

OLD-TIME LEGISLATORS.

Veterans of 1850-51 Reunite at the State Capital,

And Indulge in Reminiscences of By-gone Days.

Historical, Biographical, and Anecdotal.

[From the Indianapolis Sentinel.]

Survivors of the Convention of 1850.

There was but a small gathering of visitors at the opening session of the reunion of the members of the Constitutional Convention of 1850 at English's Opera House, the meeting being simply for the purpose of organization. The spectators occupied the main auditorium, the stage being reserved for the members and the press. Hon. Wm. McKee Dunn, delegate to the Constitutional Convention from Jefferson County, called the meeting to order.

Hon. Geo. W. Carr, who was a delegate from the County of Lawrence to the State Constitutional convention of 1850, and who was elected President of the convention by a vote almost unanimous, was called upon to preside over this meeting of the survivors of the convention.

Hon. William H. English, who was the principal Secretary of the Constitutional Convention, was unanimously elected Secretary of the meeting. The following members responded to their names:

Oliver P. Badger, delegate from Putnam County.
Cromwell W. Barbour, delegate from Vigo County.
Othnell Beeson, delegate from Wayne County.
Horace B. Biddell, delegate from Cass County.
Alexander B. Condit, delegate from Morzan County.
William McKee Dunn, delegate from Jefferson County.
James B. Foley, delegate from Decatur County.
John A. Graham, delegate from Miami County.
Jefferson Helm, delegate from Rush County.
Thomas A. Hendricks, delegate from Shelby County.
William S. Holman, delegate from Dearborn County.
Phineas M. Kent, delegate from Floyd County.
Beattie McClelland, delegate from Randolph County.
Samuel Pepper, delegate from Crawford County.

James Keener, delegate from Johnson County.
S. B. Taylor, delegate from Laporte County.
Henry G. Todd, delegate from Hendricks County.
George W. Carr, delegate from Lawrence County.

As the roll was called the Secretary announced the names of those who were certainly known to be dead, and it was found that the total survivors aggregated but thirty-three out of a convention composed of about 180 members.

Upon conclusion of the roll-call, Hon. Oliver P. Badger, delegate from Putnam County in the Constitutional Convention, invoked the divine blessing, the members rising to their feet.

The Secretary announced that he had letters from two of the members of the convention, and on motion they were read. The letters were from Christopher C. Graham and Gen. R. H. Milroy. A paper biographical and historical of the Constitutional Convention, written by Hon. John I. Morrison, a short time before his death, was read by Mr. English, to whom it was presented by a daughter of the writer.

The evening session of the reunion was more largely attended by spectators than was that of the afternoon, and the programme proved an interesting one, addresses being made by Vice President Hendricks on "The Constitution and its Amendments," by Hon. William H. English on "The History of the Convention," Hon. William McKee Dunn, on the prominent features of the work of the convention, Hon. Oliver P. Badger on Putnam County, in an address which was in the beginning sentiments, in the middle humorous, and at the close humorous; and by Col. Taylor of Chicago, who was a member of the convention from Laporte County, and is still vigorous at the age of 84 years.

Survivors of the Legislature of 1851.

Fifty members of the Legislature of 1851 are still living, and of these thirty-eight were in attendance at the reunion at English's Opera House. There was a fair audience of ladies and gentlemen, the proceedngs being principally of an informal nature, most of the time of the session being spent in renewing acquaintanceships and indulging in reminiscences of "ye olden time."

The meeting was called to order by Judge Niblack, and Hon. William H. English, Speaker of the first House under the new constitution, was called to preside, and Dr. Andrew J. H. was chosen Secretary.

The roll-call showed the following members present: Senate—William E. Niblack, Knox, Davies and Martin; Jose, H. H. Deffrees, Blkhar; R. D. Logan, Rush; J. A. Caven, Washington. Believed to be living, but not present—George Berry, Franklin; Dubois; Jacob Dice; Madison now living in Arkansas; Ben Newland, Lawrence; John Witherow, Hendricks (now in California); Frank Emerson, Jackson and Scott; O. P. Davis, Park and Vermilion; Job Hatfield, Perry; James M. Seeth, Shelby, Total—12.

House—Wm. H. English, Scott; Isaac D. G. Nelson, Allen; Andrew J. Hay, Clark; William S. Holman, Dearborn; Michael Thompson, Delaware; Phineas M. Kent, yd; Samuel Davis, Franklin; Andrew Humphreys, Greene; John Lyle King, Jefferson; Martin D. Crim, Martin; Richard J. Donaldson, Miami; Mahlon D. Manson, Montgomery; George W. McDonnell, Steuben and Walsh; Robert N. Hudson, Viro; Calvin Cowgill, Washash; Joseph M. Bulla, Wayne, Total—16.

Believed to be living, but not present—John Crawford, Adams; William B. Beach, now living at Providence, R. I.; Boone; John Souder, Davies; Henry W. Barker, Dubois; Jacob Dice; Fountain; Zimri Reynolds, Grant; Samuel T. Wells, Jackson; Robert Huey, Jay; Francis F. Mayfield, Jefferson; Edward P. Hicks, Jennings; Francis Henry, Lacrange; John Lavery (now in Utah); George W. H. (now in Nebraska); Daniel C. Stover, Montgomery; David S. Hunstetter, Orange; Milton Walker, Perry; D. C. Donahue, Putnam; Hiram H. Hart, Ripley; Thomas M. Smith, Spencer; Theophilus Chowning, Sutherland; George C. Mader, Steuben and DeKalb; Godlove O. Behn, Tippecanoe. Total members of House believed to be living—37.

Hon. W. H. English, on taking the chair at the evening session of the reunion, said: "I thank you sincerely for assigning me the duty of presiding over this meeting, and I recognize that the selection is made, mainly, because I am the survivor presiding officer of the first Legislature held under the present Constitution."

I perform the duty with mingled feelings of pleasure and of pain, which I find it difficult to express. In meeting again comrades of a third of a century ago, and now at the realization of the fact that so many have passed away, and that the others must speedily follow, I have never so fully realized the shortness of life and the transitory nature of all worldly honors and rewards as I have since the call for this reunion has developed that so many of my old comrades are dead.

"When I remember all I feel so lonely and I feel like a leaf in wintry weather, I feel like one who stands alone, Some banquet hall deserted, Whose light—whose fire, Whose garlands dead, And all but he departed."

Of the little body of great men who formed the first Constitution of Indiana, in 1816, all have long since passed away, as have also, I believe, all the members of the first thirteen General Assemblies of the State.

I may be mistaken in this, but if there be a surviving member of any Legislature of this State, held prior to 1816, I do not know it, and I have made diligent inquiry to ascertain it.

The General Assembly which met in 1835 was the 20th that had been held up to that date, and the total members elected would aggregate thousands, and yet to day you could probably count all who survive on the fingers of one hand. Even including all the Legislatures up to 1840, there are probably not over a dozen surviving of the thousands composing the twenty-five Legislatures which had then been held. Coming five years later on, to 1845, would probably not increase the number to over twenty-five.

You would doubtless like to know who these

venerable and patriotic survivors are. To state something of the personnel of the first General Assembly held under the present Constitution, and to give some account as to who are the survivors of the preceding Legislatures, will be the object of this address.

I have already said that I have not heard of any one being alive who was a member of any Legislature of this State held prior to 1831. There may be, of course, and one of my objects in making this address is to call out the facts as they exist.

1831-2. I may be mistaken, but I think that Hon. Alexander C. Stevenson, who represented Putnam County in the House of Representatives in 1831-2, is the only surviving member of that Legislature, and of all the Legislatures back to the organization of the State.

1832-3. I next come to the General Assembly of 1832-3. I have not been able to find out any member of that Legislature survives except John C. Parker, then one of the Representatives from the County of Clarke.

1833-4. My father was a member of the Legislature of 1833-4, and I have often heard him talk about the session being held in the old Court House of Marion County, and about those who were then members, but I have been unable to find that any of them survive. 1833-4 are now alive. Daniel M. Bradbury was a member of that Legislature from Wayne County, and was taking much interest in this reunion, but unfortunately he died since the call was issued, and also Senator George S. Walker, of Cass County, and Representative Thomas S. Stanford, of St. Joseph County, showing how rapidly these pioneers in the legislation of the State are passing away.

1834-5. I now come to the Legislature of 1834-5. I have knowledge of but one member of that Legislature being alive, and that is my distinguished friend, Col. Richard W. Thompson, whom I am sure you all delight to honor. Incidentally I will state a fact in connection with this Legislature which may be of interest to you, and it illustrates the wonderful progress that has been made since that time. It is that the record shows that Henry Brady, who recently died near this city, was then (1835) the sole representative of Marion and Hamilton counties and all the country north of the great Miami reservation.

1835-6. I find that my friend Thompson was returned to the next Legislature, which met in December, 1835, and with him came another of my old friends—David M. May—then a Representative from Henry County, and now a highly esteemed citizen of Indianapolis, and as far as I know, is another old friend, Christopher C. Graham, now a resident of Red Wing, Minn.

1836-7. It is a little singular that the same three gentlemen, Thompson, May, and Graham, are survivors of the next Legislature—1836-7—to which may be added Joshua B. Hucksby, a Representative from Perry County, and Dr. Graham N. Ritch, who subsequently held a distinction in the Senate of the United States.

1837-8. May and Graham again turned up as the sole survivors, as far as I know, of the Legislature of 1837-8. My friend May seems not to have been a member. Whether a political cyclone struck him about that time, or he went up higher, or got tired of the business, he can tell you more entertainingly than any man alive.

1838-9. As to the General Assembly of 1838-9, George W. Carr and C. C. Graham are, as far as I know, the only survivors; so that it would seem that of the twenty-three Legislatures held up to that time, there are probably less than a dozen now living. I know of but eight at this time, but there may be more, and probably are. These Legislatures were all held before my day, but I now come to Legislatures of which I have some personal knowledge.

1839-40. The first Legislature I ever saw was the Indiana Legislature of 1839-40. It was a great event to me, at that time of my humble life, and has made a marked impression on my memory.

I rode three days on horseback from Scott County to Indianapolis, in winter weather, and over the worst possible roads, to see it and to attend a Democratic State Convention, although I was not then of age by several years. Incidentally, I may say that the convention nominated General Tiplinham Howard for Governor. He was badly beaten, although a very superior man; so I tasted the bitter of the political defeat of my party early, and had so much of it in my last twenty-five years that I have learned to take such things quite philosophically.

Indianapolis had then a population of only a few thousands, but was putting on city airs even at that early date. I remember there was a riot one night soon after my arrival, growing out of the marriage of a negro man and white woman, and it made a terrible sensation.

My father, who was a member of the Indiana Legislature one time or another for nearly twenty years, was at the time of my arrival, and I remember that I boarded with him, during my stay of several weeks, at a house kept by Basil Brown on the east side of Indiana avenue, near Tennessee street. The house is still standing, but I think every one of the persons stopping there, and there were many, have long since passed away, and I know of but four members of that Legislature now alive. They are Judge Fabius M. Finch, Alexander C. Stevenson, James S. Shively, and Amzi L. Wheeler.

1840-41. As to the Legislature of 1840-41, the only members of it that I know to be alive are A. C. Stevenson, Geo. W. Carr, James Ritchey, C. C. Graham, and Aaron Rawlings.

1841-42. At the next Legislature, 1841-42, my venerable friend Joseph F. Brown, who I am glad to see here to-night, was principal Clerk of the House, and he introduced me into the House, and of but seven members of that Legislature now living: Geo. W. Carr, James Ritchey, A. C. Stevenson, Christopher C. Graham, Aaron Rawlings, James S. Shively, and John Pitcher.

1842-43. I was present at the organization of the Legislature of 1842-43, and had acquaintance with many of the members, as I was then, for the first time, a candidate for a legislative office and trying to learn the art of "electroengineering with the members."

Of those surviving of that delegation I can name only: Aquilla Jones, now Postmaster of Indianapolis; Amzi L. Wheeler, George W. Carr, Joshua B. Hucksby, James Ritchey and Franklin Hardin.

1843-4. I had a very intimate acquaintance with the members of the Legislature of 1843-4 by reason of being the principal Clerk of the House of Representatives, and I remember that I was the Reporter of the Supreme Court of the United States, was the Secretary of that Senate, and is still living, but Jess D. Bright, the President of the Senate, and Andrew L. Robinson, the Speaker of the House, and all of the 150 men who were my associates in that Legislature before the members.

1844-5. I had a very intimate acquaintance with the members of the Legislature of 1844-5 by reason of being the principal Clerk of the House of Representatives, and I remember that I was the Reporter of the Supreme Court of the United States, was the Secretary of that Senate, and is still living, but Jess D. Bright, the President of the Senate, and Andrew L. Robinson, the Speaker of the House, and all of the 150 men who were my associates in that Legislature before the members.

1845-6. I now come to the Legislature of 1845-6. When that Legislature met, the duties devolved on me, as Chief Clerk, of calling the House to order. If I should call the same old roll to-night, I think less than a dozen would be found alive to answer. I will call such as I know to be living: A. C. Stevenson, Speaker; Alexander B. Condit, Franklin Hardin, David M. May, James S. Shively, J. B. Hucksby, William W. Conner, Robert Huey, Augustus C. Handy; and of the Senate, George Berry and James Ritchey. There may be others, but these are all I know to be alive. I went to Washington City before the close of that session, where I remained several years, and consequently, had no connection with the Indiana Legislature until I was elected to the first one held under the new Constitution.

FROM '45 TO '51. I pass over the Legislatures which met during my absence in Washington because of my lack of information about them and because they were here before I came to this city. Of them—such as William E. Niblack, Delano E. Williamson, Andrew Humphreys, M. L. Bundy, Jos. A. Deffrees, I. B. Julien, John W. Dodd, J. A. Cravens, Jonathan S. Harvey, Joseph M. Bulla, Michael Thompson, C. F. Donaldson, A. B. Condit, George W. Carr, and other gentlemen who I see present, but have not time to name, were members of those Legisla-

tures, and they were all important and able Legislatures.

1851-2. In what I have further to say on this occasion I shall speak only of the first Legislature held under the present Constitution. It was the understanding in advance that it was going to be a Legislature of unusual importance. The new Constitution had just been adopted by an immense majority of the electors. Its adoption made a radical revision of the laws necessary in order that they should conform to its provisions. The work devolved on the Legislature was, in fact, a continuation of the work begun and outlined by the convention. The new Constitution required that the forms and practice in the courts, which had before that time been very intricate and voluminous, should be revised and simplified, the pleading made more uniform, the then prevailing distinction between law and equity abolished, and that the general statute law of the State should be reduced to a plain and systematic code.

"The whole temple of State government, from spire to foundation stone, had to be taken down, remodeled, and rebuilt so as to conform to the new Constitution and the progress and improvements of the age."

To do all this properly, and much more that was devolved on the first Legislature, required time, and consequently that Legislature was not restricted by the Constitution as to length of session. It was necessarily longer in session than any Legislature ever held in the State, having met on the 1st of December, 1851, and adjourned on the 15th of June, 1852.

The public wisely recognized the need of doing the work well of these great reforms, and, looking to that end, elected a strong Legislature. Many of the members had served in the convention which framed the Constitution and in practice in the courts, which had before that time been very intricate and voluminous, and it was a splendid body of representative men.

A glance over the list will show many names of high standing and recognized ability, most of whom were called to high and honorable positions. Great as was the number of members of the Constitutional Convention called to represent the people in the Congress of the United States, more were called from the Legislature, viz: James H. Lane, John G. Davis, Norman Eddy, George G. Dunn, David P. Hollower, James D. Williams, all dead; and William E. Niblack, James A. Cravens, Joseph H. Deffrees, Mahlon D. Manson, Andrew Humphreys, Calvin Cowgill, William S. Holman and William H. English, all of whom are present.

This Legislature is also remembered as the number of its members transferred to the Supreme Bench, the convention having furnished three and the Legislature five, as follows: W. E. Niblack, who will next address you, and Samuel H. Baseman, William H. English, J. B. Stewart, and Samuel B. Gookins, who are dead.

This Legislature also furnished a Governor of the State, James D. Williams; a Lieutenant Governor, Mahlon D. Manson; a Clerk of the Supreme Court, William B. Beach; two Secretaries of State, Nolin and James S. Athol; two Generals in the Union army, Slack and Manson, and numerous other public officers.

At the close of Mr. English's remarks Judge Niblack was introduced, and addressed the meeting at length. He was followed by Hon. W. S. Holman, Hon. Robert N. Hudson of Vigo County, Hon. John Lyle King of Chicago, and Col. R. W. Thompson.

His honor, the President having arrived, Mr. English rose and said:

"In the act of adjourning the House of Representatives of the first Legislature held under the present constitution, my last and parting words to the members from the Speaker's chair were these:

"Let us separate as a band of brothers, each one prepared to say of the other through the rest of life, 'he is my friend; we served together in the first Legislature under the new constitution.'"

"These words are as appropriate to-night as they were a third of a century ago, and so now, with the consciousness that we shall not all ever meet again on this earth, I repeat, not in the context of the State, but in the Legislature of 1851-2, but to all the members of this reunion:

"Let us separate as a band of brothers, each one prepared to say to the other through the rest of life, 'he is my friend—we served together in the Congress of the United States, and long years ago, and renewed our friendship in the great legislative reunion of 1851. I now perform the last melancholy duty of declaring this meeting adjourned.'"

The Queen of the Antilles.

[New York telegram.]

A meeting of Cubans was held in the University Club theater to-night to discuss the project of annexing the Island of Cuba to the United States. Mr. Rubiera, who is foremost in the movement, said the Spanish property-owners on the island know that Cuba can not remain long under the control of Spain, and they know, or think at all events, that if Cuba were annexed to the United States their property would double in value. So they have on foot a movement to bring about that end. Last July, Mr. Rubiera says, a secret meeting was held of the forty-four districts in Cuba. These gentlemen assembled quietly at Saratoga, and there met those prominent American bankers from New York who are interested in the enterprise, and discussed the best means of bringing the matter favorably before Congress. The result was that a committee was sent to Newport to meet and confer with ex-President Arthur with the view to securing his services as legal adviser in the enterprise.

The native Cubans are not in sympathy with the plan. They say that first of all must come independence from Spain, and then if the matter is put before the Cuban people for a vote and the decision is favorable there will be ample time to consider a basis of annexation to the American Union. Mr. Rubiera read extracts from a Cuban letter written to a Madrid paper in which the writer said that the people of Spain would be much surprised were they to hear the names of the wealthy and distinguished Spanish residents of Cuba who were interesting themselves actively in this plan of annexation to the United States. Their idea was to approach the American Congress with such terms as would tempt this Government to enter into negotiations for the purchase outright of the island.

Duty of an Alien.

[Hartford (Conn.) special.]

A case involving an interesting question was decided yesterday in the Waterbury City Court. Several days ago a Waterbury policeman met with considerable resistance in taking a prisoner to the police station. He called upon a bystander, John Bagley, an Englishman, for assistance. Bagley refused on the ground that as an alien he was free from obligation to assist in preserving the public peace, as he was free from being compelled to serve in the United States army during the war. He was subsequently arrested for refusing to help the officer, and made the same plea to the court. The penalty was from \$5 to \$30, and the court, while declining to consider his peculiar claim, imposed only the minimum penalty.

A Sioux Custom.

[Miss Alice Fletcher, the student of Indian household customs, says that among the Sioux, when one family borrows a kettle from another it is expected that when the kettle is returned a small portion of the food that has been cooked in it will be left in the bottom. The language has a particular word to designate this remnant. "Should this custom be disregarded by any one, that person would never be able to borrow again, as the owner must always know what was cooked in her kettle." A white woman, on one occasion, returned a scoured kettle, intending to teach a lesson in cleanliness; but her act became the talk of the camp as a fresh example of the meanness of whites.

SMALL-POX.

Ravages of the Pestilence in Canada and Elsewhere—A Contagious Steamer at Detroit.

[Montreal special.]

Miss Flora Campbell and Miss Bush, who have been patients in the small-pox hospital, make some very damaging charges against the system of treating small-pox patients in the hospital. They state that they had been put in beds which had been occupied by other patients; and that the sheets had not been changed; that some of the poor creatures in the ward in which they were had the disease very bad, and that the smell was dreadful; that attendants bade them good-night when they were most needed; that the first night Miss Bush was in the hospital she was given a bed without bed-clothes, and she was forced to lie there all night as she came into the building; that a little girl brought some food to them, carrying the bread in her bare hands, on which marks of small-pox were still fresh; that patients changed their own clothes as long as they were able, and, when they were not, those patients who could go about did it for them; that they were often ill during the night and wanted attendance when there were no nurses about; that during the night some patients would keep knocking against the wall or floor, but no one went near them to see what was wanted, and no assistance was given to those who were unable to get up; that patients had sometimes to wait for hours for a drink, and that those whose eyes were closed with the disease sometimes begged for a long time for a lotion that was used to wash them before they would get it; that the dirt, and filth, and vile smells were terrible; that as soon as the breath was out of a patient's body men came and sewed it up in a sheet, and instead of lifting it on a stretcher, let it fall to the floor with a thud that startled every one in the ward. These charges are being investigated. The officials of the hospital deny the truth of them, and Dr. Nolin has been requested to prepare an official statement for the medical health officer.

The medical health officer reports that there were forty-nine well-authenticated new cases of small-pox yesterday. The civic Board of Health now believe themselves to be on the track of nearly every case of small-pox. There is a great rush for vaccination in the East End, owing to the manufacturers requiring their employees to be vaccinated.

A Contagious Craft.

[Detroit telegram.]

The officers of the propeller Cuba called at the Custom House this forenoon for the necessary papers to allow the boat to receive coal here. When they said the propeller was from Montreal, Health Officer Wight was at once notified. He found the boat at the foot of Third street, while heavers were loading coal. The boat was loaded with iron for a Canadian port on Lake St. Clair. The crew of a dozen persons was at once arrested and the boat quarantined. The captain and purser under oath said that a sailor sick with small-pox had been put ashore in Chicago Sept. 18, and another at St. Catharines a short time before, on the way to Chicago. The Cuba has since been to Montreal, and left that infected city Oct. 2. The coal-heavers were all examined and found to bear vaccination marks. The crew were vaccinated, and this afternoon ten pounds of sulphur were burned on the vessel. All communication with the boat is denied. As soon as possible the boat will be hustled off on its journey.

Scared Travelers.

[New York dispatch.]

A sick negro arrived at Albany from Montreal, and a physician said he was suffering from the preliminary symptoms of small-pox. A purse was made up and he was put on board a train for New York this morning. After the train pulled out he announced the nature of his ailment and inside of a minute had the car all to himself. The car was detached from the train and side-tracked, but under orders was hitched to a later train, and with its solitary passenger hauled to this city, where the health officers declared that he was not suffering from the disease. He was, however, isolated. The arrival of his car at the Grand Central Depot caused a sensation.

Precautions at Buffalo.

[Buffalo special.]

In order to prevent the importation of small-pox from Canada to this city a quarantine has been established. The Sanitary Inspectors of the city, all of whom are physicians, will be stationed at Clifton, Ont., one Inspector being on duty each day in the week. The Customs Department has also been requested to hold any vessel coming from a port in Canada at which small-pox is raging.

In Quebec Villages.

[Quebec telegram.]

Seven cases of small-pox, with one death, are reported from Escoumins, an almost isolated village on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, about one hundred and sixty miles below here. Three cases are reported at Lorette, and one in St. Sauve.

An Important Move.

[Albany dispatch.]

Dr. Carroll, of the State Board of Health, to-day telegraphed the local Health Commissioners at Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge not to allow any one to cross into this State without showing indications of recent vaccination.

Two Cases at Newport.

[Newport (R. I.) special.]

Two cases of small-pox were discovered here to-day. Stringent measures are being taken to prevent the disease from spreading.

ST. LOUIS' BIG EVENT.

[St. Louis dispatch.]

A Brilliant Street Parade and a Grand Ball. The seventh annual parade of Veiled Prophets took place to-night, and was a very brilliant affair. It consisted of twenty-two floats, representing and illustrating about a dozen Arabian Nights stories, and was witnessed by an immense throng of people, who densely packed the sidewalks and every available foot of space along the line of march. The usual ball in connection with this affair is now in progress at the great hall of the Merchants' Exchange and is attended by the elite and fashion of the city. Over one hundred thousand strangers were in the city to-night.

SHATTERED BY DYNAMITE.

Flood Rock, in New York Harbor, Torn Asunder by Powerful Explosives.

[New York special.]

The nine acres of rock comprising the famous Flood Rock Island were shattered into fragments this morning. The 300,000 pounds of explosives with which the tunnels were charged went off simultaneously, and, so far as to-day's examinations have shown, the reef was completely destroyed. It is believed now that a clear channel has been opened for steamers from the East River into Long Island Sound, and that the dangers that have beset the mariners in those waters for centuries and which caused the old Knickerbockers of early New York to call the place Hell Gate are now a reminiscence. No damage was caused to surrounding property by the explosion. Indeed, those who were within a thousand feet of it felt little or no commotion, either in the air or in the earth. A greater distance from the scene, however, almost throughout the entire city, a slight tremor was felt. In some places a decided shake-up was observed. About 75,000 people witnessed the scene from the surrounding shores. Miss Mary Newton, the young daughter of Gen. John Newton, touched the electric button which set off the battery and caused the explosion. It was she who performed the same act nine years ago for the Hallett's Reef explosion. Gen. Newton and Lieut. Derby express themselves entirely satisfied with the result of their operations, and say that they will have the channel cleared of the broken rock before six months have passed.

It was precisely 11:15 o'clock when the people waiting to see Flood Rock go up in the air heard a dull, cracking noise as if a thunder cloud were bursting in the middle of the earth instead of overhead. There was nothing sharp about it as the report of exploding dynamite usually is, nor was the tremor of the earth so great as to cause alarm. It felt just as if an immense ball were rolling around underneath the surface, trying to find some opening through which to get out into the air. On the spot to which all eyes were directed, however, there was quite a commotion. An immense wall of frothing, seething water was rapidly rising, apparently out of the very rocks they had just seen. First but a thin column of a light bluish tint was outlined against the sunny sky of the morning. It rapidly increased in volume and in height, however, and as it did so it became a purer white. Another column and still another shot up on either side of the first one, but the difference in time between their rising was so short that the three shot up almost simultaneously.

When they had reached a summit of fully 300 feet the spectators imagined that they were gazing from afar off on a short range of snow-capped mountains, whose white tops were hidden from view in a pale-blue mist. The cracking noise had ceased, however, and only a dull rumble could be heard. The three pyramids gradually lowered, but they subsided much slower than they had shot up. As they got lower they lost their whiteness. When the mixture of water, rock, and sticks was at the height of fifty feet the column assumed a yellowish tint, which changed further down to a clay color. Finally the whole mass broke up into hundreds of pygmy mountains, almost black with dirt and rock. It looked like a circus field, with the big performing tent in the center and the side-show tents scattered all round it. The first thing that was discernable through the mist was the old derrick. Its outlines could be seen in the midst of the column when it was about twenty-five feet above the ground. It was still intact, and landed on its side on the scattered mass. Then the rocks and stones began to fly. Thousands of fragments shot in the air as fast as they could be pushed out of the opening in the earth, but their course was fortunately straight up and down. In less than half a minute the rumbling noise had ceased, the flying objects had fallen back into the river, and all was over. The waters, eddied about the spot with great fury, and lashed themselves into big waves of foam, but 100 yards away there was not the faintest sign of the immense commotion that had taken place.

In the meantime the steamers were blowing their shrill whistles, thousands of people were waving handkerchiefs and shouting, and flags were thrown to the breeze from innumerable ships in sight from the shore. The sight of the water seemed to be the signal for vessels of all sizes to make for the spot where Flood Rock had stood. Hundreds of little rowboats seemed to have come up from beneath the water and made its surface black, while steam launches, yachts, schooners, and even the excursion steamers started to make a tour around the spot. Some were looking for little souvenirs, others for more substantial reminders in the shape of huge timbers that were floating about, while others busied themselves in filling their boats with the thousands of dead fish which had been killed by the concussion. The rock had been so little scattered that the channel was at once declared open for steamers as usual and the police line withdrawn.

While witnessing the explosion Charles Merritt, of Chicago, fell from a tree and was severely injured. He was sent to the hospital.

Gen. Newton was slightly injured on the neck by a piece of the fuse attached to the photographic camera.

ALL SORTS.

[HALLS, a Louisiana town, wants its name changed.]

THERE are 300 words in some of Canon Farrar's sentences.

FRANK JAMES, the Missouri desperado, has been employed as a clerk in a Nevada store.

JOHN H. YATES, the author of the "Old Man's Ballads," is a grocery clerk in Baltimore, N. Y.

THE Baltimore Grand Jury reports that the introduction of the whipping-post to punish wife-beaters has had a salutary effect.

FRANK DE LEON, a New York boy, is a human pin-cushion, and sticks 5.0 pins, and needles in his breast without pain to himself.