

Battle of Tippecanoe.

To the Editor of the Vincennes Gazette:

SIR.—In your paper of the 17th of last month you have published an erroneous account of the battle of Tippecanoe, written by a visiter to the battle ground in May, 1831, and first published in the Kentucky Intelligencer. I deem it due as well to the character of General Harrison, as to that of the U. S. Infantry and the Volunteers and Militia of the Indiana Territory, engaged in that memorable battle, that the errors in the publication above mentioned, should be corrected. I do not believe that the visiter misstated facts knowingly, but that he has been misled by erroneous information. I cannot doubt; therefore, in other object than to do justice to all concerned, I will endeavor to give a brief statement of some of the transactions that led to that campaign and victory. In doing this after the lapse of 23 years, and writing as I do mostly from my own recollection, I may fall far short of relating all the particulars, but I will set down nothing but what I know or have reason to believe is true, and will feel obliged by being corrected by those who know wherein I have fallen into error.

As early as the year 1808 or 1809 the celebrated Shawnee chief, Tecumseh, and his brother the prophet, were known to be fomenting the Indians against us, and about that time they located themselves near Tippecanoe, upon the Wabash, and Tecumseh conceived the grand design of uniting all the Indians to make common cause against the encroachments of the white man, and to make an effort to regain their former territory, and to check the growth of our settlement in the north-west. Governor Harrison, then Superintendent of Indian affairs, believing these Indians were stimulated by British traders, and fearing it would lead to something more serious, kept the President informed of their movements, and under instructions from our Government held frequent friendly talks with the Indians, and endeavored by presents and kindness to satisfy them, but without effect. In 1810 serious apprehensions were felt for the safety of our frontier inhabitants, and a call was made on the militia of the Indiana Territory for the purpose of protecting the inhabitants of the Wabash against Tecumseh's banditti; but on his promise to remain peaceable, the march of our men to the Wabash was countermanded. This suspended but did not prevent hostilities. Early in the year 1811 the Indians assumed a more offensive attitude, large numbers were collecting at Tecumseh's town from all the tribes in the northwest. This alarming the inhabitants of the frontier of Indiana and Illinois Territories, checked emigration and prevented the settlement of the country; meetings of the people were held in both Territories, and resolutions adopted expressing the sense of the inhabitants of their imminent danger from the hostile Indians collecting at the Prophet's town. Capt. Walter Wilson of Vincennes, with Barron, interpreter, was sent by Gov. Harrison late in June of 1811, with a talk to Tecumseh and the Prophet, and on arriving at their town he found about 1500 warriors assembled there. After the talk Tecumseh promised to visit Vincennes in 18 days; he came in about 25 days with 600 warriors, and the result of the council between Gov. Harrison and Tecumseh left no doubt war was unavoidable, and at the earnest request of the people expressed through public meetings and petitions, the President directed Gov. Harrison to disperse Tecumseh's banditti. Col. Boyd with the 4th regiment of U. S. Infantry, was placed under Gov. H. who called on the militia of the Indiana Territory; many volunteered their services and others were drafted for the expedition. The object of the campaign was to march up the Wabash toward Tippecanoe, build a fort and station troops near the Indian boundary, and if possible to disperse Tecumseh's banditti without shedding blood. The time was considered favorable to effect the object of the Government, as it was known that immediately after the council at Vincennes in July 1811, the chief, Tecumseh, went on a tour among the Southern Indians to stimulate them to join in his plan of operations against us. Our army assembled at Vincennes in September, and before its march from that place was joined by Col. J. H. Daviess and a few, less than twenty, dragoons from Kentucky to go on the expedition. The troops left Vincennes about the 26th of September, and one of the first days of October commenced building the fort. While the troops were thus employed, Gov. Harrison sent messengers inviting the Indians of Tecumseh's banditti to a friendly council, or warning them to disperse. They declined doing either, and about this time a family was killed on Embarras river, in Illinois, a few miles north west of Vincennes, and one of our sentinels was shot by an Indian on the night of the 10th of October. These transactions indicated so strongly to be misunderstood what we had to apprehend from that banditti of savages, and Gov. Harrison called on the citizens of the Territory; many of them volunteered and flocked to the standard of their Governor. Captain Funk with a few dragoons from Kentucky also joined the army, and the fort being near its completion, the army, consisting of about 750 men, after leaving the sick and a small garrison in the fort, marched on the 29th of October for the Indian town, and was overtaken on the march about the first of November by Gen. Saml. Wells and Cols. Owen and Keiglar from Kentucky, with about 30 or 40 volunteers from that State. I am confident that the number of men that were in the battle from Kentucky did not exceed 80, perhaps not more than 70. About half the number was dragoons under Col. Daviess and Captain Funk, the balance were riflemen under Gen. Wells and Col. Keiglar. Col. Owen acting as a volunteer aid to the commander in chief. On the night of the 5th of November the army encamped 10 or 11 miles from the Indian town. During our march on the morning of the 6th, Indians were frequently seen by our advance; attempts were made but failed to bring them to a friendly talk. When within less than two miles of the village the army having formed in order for battle, halted. Our troops were in good spirits and every officer appeared anxious to engage the enemy; but Gov. Harrison in strict conformity to his instructions from the President, resolved to make one other effort to adjust the difficulty without shedding blood; and for that purpose he rode forward accompanied by some of his principal officers and protected by Spencer's company of volunteers from the Territory. Arriving within less than 200 yards of the town, he directed his interpreter Barron to go into the town and invite the Prophet to come out and talk with him as a friend, stating that the difficulties could be arranged better than to let their young men kill each other in battle. Two other chiefs came out, and after shaking hands in the most friendly manner, these chiefs assured the General that they were not able nor had they a wish to fight, and that their principal chief the Prophet had gone out to meet the army to make peace, but that he had crossed to the east side of the Wabash, believing the army was marching up that side, and these chiefs repeatedly declared that if the Governor would wait until the next day they would come into a council, make peace, bury the hatchet, and there after live like brothers. Gov. Harrison directed Majors Taylor and Clark, his aid-de-camp and Brigade Inspector, to select a suitable camp ground. They did so, and reported that they had found the best encampment that the army had occupied since its march; and after mutual pledges of friendship between the General and the Chiefs, orders were given to march to the ground, and the lines of the

encampment were marked off by the proper officers. No one was heard to object to the ground for an encampment. Indeed no one who is a competent judge could with propriety object. Something was said about building a breastwork, but this was abandoned, owing, as the writer understood and believes, to the scarcity of camp axes and the prevalent opinion that it was unnecessary. The army encamped in the form of a hollow square, occupying a grove of timber surrounded on three sides by prairie, the right wing fronting to the south-east toward the Indian town, was composed of part of the 4th United States' regiment and a few companies of the militia of the Territory, constituting what was termed on the morning of the battle the front line; the left wing also consisting of a part of the 4th regiment and a portion of the militia of the Territory composed the rear line, the right flank was composed of Spencer's company of 80 volunteer riflemen of the Territory fronting south-west and closing the space between the front and rear lines in the south-west point of the grove in which we encamped. The left flank consisted of the company of Kentucky volunteer riflemen under Keiglar and a company of riflemen of the Territory, under Capt. Robb; this flank was commanded by Gen. Wells who ranked as Major. Capt. Snelling's company of the 4th encamped within the square as a reserve. The dragoons both of Kentucky and the Territory was encamped within the square with orders that in case of a night attack to parade sword in hand with their pistols in their belts. A double line of sentinels was placed out and all the precaution that experience and prudence could dictate, with a due regard to the exhausted condition of the soldiers, owing to forced marches on a reduced ration, was taken by the commander-in-chief.

Between 4 and 5 o'clock in the morning of the 7th of November, 1811, a sentinel at the south-east angle discovered the Indians crawling through the grass in the prairie approaching him. He fired and fled toward the line pursued by hundreds of Indians who reached our line at the same moment with the sentinel. So sudden and unlooked for was the attack on the left flank that the officers had no opportunity to form their men for action, but were compelled to retire toward the centre of the encampment. Gov. Harrison seeing his left driven in, ordered Captains Snelling, Wilson and Scott to charge the Indians; they did so and checked them. This timely aid enabled Wells and Keiglar to rally their men and regain their ground, which they immediately did and throughout the battle fully sustained their former high reputation as soldiers of Kentucky. The attack in a few minutes became general along the front line, right flank, and part of the rear line. All our sentinels and both guards were driven into the encampment, and nothing saved the army from defeat but the cool deliberate courage of Gen. Harrison, aided by the field officers and the steadiness of our troops amidst dangers the most desperate. The writer is a witness that Gov. Harrison rode along our lines giving such orders as were necessary to restore order and to ensure a victory. Forbid it Heaven.

Omnium-Gatherum.

Some sixty years ago the following announcement extraordinary appeared in Boston paper:—"The Philadelphia Fly Stage, warranted through fourteen days." Quick "flying" this, over a distance now travelled in thirty or forty hours.

Rev. E. K. Avery, and family, has left Bristol at last. Their destination is unknown. His wife is spoken of as being very amiable.

Prudence Crandall, has been found guilty of teaching colored children in Brooklyn, Conn. The law under which she was arrested having been sustained as constitutional, she must now abide the consequence.

The late Mr. B. who drove a pair of fine dun geldings in a curricle, met Mr. E. and accosted him thus: "You see I have changed my color, I now drive duns." "The d—l you do," replied the other; "that is a change for the better indeed; I remember when the duns used to drive you."

Catharine Riff, of Metz, is about to exhibit two female children of her's in Paris—they are connected together by the lower part of the chest and the upper part of the abdomen. One is without a head, the vertebral column stopping suddenly at the level of the shoulders,

Six children at a birth.—On the 30th Dec. 1832, the wife of Dernian Ploson, in the village of Dorpin, in Bessarabia, was delivered of six daughters, all living, and only a little smaller than the usual size of children, at a birth, with the exception of the last, which was much the least. The mother was not quite twenty years of age, and of a strong constitution. The whole six children lived long enough to be baptized, but died on the evening of the day of their birth. The mother subsequently suffered indisposition, but got quite well.

Gazette Medicale.

A man was lately robbed near Lexington Ky. of \$50 in bills by two men in disguise. Another man had his pocket book taken from his pocket at an Auction. Such facts deserve this notice which will put men on their guard. Villany may be travelling westward.

The Real and Personal Estate in the city of New York is valued at one hundred and seventy-five millions, three hundred and eighty one thousand dollars. The amount of taxes to be raised for the present year is about \$200,000.

It is the custom at dinner-parties in Paris at present where ladies assist, to hand round, just before sitting down to table, a pincushion, that the fair guests may pin up their sleeves, which would otherwise entirely preclude the operations of the table.

The elections have passed off throughout the State with hardly any political excitement, or party warfare; and yet the Jackson party have reason to boast of a decided triumph. From the returns now before us, which will be seen in another column, we may safely calculate on having a majority of twenty in the Legislature on joint-ballot. And this may even fall below the mark. A few counties, chiefly northern, remain to be heard from.

Columbus Ohio Sentinel.

The Tailors of Richmond, Va. have all got old Harry in 'em, as Jack Downing would say—in consequence of their brethren in the Penitentiary offering to work for half price. Thieves should not be so bold to take the bread out of the honest men's mouths, by authority.

In the Ohio Kenyon College, the expenses of a Student prorram, for boarding, washing, tuition, &c. do not exceed \$100, and for a theological student but \$50. This is cheap, yet if he is disposed to labor "between-whales," they will still be less.

BROOKLYN, Ct. Oct. 4, 1833.

Miss Prudence Crandall was brought up for trial yesterday, before the Supreme Court, over which the Honorable D. Daggett, Chief Justice of the State, presided, for harbouring and boarding foreign blacks, &c.

The defense rested entirely on the constitutionality of the law in question and when the case was committed to the jury by Judge Daggett, the charge presented, the most able, lucid and conclusive constitutional opinions ever pronounced in this State.

He established, by unquestionable legal deductions, the constitutionality of the Connecticut law, which had before been so much misunderstood.

The jury gave a verdict, with little or no hesitation, against the defendant.

NEW-ALBANY, Oct. 18.

On last Sunday evening Capt. Ford, late of the United States Rangers, and now of the United States Dragoons, arrived at this place from Fort Gibson, accompanied by First Lieut. Wheelock, of the United States Dragoons. Captain Ford has been instructed to raise a company of young men of character in this State, for the United States service, as Dragoons. This service will afford a favorable opportunity to those gentlemen who wish to explore the northwestern frontiers of the United States, free from individual expense, subjected only to the rules and regulations of the War Department.

Gazette.

PROFESSOR HENRY'S MAGNET.—An artificial magnet has recently been constructed by Professor Henry, of Princeton College, which far surpasses in power every thing of the kind. A number of interesting experiments on the subject of electromagnetism, were exhibited by means of this wonderful instrument, in the presence of the students, and a large number of gentlemen assembled to attend the late commencement.

Upon one trial of its strength, it was found to be capable of raising between three and four thousand pounds; and we learn that with some further modifications of the apparatus, the magnet will probably be able to sustain upwards of four thousand pounds.

N. Y. Standard.

Removing a Mountain.—Bishop Mountain was considered the greatest wit in London.—There existed many years ago, a vacancy in the Bishopric of Quebec, when he turned his wit to good advantage. He presented himself before the Metropolitan, and inquired if he had faith, and if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, say to it this Mountain be thou removed into the See, and it shall be removed. The Metropolitan replied, "Be thou removed!" The Bishop of Quebec long enjoyed the highest reputation as a prelate.

United States Gazette.

INDIAN TREATY.—We are informed by the Rev. J. F. Schermerhorn, commissioner, &c. west, who has just arrived here from Chicago, that Gov. Porter, Col. Owen, and Col. Weatherford, commissioners on the part of the United States, concluded a treaty last week with the Pottawatamie Indians for all their lands on the west side of Lake Michigan, and the St. Joseph's and Nottawassee Reservations in the peninsula of Michigan, being about 5,000,000 of acres, and that they have agreed to move west of the Mississippi within three years. By this treaty the United States agree to pay the Indians \$1,100,000, and to cede to the United Chippewa, Ottawa nations five millions of acres of land on the north east side of the Missouri river, to commence at the Nodaway, and running up the Missouri to the Boyer river, and extend east to the west line of the state of Missouri and the lands of the Sauks and Foxes. The United States have now extinguished the Indian title to all the lands south of the Wisconsin and Fox rivers, Winnebago lake, and Greenbay, and a very fine and valuable country will soon be open for the settlement of our enterprising and industrious citizens. The Indian title to all the lands within the states of Indiana and Illinois has now been extinguished, excepting about 1,000,000 of acres of the Miami on the Wabash, with whom we are informed a treaty is to be held next week at the Forks of the Wabash by Gov. Porter, J. F. Schermerhorn, and Gen. Wm. Marshall, commissioners on the part of the United States. We confidently hope that these Indians will see that their true interest will be promoted by accepting the liberal propositions of the government, which will be offered to them, and secure for themselves a permanent home, west of the Mississippi. It must be evident to themselves, since their red brethren by whom they were once surrounded have already removed west, or are under treaty stipulations to remove soon, that they cannot continue long where they are at present. Should they refuse to treat as they did last fall, we have no doubt our Legislature at their next session will declare them citizens of the state and subject to her laws.

Fort Wayne Sentinel.

The Oregon.—In addition to the letters which have been published in the Troy Press, from JOHN BAIL, Esq. extracts from two other letters written by some gentlemen to his family friends in Hibernia, this state, have appeared in the Concord Statesman. These extracts are highly interesting, as were those which first appeared in the Troy paper. From our own personal acquaintance with Mr. Ball, we are confident that whatever he says may be received as truth. He writes that in the country where he now is (the Oregon,) white oaks often grow on the plains like an orchard, and groves of firs and other timber. The same kind of firs that we have in New England grows there to a great height, and three or four feet in diameter, answering all the purposes of the white pine.—There is another tree, called the red fir, the timber of which is like the yellow pine—immensely large. The letter to which we now allude is dated Feb. 23, 1833. At this time trees were in blossom, and in favorable spots, the fresh grass was six inches high.

The Indians, (Flat Heads,) have horses which they sell at \$8. The Indians live on whatever is nearest at hand, and easiest obtained; nor do they buy up stores for the future—except that they dry salmon and roots. On the Multnomah river, the natives subsist almost entirely on roots, principally Camas and Wapato. They are fond of having the whites come among them.

Mr. B. says that nine tenths of the wilderness country through which he passed is volcanic—the rocks showing marks of fire as plainly as blacksmith's cinders which they often much resemble, being full of holes in the same way; in other cases like glass, lava, and also compact, a kind of rock called basalt. Even the rocks of other kinds often appear burnt and partly melted. Along the creeks this kind of rocks form perpendicular banks often of astonishing height, and is the greatest obstruction in travelling the country. The rocks on the lower part of the Columbia and along the coast are of this kind, and about 100 or 150 miles from the coast are a number of exceedingly high mountains, in form like Etna, always covered with snow, and have never been ascended—mounts Hood, St. Helens and Jefferson are of these.

Portsmouth Jour.

Mail Robbery.—We understand that a man named Van Sickie, Post master at Claysville, in this County, has been arrested on the charge of purloining money from the mail bag, in that place. We are informed that sums of money have, of late, been frequently misappropriated, and in order to the detection of the thief, a snare was set by the agent or agents, of the Post office Department, which has resulted, no doubt, in the detection of the offender. It is said the unfortunate man has confessed to one offence, but stoutly denies any other. Van Sickie is the individual who succeeded Christian Weirich, as Post Master, at Claysville, whom it will be recalled, committed a similar crime, for which he was sentenced to twenty one years imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary. Van Sickie sustained an excellent character for honesty, and was highly esteemed as a citizen and officer. He is the father of several interesting children, and the husband of an amiable wife. He is now in confinement in the jail of this County.

Williamsport (Pa.) Patriot, Sept. 30.

Murder of Mr. Jennings, Post-Master at Port Gibson.—The Correspondent of the 11th, gives the annexed account of this brutal assassination.

One of the most lamentable occurrences that ever afflicted any community, took place in this town on Monday last. As John Jennings, Esq. was passing from the Court House to Mrs. DeFrance's tavern, and when about half way between the two, he was fired upon with a pistol by a man named Jacob Skinner, after a deliberate aim. The ball entered his body a little below the navel and passed out at the hip, with so much force as to make a large indentation in the brick wall of the Court House about twelve paces distant. He lingered about five hours and died. Mr. Jennings was not observing Skinner at the time, nor was he aware that he harbored towards him any intention of violence.

Capt. Lander, of the British African Exhibition, in a letter to a friend, says—that a Negro King, in return for the civilities shown him while visiting their fleet, invited the officers to an entertainment on shore, when, to their surprise, he was in the act of sacrificing two men in honor of their visit!—They persuaded him to dispense with so great a mark of favor.