon. His subject was "Charity," and he treated it in a masterly manner—Cornelius Dodds will go to Chattanooga at the close of Prep. in June—Henry L. McCalla has returned from Tennessee—Geo. Brock of Bedford was in town on day last week—A number of the members of the Bedford Bar were in this city last week, viewing the Big 4 extension, the electric lights, and the "boom"—By the Bedford papers we learn that "soundry firm" is writing letters to their citizens "for inducements."

—The Progress went to press on Tuesday evening before the vote was counted out, but every indication pointed to the election of the Republican ticket as usual, with a reduced majority in a few cases. A "Citizens" ticket, run by the Democrats, got up a little stir, but no one but Democrats seemed to be voting it.

—She had just returned from Vassar, and papa was stroking her hair fondly. "I hope, my dear," said the old man, "that you haven't acquired any of the vulgar slang phrases which so many of the Vassar young ladies are said to use." "You bet I haven't, pa," she replied brightly, "when anybody catches me talking slang, he is the right of suffrage?" Why not apply it to males? Let the women be judged by the same standard as men.

—Midland: The opposition press delights in setting forth the working of the women suffrage amendment in Kansas. We are told that the women did very much as the men do. In a certain city one class was offended by remarks of another and took revenge by getting out all their friends to vote against the nominee of the party offending.

Does any one imagine that the mere extension of the ballot is to dissipate every evil? Of course women will say silly things. They have been too long familiar with the doings of men to escape the contamination. Is their conduct an argument against the exercise of the right of suffrage? Why not apply it to males? Let the women be judged by the same standard as men.

CHIPS AND SPLINTERS.

—One of the eight driver engines, No. 67, was at the depot one day last week. The machine looked as large as a small house—Anxious candidates for the office of County Superintendent are coming to the surface. Among those mentioned we remember the names of the present incumbent, Mr. Hazel, Frank Turner and John D. Morgan. The Township Trustees will elect the County Superintendent in June—There was but a light attendance upon circuit court last week. There are no cases of unusual importance on the docket this term—A base ball nine from De Pauw college expect to come to Bloomington soon and whitewash our boys—Ben Kirby went to Decatur, Alabama, week before last, to close up a trade he had made for a lot in that booming city—Clint. Turner and his brother Charles have concluded to work on a farm in Missouri this summer—George Bodie has gone to Kansas in response to a message stating that his brother is dangerously ill—Geo. Stevenson and Alex. Hawkins have each been remembered by the Pension Department—A letter from Decatur, Ala., states that Ben. Kirby's lot had advanced \$500 before he made the first payment—Two persons have committed suicide in Lawrence county within the past three weeks. A man named Williams shot himself and Elijah Fox drowned himself in Salt Creek—Rev. F. A. Eller came to Bloomington on Thursday last on a brief visit to relations and friends—Washington, Daviess co., has thirty saloons, the O. & M. shops, coal mines, and will soon have street cars and gas wells—Mr. Matt. Williams is a prominent citizen, is back in Bloomington renewing old friendships—John E. Lamb, one of the most prominent of Terre Haute attorneys, was in town last week—Wm. Woods, Ellettsville, has been granted a pension—Cynthia Hanna gets a pension—Get out your lawn mower and rush it up and down the yard. Have all the fun you can while summer lasts—Miss Bertie Roseberry has been visiting Gosport friends—Bart. Acuff of Richland tp. was the first Mexican soldier in Monroe county to get a pension—Col. Taylor of Lafayette was attending court last week—Prof. Geo. Welch, the phonologist, has been granted a pension—Services were held in the Episcopal church on Sunday—Rev. J. M. Stalker preached for the Baptist people last Sunday—Ed. Hall is out of business in the dry goods line at present, but is assisting the boom. He may go into business for himself soon—The W. C. T. U. met in Walnut St. Presbyterian church on Monday night—S. B. Harrash is visiting relatives in Northern Indiana—Rev. Mac. Philip of New York is expected here on a visit to relatives soon—Dr. Jordan left Bloomington on Thursday for a lecturing tour in the Southern portion of the State—Hon. Geo. W. Cooper of Columbus, Ind., lectured in the College Chapel Sunday afternoon. His subject was "Charity," and he treated it in a masterly manner—Cornelius Dodds will go to Chattanooga at the close of Prep. in June—Henry L. McCalla has returned from Tennessee—Geo. Brock of Bedford was in town on day last week—A number of the members of the Bedford Bar were in this city last week, viewing the Big 4 extension, the electric lights, and the "boom"—By the Bedford papers we learn that "soundry firm" is writing letters to their citizens "for inducements."

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