

## 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.

#### No Longer a Mystery.

The finding of a skeleton at Argus and a string of thimbles by its side clears up a mystery of sixteen years, and proves that a horrible murder was committed. At that time Jonathan Huble lived in that village. His reputation was bad, and it was charged that several girls owed their ruin to him. At that time he had in his employ a remarkably pleasant young girl. She suddenly disappeared. Huble claimed he discharged her and sent her home. Later her parents came in search of her, but no trace was found, and her fate has remained a mystery until now. Mrs. Barmeide, a neighbor of Huble, who disappeared twelve years ago, has made affidavit to the above facts, and identified the skeleton by a string of thimbles the dead girl was known to possess, and which were found by the skeleton's side. The back of the skull was crushed in, showing she was murdered. An effort will be made to find Huble.

#### Desperate Battle with an Eagle.

A farmer named Frank Engleman, living a few miles west of Nashville, was attacked by a fierce, full-grown gray eagle, while on his way to town. When first noticed the bird was at a great height in mid-air. A minute later it dropped down on Engleman with a shrill scream, striking him with terrific force, burying its talons in his clothing and flesh. Engleman was on horseback, and therefore at great disadvantage. Before he could dismount he was badly clawed by the bird. The former was without weapons and could only defend himself with his bare hands. The fight lasted fully an hour, the eagle plunging at him from every quarter. Twice did the man attempt to run, but each time the great bird threw himself in his way and prevented his retreat. At length he caught it by its talons, and with hands and feet succeeded in slaying it. The bird measured six feet four inches from tip to tip.

#### Cost of Running the State.

The following is a summary of the Auditor's report concerning the State's financial dealings during the fiscal year ending October 31, 1889. The total receipts to the general fund were \$3,485,907.63. The disbursements to the general fund were \$2,770,309.74. The total receipts from all sources during the fiscal year ending October 31, 1889, were \$9,051,431.57. Adding the balance to the treasury October 31, 1888, makes a grand total of \$9,379,157.73. The net cash disbursements from the treasury during year were \$8,405,048.38, leaving a cash balance in the treasury on October 31, 1889, of \$974,109.35. Of the balance \$811,734.56 belongs to the general fund of the State. Remainder belongs to the other different funds.

#### Minor State Items.

A farmers' institute will be held at Goshen, January 21-22. Prof. Latta of Purdue University will be present.

The Crawfordsville gas and electric-light works has been sold to a syndicate of New York people for \$105,000.

Lavinia Smith, of Huntington, who was injured by driving into a washout near that place, has sued the county for \$2,000 damages.

Mad dogs are reported as roaming at large in various counties. Several have been shot recently in Clarke and Morgan Counties.

John Rodenbarger, bank boss at the Otter Creek mine, in Clay County, was fatally crushed between the bumpers of coal flats, near the mine. He is married.

A few days ago Jacob Wimsett, an aged farmer living a few miles north of Dana, had his hand torn out by getting it caught between the rolls of a flouring mill.

A child was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Sibert, near Frankton, whose right arm has the appearance of having been amputated a couple of inches below the shoulder.

Mrs. Anna Probasco, aged 90 years, mother of Henry Probasco, the Cincinnati millionaire, fell down a cellarway at her home at Charlottesville, and died from her injuries.

M. M. Scott, an "anti-polygamous" Mormon elder, is preaching in the Methodist Church at Henryville, Clark County, in the effort to establish a congregation at that point.

The new astronomical observatory will soon be erected on the campus west of the college of Hanover. Everything will be new, and of the most improved and desirable character.

Charles Keener, aged 18, went coon-hunting four miles below Madison. One of his companions, named Ollie Rose, in climbing a fence accidentally discharged his gun, the contents entering Keener's stomach and killing him.

A fine Galloway cow died recently at the fat stock show in Chicago. She was the property of the Brookside Stock Company of Fort Wayne, Ind., and was valued at \$1,200. The animal had been imported and was considered the second best of the kind in this country. The disease was pronounced lung fever.

Muskegon (Mich.) capitalists have been granted a franchise for an electric street-railway at LaPorte.

John Day, employed in the saw-mill of a Waterloo chair factory, was struck by a flying plank and fatally injured.

A white Indian named Otto Kemp was in Kokomo recently. He had been abducted by the Sioux when 4 years old. He lived with them twenty years, refusing all temptation to come back to civilization.

Alf Corcoran, a young man whose people reside at Richmond, and who was working to get a home for his prospective bride, was fatally hurt in the Panhandle yards at that city. He fell between two cars from a brake. One leg and an arm were terribly mutilated, while he was otherwise hurt internally. No hope is entertained for his recovery.

At Culver's Station a valuable mare belonging to A. Peters, was killed the other night. The animal was suffering from the rabies, and succeeded in tearing the flesh from her body and limbs before she was killed. The poor beast was a mass of torn, quivering flesh, and a horrible sight. It is feared that other animals in the neighborhood have been bitten.

Living a short distance from Perkinsville is a lady about 40 years of age, who has been a widow for some ten of fifteen years. A few days ago she was placed in a somewhat embarrassing condition by giving birth to a boy baby. Since her husband's death she has become a great believer in spiritualism, and she now stoutly maintains that the father of her child is her spirit husband, who returned one night to her something less than a year ago. She refuses to give any information other than that given above, and there are some people who refuse to believe it.

A passenger train on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, while passing through Evansville, ran over and killed Mrs. Wendell Geiss, one of Evansville's oldest German citizens. The lady was rather deaf and holding an umbrella over her head at the time of the mishap, did not hear the train's approach. She was struck by the locomotive which mangled her legs, cutting both off just below the knees, the unfortunate woman dying in a few minutes. The railroad people claim they were going at a slow rate of speed. The coroner will investigate the case.

While Albert Ogle was looking for a leak of natural gas in a regulator, at the outside edge of his mother's house, at Muncie, a terrible explosion occurred, caused by a lighted match igniting the gas that had accumulated under the house from the leak. The foundation was blown from under the front part of the building, while the floor was torn loose from the room under which it occurred, badly breaking the furniture and a 500-dollar piano. Two sisters of Mr. Ogle were standing near by, who were badly cut by the flying glass from the shattered windows. The occurrence was attributed to the high pressure of the gas. Loss, over \$1,000, with no insurance.

The other night two tramps camped near Decatur, and built a fire by which to prepare a meal and keep warm. During the night one of the men giving the name of John Price, who is supposed to have been intoxicated, fell into the fire. His companion being also under the influence of liquor, took him from his perilous position with great difficulty, and gave the alarm. When found by the night policeman Price had nearly all his clothing burned off his body, and was writhing in great agony from his injuries. He was removed to the County Asylum, where he now lies in a critical condition. Price is about thirty years of age, and refuses to locate his home. His companion deserted him soon after he was found.

Patents have been granted to the following residents of Indiana: Henry Bauer, Indianapolis, extension table; William Cline, Clayton, fence; Calvin F. Darnell, assignor of one-half to W. L. Taylor, Indianapolis, fence; Sanford W. Ermon, Mount Meridian, cleaner for fruit jars, etc.; John Lowrie, Brookston, cultivator; Ronald T. McDonald, and J. Cain, assignors to Fort Wayne Electric Light Company, Fort Wayne, electric arc-light headlight; George W. Lee, Muncie, evaporating apparatus; Aaron D. Miller, Evansville, safe alarm; John Payne, Connersville, portable voting booth; Clifton D. Pettis, Terre Haute, grain car door; Howard F. Slith, Elkhart, apparatus for moulding articles from pulp; William H. Trammel, Huntington, nut locks; Orson H. Woolworth, Columbia City, combined rake and ground lever.

A frightful accident happened at the Chamberlain farm, eight miles north of Washington, by which one boy was instantly killed and two others dangerously wounded. "Sun" Dyer, aged 13; George Chamberlain, Ira Chamberlain, and James Dyer were together in a room of the Dyer farm-house, getting ready to go hunting. George Chamberlain took down his gun from the wall where it hung, when the weapon was accidentally discharged, and the shot with which it was loaded struck down all of Chamberlain's companions. The greater part of the load entered "Sun" Dyer's body, causing almost instant death. Other shots from the gun struck Ira Chamberlain and James Dyer, but the wounds are not fatal. One year ago the father of the Chamberlain boys committed suicide on the same farm where the fatal accident occurred.

## LYNN, MASS., IN RUINS.

### THE GREAT SHOE TOWN DEVASTATED BY FLAMES.

Fire in Her Factories Causes a Loss of \$10,000,000—Three Hundred Buildings Destroyed—Eight Thousand Operatives Thrown Out of Work—Scenes of Destruction.

[Lynn (Mass.) telegram.]

By a conflagration on the afternoon of the 27th of November, millions of dollars' worth of shoes and lumber went up in smoke from the business district of the biggest shoe town in the world, throwing out of work 8,000 operatives and rendering 164 families homeless. Eighty acres that were crowded with buildings a few hours ago are a mass of ruins. The scene of ruin and desolation is complete. Some idea of the devastation can be gained from the statement that 256 buildings were completely wiped out of existence, many others being more or less damaged. Among the burned buildings were forty-two brick structures, 142 business houses built of wood and 112 dwelling houses. One church, the Eastern railroad station, four banks and four newspapers were among the public concerns burned out. The fire spread with such frightful rapidity that the department was helpless, and the flames leaped from street to street with little opposition near enough to use their streams to advantage, and, although, assistance was sent from Boston, Salem, Malden, Marblehead, Saugers, Everett and other places, the fire worked its way to the water front before it was subdued. The great bulk of the buildings were of wood, and in these the flames held high carnival. But even the brick blocks offered little resistance. They, too, were swept away like so much chaff in the whirlwind of fire. After the flames had gone beyond the control of the department a panic seemed to seize upon the firemen and citizens. The streets were filled with people shouting madly in their excitement. Operatives poked their heads out of the windows to see what caused the disturbance and saw a wall of fire coming down the street. It was in many instances a race for life. The men poured out of the buildings in a human stream, leaving everything behind. And they were none too soon, for in a twinkling great buildings were enwrapped in flames and dissolved. It was a terrible sight even for the experienced eyes of firemen. The railroad track was jumped by the flames with ease, and the same mad rush was continued. The two military companies were called out to clear the streets, when more effective work could be accomplished. Early in the afternoon outside assistance began to arrive, but then there was a total of only fifteen engines, and the fire was jumping in all directions, unchecked by the streams being thrown upon it. Chief Engineer Moody became prostrated during the height of the conflagration, and Chief Webber of Boston took command. He massed the engines on Newhall street and stayed the progress of the fire toward what remained of the business district. That alone saved Lynn from utter annihilation.

After the business houses had been eaten up the fire let itself loose among the dwelling houses on Sagamore hill. Most of these were cheap structures, occupied by poor families. They burned like tinder, and the fire cut a wide path to the water. The last big building to go was the Central Congregational church. It was a brick structure and was one of the best in the city. It stood out from the rest of the buildings and afforded a magnificent spectacle to thousands of persons. The fire burned a long time before the windows were broken, the reflection from within being very picturesque. Then the flames burst simultaneously from the windows and the belfry, and the steeple swayed and fell with a crash into the street. It was a total loss. It is impossible yet to give individual losses but the aggregate is, according to recent estimates, not much short of \$10,000,000. Mayor Newhall in an interview said: "Lynn has suffered the greatest calamity in its history. The business portion of the city is almost a wreck. Over 6,000 persons are thrown out of work and 200 families are homeless. The city of Lynn will be forced to issue an appeal for assistance. It is impossible to compute the loss, but it must reach somewhere in the vicinity of \$10,000,000." The Mayor makes a special appeal for clothing at once, as many occupants of the tenements had lost everything. His honor has made a requisition on Gov. Ames for six companies of militia to do police and guard duty.

The shoe industry of the place is almost entirely wiped out. Out of 170 manufacturers, large and small, less than two dozen remain. Among the heavy losses are these: Mower Bros. .... \$93,000 Bennett & Barnard ..... 100,000 C.D. Pecker & Co., shoe manufacturers ..... 45,000 William Porter & Sons, shoes ..... 16,000 A. T. Goodwin, in Porter's building ..... 12,000 B. F. Spinney & Co. .... 138,000 Estate of C. N. Stevens ..... 20,000 A. Fuller and A. P. Tapley ..... 22,000 Titus & Buckley ..... 25,000 Consolidated Adjustable Shoe Co. .... 20,000 Samuel J. Hollis, shoes ..... 22,000 J. S. Bartlett & Co., shoes ..... 72,000 Lynn Item, newspaper, Horace N. Hastings & Sons ..... 50,000 D. C. and Charles E. Buffum, shoes ..... 20,500 J. N. Smith, shoes ..... 46,100 Joseph Davis Shoe Co. .... 50,000 Luther S. Johnson ..... 37,000 Amos F. Breed ..... 22,000 Houghton & Gedfrey ..... 22,000 First National Bank Building ..... 24,500 F. E. Abbott's building ..... 22,500 Central Congregational Society ..... 40,000 Frank W. Breed ..... 85,000 P. N. Tapley & Co., morocco manufacturers ..... 52,540 Sawyer & Chase, carriage manufacturers ..... 11,000 S. K. & A. H. Jones, shoes ..... 57,000 S. N. Breed & Co., lumber ..... 138,000

The losses are about half covered by insurance, and as the policies are widely distributed the manufacturers think they will be able to recover the insurance money. The factories were running on full time and there was a big stock on hand waiting for the opening of the spring trade. Everything was lost. The poor people will suffer greatly unless some assistance comes from outside. The city began immediately to prepare temporary houses for those who had not friendly shelter to go to, and the houses were quickly filled.

The aggregate of the losses is \$2,967,500, an increase of \$1,237,420 as compared with the previous year.

Second Assistant Postmaster General Whitfield in his annual report says that the annual rate of expenditures for star route services on June 30, 1889, was \$5,228,387. The number of routes is 15,077, and the aggregate length of the routes is 2,313.81 miles. The appropriation for the last fiscal year was \$5,400,000, and the sum expended \$5,177,195.43, leaving an unexpended balance of \$222,804.57. The appropriation for the current fiscal year is \$5,650,000 and estimated expenditures \$5,902,216, leaving estimated deficits of \$252,216.55. He recommends the appointment of a commission to recommend to Congress star route legislation, and also recommends that provision be made for the families of postal clerks killed while on duty in the shape of a civil pension list.

## UNCLE SAM'S FIGHTERS.

### DIGEST OF SECRETARY PROCTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

The Head of the War Department Gives Details Relating to His Branch of the Government—Figures from the Postoffice Department.

[Washington telegram.]

Secretary of War Proctor has prepared his annual report on the workings in his department. It is as follows:

Salaries and contingent expenses, \$1,933,015.15

Military establishments ..... 24,314,607.33

Public works, including river and

harbor improvements ..... 13,481,835.03

Miscellaneous objects ..... 6,804,574.26

Total ..... \$46,654,121.74

The appropriations for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1890, are as follows:

Salaries and contingent expenses, \$2,013,630.00

Military establishments ..... 23,403,148.86

Public works, including river and

harbor improvements ..... 3,563,624.00

Miscellaneous objects ..... 4,119,765.72

Total ..... \$33,889,290.18

The estimates of the department for the next fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, are as follows:

Salaries and contingent expenses, \$2,013,630.00

Military establishments ..... 23,403,148.86

Public works, including river and

harbor improvements ..... 5,551,040.35

Total ..... \$44,157,973.95

The Secretary recommends the reorganization of the artillery branch of the army and the addition of two regiments, one or both of which might be of colored men. The infantry and cavalry arms of the service have each two regiments of negro troops, of whom he says that their record for good service is excellent. They are neat, orderly and obedient, are seldom brought before courts-martial and rarely desert.

The secretary recommends that the limit of the retired list be increased to 450 from 400, the present figure. Secretary Proctor says that the public impression that desertion is on the increase is erroneous. The total of desertions for the fiscal year 1889 was 29.3 of the enlistments and 11.6 of the total strength of the army. The causes assigned include restlessness under the restraints of discipline, disappointment at the details of the service, and of its lack of inducements, dissipation and in some cases ill-treatment. Investigation does not disclose that ill-treatment prevails to any appreciable extent. The employment of enlisted men in ordinary labor undoubtedly creates discontent. The pith of the whole question is to make the service worth seeking, and then enough good men will seek it and be glad to stay in it. It is a fact that the soldiers in the colored regiments rarely desert, whereas the percentage of desertion in the rest of the army is large. Their previous condition in civil life largely explains it. To the colored man the service offers a career; to the white man too often only a refuge. There is but little incentive for young and intelligent men to make a profession of soldiering. The hope to achieve a commission is but slight, but even then they receive less compensation than the private soldier who is placed upon extra duty.

The distance between the highest grade of non-commissioned officer and the commissioned officer is far too great in my judgment. To a considerable extent, however, the remedy lies with congress.

The value of the National guard to the country is fully recognized by the secretary. To enhance its efficiency and promote the interest of the young men of the country in it, he recommends that members of it, upon passing some proper system of examination, be made eligible to commissions in the regular army as second lieutenants.

The exposed condition of our seacoast is next dwelt upon and the necessity of defensive work urged. The principal commercial ports should be at once placed in a position to resist attack, and the work continued until every vulnerable point on our coast was adequately guarded. Once built the cost of their maintenance would be light. There are now on hand 2,000 muzzle-loading guns available for their armament, and defensive work begun in July, 1890, could be equipped the following year with 8-inch breech-loading guns.

The secretary recommends revision of the articles of war in regard to military punishment, which at present are ill-defined. Neither is it certain, and there is nothing to prevent the heaviest punishment for the most trivial offense, and vice versa.

Mr. Clarkson, in his annual report, shows the number of postoffices established during the year ending June 30, 1880, to be 2,770, a decrease over the previous year of 1,090. The number of postoffices discontinued was 1,147, a decrease of 498. The whole number of postoffices in the country is 58,899, an increase of 1,723. The total number of postmasters appointed during the year was 20,040. The total number of free delivery offices is 401, an increase of 43. The total number of letter-carriers is 8,257, an increase of 1,411. He recommends the extension of the free-delivery service to all places having a population of 5,000, and where the