

Rev. Gregg returned from Hartford City Tuesday afternoon. He will remove his family to their future home at Kokomo tomorrow.

Two new circuit court cases filed since last week and they are Florence Sprague vs Stephen Sprague, divorce; and George Buckley vs Cintha A. Buckley, divorce.

Rev. G. Hunter Myers, who is here on a visit, will conduct services at the Presbyterian church next Sunday morning. Our citizens are all well acquainted with Hunter and a large crowd will no doubt be present.

Miss Lena Myers, the sixteen year old daughter of Barney Myers, died last Saturday evening of heart trouble brought on by a severe case of measles. Funeral from the St. Marys Catholic church Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock.

A number of citizens from this city attended the free silver meeting, held at the Princess Rink at Fort Wayne last Monday evening. Rev. Sam Small was the principal orator and those present say it was one of the best meetings ever held in Fort Wayne.

A reception which was an entire success was given by Mrs. Rev. Duckett at the Presbyterian parsonage last Friday evening. The reception was given for the purpose of that lady becoming acquainted with the young people of the church. About fifty were present and enjoyed the games and charades which with an elegant luncheon which was served composed the evening's entertainment.

Jacob C. Miller, who for a number of years has been proprietor of the saloon on North Second street, has purchased the large grocery stock of B. G. Lynch on Monroe street. The deal was consummated Tuesday morning and Mr. Miller took possession at once. He will put in a new stock and will no doubt have one of the finest stores in the city. Mr. Lynch will very probably go into the timber business with his father.

The republicans of the First ward held their convention for the purpose of nominating a candidate for councilman, last Monday evening in the law office of R. S. Peterson. Eighty of the First ward republicans were present and the first ballot resulted in the nomination of Levi Barkley. There were four candidates and the vote was as follows: Levi Barkley 41; John S. Peterson 29; J. A. Smith 7; W. W. Moats 3. Joshua Barnhart acted as chairman of the meeting. Mr. Barkley will be the candidate against Willard E. Suttles, who was nominated at the democratic primary last Friday.

Mr. Pittinger of Indianapolis, state organizer of the Junior Order of American Mechanics, and Mrs. Miller, state council secretary of the Daughters of America, were looking after the membership of their respective orders in this city Monday evening. The Daughters of America have an excellent lodge here with about sixty members. The American Mechanics at one time also had a large number of members but they lost interest and the lodge finally became defunct. It was for the purpose of reorganizing the order that Mr. Pittinger paid this city a visit. A good program was rendered and an elegant lunch was served.

The circuit court has made dispositions in the following cases: Jesse Smith vs Jesse Williams, set for trial April 7. Clark J. Lutz vs Lanchashire Insurance Co., special finding of court, judgment vs defendants for \$154.13. William B. Jack vs George W. Kimble et al., mortgage satisfied. Christian Stuckey vs Fanny Stuckey, court finds defendant of unsound mind. Anna Shroll vs Jesse Clark et al., J. T. Merryman appointed commissioner to sell real estate. State vs C. E. Everett, permission granted Prosecutor Smith to take depositions in Paulding county. Phileas P. Argersinger vs George W. Bolds et al., judgment vs defendants for \$113. B. F. Harper, Ira C. Tabler and Z. T. Brickley admitted to the bar.

As advertised for several weeks, a concert and social was given at the G. A. R. hall Tuesday evening. The program was excellent and a large crowd was present. The program was as follows: Music, City Orchestra; recitation, Mabel Edwards; duet, Dr. and Mrs. Neptune; recitation, Merle Burdge; song, five little girls; recitation, Charline Louthan; music Dr. Neptune; recitation, Charley Case; song, Agnes and Ada Murray; recitation Mary Hossler; solo, Charline Louthan; recitation, Oval Case; song, Mary Hossler; recitation, Millie Roebuck; recitation, Otis Gilpen; recitation, Grover Middleton; music, Foreman Sisters; song, Florine Edwards. All did their part well and the lunch which followed was by no means the poorest part of the evening's entertainment. Although the admission was only 10 cents, quite a snug little sum of money was taken in, which will be sent to the suffering Cubans and although this amount will not in itself keep the island from surrendering, still it will do its share and at any rate it shows the kindness of heart of the W. R. C., who so generously lent their efforts towards making it a success.

The Missionary services at the Presbyterian church last Sunday evening were largely attended, and a splendid meeting is reported.

Miss Fannie Stern of Chicago, has accepted a position as stenographer and book-keeper in the New Fair store soon to be opened in the Stone block. She arrived in the city last Friday evening.

The last will and testament of John C. Christen Sr., was probated at the clerk's office Monday. It provides for the payment of \$100 to his son Godfrey, Albright \$300, John \$200, Catharine \$100. The remainder of the estate is to be equally divided between the heirs, Godfrey, Eliza, Mary, John, William and Caroline.

Henessy Leroy in "Other People's Money," showed to a fair house at Bosse's Opera House last Friday evening. The play was all that was claimed for it and was full of bright witty and comical situations. Every member of the company was an actor and the audience was well pleased with the performance. Should Leroy ever visit Decatur again, he deserves a crowded house.

A new band of twelve pieces has been organized under the leadership of Prof. J. F. Dickerson. Arrangements are now on to give open air concerts as was done last year. A committee will call on the business men for slight assistance and we hope every man in the city will donate for this purpose. The music last year was excellent and helped considerably to draw a crowd to the main streets on the nights the concerts were given. Help the boys along.

Dr. and Mrs. A. L. DeVilbiss and their accomplished daughter Fanny entertained Tuesday evening to a six o'clock dinner. The guests were the members of the Ladies' Cecilian Club and their husbands. The Dr's home is a palace within itself and as a host and hostess they take pride and pleasure in the entertainment of their friends. The dinner consisted of the usual courses, although its preparation disclosed a supreme knowledge of the culinary art. The evening was devoted to social pleasure including a club party with Rev. and Mrs. E. T. Gregg.

David Rowe of Willshire, met death in a horrible manner last Saturday afternoon. He was employed in the large flouring mill of J. D. Hale & Bros., and was working at his post of duty when a belt became loosened from a pulley and flying off struck Rowe on the head. The blow threw him into the moving machinery where he was ground to pieces. Mr. Rowe was twenty-five years old and had a family. He was one of the popular citizens of Willshire, and has many friends in this city. He was formerly a resident of Bluffton. The mill in which he met death is owned by J. D. Hale of this city, J. P. Hale of Bluffton, and Silas W. Hale of Geneva.

One of the most pleasant occasions of the season was the marriage of Miss Ora Acker to Mr. Albert Hertle of Liberty township, Van Wert county, Ohio, on Tuesday evening, at the residence of the brides' mother in St. Marys township. The wedding was a quiet one, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Kohn and witnessed by the near relatives of the contracting parties and a few invited guests. The happy couple then received the hearty congratulations of those present, after which the guests repaired to the dining room, where a table laden to overflowing with its bounties awaited them. The bride and groom were presented with quite a number of beautiful and useful presents. The bride is a sister of Mrs. S. A. Roop and Mr. Samuel Acker and the groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hertle of near Van Wert. The newly married couple will go to house-keeping at once in a fine new residence built for them on a farm near Van Wert. A host of friends unite in wishing them a happy and prosperous life.

A jolly party composed of seven of the regular panel of jurymen, who were not on duty Tuesday afternoon, went out to the county poor farm, where they spent the afternoon in a pleasant manner and also paid their respects to Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Graber. The party was composed of Messrs. W. F. Fulk, William Hall, F. F. Freck, Frank Hisey Calvin Teeter, Jay Fenstermaker and J. T. Burley, and they report that the afternoon was one of the most pleasant and interesting they have ever spent, the only regret seeming to be that the time passed off too quickly. Much praise is due to the skillful manner in which Mr. and Mrs. Graber looked after the poor and distressed citizens of the county. Everything about the farm is neat, clean and in a prosperous condition, the inmates of the house have every care possible and the food they receive is good and wholesome. The party were royally entertained during the afternoon, and in the evening they were invited to supper, which was one of Mrs. Graber's best and an excellent treat. The visitors are warm in their praise for the way they were received and will no doubt visit with Mr. Graber and family whenever an opportunity presents itself.

An electric light is being placed at the G. R. & I railway crossing this week. All the railroads now have electric lights at their crossings in this city, except the Clover Leaf.

Dave M. Rice, an old time Decatur boy, who has been in the regular army for a number of years, is spending a few days with friends and relatives in this city. He has been located for several years at Omaha, Nebraska, where he is a musician in the 12th infantry band.

Ezra Lister takes this method of thanking his many friends and supporters in the "bloody third," and says that while defeated, he is for the entire ticket from top to bottom, without any semblance of a scratch anywhere about it. However, every one is fully acquainted with Ezra's unaided democracy and that to scratch his ticket would be worse than a physis.

Dick Townsend has had several beautiful pictures placed in the office of the Burt House this week. Hagerman's Pass—Colorado and The Grand Canon of the Colorado river—Arizona, were presented to Dick by the traveling agent of the Union Pacific railway. A handsome likeness of the German ship "Wilhelm" is also among the collection. This addition to the gallery was made by E. X. Ehinger of the National Bank. The pictures are tastefully arranged and are pleasing additions to the cozy office.

There is a lack of clear understanding as to just what the relation of the National Guard to the general government is. It is pointed out by the authorities that the president has the power to order the whole National Guard into the field for a period of nine months, and may send it to Cuba or anywhere else. But notwithstanding his power conferred upon the president, the impression has reached the adiana militia that in case it becomes necessary to call upon the states for troops the general government will request the governors to call for volunteers with the understanding that the National Guard be preferred.

Blifton is much interested in a voting contest given under the direction of the Chicago Dispatch in which a trip to Europe is offered as a prize to the teacher outside of Chicago getting the largest number of votes. Miss Anna Effinger of Bluffton, leads all contestants in Indiana. She has received as many as 1,700 votes, and the little children even are giving her all the assistance they can. Miss Effinger is the only Catholic teacher in the Blifton schools, and is a strong and popular instructor. She has visited a Decatur frequently where she has number of warm friends, and they will doubtless do their share in landing her up in the top notch of winners.

The fifty-sixth annual meeting of the North Indiana Conference will be held in this city in April, 1899. This was decided by a unanimous vote of the conference at Hartford City last Saturday. Rev. E. T. Gregg represented to members of the M. E. church at the citizens of Decatur in asking for chance to welcome the conference next year and it was no doubt due to his eloquence and his pleasing way in presenting our meritorious facilities for entertaining them that we were successful. The meetings will be held in the Methodist church and that commodious house will no doubt be crowded during the week of the conference. The citizens of Decatur should make all arrangements to give the conference a warm welcome. The home of our citizens, we are sure, will be thrown wide open and this great host of ministers can not help but leave our city with feelings that they have been royally entertained. Let us make preparations to outdo all the cities in the conference in entertaining them.

It is now proposed by the Sons of Veterans to use good their professions of devotion to the principals for which their fathers fought, by founding a great National Military College, dedicated to patriotism and to be a living monument to the memory of the soldiers of the Union Army. This great work is receiving the commendation of G. A. R. men and loyal people everywhere. Through education along the lines of civics and patriotism it is proposed to bring about a higher standard of citizenship through good citizenship to have good government. This is a laudable enterprise and these loyal young men will receive the hearty support of all good people. A committee has been appointed to devise some feasible plan of organization and report the same to the National Encampment which meets at Omaha next September. The committee consists of A. L. Sutor, a Mason city, Iowa, Chairman; Geo. E. Cox, Hartford, Conn.; Manley, Iren Bethany, Mo.; H. O. Bixby, Clatsa, Vt.; R. M. Buckley, Louisville, Ky. This committee is now at work securing information and formulating plans. Many ambitious ones are trying to secure the location of the college and it promises to become a reality. This is the most during and practical memorial that has yet been proposed. All honor to the Sons of Veterans and success to their glorious undertaking.

The second annual contest of the Indiana High School Oratorical association was held at Richmond, last Friday night, representatives from Indianapolis, Richmond, South Bend, Portland, Plainfield and Economy taking part. Claude Bowers, of Indianapolis, won first prize, Juliet Hollingsworth, Richmond, second, and Clyde Locke, South Bend, third. The prizes were \$50, \$35 and \$15.

The Queen Esther society, the juvenile department of the Home Missionary Society, of the Methodist church gave a pleasant afternoon party last Saturday under the charge of Miss Bertie Blosser. Taffy pulling and games were the features of the party, which was given in honor of Miss Naoma Gregg, who has been a member of the organization for several years.

An attempt was made on last Friday morning to burn the large spoke factory, in the west part of this city, owned by A. T. Lynch. The attempt proved futile, however, as Mr. Lynch arrived at the factory just in time to extinguish the blaze without much damage. There seems to be no doubt but that some "fire fiend" was trying to get in his work as a man was seen running away from the factory and foot prints to and from an open window also point strongly to the fact. Mr. Lynch thinks it the work of an enemy.

Daniel J. Coffee vs Henry Diemer was the title of a damage suit in 'Squire James H. Smith's court last Monday. The complaint alleged that Diemer was the proprietor of an upholstery establishment on Madison street, that said coffee has been working for him since March, 1897 and that for said labor, Coffee had never received any recompense, wherefore he demands \$200 as payment in full. L. C. DeVoss appeared for the plaintiff and Judge J. R. Bobo for the defendant. Judgment was rendered in favor of the plaintiff for \$51. It is not yet known whether an appeal will be taken to the circuit court or not.

The Geneva lodge, Daughters of the Rebecca, gave an entertainment to the members of the Portland and Decatur lodges Tuesday evening. Sixteen of the lodge of this city attended and report an excellent time. A good program was rendered and an excellent supper served. Those present were Mesdames A. Engle, T. J. Archbold, John DeLong, A. K. Grubb, Joe Helm, J. C. Ellsworth, Noah Mangold, Charles Helm, M. F. Rice, Henry Hite, M. L. Byers, C. F. Allegar and Misses Gussie Cramer, Della Harruff, Nellie Blackburn and Jennie Weldy. The delegation were pleased with their reception and the Decatur lodge will very probably return the compliment in the near future.

On last Saturday a tramp who looked as though he had been struck by a brewery, wandered into the lumber yard of Kirsch & Sellemeyer on First street, and silently made his way to the hay mow of the large stable at the rear of the lot. Gus Sellemeyer, one of the proprietors, saw him enter and ordered a search to be made for him which was done without success. During the day a load of hay was purchased and placed in the mow, and towards evening Fred Sellemeyer went to the barn to feed the horses, when he heard a strange sound issuing from the depths of the newly purchased hay. After considerable work Fred finally succeeded in "yanking" out the tramp who had spent the afternoon under the hay. He was nearly dead but after resting awhile and fanning himself with his hat he came to and as he moved away from the yard a small boy yelled out "chew hay." The tramp looked at the boy with a sickly grin and moved on, and the only hope of the citizens of Decatur is that he and all his kind are still moving in an opposite direction from this city.

It may not be generally known that Bishop Fowler, who presided over the Methodist conference at Hartford City last week and Francis E. Willard, the great temperance leader, who died in New York lately, were at one time engaged but this is a fact nevertheless. Those who are familiar with the writings of Miss Willard will remember of reading quite often of a "secret lying within the temperate zone of a great heart's geography," and that secret was her engagement with Bishop Fowler. In their youth Bishop Fowler and Miss Willard were students in the same Methodist college, both being members of the Methodist church. Between them was a strong affinity, a friendship that eventually ripened into a deep, abiding love. The ring she speaks of wearing as "an allegiance based on supposition," was the gift of Bishop Fowler. Both had great strength of character and were born leaders of men and women. The similarity of their temperament was frequently considered by the young people as a barrier to matrimony, and it was finally agreed that it would be best for both to choose separate paths in life. The engagement was accordingly broken. In after years they were often brought together in their life work, that of lifting up fallen humanity and leading them to a better way, but the story of early romance was never told until the death of Miss Willard a few weeks ago.

About 3:20 o'clock Wednesday morning as the third section of west-bound through freight No. 83, of the C. & E., was leaving Lima, O., and running at a rate of 20 or 25 miles an hour, the train broke in two between two coal cars and soon the sections collided with a crash. In the collision one of the coal cars was thrown clear upon the top of the other and was badly wrecked.

An enjoyable birthday surprise party was given Miss Lillie Jackson last Friday afternoon in honor of the arrival of her fourteenth birthday. The following young ladies were present and assisted in surprising Miss Lillie: Kate Sunday of New Corydon, Bertha May of Bluffton, and Bessie Harruff, Lola Jackson, Lillie Garard, Alice Jackson, Faye Smith, Ethel Sunday, Jessie Sutherland, Madge Hite, Lillie Ashbacher, Fannie Hite, Bessie Gerard, Estel Gerard and Mamie Hoyer. All report a jolly time and wish Miss Lillie many more such occasions.

Harry Beyrl Merriss, the Boy Wonder, a nine-year-old boy, astonished all who hear him, by his wonderful ability to spell difficult words backwards or forwards, of history from hearing it read, pronouncing the long hard words fluently and easily, tells instantly your age from hearing the date of your birth, or vice versa, solves difficult mathematical problems with ease, makes long and difficult combinations in multiplication, and is a real prodigy in many ways. He comes well recommended by the citizens of Bluffton. Harry is a Decatur boy, having been born in this city. He will appear at the Baptist church tomorrow evening, Admission 10 and 15 cents.

The committee appointed to investigate the charges against Rev. R. M. Driver, of Marion, made its report to the conference last Monday to the effect that there was not sufficient evidence in the case to warrant a trial, but as Dr. Driver admitted he had been guilty of impropriety, and promised to be more careful and discreet in the future, on motion Dr. Driver was exonerated, his character passed and continued in the ministry. It was evident from the unanimity of the vote of the conference that Dr. Driver is held in very high esteem by his brethren. He was sent to Mankato, Minn., where he will act as the pastor of the Methodist church. He was changed from this state on the advice of Bishop Fowler.

The city council met in called session in the city hall on Monroe street Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock. All members were present and a resolution to make the Chicago & Erie railway improve the Winchester street crossing, was read and adopted. Following is a copy of the resolution: Be it resolved by the common council of the city of Decatur, Indiana, That the Chicago & Erie railroad be and it is hereby required to plank the crossing of its tracks across Winchester street in the city of Decatur, Indiana, the full width thereof upon a level with the rails of said tracks. It being the intention of the said council to require hereby the removal of the crushed stone or gravel now between the plank adjoining the said rails and make a solid plank crossing entirely across both the tracks of said railroad, thirty days being given to complete said work. Resolved further, That the street commissioner be and he is hereby required to serve upon the local agent of said railroad a copy of this resolution and if the said improvement is not completed within the time required by law, the said street commissioner shall report that fact to this common council for further action.

As the time for the assessment of personal property is at hand for the year 1898, the last Legislature made a change in the dog law so that the persons owning dogs will have to pay the township assessor when he calls on you to assess your personal property. Male dogs, one dollar; each additional male dog, two dollars; female dog, three dollars. The assessor does not have to kill the dog if the person does not pay the tax, as some think. Section 5 of the dog law says: "It shall be the duty of the township assessor to keep a record of all dogs that have not been paid for, by whom owned, harbored or kept, and the number of such dogs and the kind, whether male or female, and he shall report the same to the township trustee of his township at the time of making his other reports as above reported, whose duty it shall be to report the same to the prosecutor of his county, or district, or his deputy, who shall bring an action before any Justice of the Peace of his county, or in the circuit court of his county, against such persons. Upon conviction thereof he shall receive the sum of five dollars for each case so prosecuted, and such fee shall be charged as part of the judgment and cost against such person prosecuted. Provided that if any person own, harbor or keep any dog after the assessor shall have completed his assessment, he shall report such dog to and pay to the township trustee of his township, the amount of the dog tax as above provided and receive his receipt for the same, which receipt shall exempt him from further payment of dog tax on days described in said receipt until the time of the assessment of his township.

County Superintendent Brandyberry reports that over eighty applicants tried to pass the teachers' examination held at the central school building in this city last Saturday. Profs. J. E. Lung of Geneva, and G. H. Laughrey of this city, were applicants for professional license. The questions were quite difficult and some of the applicants worked until late in the evening to finish. Prof. Brandyberry also tells us that while there are less than 150 positions in the county for school teachers, there have already been granted over twice that number of licenses.

The Fort Wayne Journal of Saturday contained the following sad account of the death of Mrs. Addie Stone, wife of Frank Stone, formerly of this city: At 1:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon death claimed for its victim, Mrs. Addie Davis Stone, wife of the well known traveling man. The immediate cause of death was pneumonia and peritonitis. Less than two weeks ago Mrs. Stone became the mother of a little son and since that time she suffered from a complication of diseases. Not until the past few days, however, has her condition been considered at all critical. Yesterday morning she seemed brighter and stronger than at any time for days and her anxious relatives and friends who had been constantly at her bedside, were much encouraged. Soon after noon she became weaker and gradually sank to the long sleep, from which there is no waking for the mortal. Every effort to save the precious life was made by the grief stricken and sorrowing husband and friends, but to no avail. The sorrow for the stricken husband is everywhere marked for its sincerity, for this home, always a bright and happy one, has been darkened and robbed of its brightest star. Mrs. Addie Davis Stone was born in this city on May 7, 1868 she was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley T. Davis, of 308 East Wayne street. She was educated in the public schools of the city, having graduated in the class of 1886. For five years after her graduation she taught in the Hoagland schools, and many pupils remember and speak of many kindnesses shown them in those days by Miss Davis. The deceased was married to Mr. Frank Stone on July 29, 1891. To them three children were born, two of whom are still living. Mrs. Stone was an active worker in the Baptist church, with which body she had identified herself when a girl.

The North Indiana Conference which began at Hartford City on Monday, March 21, closed last Monday at noon. Much important business was transacted during the week. Conference voted for equal representation in the general conference of the church, and hereafter lay and ministerial delegates will stand on an equal footing. Only two votes were cast against the change and 145 in favor of it. A number of preachers in their second year studies, among them D. M. Hower of this city, were admitted into full connection and elected to deacon's orders. A reduction of the basis of the ministerial representation was authorized by a vote of 148 for and none against. A number of addresses by the prominent members of the church and many other notable were made and, much other business such as is usual in these meetings was transacted. Among the most important business which was taken up by the conference, however, was the selection of Decatur as the place for holding the next annual session of that distinguished body. The vote which selected this city as the meeting place was carried unanimously and our citizens will return their appreciation of the courtesy by unanimously giving them a royal welcome. The date of holding the conference was changed from March to April in the hope that more settled weather could be secured for the occasion. On Monday morning the announcements for the appointment of the various churches was read. Rev. E. T. Gregg, who for five years has been the faithful pastor in this city, was sent to Grace church at Kokomo; Rev. W. A. Daniels, formerly of the First M. E. church of Richmond, will come to this city; G. B. Work will return to Dunkirk, J. C. Dorwin to Pennville, Rev. J. H. Walters to Bipus and Rev. G. H. Myers to Gaston. The appointments for the Fort Wayne district were as follows: F. T. Simpson, presiding elder, Angola, F. M. Kemper; Auburn, T. M. Guild; Avilla, C. E. Davis; Bluffton, S. Light; Bobo, N. P. Barton; Ceylon, to be supplied; Churubusco, H. A. Ewell; Coesse, W. H. Griest; Decatur, W. A. Daniels; Fort Wayne, Berry Street, C. C. Cissel; St. Paul, M. C. Cooper; Simpson, T. J. Johnson; Trinity, Sherman Powell; Wayne Street, W. D. Parr; Fort Wayne Circuit, to be supplied; Fremont, A. Cone; Garret, J. M. Haines; Geneva, J. J. Fred; Harlan, L. C. Zimmerman; Hoagland, George Cocking; Huntertown, W. E. Murray; Huntington, F. M. Stone; Leo, A. E. McClintock; Markle, O. S. Harrison; Monroeville, C. Tinkham; New Haven, George Cocking; Ossian, C. M. Holloper; Poneto, E. J. Magor; Roanoke, W. L. Singer; Uniondale, E. M. Foster; Wolf Lake, to be supplied; Woodburn, to be supplied.