

INDIANA HAPPENINGS.

EVENTS AND INCIDENTS THAT HAVE LATELY OCCURRED.

An Interesting Summary of the More Important Doings of Our Neighbors—Weddings and Deaths—Crime, Casualties and General News Notes.

Preservation of Battle-Fields.

The Secretary of War has sent to Congress the estimates of Gen. O. M. Poe, of the army, for proper improvements to mark and protect the works, forts, and battle-fields in Indiana and Ohio where Gen. William Henry Harrison won his victories against the Indians in the early settlement of those Territories. In Gen. Poe's report this reference is made to Fort Wayne, now the flourishing capital of Allen County: "A considerable portion of the site of old Fort Wayne belongs to the city of Fort Wayne, the remainder being now occupied by the New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad as successors to the old Wabash and Erie Canal. Except the well, no trace of the fort now exists, and the part of the site now occupied by the railroad or by city streets is reduced to a small triangle, as shown by the map. A patriotic and public spirited citizen has enclosed the triangle by a neat, iron fence and erected a flagstaff within it, but, so far as I can learn, either by observation or inquiry, the city, as a corporation, has done nothing toward marking or preserving the site. Any monument placed here should be similar to such as may be selected for Fort Defiance and Fort Miami. Its cost would be about \$5,000." An appropriation of \$60,000 is asked for, to include, besides, work at Fort Wayne, improvements on the following battle-fields in Ohio: Put-In-Bay, Fort Industry, Fort Miami, Fort Meigs, the battle-field of Fallen Timber, and Fort Defiance.

One Hundred and Five Years Old.

A family dinner-party was given at the residence of William Rothermel, of Milton, last Sunday in honor of Mrs. Rothermel's mother, Mrs. Magdalena Boggs, who was born at Elizabethtown, fifteen miles west of Lancaster City, Lancaster County, Penn., Dec. 22, 1783, and was 105 years old December 22, 1888. Her father served in the Revolutionary war, and at his death was buried with military honors. Her 100th anniversary was celebrated at Bennett, Ill., where she resided at the time with her son. She has five children living—the eldest, Mrs. Catharine Krieger, of Homer, Ill., being 83 years old, and the youngest, Mrs. Rothermel, of Milton, with whom she resides, being 64 years old. She also has forty-five grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren. There were thirty, including children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, present to do honor to the occasion, and for all that appears to the contrary now she will live to celebrate many more returns of her anniversary, for although not as full of vigor and animation as she was a few months ago, owing to a spell of sickness last summer, yet she is able to sit in her easy chair and bid her visitors welcome with a gentle handshake and inquiry for their health, and comment upon the state of the weather.

Careless Handling of a Gun.

A sad and fatal accident happened near Waynetown. A party of about twenty men and boys started out for a hunt. Between 4 and 5 o'clock Clyde Biddle, one of the number, sighted a rabbit. He cocked both barrels of his shotgun, so as to be ready to shoot twice if necessary. The first load killed the rabbit, and he carelessly threw the gun over his shoulder. In some manner the cock of the loaded barrel caught in his coat-sleeve, causing the gun to go off, the load striking Charles Earhart in the left side of the face. The shot entered his eye, cheek, ear, and penetrated his temple. He was taken to the residence of Wayman Batrell, and Dr. Olin, of Elmdale, summoned. Nothing could be done to save the life of Earhart, and after suffering intense pain for several hours he died. The deceased leaves a wife and son.

Minor State Items.

—Mrs. John Davis, the wife of a prominent farmer of Jefferson Township, Cass County, was thrown from a wagon and killed.

—Patents have been granted to the following named Indiana inventors: Henry Coopider, Jr., Clay City, traction-tongue for threshing machines; George L. Elder, Wilmington, chart for educational purposes; Edwin H. Ford, Hartford City, automatic gas regulator and cut-off; Christian M. Kirkpatrick, assignor of one-half to J. M. Taylor, Indianapolis, automatic cut-off for gas; David M. and T. H. Parry, Indianapolis, two-wheeled vehicle; Frederick Rupp, Milford, two-wheeled vehicle; John B. Swaim, Newbern, car-brake and starter.

—At New Albany Willie Weber, 3 years old, while playing with Fred, his 10-year-old brother, pointed a Robert rifle at him, saying he was going to kill Indians. The rifle was supposed to be unloaded, but it went off, and the bullet entered the abdomen of Fred, near the navel, inflicting a fatal wound.

—Henry Beach, a young man living near Goshen, was accidentally shot by a hunting companion.

—Jack Fullom was drowned by breaking through the ice while skating on Lake Manitou, near Rochester.

—The widow of Max Cohen, of Madison, has sued the Ohio and Mississippi Railway Company for \$1,000, on account of the death of her husband, in December, 1887.

—W. D. Kishbaugh, residing three miles east of Martinsville, caught a snow-white muskrat in a trap on the edge of his fish-pond. This is the first white muskrat ever heard of in these parts.

—J. C. Wemmer, of Warren, Huntingdon County, had his nose cut open and a furrow plowed through his lips and chin, besides other dangerous injuries, in attempting to dislodge a tree which had become fastened in another while falling.

—In attempting to remove a corn from his foot, M. W. Nolan, of Jeffersonville, pricked it with a pin. Blood-poisoning set in, and he is now in a critical condition.

—The Pennsylvania Oil Company has just drilled in an oil well two miles west of Portland that is the best producer in the State. Tanks are being built, and as this is the third oil well in this field, it establishes beyond a doubt the fact Jay County contains a rich oil field.

—In one neighborhood in Montgomery County there were eleven births in one night.

—Ed. Moreland, a section foreman, was instantly killed by a locomotive near Valparaiso.

—James Mitchelltree, an old citizen of New Ross, was stricken with heart trouble and died in an hour.

—A dozen mad dogs have been killed in the vicinity of New Ross, Montgomery County, within the past few weeks.

—Henry Bower, Superintendent of the Portland schools, was fined \$5 by Judge Bobo, for refusing to admit a pupil after the court had ordered him to do so.

—The grocery store in which the post-office at Leo, Allen County, is located, was burglarized. A large number of stamps, \$30 in cash, and several hundred dollars' worth of groceries were taken.

—Parties who keep vicious dogs at Crawfordsville have been notified that if they want their mail delivered the dogs must be restrained from interfering with the carriers. One carrier was chased out of the yard, and he took his revenge by placing the word "dog" alongside the house number.

—Coal gas escaping from a stove through broken mica, came near asphyxiating the family of William Eppert, of Peru. Prompt use of restoratives saved their lives.

—While driving from Jeffersonville to visit the Odd Fellows Lodge at Prather, a number of persons were precipitated over a steep embankment. Peter Leclare and George Nixon sustained fractured ribs; ex-Mayor Preer was badly cut about the face; Capt. W. H. Northcutt received internal injuries, and Fred Bamber was badly hurt about the head.

—Mrs. Epps committed suicide at Fort Wayne to avoid appearing in court to answer the charge of disorderly conduct.

—George and Albert Nuller, of Clarksville, who have saved no less than twenty-five persons from drowning at the Ohio River Falls, have added another name to their list, that of Michael Quinn, of Louisville, who attempted to cross to the Indiana side in a dilapidated skiff, but was drawn into the rapids.

—A true bill of indictment has been found in the Crawford County court against George Davis for shooting the White Cap Gregory. He was released on a \$300 bond. Gregory continues to improve, and there is now but little doubt that he will recover. An outcome of the affair is the insanity of Isaac N. Davis, a son of the man who did the shooting. He is imbued with the idea that Gregory is in pursuit of him with the intention of killing him. He spends his time running like a deer through the woods, or in hiding, to avoid his imaginary pursuer.

—The skunk farm in Huntington County is a financial bonanza to its owners. Large sums of money are realized from the hides and oil rendered from the carcasses of the odoriferous little animals.

—Reuben Daily, proprietor of the Jeffersonville News, widely known as a bitter infidel, is now actively engaged in championing the cause of Christianity, and his lecture, "Twenty-one Years an Infidel, or Why I Returned to Christ," is highly endorsed by the Christian ministry and also by Francis Murphy. It is eloquent, witty, and powerful, as Mr. Dailey knows how to make it, embracing as it does, his interesting experiences as an opponent to religion, and the causes which led to his conviction of his error. This lecture will be given at Aurora, Sunday evening, Jan. 6, and thereafter at other places which engage his services.

—Mrs. Thomas Patram, an old and highly-respected lady, of Columbus, accidentally ran a small splinter of wood in one of her fingers a few weeks ago. The wound was pricked with a needle, which caused black erysipelas to set in. The disease rapidly spread over her entire body, and caused her death.

—Miles Jobson, wealthy widower of Princeton, who was married on Christmas day, hanged himself the other night. He left a note saying that he had broken his promise not to marry again, given to his first wife on her death-bed, and that he could not endure the reproaches of his conscience.

THE FIGHT IS STILL ON.

BANQUET OF THE MASSACHUSETTS TARIFF REFORM LEAGUE.

Many Noted Men Present—Speech of Secretary Fairchild—A Letter from President Cleveland Commending the Work of the League Received with Cheers.

[Boston special.]

The annual banquet of the Massachusetts Tariff Reform League took place here at the Hotel Vendome Friday evening. The principal guest of the evening was Secretary of the Treasury Fairchild. Among the others were: The President-elect of Harvard College, T. W. Higginson, P. A. Collins, Henry L. Pierce, George S. Hale, C. B. Codman, Leopold Morse, Jesse Metcalf, and William Endicott. W. E. Russell presided, and in an opening speech said the gathering was not one of interested capitalists to rejoice over a political victory, but a gathering in the interests of the propagation of a great political economic reform. A letter from President Cleveland, who had been invited to attend the banquet, was then read. The letter was as follows:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 24.
MESSRS. SHERMAN, HOAR AND OTHERS, COMMITTEE:

GENTLEMEN—I am exceedingly sorry that I can not be present at the annual dinner of the Massachusetts Tariff Reform League of Dec. 28. This is not merely a formal and common expression of regret. It truly indicates how much I should enjoy meeting the members of your league, and how glad I should be to express in person my appreciation of their important services in a cause to which I am earnestly attached and to acknowledge at the same time their frequent and encouraging manifestations of personal friendliness. I know, too, that it would be profitable and advantageous to be even for a brief period within the inspiring influence of the atmosphere surrounding patriotic and unselfish men banded together in the interests of their fellow-countrymen and devoted to the work of tariff reform. This reform appears to me to be as far-reaching in its purposes as the destiny of our country and as broad in its beneficence as the welfare of our entire people. It is because the efforts of its advocates are not discarded by any sordid motives that they are able boldly and confidently to attack the strongholds of selfishness and greed. Our institutions were constructed in purity of purpose and love for humanity. Their operation is adjusted to the touch of national virtue and patriotism, and their results under such guidance must be the prosperity and the happiness of our people. As long as the advocates of tariff reform appreciate the sentiments in which our institutions had their origin, so long as they apprehend the forces which alone can guide their operation, so long as they, in a spirit of true patriotism, are consecrated to the service of their country, temporary defeat brings no discouragement. It but proves the stubbornness of the forces of combined selfishness, and discloses how far the people have been led astray, and how great is the necessity of redoubled efforts in their behalf. To lose faith in the intelligence of the people is a surrender and an abandonment of the struggle. To arouse their intelligence and free it from darkness and delusion gives assurance of speedy and decisive victory.

—In the track of reform are often found the dead hopes of pioneers and the despair of those who fall in the march. But there will be neither despair nor dead hopes in the path of tariff reform, nor shall its pioneers fail to reach the heights. Holding fast their faith and rejecting every alluring overture and every deceptive compromise which would betray their sacred trust, they themselves shall regain and restore the patrimony of their countrymen, freed from the trespass of grasping encroachment and safely secured by the genius of American justice and equality. Yours very truly,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

Applause on the reading of the letter having abated President Cleveland's health was drank standing. Another three cheers was given and Mr. Russell then introduced Secretary Fairchild as the representative of the administration. Secretary Fairchild, after expressing his appreciation of the honor conferred by asking him to be the guest of the League, said that the election had by no means decided the question of the tariff and tariff reform. The struggle had only begun and the end was not yet. He continued as follows:

"The record of the late canvass brings no discouragement to our cause, but on the contrary high hopes for the future. It shows us that where intellect was aroused, thought invoked, and experience appealed to, we made great gains; that we lost only in those places where mind was dominated by passion; where partisanship and the blind prejudice of race and section overcame benevolence and love for a whole country. It is true the tariff should be settled and forever removed from the domain of politics, for it not only disturbs business but, infinitely worse, it prevents the simple purpose of universal beneficence for which alone our Government is fitted. It converts our legislative halls into scenes of barter between conflicting interests, where wranglers over means to enable men to get more and still more money from our citizens become the chief characteristics of the people's representatives. It degrades business and often makes success therein the prize of dishonesty. It corrupts the people.

—But how can this question be settled? There are two kinds of so-called protective tariff—the one old-fashioned, now nearly obsolete, that of Henry Clay, sometimes called 'The Promotion of Infant Industries,' the underlying principle of which was, if I rightly understand it, that there were certain unimportant industries which, if sustained by the promise of an assured market in this country, would in a short time become so established that they could give their products to our people as cheaply as they could be bought anywhere in the world; the other, the modern protective tariff—the tariff which was embodied in the platform of the party successful in the late election—has for its foundation the principle that it is the best for the American people to buy and use certain articles, or, in the language of the late Republican platform, articles which can be produced in this country, cost what they may, and that to the promotion of this end all the powers of the Federal Government should be invoked. The statement of the principles of this protective tariff shows it can

be settled. It could even be embodied in the Constitution. We have but to provide that no articles which can be produced or made in this country shall be imported, or that they shall be subject to duty of 1,000 per cent. ad valorem. This would settle the question and remove it from politics. This settlement, however, can only be had after the principle involved has been held naked before the people; has been fully considered and discussed by them and approved by an overwhelming majority. This question has not yet been so presented to the people, and the blame for its non-presentation rests with those business men and manufacturers who were so active in the late canvass and who will now complain that your agitation tends to disturb that which for their interest ought to be settled.

"I do not remember one document or one argument actively circulated among the people during the last year which presented or attempted to present this question pure and simple. On the other hand, we can all recall many documents and appeals the sole purpose of which was to divert men's thoughts from this question and to confuse their minds upon this issue. It would be wearisome to tell the long list of non-arguments, and yet go to any Northern moral community and ask the inhabitants to give a reason for their action upon the tariff and see if you will get a satisfactory reply. Then and then you may hear a nebulous something about a home market, but it will be nebulous, indeed. No; such arguments as presented have not settled and cannot settle a principle for the future. We are told that this modern tariff idea is popular in some of the Southern States, and that the party which advocates it will soon be strengthened by their support. This may or may not be true. They can only be gained for it by presenting it clearly and fairly to the people of those States. They can not be won by picturing to the people of the North the dangers which they have to fear from old men who ceased to be rebel brigadiers before many of the present voters were born. If, however, any of those States can be gained for the cause after argument fairly made, it must be remembered that many a Northern man, many a Northern State must be released for broader, freer thought, and that the exchange thus made may advantage the great cause which we call our own.

"Gentlemen of the Tariff-Reform League, you set an example worthy to be followed by patriotic and unselfish men in all parts of our land. It is the duty of all such men never to rest, but agitate, discuss, persuade, until our adversaries shall be compelled to lay this issue clearly and directly before the American people, to the end that they may apply an enlightened intelligence to solve and settle the issue forever."

Representative Fitch, of New York, followed. He said that President Cleveland's message had voiced the principles held by many leading Republicans, and he spoke from this standpoint. The presiding officer then read a letter from Secretary Endicott regretting a necessary absence, and also one from Speaker Carlisle.

Speaker Carlisle expressed his regret at not being able to be present, and said:

"Under the circumstances all I can do is to send you the assurance of my warmest sympathy with every effort that may be made to advance the people's cause in the struggle now going on between the friends of industrial freedom and the beneficiaries of industrial slavery. This struggle has just commenced in this country, and those who delude themselves with the hope that it will be abandoned before the triumph of right over wrong are simply augmenting the weight of the blow that will inevitably fall upon them in the future. This is not a threat, but a friendly warning. The history of all movements for necessary social or political reforms shows that they grow more radical by opposition and delay, and it would be wise and patriotic upon the part of our opponents to recognize the inevitable and accede to reasonable demands now rather than be forced to accept harder terms hereafter."

"So far the sentiment in favor of a reduction of taxation and the removal of commercial restrictions has been conservative, and, if it does not continue to be so, the responsibility will rest solely on those who unreasonably oppose it. They alone can stop the agitation or confine it within reasonable grounds by proper concessions to the demands of the people. The result of the contest in which we are engaged is not in the least doubtful. And, unless the evils of which we complain are removed—which seems not at all probable—the agitation should go right on with increased vigor and force until the public judgment and conscience refuse longer to justify or condone them. Nothing has yet occurred to weaken our faith in the justice of our cause or to abate our confidence in its ultimate success. A single defeat, even if it had been sustained on the real merits of the controversy, ought not to discourage us. No just cause is lost so long as it has a single earnest advocate among the people.

"More than 5,500,000 of intelligent, patriotic Americans have attested their fidelity to the cause of revenue reform under circumstances well calculated to test the sincerity of their opinions and they will neither desert its standard nor make peace with the enemy until at least substantial justice is done."

Letters of regret from David A. Wells, President Hyde of Bowdoin College, Carl Schurz, Gen. Francis A. Walker and others were read. Ex-Congressman P. A. Collins said the tariff reformers had fought a good fight, had kept the faith, but had not "finished their course." The meeting broke up after "three times three" for President Cleveland and the Tariff Reform League.

THE diary of the late John R. Thompson, who was well known as a Southern man of letters, is being edited and published by Mr. R. H. Stoddard, the poet. In this diary Mr. Thompson relates some interesting anecdotes of literary London a quarter of a century ago. He speaks of Tennyson as "a quiet, simple man, who smoked a pipe and drank hot punch with us." For years after Mr. Thompson's return to America he kept the poet supplied with Virginia tobacco, which he preferred to all other, and which he smoked in clay pipes, taking a new pipe for every smoke.

JUDGE no one by his relations, whatever criticism you may pass upon his companions. Relations like features, are thrust upon us; companions, like clothes, are more or less our own selection.

THE LOAVES AND FISHES

MURCHISON'S LETTER DICTATED BY A HIGH OFFICIAL IN CALIFORNIA.

Lieutenant Governor Sheldon, of Los Angeles, conceives the scheme, and, according to Hon. Clarkson, is entitled to the credit—How It Was Done.

[Indianapolis (Ind.) special.]

Col. Clarkson, of the National Republican Committee, when recently here, told Gen. Harrison the true story of the Murchison letter, and it has just become public. According to Mr. Clarkson, the man who should get the loaves and fishes for the Murchison stroke is Lieut. Gov. Sheldon, of Los Angeles, Cal. When Mr. Cleveland's fisheries message was made public the thought occurred to Sheldon that the document's effect could be neutralized by some sort of coup d'état. The scheme that first suggested itself to Sheldon was to write from President Cleveland a confession that the message was absolute buncombe. "I believe I can demonstrate that the President has deliberately planned to speculate on the affairs of the people, in a matter, too, where the gravest apprehensions lie," said Sheldon to a friend after he had given the subject some thought. Sheldon had so much confidence in the guiltiness of an Englishman that he believed Minister West would walk into almost any sort of trap. There are about Los Angeles a number of Englishmen who belong to the Society of St. George, a British order which is supposed to preserve the spark of loyalty to the Queen wherever the subject may be.

"Are you acquainted with Minister West?" inquired Sheldon of a fellow of St. George one day.

"I have such an acquaintance as a citizen of a nation generally has with their statesmen. Why?" the man replied.

"I would like to obtain his candid views and some honest information about a matter," Sheldon responded.

"I can write him a letter that will get an answer," said the Englishman.

Sheldon then dictated the subject matter of the letter, leaving to the fellow of St. George to form the sentences. The draft of a letter without signature was presently given to Sheldon, who signed it to the name "Murchison" and directed how the answer should be mailed to him. The answer came surprisingly quick from Minister West. It must have been answered by the return mail. Sheldon held the letter for a day or two until he could fully realize his success, and then he sent copies of the letter to the Republican National Committee. The character of the letter was such that the National Committee could hardly believe its eyes. Telegrams were sent to Los Angeles to obtain such verification of the contents as would establish the good faith of Sheldon, and inquiries at Washington satisfied the committee that the matter was not a "fake."

While the investigations were going on, Gen. Harrison was advised "to expect something good" in a day or two. This talismanic message was understood when the Murchison letter appeared. As soon as the letters were given out Gen. Harrison obtained the