

## BIG DAMAGES GIVEN

A Verdict of \$92,500 Against the Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad.

Peculiar Results of Lightning Related by a Hendricks County Farmer.

A Successful and Delicate Surgical Operation Reported From Laporte County.

Indiana Congregationalists—An Infant's Dead Body Found—An Old Landmark Gone—A Fatal Fall.

VINCENNES, May 11.—The case of James A. Cunningham vs. the Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad Company was brought to a close to-day in the Daviess County Court at Washington, Ind., and the jury, which had been out all night, returned a verdict for plaintiff, awarding him \$92,500 damages. In the summer of 1879 James A. Cunningham owned and controlled in this city the most extensive starch works and laundry in Indiana. In June of the year named there was a fire which destroyed the establishment took fire, plaintiff alleges, from a spark from a passing engine of the Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad, and instituted suit against the company for \$200,000. The case was first brought to trial in the Knox Circuit Court and a judgment was given for defendant. Plaintiff appealed to the Supreme Court, and the decision of the Knox Circuit Court was annulled. Three weeks ago the final trial began at Washington and was concluded to-day with the result as above stated. The verdict gives a larger amount for damages than has ever been returned in any case in the United States. The citizens of Vincennes, while deprecating the pecuniary result, and the Terre Haute folk, rejoice with Mr. Cunningham over his victory, as they have been assured that the starch works, which were the enterprise of the city before they burned, will be rebuilt.

DeWolf, Chambers & DeWolf, of Vincennes, assisted by Gardner & Taylor, of Washington, represent the plaintiff, and Vase & Niblack, of Vincennes, O'Neal & Heffernan, of Washington, Iglehart & Taylor, Evansville, and John G. Williams, Terre Haute, were for defendant.

Freaks of Lightning.

DANVILLE, May 11.—James M. Barlow, a substantial farmer of this county, relates the following incident, which occurred on his farm during the thunder-storm last Friday.

Mr. Barlow's son, aged twelve, and a hired man named James McCalland were at work in a field, when the shower came up. The lightning struck a tree at the edge of the field. This was about 4:30 p.m. A few minutes later the tree under which they were standing was struck by lightning, and the lightning jagged a splinter along the trunk from the top branch to the root. Just at that moment a neighbor was passing the spot and found the man and boy lying unconscious under the tree. The lightning was in the air, and the boy remained insensible, and to all outward appearance was dead. His face was swollen and distorted, and he was unrecognizable. A white froth oozed from his mouth, and it was with great difficulty that a physician, an hour later, succeeded in bringing him to consciousness. The man has since almost entirely recovered, but the lad still lingers, and is evidently injured internally. When found under the tree the man's hair was singed, and a scorched line could be traced along his side to his right knee. A dog was standing beside the boy under the tree, but was not injured.

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