

## GOV. GRAY'S MESSAGE.

### HE URGES CHANGES IN THE STATE ELECTION LAWS.

A Voluminous Document Replete with Statistics of Interest—His Views Upon the White Cap Outrages—Various State Matters Commented Upon.

Gov. Gray's final message was read to the Legislature, in joint session, on Friday, the 11th inst. In his review of the financial condition of the State he presented figures showing the foreign debt to be \$2,381,820; the domestic debt, \$4,388,783; and the total annual interest, \$41,236. He referred at length to the financial needs of the State and recommended that the rate be increased from 12 to 14 cents on each \$100 of property, and that the increase of 2 cents should constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the public debt. He says that the State is paying a very high rate of interest, and it really owes to itself, and adds: "I have no hesitancy in recommending that the school fund bonds, amounting in the aggregate to \$3,994,783.22, be paid and discharged, and the money distributed to the counties in the manner here-tofore provided by law for the distribution of school funds, and that the same be loaned in the manner now provided at the rate of 6 per cent. interest per annum. This would not reduce the revenues to the school fund and would pay a large amount of money to be loaned to the people at a fair rate of interest. The borrower would then pay the interest on the school fund instead of the taxpayers of the State, and the State would save on account of interest \$117,143.50 each year—a sum greater than the entire expenses of a regular session of the General Assembly."

The Governor represents the State educational, reformatory, and penal institutions to be in a satisfactory condition. Under the head of "prison reform" the Governor made the startling assertion that "our courts are overburdened with criminals, and that many young men under 21 years of age, in many instances for their first offense and in many cases the offense a technical one. Hundreds are sent to the penitentiary by courts and juries merely for the purpose of punishing the county from the expense of a jail sentence, which would have been ample punishment for the crime committed, thereby blasting their characters forever and increasing the number of the criminal class, as well as inflicting a punishment in violation of the provisions of our Constitution. Two-thirds of the prisoners in our State prison are under 30 years of age. To expect to reform this class of prisoners by a forced association with hardened criminals, and to expect that they will be reformed, is to expect the impossible. It is to expect that evil associations do not contaminate or corrupt."

The remainder of Gov. Gray's message is as follows:

**EDUCATION.**  
The full and comprehensive report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction will exhibit the present condition of the common schools and their steady progress toward the attainment of high expectations of the founders of the system, which has placed Indiana in the forefront in educational matters.

The institution is in a prosperous condition, and its growth for several years has been rapid and splendid. During the past four years the attendance has more than doubled, and the quarters, which were supplied by the State, have been enlarged to meet the wants of the University, have been outgrown. The Trustees are confronted with the necessity of providing additional room, which they think can be supplied by the construction of a library building and the removal thereto of the library. They will ask aid from the State for that purpose, and their report will furnish detailed information in relation to the matter.

**STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.**  
Since the last session of the General Assembly the State has suffered a great loss, in the destruction by fire, on the 9th day of April, 1888, of the State Normal School building, at the city of Terre Haute, which was a building of considerable size and value, and the entire loss estimated at about two hundred thousand dollars. Since the fire the school has been quartered in the Terre Haute High School building, the city of Terre Haute having specially fitted up one of the school buildings for that purpose, and generously given the Normal School the occupancy of the same free of rent. The city has also advanced to the school the sum of \$10,000 to defray the expenses of the building, and the Trustees estimate that it will take seventy thousand dollars, in addition to the fifty thousand dollars advanced by the city, to complete the building according to the plans adopted, and fifteen thousand dollars for the construction of the boiler house and the heating apparatus. It is needless for me to state the importance to Indiana of maintaining the State Normal School. Its necessity as a part of our educational system can only be measured by the importance of having capable and intelligent teachers thoroughly prepared in the best approved methods of teaching in the common schools. Its proper maintenance is within the spirit of that provision of the Constitution which declares knowledge and learning generally diffused essential to the preservation of free government.

The Trustees, President and officers are entitled to special credit for the energy and faithfulness displayed by them in continuing the school under such difficulties, and in commencing the reconstruction of the building, and I commend to you a careful and favorable consideration of their report.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY.**  
Under an act of Congress entitled "An act to establish agricultural experiment stations in connection with the colleges established in the several States under the provisions of an act approved July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and of the act supplementary thereto," approved March 2, 1887, fifteen thousand dollars is annually appropriated to each of such stations. Section 9 of said act reads as follows: "Sec. 9. That the grants of money authorized by this act are made subject to the legislative assent of the several States and Territories to the purposes of said grants: Provided, That payments of such instalments of the appropriation herein made shall be due to any State or Territory on the adjournment of the regular session of its Legislature meeting next after the passage of this act shall be made upon the assent of the Governor thereof, duly certified to the Secretary of the Treasury."

On the 16th day of December, 1887, I accepted the grant for and on behalf of Purdue University, our State Agricultural College, and the acceptance must be confirmed by the Legislature in order to make it continuously effective on and after the adjournment of the present session. I therefore recommend that the General Assembly assent to such grant in proper form.

All our State institutions, except Purdue University, are supported in part by continuous and permanent appropriations, and the failure of the last General Assembly to pass the general appropriation bill deprived Purdue University of part of its usual and necessary revenues. The University has won its way to the front rank of technical schools and is deserving of permanent support.

**STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.**  
The State Board of Agriculture has done its full share in promoting the agriculture interests by the splendid exhibition at the State Fair of agricultural products of the State, and showing the great improvements in live stock and machinery.

The published annual reports, containing practical information from successful farmers, are highly appreciated by the agricultural community, and the demand for the reports is so large that the State Board of Agriculture has been unable to supply the demand. The museum of agricultural products bids fair to be very useful in showing the resources of the State.

The addition of twenty acres to the fair grounds requires an outlay of \$15,000 for improvements, while the wet weather during the fair shortened the receipts about \$9,000. The board, being a State institution, and devoted to the most important interest of the State, on which all other interests are dependent, in fact, the foundation of all prosperity—I would recommend liberal aid to assist them in the good work.

**STATE LIBRARY.**  
The State Librarian has submitted an excellent report of the condition of the library, in which report many valuable suggestions are made for its improvement and better support. The library contains over twenty-five thousand volumes. It is not what it ought to be or what it could be made if its advantages were fully appreciated and proper provision made for its support.

**THE PUBLIC PRINTING, BINDING, AND STATIONERY.**  
The public printing act of 1845 is not clear as to the number of reports which are authorized to be printed. The law should be amended so as to provide specifically that reports of the various institutions should contain the number to be bound therein, the number to be printed in addition thereto for the various institutions.

of the State, and requiring many of the reports now published annually to be published biennially. A specific amount should be appropriated for each officer or department, as the present law fixes no limit as to the amount of printing any officer may order.

**BUREAU OF STATISTICS.**  
I invite your careful attention to the growing importance of the statistics of the State, and the urgent need of collecting statistical information in relation to the various industries, classes, and conditions of the State. The department is invaluable as showing the advancement of the State from year to year, their value may be increased largely by the enactment of a law requiring returns from officers of political municipalities and corporations to questions submitted by the Bureau.

**STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.**  
The reports of the State Board of Health continue to furnish interesting and valuable information in relation to matters affecting the public health, and have proven the wisdom of the establishment of such a department. The Board submits many recommendations, for which I ask your careful consideration.

**STATE GEOLOGIST.**  
The report of the State Geologist for the two fiscal years ending October 31, 1888, has been submitted, and contains valuable information relating to the mineral resources of the State, and especially in relation to the recent discovery of natural gas. You will find the same worthy of a careful examination.

**MINES AND MINING.**  
Your attention is invited to the excellent report of the Mine Inspector. It contains the estimated coal production for the year ending Dec. 31; the number, location, and description of the mines; the names and address of the owners; the capital invested and the number of persons employed. The Inspector makes many valuable suggestions in relation to needed legislation, to which I hope you will not fail to give careful consideration, and enact such legislation as may be necessary to protect the health and safety of those employed in the mines.

**INSPECTION OF OILS.**  
The report of the Inspector shows that during the year ending Dec. 31, 1888, there were inspected 179,875 barrels of illuminating oils, an increase of 6,800 over last year, and that there was no loss of life or property caused by the explosion of coal oil. I urge special attention to that portion of the report which relates to the additional legislation regulating the quality of illuminating oils and mode of inspection.

**BOILER INSPECTOR.**  
At a convention of official boiler inspectors and engineers held at Terre Haute, Pa., Nov. 21 and 22, 1888, some highly interesting statistics were presented. It was shown thereby that during the last fifteen years over 4,000 lives were lost and 4,700 persons seriously injured through boiler explosions, while the property destroyed amounted to many millions. I renew the recommendation made in my message to the last General Assembly, to enact a law creating the office of boiler inspector and defining his duties.

**THE STATE MILITIA.**  
The military force of the State consists of three regiments of infantry and one regiment of artillery. The first regiment of infantry is composed of twelve companies, commanded by Colonel W. D. Ewing; the second regiment of eleven companies, commanded by Colonel N. R. Ruckie, and the third regiment of twelve companies, commanded by Colonel E. Kirk. The first regiment of artillery is composed of two companies, commanded by Colonel C. G. Conn. The entire force is well armed and in effective condition, and for the first time in the history of the State uniformed in the dress United States regulation. Adjutant General Ewing's report has been very faithful in the discharge of the duties of his position. Since the removal of the Adjutant General's office into the State House he has classified the muster-in and muster-out rolls, company histories, and other miscellaneous matters, which made necessary the employment of some additional clerical help. The numerous applications by the War Department and pension of claimants for certified copies of the records have greatly increased the work of the office. There were issued during the present incumbency of the Adjutant General 6,814 certificates, and 10,622 official letters written.

**WHITE CAPS.**  
During the past year a number of outrages upon the personal rights of citizens were committed in one or two counties of the State by persons banded together under the name of "White Caps."

They excited such terror by their unlawful practices that for a time no evidence could be procured implicating any person engaged in such outrages.

Evidence was, however, finally procured against the principal participants, who were indicted and their trial set for Dec. 24, 1888. The defendants have taken a change of venue, and the time of trial is now fixed for March 26. Additional evidence has been obtained which will lead to the indictment of several others, and some who have been arrested have fled from the State. The lawlessness has been completely suppressed.

Intimations have been given by persons implicated that they desired to arrange with the State, agreeing that no further outrages would be committed if prosecutions on the part of the State would cease. The State could not afford to compromise with persons guilty of such offenses, and have instructed the authorities and the counsel employed by the State to prosecute all against whom evidence can be obtained, to the full extent of the law.

**LIVE STOCK.**  
In my inaugural address, and in my message to the last General Assembly I called attention to the importance of protecting the live stock of the State from contagious or infectious diseases. The Legislature of 1887 passed an act, and the Western States have enacted laws creating Boards of Live Stock Commissioners, clothed with authority to regulate the importation of live stock infected with contagious disease, and to establish quarantine regulations, making it the duty of all persons owning or having in charge animals infected with contagious disease to report the same to the Board of Live Stock Commissioners. I earnestly recommend legislation upon the subject.

**ELECTION REFORM.**  
I earnestly invite your attention to the imperative necessity for a revision of the election laws, so that the exercise of the franchise may be effectively secured to the people fair and honest elections. It is manifest that the public faith in the purity of our elections has become shaken, and the feeling is widespread that the present laws are no longer reflects the honest judgment of a majority of the voters. It is needless to say that the ballot box is the superstructure upon which is built our representative form of government, and in our ability to secure the purity of the only hope of the perpetuity of our free institutions.

You can render the State no more exalted service than to frame such laws that will so far as legislation can accomplish, prevent the corrupt use of money, preserve the secrecy of the ballot, secure pure elections, and punish by the severest penalties all who may be guilty of committing any of the offenses mentioned in the foregoing, or attempting to bribe any elector, or of corrupting in any manner the suffrages of the people. The ballot should be printed by the State and procured by the voter only at the polling place under the supervision of the County Clerk, and the voter should be strictly prohibited. The law should be so framed as to exclude all surveillance over the voter while casting his ballot.

Any voter who actually moves out of his precinct, and desires to continue his residence and right to vote therein, should be required at the time of moving to file with some officer designated by law his sworn statement that it is his intention to continue his residence in such precinct. And the voter now residing out of the precinct in which he claims the right to vote should be required, within a given time, to file a similar statement. The sworn statement should be annually renewed, and every renewal should be filed at least six months prior to the occurrence of any general election, and contain the statement that he has not, since moving out of the precinct, exercised the right of suffrage elsewhere.

I would recommend that the election precincts contain not over two hundred voters, and when after any election it shall appear that more than that number of voters have been polled in any precinct, the Board of Live Stock Commissioners, at their next regular session, to reorganize the precincts so as to reduce the number of voters within the limit prescribed by law.

I feel that I cannot too strongly urge upon you the importance of giving this matter earnest and early consideration, in order that legislation upon the subject may not be defeated by the constitutional expiration of the session.

At this session it will be appropriate for you to propose and agree to such amendments to the

Constitution as your wisdom may suggest; or experience has shown to be necessary. The present instrument, which was adopted nearly twenty years ago, has not been changed except on two occasions.

While it is advisable, and in some cases necessary, that some of the provisions should be amended, it is not believed that a necessity exists for a constitutional convention.

Every proper amendment can be effected in the manner provided by the Constitution at a small expense to the State, and without presenting the opportunity of unsettling a system of government well understood and tested by long service.

I would recommend that the Constitution be so amended that all State and county officers shall hold their offices for a term of four years, to commence on a fixed day, and with, perhaps, a few exceptions, be ineligible to hold the same more than four years in any period of eight years. No good reason seems to exist why the term of certain officers should be limited to two years, while others whose duties and responsibilities are no greater should have a term of four years. It is my opinion that two years is too short a period for any officer to acquire that knowledge of the duties of his office necessary to enable him to discharge the same with the degree of efficiency expected by the public.

There has always been manifested a willingness to continue a faithful official four years in office; but at the same time a strong public sentiment seems to prevail against electing an administrative officer for a longer period.

Attemptation should be, as far as possible, removed from every officer to use his office or neglect his duties to secure a re-election, and thereby allow such officer to devote strictly his time to the duties thereof and render the most efficient public service.

The designation of the day on which the fixed day on which terms should begin would secure uniformity. In the case of State officers it has frequently occurred, more than once, that the new State officers have come into possession of their respective offices during the first days of the legislative session, and having had no opportunity to become acquainted with their duties, are unable to perform them with the efficiency which they speak in relation to matters which concern their offices and the public welfare.

The terms of county officials should commence on the first day of January succeeding their election.

Our State elections should be determined upon State issues and be as far removed as possible from national questions, and I would recommend that all State and county elective officers be chosen at the general election occurring between the President and Vice President.

In order that amendments to the Constitution may be properly framed, receive the consideration they deserve and have their passage facilitated, I would suggest that you appoint a joint committee on constitutional amendments.

**SWAMP LANDS.**

The acts of Congress passed September 23, 1850, and March 3, 1857, granting to the several States swamp and overflowed lands gave to the State of Indiana the title to the State lands and plats of said lands, the greater part of which was wet and unfit for cultivation. It has been thought for many years that Indiana did not receive all the lands to which she was entitled under the acts of said Congress.

The State at one time, through its agents, attempted to show, by examination and oral testimony, that a large quantity of land sold by the General Government should have gone to the State by virtue of an act of said Congress, and was abandoned on account of the great expense that it would incur and of the almost impossibility of obtaining such evidence. On Sept. 23, 1850, appointed William A. Meloy, of Washington, D. C., and agent for the State to assert, prosecute and adjust before the land department of the General Government the rights and claims of the State to any and all lands and interests in lands which were sold by the United States to any and all persons, and to receive from the State, as compensation, ten percent of all moneys recovered, but to retain the right to receive the balance of the amount recovered in full, if the State should so elect. His appointment and contract for compensation were made subject to ratification by the Legislature. Mr. Meloy has been diligent and successful, and succeeded in procuring the State to receive the balance of the amount recovered in full, which amounts have been paid into the State Treasury and credited to the Swamp Land Fund.

Mr. Meloy reports that further indemnity of twenty or twenty-five thousand dollars can be recovered, but on account of the clerical expense that must be incurred in securing the necessary evidence for the presentation of the claims he has been prevented from prosecuting the same. He has, however, secured the amount recovered in full, a sufficient compensation for his services. Mr. Meloy has not received any compensation for the amounts recovered by the State, and I now concur in his opinion that 10 per cent, is not a sufficient compensation.

**GREEN RIVER ISLAND.**

There has existed for many years a controversy between Kentucky and Indiana in relation to the boundary line between the States, and what is known as Green River Island on the Ohio River. Collisions between the citizens residing on and adjacent to the island have been frequently imminent, growing out of disputes as to the location of the boundary line. The course of both States have at times taken jurisdiction over the territory in controversy, thereby creating confusion and bad feeling between the citizens. Several of my predecessors attempted to effect a settlement of the controversy, but without success. Upon examination of the question I became convinced that the only proper and legal mode of settling the controversy was by state in equity in the United States Supreme Court, and in accordance with the statute passed Feb. 25, 1887, authorizing and directing the Governor to institute and prosecute in the Supreme Court of the United States, or in any other proper tribunal, in the name and on behalf of the State of Indiana, a suit in chancery or other appropriate proceeding, against the State of Kentucky, for the purpose of determining and settling the boundary of the State of Indiana against the State of Kentucky, and to determine and put at rest the questions which now exist as to whether said island is within the boundary line between the States of Indiana or of the State of Kentucky, and appropriating \$5,000 to be expended under the direction of the Governor to defray the expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, of such litigation. I employed and retained the firm of McDonald & Butler (now McDonald, Butler & Snow), and caused a suit in chancery to be brought in the United States Supreme Court in the name of the State of Indiana against the State of Kentucky, on the 8th day of August, 1887, to determine the boundary between the States at and near Green River Island. To the bill of the State of Indiana the State of Kentucky has filed a cross-bill, claiming the boundary between the States to be such as to include within the boundary of Kentucky both the so-called Green River Island and a tract of land north of the island, and in this suit the testimony has been taken, and the case will be ready for submission to the court within the next three months. The testimony in behalf of the State of Indiana has been largely directed to prove that the Green River Island, so-called, has never, since 1784, when the deed of cession of the Northwestern Territory was executed, been a true island, since it has not been surrounded with water, except for a small portion of the year, when the water in the Ohio River was near its highest point.

There has also been considerable testimony presented in behalf of the State tending to show the existence of a dispute regarding this so-called island ever since the cession of the Northwestern Territory. The facts regarding the line run by the commissioners in 1815 have also been fully presented in the evidence.

The evidence taken in behalf of this State, it is believed, covers every material fact in the case, and the facts proved tend strongly to sustain the claim of the State of Indiana, and I expect that the Supreme Court will settle this troublesome question in favor of the State of Indiana.

It may be that the present appropriation is not sufficient to pay the expenses of the suit and the cost of the land, and I, upon a proper showing, you find the same to be insufficient, it should be increased.

**CONCLUSION.**

My term as Chief Executive of the State will soon expire, and I have the honor to acknowledge with deep gratitude the confidence and trust confided to my care by a generous people, I can say that it has been my constant endeavor to administer it with strict impartiality toward all, and in such manner as I believed would be for the benefit and interest of the State and promote the welfare of the people.

Trusting that your relations may be agreeable and pleasant, I invoke the assistance and direction of the Divine Ruler in your deliberations, and ask His blessings upon us as a people and a State.

## 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.

#### THE LEGISLATURE.

January 10.—SENATE.—The doors of the Senate chamber were barred against Lieutenant Governor Robertson. Auditor Carr refused to call the Senate to order, and Judge Mitchell, of the Supreme Court, done so, administering the oath to the newly elected Senators. The following officers were elected: President pro-tem, J. F. Cox; Secretary, Green Smith; Assistant Secretary, John D. Carler; Door-keeper, E. R. Hamilton. House.—Secretary of State Griffin called the members to order and the organization was perfected by electing all the nominees of the Democratic caucus as follows: Speaker, Mason J. Niblack; Clerk, Thomas Newkirk; Assistant Clerk, John S. Scooby; Door-keeper, Frank S. Haimbaugh. In taking his chair Speaker Niblack cordially thanked the members for the honor shown him and significantly referred to the fact that many trying circumstances were liable to arise. During the session of the two houses Gov. Gray informed a joint committee which waited upon him that he would communicate his farewell message to the bodies to-morrow at 2 o'clock.

**Patents.**

Patents have been issued for the following Indiana inventions: David Bearly; New Castle, lawn-mower; Abel Butler, Dale, protractor; Leonard W. Freeman, Liberty, machine for making wire fencing; James A. Fullerton, Mounts, corn-planter; Joseph F. Gent, Columbus, machine for making sheet or flake products; Benjamin Gude, St. Anthony, ironing-board; John Hurty, Indianapolis, manufacturing starch; Tully Runnel, Farmersville, assignor of one-half to J. F. Yeager, Prairie Creek, bailing press; Isaiah Sharp; Redkey, steam generator.

**Minor State Items.**

—Anderson authorities have ordered all the telephone poles in that place removed within ten days.

—Rev. Ira J. Chase, Lieutenant Governor-elect, has declined a call to become pastor of the Christian Church at Richmond.

—E. F. Berry, a photographer, of New Washington, was dangerously poisoned by inhaling vapors in his "dark room."

—The Richmond Natural Gas Company has accepted its plant from the contractors. The price paid is \$500,000, half cash and half stock.

—While in a trance, Calvin Cook, an aged citizen of Jeffersonville, laid his hand upon a red-hot stove and allowed it to burn to a crisp.

—At Lafontaine, Wabash County, John Palmer, one of the early settlers, dropped dead of heart disease. Mr. Palmer was 64 years of age, and had apparently been in the best of health. He moved to Lafontaine in 1852.

—Mrs. Elizabeth Dunn, who died recently near Hartsville, Decatur County, was nearly 107 years of age. She was the mother of four children, and lived to see twenty-four grand and sixty great-grandchildren. She was in her seventh year when Cincinnati was settled, and this was an incident she often referred to in giving her age.

—Two singular accidents are reported from Daviess County. Mrs. Taskey, while assisting her husband in killing hogs, was struck by one of the animals and thrown back by such force as to fatally injure her. Mrs. Vaughn, at another place, had several of her ribs broken while watching her husband and helping to raise a slaughtered hog, the pole breaking and striking her in the side.

—G. R. White, a farmer living near Greenwood, Johnson County, is the owner of a pig that is quite a curiosity. The animal has four front feet and twelve toes. It is alive, and weighs about forty pounds.

—Thomas Wilson, alias Harris, arrested at La Porte, has confessed to robbing mail pouches at Elkhart, and to having obtained large sums of money at the former place under false pretenses.

—The people of Charlestown were startled the other day by the appearance of Harrison Hogan, the "Bull creek terror." Hogan has been feeling unwell lately, and he went to Charlestown to see a physician. He went on horseback and had all the appearance of an old-time warrior. He was well fixed for battle, for around his body were strapped two big navy revolvers, and hanging at his side was the regulation bowie-knife. He had but few words with those he met, and as soon as his business was attended to he quietly left town.

—At Coxville, a mining town in Parke County, Henry Kirby saw his wife in a compromising position with Abraham Carew, a boarder, and discharged a musket-load of shot at Carew. The wife, instead, received the charge, and there is small chance of her recovery. All the parties are colored.

—Four prisoners, George Kelly, Newton Leach, W. H. Dunbar, and William Burden escaped from jail at Marion by sawing themselves out. Leach was recaptured, but the others are still at large.

—George Buchanan, who has been postmaster at Judson, Montgomery County, since 1856, has resigned, and John M. Glover has been appointed.

—Charles Howell, while coupling cars at Brookville, was fatally injured.

—Dr. C. C. Givens, on trial at Terre Haute for murder of Webb Stuart, last August, was acquitted.

—Frank Goings, a brakeman on the Chicago and Atlantic Railroad, was knocked from a train and fatally injured.

—Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Doughty, living near Liberty, were seriously injured in a runaway accident. Mrs. Doughty may die.

—While Mrs. Ann Childs, aged 84, was crossing the railroad track in New Albany, she was knocked down by a switching-engine and fatally injured.

—Francis Murphy and his two sons have closed their temperance revival at Connersville, having induced 1,500 persons to sign the pledge.

—Lewis Daily, aged 80, and Miss Artimacy Clarke, 63 years of age, have just been married at Bippus, Huntington County. It is stated to have been a case of love at first sight.

—A large barn belonging to John Wright, living near Rockport, was burned with a season's crop of tobacco and a number of farming implements. The loss is estimated at \$3,000 or \$4,000.

—Father Meisner, pastor of the Catholic Church at Peru, has placed an electric light on the spire of his church edifice, 175 feet above the ground, which sheds a brilliant light over the city and can be seen far out into the country.

—Martin Kleiser, a well-respected pioneer citizen of Boone County, died at Lebanon, aged 72 years. He leaves a family of six children and an estate valued at \$40,000. He was a member of the Odd Fellows' Lodge.

—A ghost has appeared at the farm of Charles Gwynne, near Lexington. The mysterious thing was seen by Gwynne, his sons, and several neighbors, and it presents the appearance of a white shadow in human shape, floating over the surface of the farm. Shotguns have been fired at it. It has stood rocks and clubs, all of which have passed through it without effect.

—Samuel H. Price has sued the city of Washington for \$2,000 damages, alleged to have been occasioned by a fall on a defective sidewalk, one month ago.

—While Edward Sanders, a young man about fifteen years of age, was cutting sawlogs in the woods just east of Franklin, a sapling that had been held down by the weight of a log, became released, flew up and struck Sanders under the jaw, breaking the bone in several places and fracturing his skull. He was conveyed to his home and but little hope is entertained for his recovery.

—By a collision on the Vandalia Railroad, near Filmore, Engineer Bundy was injured internally.

—A little pig with two bodies, eight legs, and four ears is a freak of nature just come to light on a Steuben County farm.

—While men were engaged in blasting rock near Sparksville, Jackson County, a large stone was hurled with terrible force through the saw-mill of Carter & Co., destroying a \$1,500 veneering machine.

—While Eli Talley, a huckster, was ascending the bluffs a few miles west of Seymour in his wagon, he drove too near a precipice over twenty-five feet in height, and the team, wagon, and driver went over. Talley was fatally injured, his team was ruined, and the wagon was broken to pieces.

—The Woodling school-house, in Washington Township, Cass County, together with books, maps, etc., of the value of \$300, was destroyed by fire.

—Charlestown is enjoying a social sensation over the announcement just made of a double secret marriage which took place at Jeffersonville on Nov. 30. The parties concerned are Walter B. Ruddell and James Teeple, of Jeffersonville, and Miss Minnie Alpha and Miss Annie B. Lutz, of Charlestown. All belong to the upper crust of society.

—George Jones, of Asherville, while out hunting with Sholey Stagler, was shot by the latter with a revolver, which Stagler claims, he thought was unloaded.

—A young daughter of Moses Arnold, a farmer living near Wabash, was horribly burned about the limbs and body by her clothes catching fire from the stove.

—Joseph Stetler, a farmer residing near Lynn, died recently, from hasty consumption. The disease was caused by a beard of wheat lodging in his throat, and afterward working into the lungs.

—The corn-husking record craze is still going on among the Montgomery County farmers. Marcus Horney, of Potato Creek, husked and cribbed 2,328 bushels in twenty-six days, being an average of eighty-nine bushels per day.

—A fellow named Cass Arnold, at Crawfordsville, ate a regular supper and afterwards sucked sixty-two eggs, ate five fried oysters, the legs, wings, and heart of a chicken, and a piece of pie, then ended with a dish of oyster soup.

—The Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home, at Knightstown, has passed a resolution thanking the G. A. R. Posts and Woman's Relief Corps of the State for remembering the institution so handsomely on Christmas. The Board also extends a special vote of thanks to Mrs. Anna Weldon, of Fort Wayne; Mrs. Hawkins, of Brazil; Mrs. Sallie Jackson, of Jeffersonville, and Will C. David, of Indianapolis, for faithful discharge of duties.