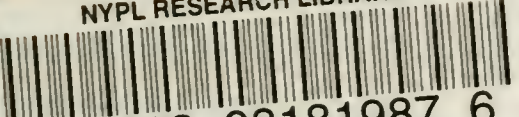


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McCORMICK'S GUIDE

TO

 STARKE COUNTY 

... OR ...

A PAST AND A PRESENT VIEW OF
OUR TERRITORY

... BY ...
CHESTER A. McCORMICK.



ILLUSTRATED



PUBLISHED
BY THE AUTHOR
1902.



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DEDICATION

To the memory of the early pioneers who settled in Starke County, to whom much of its growth is due, and to the spirited, energetic citizens of today, who are taking an active part in the progress and welfare of our county, this little volume is affectionately dedicated.

Copyrighted 1902
By CHESTER A. McCORMICK

Introduction.

It is with personal pride and pleasure that this little volume is presented to the people of Starke County. It was the purpose of the author to issue a volume small in size and containing only that part of history of most value and interest that it might sell at a low price, thus placing it within the reach of everybody, rather than to put out a large volume of several hundred pages filled with minor events and facts and incidents of only passing interest, which would necessitate a much larger book, thus placing it within the reach of a comparative few. As it is, everybody is able to possess a brief history of his own county.

While this little book is not as complete and attractive as more time and money could make it, yet it is all that is claimed for it—a work which seeks to trace the growth and progress of Starke County from the time before its organization up to the present day. That the county has made rapid strides forward during the past few years is a fact which all of our citizens are glad to admit. On looking over the old files of the Starke County Ledger, under date of March 7, 1871, we find this advertisement:

“Wallace Gould will carry passengers from Knox to Hamlet to meet the early morning and afternoon trains.”

At this time railroads were not as common in Starke County as they are today. We now have rail-

roads crossing the county in all directions. So it is with all forms of progress. At one time where stood a few log huts, dense forests, marshes and ponds, today stand large and elegant frame and brick buildings and progressive little towns. We often hear the old settlers tell about their hardships in getting to this country in the early days either by miring down in the swamps or being forced to cut their way through the dense forests. Roads were an unknown thing. Today we have public highways throughout the county, and the sand roads are being replaced with gravel and stone. If you had told a farmer fifty years ago that within a half century his mail would be delivered to his door he would have laughed at the idea. But this has all come to pass. And what has brought about all this change? We can no better answer than to say, the spirit of progress.

In this connection I desire to acknowledge my indebtedness for favors and assistance rendered me by the following gentlemen: John L. Moorman and S. M. Gorrell for access to newspaper files; James C. Fletcher for furnishing some early facts and for referring me to different sources; to H. E. White for use of some county records; to Jacob Quigley for access to some old newspaper files which are in his office; to Jacob Keller for information pertaining to the artificial stone industry; to P. H. McCormick for some

information concerning North Judson; to F. J. Wein-
kauf for data concerning San Pierre; to H. R. Robbins
for valuable information and figures kindly furnished
on the drainage of the county; to Glenn D. Peters for
the article on "Bird Life of Starke County," the
greater part of which was taken, by permission, from
a graduation thesis on that subject; to H. S. Loring
for some information concerning Hamlet; to W. S.
Blatchley for reference to geological reports, and to
T. H. Ball for some information contained in "North-
western Indiana."

It was the intention to omit nothing from this
little history that would be of lasting interest or great
importance at the present time, however, as years, or
even months, roll by, some of the history contained
herein will become obsolete for changes are constantly
taking place, new enterprises are springing up, towns
are rapidly growing, old citizens are passing away
and a new population is rapidly overshadowing the
old. And, too, those who are today reading the his-
tory with which they are familiar, and possibly of
some of their own accomplishments, and whose hearts
are throbbing with pride and patriotism to think of
the rapid strides the county of their choice has made,
will soon have left the shores touched by the mys-
terious sea that has never yet borne on any wave the
image of a returning sail.

STARKE COUNTY.

ITS PAST AND PRESENT.

I.

ORIGIN, POSITION, AREA AND TOPOGRAPHY OF THE COUNTY

Starke County occupies an area of three hundred and fourteen square miles lying in the second tier of counties south of Michigan, and in the third east of Illinois. Nine miles west of its north-eastern corner the Kankakee river intervenes between it and Laporte county, and flowing southwesterly, forms the remainder of the northern and all but five miles of the western boundry. The county was named after General Stark, a noted personage of the American Revolution. Through some unknown way a final "e" was added which the name of the general does not possess. Settlement into Starke county, or rather what was later to become known as Starke county, began in the year 1835.

The surface of the county is diversified by marsh, wet prairie, dry prairie and sand ridges; the latter predominating. More than half the area is covered to to a depth of 2 to 15 feet by the fine grained buff sand

so characteristic of all the region adjacent to the Kankakee on the south. Experience has proven that this sandy soil, if properly cultivated, will produce excellent melons, berries, grapes, sugar beets, etc. Where ploughed deep and fertilized it also yields good crops of corn, oats and potatoes.

Within the past twelve years colonies of frugal, industrious Germans and Swedes have bought at a low price large areas of this once despised land and are making a good living from it. They utilize all fertilizers produced on the farm, they haul muck from the low lands and mix it with the sand, they plow deeply each season, and by these and other means are proving the land of far greater productive power than it was ever believed to be.

Many thousand acres of marsh land have been recently drained (of which a detailed account will be given later) and where a few years ago the waters were waist deep the year round, beautiful crops of corn are now produced. Beneath the sand, the prairie sod and the marsh bottoms of the county there is everywhere the fine grained, ash blue boulder clay, which covers the entire area of Northwestern Indiana. In many places this comes close to the surface. Not an out crop of rock occurs in the county. The only bores known to have pierced the thick mantle of drift are at Knox and North Judson, in both of which stratified

rock was found about 200 feet below the surface.

The only workable deposit of marl found in Starke County is wholly a marsh deposit, lying in sections 10 and 15 (32 north, 4 west), Railroad township, about three and a half miles west of North Judson. The deposit occupies the basin of an extinct lake. Thirty years ago the lake had become replaced by a marsh over which duck hunters and muskrat trappers hunted and trapped with great success. Now part of it is cultivated in corn and the remainder furnishes large and excellent crops of hay. The marl is everywhere overlain with muck, except in one or two places, where it forms the surface. The muck varies in thickness from one to five feet, averaging about two and a half feet.

II.

SOME INTERESTING EARLY FACTS.

The county seat was located at Knox, April 1, 1850. In the same year and month the first county commissioners were elected: John W. P. Hopkins, George Estey and William Parker. They met at the home of Mrs. Rachel A. Tillman (Lambert), on the south bank of Yellow river. Her house was used for county purposes for several years. The next county officers elected were: Sheriff, Jacob I. Wampler; Auditor, J. G. Black; Clerk, Stephen Jackson, Sr.; Re-

clerk, Jacob Bozarth; Treasurer, Jacob Tillman; County agent, C. S. Tibbits.

The first term of the Starke Circuit Court was held at Mrs. Tillman's, May 19, 1851. The judge was E. M. Chamberlain; associates, Samuel Burke and George Milroy. "One indictment was found. That was for hog stealing, and the defendant was acquitted. Hog stealing in those days was very different from horse stealing."

T. H. Ball, author of "Northwestern Indiana," says the following were some of the first things in Starke County: "The first boy born, Tipton Lindsay, 1836. The first burial in the county was of Thomas Robb, who was frozen to death while out hunting and was buried in a canoe. The first church building was erected by the United Brethren in 1853; the second was built by the Methodists in Knox, in 1856. The first ministers in the county were: Elder Munson, Methodist; Elder Ross, United Brethern; and Rev. James Peele, Christian. The first physicians, 1851, Dr. Solomon Ward, Dr. Baldwin and Dr. Charles Humphreys. The first lawyer, 1852, Judge Wiloughby M. McCormick. The first paper, the Starke County Press, published in May, 1861, Joseph A. Berry, editor." This paper is now known as the Starke County Democrat, S. M. Gorrell, publisher.

"A Fourth of July celebration was held in the

bounds of Starke County before the county was organized, in either 1848 or 1849, the locality being near the present Toto. The company could not have been very large. They had a warm dinner. The cabin in which they met seems to have contained but two rooms, they had tables from which to eat, and after dinner they danced. She who, as a young girl remembers the circumstances, was born in 1840, was then living in Pulaski County and came into the new county of which her father became a resident in 1851, and is now a resident in the town of Knox."

The first musical organization in the county was a band organized at Knox in 1876, with twelve members. A. W. Swartzell was the leader. Old instruments were purchased from a Winamac band for \$40.

The present local telephone system began operation June 20, 1898. The projectors were S. C. Close, A. W. Swartzell and J. N. Cotter. The present owner is J. G. Steinman.

III.

THE TOWNS OF STARKE COUNTY.

In some stages of society, and connected with some occupations, the history of villages, towns and cities, is to a large extent the history of that region, for the people are mostly in towns and cities, and from them usually go forth the guiding and control-

ling influences. But the more any region is strictly agricultural, the less number of large towns will it have, and the true history will be made much more in



Beautiful Hotel Fitz, Knox.

the country homes, on the farms and by the firesides. And as the counties south of the Kankakee are agricultural, their history is to a large extent the gradual increase of home comforts, the grow-

th of school and church life, and the diffusion of intelligence among thousands of peaceful prospering homes. Yet villages and towns have sprung up many and prosperous, and a study of these will give quite a full idea of the growth of the communities.

KNOX—Knox is the county seat and largest town of Starke County, situated in Center township. At the time of its organization, the town was mere land and trees, but soon town lots were laid out, building began, families moved in and village life was commenced. Civil as well as social life began. Its growth for several years was slow, but in later years, as any of the old residents can testify, the growth has been

rapid, until we now have a population of 1,600, with bright prospects of even faster growth.

Today in Knox there are about twenty large brick blocks, a number more in course of construction, a large number of elegant brick and frame residences, a beautiful brick jail, one of the finest stone court houses in Northern Indiana, several very good churches, a large brick and stone school house and various other attractive buildings.

We now have paved streets, and stone roads pass through the town. The town has an electric light system, and a waterworks plant is expected to be installed at most any time. The town is very well supplied with churches, there being four:—Methodist Episcopal, Free Methodist, Christian and Latter Day Saints.

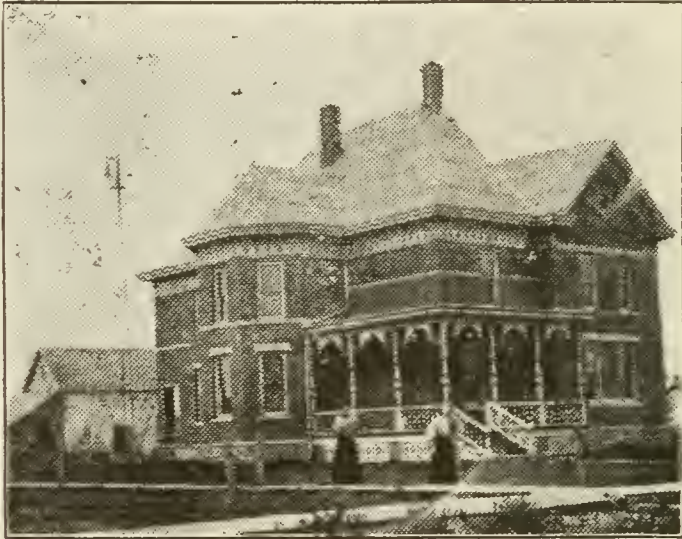


First Brick Block, Knox.

a congregation of

An extended account of our schools would here be unnecessary, for I dare say there is not a citizen who is not familiar with the excellent schools of Knox. They are widely known and the Knox high school is

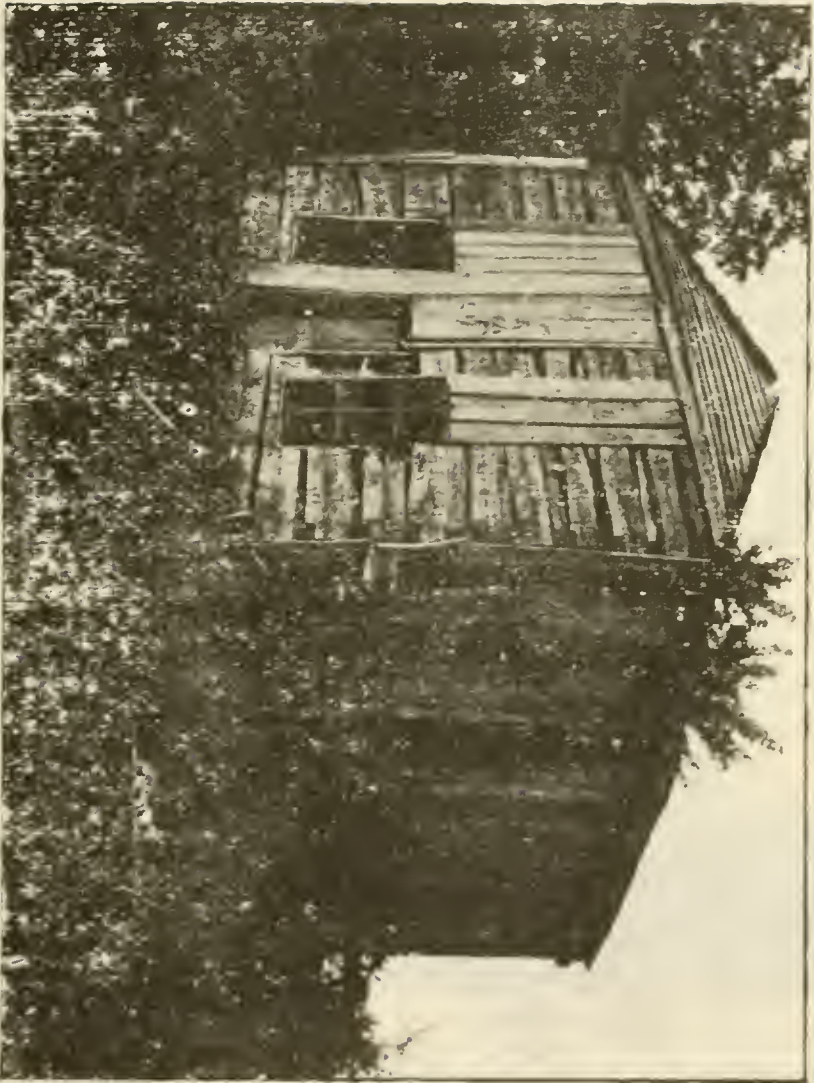
recognized as one of the best in the state. A uniform course of study is carried on in the common schools and a regular four years' course is maintained in the high school department. Prof. J. Walter Dunn is



Beautiful Residence of H. R. Robbins.

the very efficient superintendent of the schools and Sophie H. Luzadder the competent principal. The board of education for 1903 is composed of James W. Nichols, president; J. N. McCormick, secretary, and Charles H. Peters, treasurer.

In the summer of 1894 the present elegant and commodious ten-room brick building was erected at a total cost of, including furnishings and equipment, about \$15,000. "Our schools have made a wonderful



Starke County's First Court House.—Where the First Court
Was Held and the First County Officers Elected.

growth during the last decade. From three teachers and a few pupils they have grown until the present large building is used throughout, employing eight teachers and a music instructor." Successful literary societies, known as the Star Literary Society and the Lew Wallace Club are maintained, also a foot ball team, quartettes and other organizations. Also in the grammar department are literary clubs known as the Washington and Lincoln Literary Societies. The fifth and sixth grades have a Washington and an Irving Literary Society. The high school was commissioned in 1900.

The Knox high school was the first school in



Residence of A. W. Swartzell.

magazine.

In Knox there are two pickle factories, a handle factory, a rough lumber mill, two grain elevators, one

Northern Indiana to publish a paper. The Eclipse, a four page, three column publication was founded in 1899, and the following year was changed to magazine form. In 1902 the Sophomore class issued a 32 page souvenir

owned by Wm. Guyatt, another by the Churchill-White Co., a beer storage, a tomb-stone factory and a railway velocipede factory.

Knox has two newspapers, the Starke County Democrat and the Starke County Republican, both being issued every Thursday. The Democrat is recognized as one of the ablest democratic organs in this part of the country, and likewise the Republican holds a high place among the publications of Northern Indiana.

Knox has quite a number of secret societies, women's clubs, literary clubs, religious clubs, etc., of which mention is made on another page under the head of "societies."

A volunteer fire company known as the Knox Hook and Ladder Company, is an organization for the protection of the town, with George W. Sarber as fire chief.

The practicing physicians are: Dr. Glazebrook, Dr. Brown, Dr. M. C. Bonar, Dr. White, Dr. Wright, Dr. M. H. Bonar and Dr. Dolson, dentist.

The practicing attorneys are: Peters & Peters, Nichols & Foster, Adrian L. Courtright, Henry R. Robbins, Fletcher & Beeman, and B. D. L. Glazebrook.

Knox has two well conducted banks, the First National Bank and the Farmers' State Bank. The



The Late Mrs. Rachael A. Lambert, the First White Woman
to Settle in Starke County.

First National Bank began business August 6, 1901, its number being 5919. It has a capital stock of \$25,000. Its history, although short, shows remarkable growth. A general banking business is conducted. The officers are: O. D. Fuller, president; Edgar W. Shilling, vice president, M. C. McCormick, cashier. These gentlemen together with Francis Yeager and Robert H. Bender form the board of directors.

The oldest financial institution in the county is the Farmers' State Bank. It was organized as a private bank in 1892, and on May 30, 1901, it was incorporated as a state bank with a paid in capital of \$25,000. The bank is a member of the American Bankers' Association, and a general banking business is carried on. The officers are: A. P. Dial, president, H. A. Ellingson, vice president; Isaac Templin, cashier.

Knox has two beautiful large brick hotels, known as the Fitz House, T. A. Wetherferd proprietor, and the Stevens' House, A. J. Stevens, proprietor. Also there is the Commercial hotel, J. G. Kratli, proprietor, which occupies a new brick building.

There is one creamery in the town, located in the southwest part, owned by J. B. Prettyman.

Knox has one opera house, the Metropolitan, owned by P. VanDerweele, and another under con-

struction owned by Rice and Horner, which will surpass anything of the kind in the county.

One of the best equipped steam laundries in this part of the country is owned and operated by Orris Booth. A general laundry business is conducted and branch agencies are established in a number of towns.

First-class telephone and telegraph service is had with surrounding towns and cities. The Knox telephone Company, J. G. Steinman proprietor, and the Bell Telephone Company, furnish the telephone facilities. The Western Union Telegraph Company furnishes the telegraph communication.

Three express companies have agencies here. The United States, the National and the American.

The railroads entering the town are the New York, Chicago & St. Louis, P. M. Beauchamp agent, and the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa, George W. Weigner, agent.

The present town officials are: William Booth, George H. Brown and Frank L. Brown, town council; M. T. Hepner, clerk; T. H. Claussen, treasurer; George Stewart, marshal; B. D. L. Glazebrook, town attorney.

NORTH JUDSON— This enterprising little city is situated in Wayne Township, ten miles south-west of the county seat. It is particularly known as the railroad center of the county, being on four different lines. In

North Judson there are several large brick and frame business blocks, a number of beautiful residences, a large brick school building, several very good churches, two opera houses and several other attractive buildings. There are stone streets and a large amount of brick and cement side-walks. That North Judson is speedily advancing is due to the meritorious efforts of her citizens of whom she can justly feel proud.

The town is well supplied with churches, there being four: Methodist Episcopal, German Lutheran, United Brethern and a Roman Catholic church.

The schools of North Judson are among the very best in the county. The building is fully as good as the one at Knox. The common schools maintain a standard course of study and in the high school department a regular four years course is had. That the North Judson schools are up to the standard, is a fact of which her citizens can justly be proud. Besides the public schools thhre is a German Lutheran school, controlled by that denomination.

The practicing physicians are: P. O. Englerth, W. A. Noland, C. Waddell, and Dr. G. B. Corbett, dentist.

Oscar B. Smith and Simon Bybee are the two practicing attorneys; Henry Lightcap and A. T. Hetfield are the justices of the peace. The real estate men are A. J. Lintz Jacob Keller, and E. T. Short.

The post master is Charles H. Keuster. There is a North Judson Building, Loan and Savings Association and a North Judson Commercial Club. The town has two musical organizations—North Judson Military Band and Smith's Orchestra. There is a Volunteer Fire Department numbering twenty members. There are three hotels: The Eagle House, the Hotel Transit and the Erie Hotel and Railroad Restaurant.

The principal financial institution is the Citizens' Bank, Wm. Luken president; G. N. Peterson, cashier. A general banking business is conducted.

There is a Roller mills, Jachins Brothers proprietors, a grain elevator owned by the Churchill-White Company; a brewery, North Judson Brewing Company; two pickle factories, one owned by the Stafford & Goldsmith Co., and another by the W. H. Bunge Co.; a wholesale frog and turtle industry, owned by A. A. Sphung; a poultry packing house, by D. D. Bowersock; a cigar factory, by George Smith; and an artificial stone industry, owned by Jacob Keller. The Crown, the Columbia and the Schlitz Brewing Companies have branch depots in North Judson. Also the McCormick Harvester Company has a branch depot here. Burch's opera house and Dusek's opera house furnish the accommodations for theatrical purposes.

The North Judson News, Harry O. Warvel pub-

lisher, is one of the principal publications of the county. The high standing of the News was attained by the persistent efforts of the late J. Don Gorrell, who made it one of the cleanest and best edited weeklies in Northern Indiana. Under the present editor the News continues to be one of the principal papers in this part of the state.

The four railroads entering North Judson are: The Chicago & Erie; Cincinnati, Richmond & Muncie; Indiana, Illinois & Iowa; and the Pittsburgh, Chicago & St. Louis. The Adams Express Company and the Wells-Fargo Co have a joint agency at North Judson. Also the United States and American Express Companies have offices at this point. The Western Union Telegraph Co. affords the telegraphic accommodations and the North Judson Telephone Co., Truman Smith proprietor, affords local communication and connection with surrounding towns.

HAMLET—The progressive little town of Hamlet is situated in the northern part of the county, in the south-eastern part of Davis and the south-western part of Oregon townships, about six miles from the county seat. The town is on two railroads, the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne & Chicago and the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa. It is next in size to North Judson and third in size among the towns of the county.

Hamlet has four churches, a Methodist Episcopal,



J. B. Prettyman, Citizen and Stock Dealer
Who Remembers Well the Days of
the Pioneer in Starke County.

a Wesleyan Methodist, a Roman Catholic and a German Lutheran. Also a large and attractive new school house costing about \$7,000. The two prominent hotels in the town are, Hotel Jolly, J. E. Jolly, proprietor; and the McKinley House, G. M. Veach, proprietor. There are five general stores, a furniture store and a drug store.

The town has two grain elevators, one owned by the Churchill-White Co., another by H. Hardesty; and two lumber yards. The local real estate dealers are: C. J. Danielson, J. E. Jolly, G. M. Veach and H. J. Childs, Sr.

The Hamlet Foundry and Machine Works, L. D. Parmley proprietor, occupies a building 32x70 feet in size. While repairing receives prompt attention at all times, the main feature of the enterprise will be the manufacture of patent wind stackers and threshing machines, both inventions of Mr. Parmley.

“The press is the greatest public benefactor.” This is an old yet wise saying. What would a nation, state, county, city or village be without some means of communication among her people? The little city of Hamlet, while progressive, lacked something that would bring her people nearer together and establish social intercourse with her neighboring towns. This work was performed by Harry S. Loring, a practical all-round printer and long employed on the Democrat

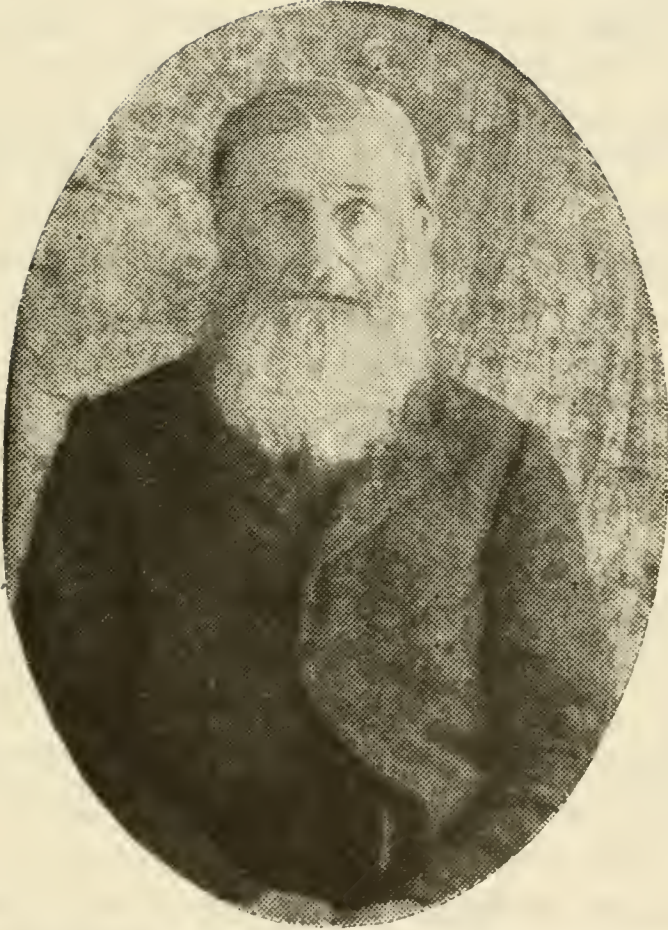
at Knox, who founded on December 12, 1901, the Hamlet Herald, which proved a great success from the very start. This fact can be no better illustrated than by a glance at its advertising columns. The Herald gave new life to the town and the citizens were quick to recognize the beneficial results of the new enterprise. In November Mr. Waring retired from the newspaper business and the Herald became the property of Dr. W. Bowman, who is the present editor.

The secret societies in Hamlet are: Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of the Maccabees, Knights of Columbia, Ladies of the Maccabees and Ladies of Columbia. The Hamlet band is a successful musical organization. Besides the societies named there are women's clubs and other social organizations

SAN PIERRE—This quiet little town of about 350 inhabitants is situated in Railroad township, in the north-east quarter of section twenty-one, range four west. It is on two railroads, the Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville and the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa. It is well provided with churches, there being four: a Roman Catholic, German Lutheran, Methodist Episcopal and an "Evangelical Association" church.

A modern frame school house was built in 1899, costing over \$2,000.

In San Pierre there are three general stores, two hay and grain enterprises, a lumber, tile and brick



Isaac Drake, aged 94 years.—The oldest man
living in Starke County to-day.

yard, two hotels, two saloons and three general blacksmiths. There is one physician, Dr. W. J. Solt. The Churchill-White Co. has a grain elevator at this place. The Modern Woodmen of America and the G. A. R. have organizations here. The post master is Fred J. Weinkauf. A grocery is conducted in connection with the post office.

GROVERTOWN—This little town is situated in Oregon township, on the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne & Chicago railroad. The town has not made as much advancement as its larger neighbors, yet it has three general stores, a large new pickle factory, owned by the H. J. Heinz Co., a fine brick church building and some other improvements. There are two lodges in the town, the Modern Woodmen and the Gleaners. The town has a frame school building. There is one real estate dealer in the town, A. J. Uncapher, who also buys hay and grain. This gentleman is accorded with owning more land than any other individual in the county.

The other towns or stations which are of minor importance are named below, each containing a post office and from one to three general stores: Aldine, Bass Station, Davis, English Lake, Nickel Plate, Ober. Ora, Toto and Winona.

IV.

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE COUNTY.

Below will be found the financial condition of

Starke County up to December 31, 1901, at which time the last annual report was made.

County orders outstanding, Dec. 31, 1901, . . .	\$ 16,112.59
County orders issued for the year 1901,	43,003.61
Total	59,116.20
From which deduct county orders redeemed for 1901	38,583.32
Leaves county orders outstanding Dec. 31, '01	20,532.88
From which deduct cash in treasury	2,634.22
Leaves floating indebtedness Dec. 31, 1901 . . .	17,898.66
COUNTY BONDED INDEBTEDNESS	
Court house bonds outstanding Dec. 31, 1901 \$	102,000.00
From which deduct cash in treasury	2,856.05
Leaves court house bond indebtedness	99,143.95
GRAVEL ROAD BONDS.	
Stone road bonds, Center township, outstanding, Dec. 31, 1901	\$ 34,124.80
Gravel road bonds, Wayne township, outstanding Dec 31, 1901	38,989.60
Total	73,114.40
Total bonded and floating indebtedness outstanding Dec. 31, 1901	\$190,157.01

V.

OUR LAKES.

The lakes of Northern Indiana are the brightest gems in the corona of the state. They are the most beautiful and expressive features of the landscape in the region wherein they abound. Numbered by hundreds, they range in size from area of half an acre up to five and a half square miles. With the fertile soil, the



The old Court house, still standing north of the present magnificent structure.

great beds of gravel and the myriads of bowlders, large and small, they are to be classed as mementos of those mighty ice sheets which, in the misty past, covered the northern two-thirds of our state. Outside of the counties in which they occur but few of the citizens of Indiana know of their presence, their beauty, their value. Their origin, their fauna and flora, the cause of their gradual diminution in size and final distinction, are likewise known to but few. By the red man these lakes were more highly appreciated than by his more civilized caucasian successor, for the reason that the Indian stood much nearer to wild nature than we. On the higher ridges overlooking the lakes he had his village sites. Over their placid waters he paddled his birch bark canoe, and from their depth he secured with spear and hook fishes sufficient to supply his needs, while mussels and the roots of the water lily added variety to his daily food. Wild fowl by myriads, in their migrating seasons, came and went, stopping to feed upon the lakes, thus offering him many a chance to test his marksmanship with bow and arrow, while the skins of the muskrat, otter and beaver which he trapped about the marshy margins, furnished him protection against the cold. Thus it will be seen that his very existence depended often times upon these living bodies of water. It is little wonder, therefore, that he remained in this vicinity

until driven westward by the conquering white man, leaving only the signs of his feast—vast piles of shells, bones and pit-ovens—as reminders of his former presence.

The lakes of Starke County all owe their origin to the irregular deposition of the drift brought in by the glaciers. The original hollows or lake basins are the counterparts and complements of the surrounding hills and knobs so characteristic of the terminal moraines of the retreating ice sheets. The moranic lakes are classified, according to the shape of their basins, into three divisions: (1) "Kettle-hole" lakes with round cauldron shaped basins, usually of great depth. (2) Channel lakes, or those with long narrow basins, whose bottoms are very uneven, the water in places forming deep pools, in others being shallow. (3) "Irregular lakes," whose basins are very complex in outline, being branched, lobed and otherwise irregular. The bottom is also very uneven, deep pools of water alternating with shallow areas, without regard to order or regularity. The majority of the lakes in Indiana belong to this class. Bass lake, Starke County, belongs to this division, and is one of the largest examples of this group.

The following table shows the area and greatest depth of the five largest lakes in the state:

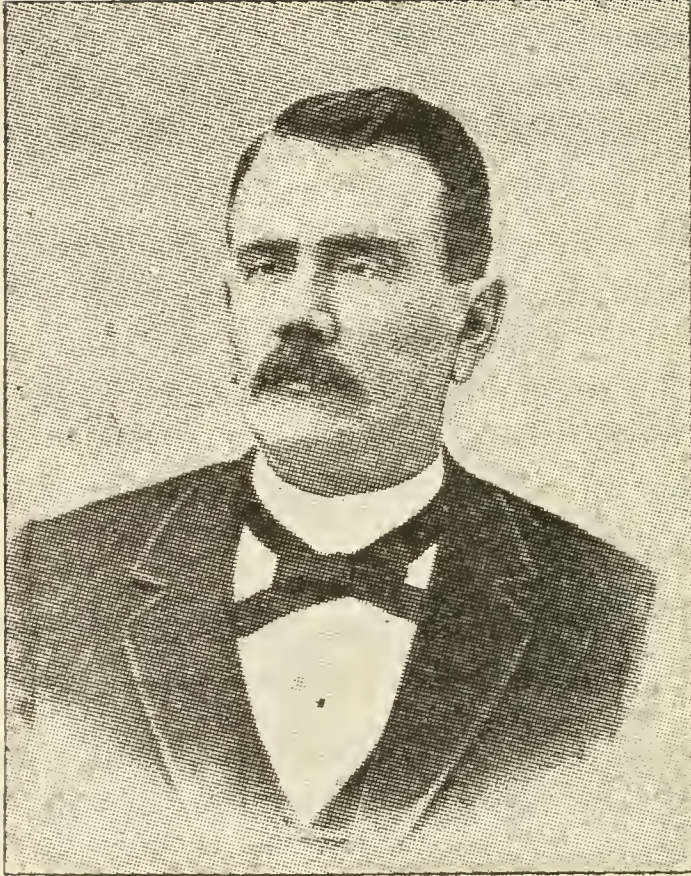
	Area sq. miles.	Depth.
Lake Wawasee, or Turkey Lake, Kos- ciusko County,	5 66	68 ft.
Lake Maxinkuckee, Marshall Co.,	2 97	89
Lake James, Steuben Co.,	2.62	87
Bass Lake, Starke Co.,	2.23	32
Tippecanoe Lake, Kosciusko Co.,	1.61	121

In conclusion it may be said that all of the moranic lakes in Starke County, as well as the State in general, are "geologically young, being confined to the very latest moraines of the glacial period. They are mere babes, born yesterday and destined to die tomorrow. The present dominant race of men may pass away and leave these lakes still lying like bright jewels among the hills; but every one is doomed to final extinction.

‘The hills are shadows and they flow
From form to form, and nothing stands:
They melt like mist, the solid lands,
Like clouds they shape themselves and go.’

“But of all the beauties of the landscape, lakes are the most ephemeral. As long as they remain they will continue to contribute to the service and delight of man, by affording means for that relaxation and healthful pleasure which the conditions of modern life demand.”

KOONTZ LAKE.—Koontz Lake lies in sections 1 and 12 (34 north, 1 west) Oregon township. It is a shallow body of water covering 200 or more acres, and is largely



Hon. Geo. W. Beeman, Starke County's First Judge.

artificial. All the shallow water area around the shores contains hard bottom, except in a few places where beds of muck have accumulated. Many aquatic plants abound in the lake, and as a result the fishing is excellent. Many people from Hamlet, Grovertown and other surrounding places, spend several days or weeks here during the hot summer months, enjoying a pleasant outing.

EAGLE LAKE.—Eagle Lake lies in the north-west quarter of section 13 (33 north, 1 west) Washington township. Its area has recently been reduced more than one-half by drainage. The area covered by the lake is about 70 acres. The north and south shores slope gradually upward into sandy, cultivated fields or woodland. The outlet, Eagle creek, leaves the west end and flows almost due west into Yellow river. The lake is nowhere more than eighteen feet in depth, while much of its area is less than five feet, and bids fair to soon become extinct, as the decay of the abundant water vegetation is rapidly adding to the extensive beds of muck.

ROUND LAKE.—This is a small and nearly circular lake lying in the west half of section 8, (32 north, 2 west) California township. It is located about six miles south-west of Knox, and about three miles south-east of Toto. The lake covers an area of about 120 acres. The water is, for the most part, quite deep.

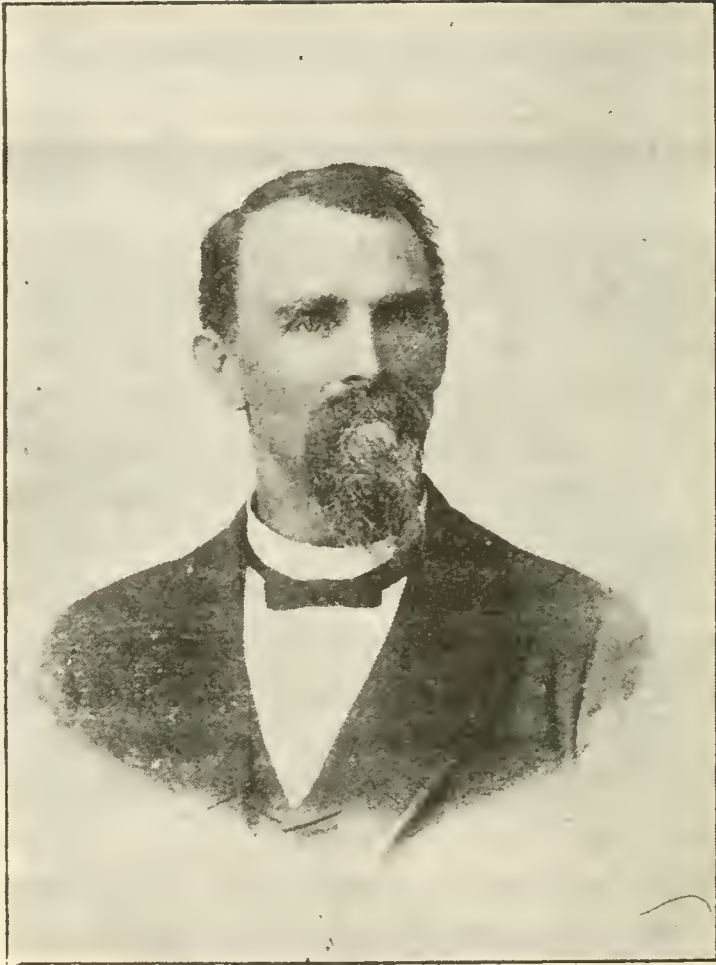


North Judson's Beautiful School Building

the only shallow area of any size lying along the north shore. The lake abounds in plant life, pond weeds and millfoils being especially common. The banks of the lake are everywhere low and, except on the north, marshy.

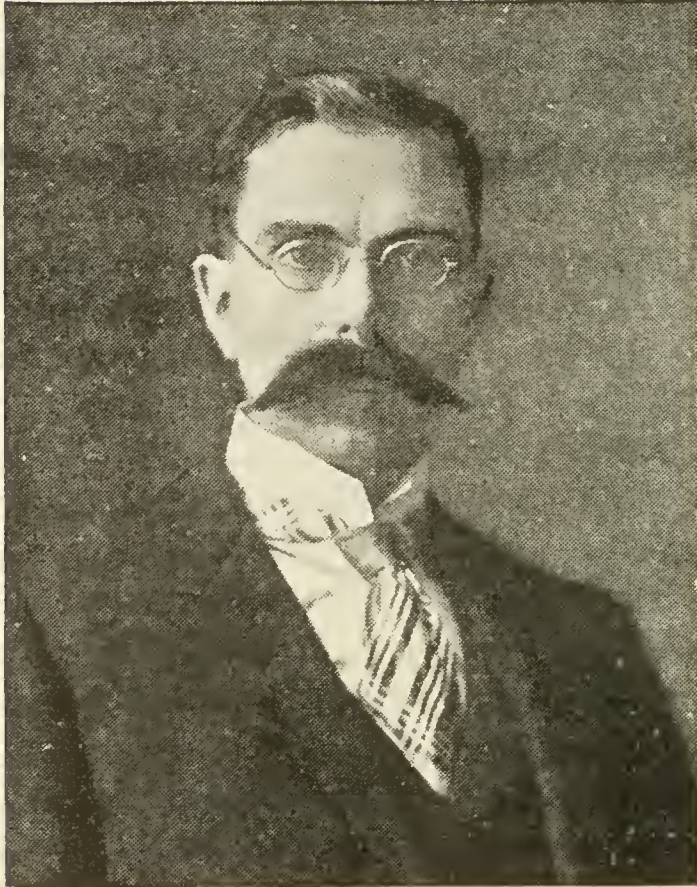
BASS LAKE.—Among the prominent lakes of Indiana, Bass Lake stands out as one of the famous summer resorts of the state. This beautiful lake ranks fourth in size among those found in Indiana; its water area comprising 2.23 square miles. It lies about six miles south of Knox, and covers parts of sections 7 and 18, (32 north, 1 west) North Bend township, and sections 12, 13, 14, 23 and 24, (32 north, 2 west) California township. The extreme length from north-east to south-west is just about three miles. The northern or longer lobe averages about three quarters of a mile in width, while the southern basin is a little over a mile wide. These two lobes are separated by long sandy bars which extend out from Cedar and Gull points. Over the bars the water in many places is less than two feet deep. A narrow channel of deep water intervenes between the ends of the sand spits.

The lake occupies a shallow basin on top of a ridge. The natural surface drainage being all away from its area. The fall from its water level to that of the water in the Tippecanoe river, five miles south-west, is fifteen feet. At present it has no natural out-



**Andrew J. Uncapher, an old and prominent resident,
and an extensive real estate owner.**

let or inlet. Two artificial ditches drain into it from the marsh land on the east. Its overflow formerly found its way through the marshes at the south west in a north-westerly direction to the Kankakee river. A portion of the old outlet is now a shallow water marsh, filled with spatterdock, rushes and cat-tail flags. It was formerly an arm or bay of the lake, but has been separated from the main body of water by a levee or fill constructed for a roadway along the north-west shore of the south basin. For a number of years there has been little or no overflow, and the waters of the lake seem to be slowly receding. It is fed almost wholly by subaqueous springs and by the waters of flowing wells, a number of which occur on the north and east shores of the northern lobe. These wells range from 20 to 80 feet in depth. They pass through from two to ten feet of sand, then through a hard pan clay into a stratum of gravel in which the water is found. More than half of the water area is less than seven feet in depth and fully one-third is less than five feet. Of 516 soundings made by the U. S. Fish Commissioner in the summer of 1900, 307 showed less than seven feet of water, while 200 showed less than five feet. The average depth found by the 516 soundings was 8.7 feet, while the maximum depth was 32 feet at a point one-third of the way across the lake, north of Cranberry Point.



James C Fletcher, County Clerk. Manager Starke
County Abstract Co., Democratic District
Chairman. and Prominent in
Political Circles.

The greater part of the shore line of Bass Lake is low and marshy. This is especially true of the west half of the south shore, almost the entire west shore, and the west third of the north shore. On Cranberry Point there is higher ground and a fine gravel, which is the resort of numerous picnic and fishing parties. On Cedar Point is located a large hotel. The north and east shores, about Winona P. O., furnish by far the better quarters for summer visitors.

At Lake Park Station are several large ice houses belonging to the Knickerbocker Ice Co., of Chicago. A switch connects these with the Chicago & Erie railway at Bass Lake Station, two miles south. Over this switch a regular train runs daily during the tourist season, and connects with steamers which land passengers at the end of long piers on various sides of the lake. A hack from Winona also connects with all trains at Bass Lake Station.

The bottom of the lake is, for the most part, sand or blue, sticky clay. In the bay east of Cranberry Point there are extensive muck beds. Muck also occurs in quantity beneath a strip 200 feet or more wide, along the west shore of the lake. These muck deposits contain a luxuriant growth of aquatic vegetation. In June the waters of the lake are said to contain vast quantities of a green sediment—probably unicellular plants. When these are present the fishing is poor.

The sandy and clay bottoms of the shallow water produce also their characteristic water plants, so that the lake flora is a very rich one, and worthy of extended study.

Many pleasure seekers from Chicago, Indianapolis and other large cities, spend a few weeks' vacation here during the hot summer months.

THE OTHER LAKES of the county, which are of little importance are: English Lake, Lake Rothermel and Hartz Lake, in the south-west corner of the county, one in section 35, one in section 36, and Black Lake (not always classed as a lake) in section 25.

DRAINAGE IN STARKE COUNTY.

Without drainage Starke County would represent a vast area of swamps, shallow ponds and marshes covered with grass and weeds of sufficient height to furnish a rendezvous for bear, wolves, foxes and monster reptiles. The higher portion of the county being denominated and known as ridges and islands, each having its unique and appropriate-name. such as, Dutch Island, Eagle Point, Coon Ridge, Jackson Island, Pigeon Roost, Grape Island, etc., the geography of which is well known to most of the older citizens still residing in the county.

Efforts had been made to reclaim this wilderness ever since 1352. but some of the owners and occupants

of the ridges, exercising a squatter sovereignty over the adjoining wild lands, made a comfortable existence out of wild game, fish and fruit and fought against an enterprise which sought the reclamation of the jungles which are now the most fertile tracts of the country.

Various methods were sought to reclaim, but the fight was so bitter that enterprise was frequently driven away, and the bitterest persecution followed upon its projectors. The Kankakee Valley Drainage Law was enacted, but, on account of its opposition, was abandoned and its projectors subjected to bitter persecution. The Hon. L. A. Cole was constructively put in jail for violating a restraining order. Judge Hanna, of Laporte, left his home and sought refuge from a howling mob. Bennet abandoned his law. S. L. Tripp left Laporte on account of ostracism awakened by championing drainage, and others who favored it were compelled to circumscribe their actions in behalf of improvement to suit the caprice of the remonstrators.

In this condition of affairs John M. Wolfram and others engaged Henry R. Robbins as attorney and petitioned for what was then called the Wolfram Ditch. This ditch was defeated and so strong was the opposition that it discouraged all but the attorney who rallied and refiled it as the Webb Ditch. This met with



Hon. Chas. C. Kelley, Ex-Joint Representative
Starke and Laporte Counties, and for-
merly a Prominent Knox Attorney.

the same fate as the Wolfram Ditch, but so determined was the fight that the chances seemed possible when Attorney Robbins laid out and platted the town of North Star, containing ten lots, each lot being given to two owners who favored ditching.

With this new strength; with S. L. Webb, Hattie L. Robbins and Nellie V. Robbins as petitioners; and George Burson as judge, the Robbins Ditch was established. This ditch was excavated by the Lowell Dredging Co., and caused the reclamation of about 20,000 acres of land, and became so popular that even the parties who formerly opposed it sought the same attorney to file another petition for an enlargement of the same which was called the Bliss Extension of the Robbins Ditch. This done drainage began proper, and parties heretofore persecuted were now highly praised, and people began to see the value of Starke County land.

The largest ditch constructed, and the one that has reclaimed the most land is the Place, or Kankakee River Ditch. The work of construction was begun in June, 1901, and finished in August, 1902. The ditch was established in the Starke Circuit Court in March, 1901. Hon. W. H. H. Coffin was appointed construction commissioner and Omer A. Garner, engineer.

Numerous ditches have been constructed in this county, the first one being the Robbins Ditch, mention

of which has been made. It cost almost \$14,000 and is counting arms, about thirty miles long. The Bliss extension to the Robbins Ditch cost about \$40,000. Since then the Craigmile Ditch, eighteen miles long and costing about \$12,000 has been dug. Also the Lucas or Bogus Run, costing about \$22,000; the Osborn Ditch, eight miles long costing \$9,000; the Fell Ditch is 6 miles long and \$6,500; the Bartee Ditch, six and one-half miles long and costing about \$7,000; the Eagle Creek Ditch, ten miles long, cost \$11,000 and the famous Place or Kankakee River Ditch. The Place Ditch with its arms is 24 miles long and cost about \$80,000, and will reclaim, perhaps, 150,000 acres of land—the best land in all Indiana. The Yellow River Ditch is eighteen miles long and will cost about \$22,000.

A brief summary will show that Starke County has about 130 miles of dredge ditches which will cost about \$225,000. What other county in Indiana has spent such a vast sum of money in the past ten years for drainage? Nor does this sum represent the entire cost of drainage in the county, for the ditches dug in other ways than by dredges are numerous and expensive.

All of the above named ditches were constructed with dredging machines at an average cost of six cents per cubic yard for excavation. The amount of

excavation by dredge has aggregated 2,500,000 cubic yards. This excavation has reclaimed and benefitted over 100 000 acres of land—land which a few years ago sold as low as from \$1.50 to \$5.09 per acre, and which is today—since the ditching—worth from \$40.00 to \$75.00 per acre. In regard to Starke County ditching, as with every other improvemen. parties who once fought the idea of drainage are now pointing with pride and admiration to the work WE HAVE DONE.

The County, which ten years ago was worth \$2,000,000, is now worth \$7,000,000, and is steadily increasing in value. No one man, nor for that matter, no one hundred men, could be given the credit, but it is the just recompense of great and noble public spirited men that has caused the blessing of drainage to fall upon Starke County.



Residence of Adrian L. Courtright, Knox.

VII.

THE KANKAKEE REGION.

The source of the Kankakee River is in St. Joseph County, this State, and from its source to where it crosses the state line, at the south-west corner of Lake County, is almost seventy-five miles. It is a slow, sluggish stream with a fall of from one to one and one-half feet to the mile in this State. It being very crooked and the land on either side being low and marshy, the water moves on very slowly, and these low lands forming what is familiarly known as the Kankakee marsh, are for quite a period of time each year covered with from one to three feet of water. About six sections of this marsh land in the south-east corner of Lake County are covered with timber, composed mostly of ash and elm with some sycamore and gum trees. The balance of these wet lands, running west to the State line, are open marsh covered with a luxuriant growth of wild grass, wild rice and flags. It is the home of the water fowl and musk-rat, and a paradise for hunters.

The number of acres of this wet land in the Kankakee valley, in the seven counties through which the Kankakee River flows in this state was, in 1894, about six hundred thousand. However, in the past few years this vast number has been greatly decreased by

extensive drainage. Prominent among the counties which are pushing this important enterprise is Starke County. The vast amount of good being accomplished by the drainage of the Kankakee region is set forth in another chapter.

It is only a question of time until these lands will all be drained, as the Kankakee valley has a main elevation of ninety feet above Lake Michigan and one hundred and sixty feet above the waters of the Wabash river and lying as they do at the very doors of Chicago, the greatest stock and grain market in the world, it would be strange if they long remain in their present condition. Some portions of these lands are high dry ground, like an island in the ocean, and as they are often surrounded by water they are called islands. These islands have all once been covered with a heavy growth of timber, but the farmers living on the prairies north of the marsh have stripped most of them of all that is desirable. Hauling timber from these islands and from the ash swamps further east, a few years ago was the farmers' winter harvest, and was called swamping. Some authorities hold that the lives of many of the early settlers were shortened by exposure and over work in some of our bitter cold winters on these marshes. Cheap lumber and barbed wire now almost entirely take the place of the swamp timber for fencing, etc., and but little swamping has

been done for a number of years. Many of the islands where the timber has been cut off are now excellent grazing lands and nearly all of the larger islands have one or more families living on them who keep stock, and some good farms are under cultivation.

Many old land marks go to show that these lands bordering on the Kankakee river were, before the white man came, the favorite stamping ground of the Indians. Many of the islands have their mounds and burying grounds, and on some of them are plats of ground which still hold the name of the Indian's gardens. Truly, the Kankakee region of today shows a marked advancement and improvement over that region of a score of years ago.

VIII.

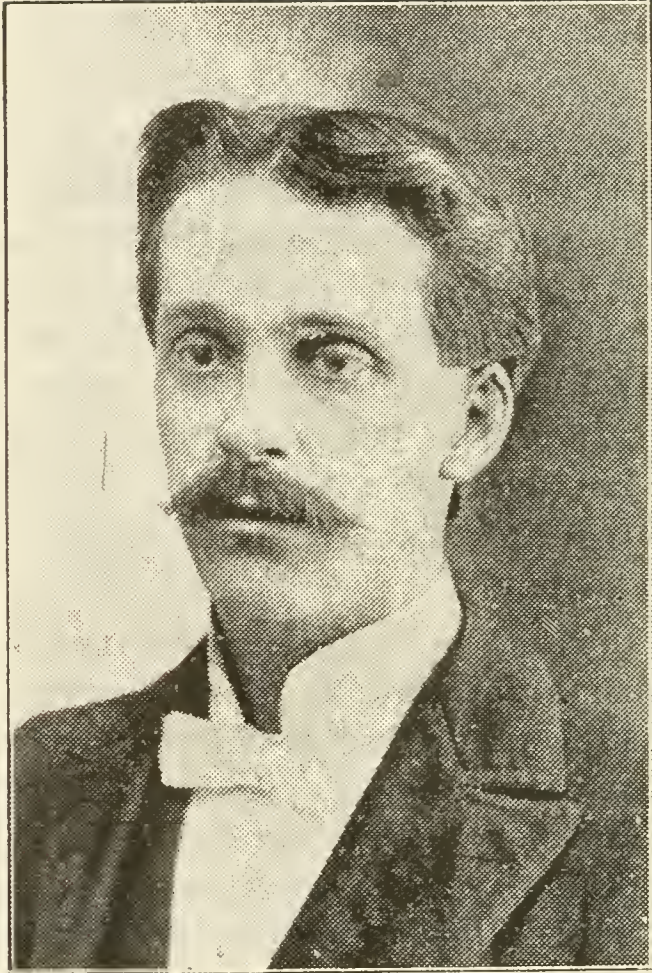
BIRD LIFE OF STARKE COUNTY.

Starke County has been accused of a paucity of bird life. Upon careful examination, this has been shown to be an erroneous accusation. In the richness of its bird life, Starke County equals, if not surpasses any of the other counties of the state. This is especially true of the aquatic birds. Only two of the numerous species of wild ducks, that have ever been found within the ninety-two counties of Indiana, are not found on the marshes of Starke County. Looking over the Indiana Geological report of 1897, in which

Mr. Amos W. Butler gives a catalogue of the birds of Indiana, we find almost every species of birds to have been recorded at some point of this county.

About February the 15th the first migratory movements of birds begin. Most species of wild ducks, the robin and the meadow lark, in sunny homes farther south, have an irresistible longing for the meadows and marshes of the Hoosier state. A little later that beautiful songster, the blue bird, arrives at this neighborhood. After these come the black birds, the orioles, the warblers, the fly catchers, the vireos and last, but not least, the swallows. Almost every species of the wild duck has been found to breed in this county.

When the lingerers of the ducks are still wandering over our marshes and the blue birds and robins have arrived come the snipes and plovers. Passing along a piece of wet ground you hear the sharp cry of the rising jack snipe, with its erratic zigzag flight it presents a difficult target to the sportsman. On the great hay marshes myriads of plover and sand pipers feed. These are most wonderful birds. When seen in our county they are in great flocks, so many in one flock that a haphazard shot often brings twenty or thirty to the ground. The king of birds, the robin, is always seen around the home, being the most sociable of all birds.



Prof. J. Walter Dunn, Superintendent Knox Public Schools and Prominent in Educational Circles.

In the woods are to be seen wood peckers, flycatchers, orioles wrens, sap suckers and song sparrows. On the edge of the woods appear the chewinks and the warblers. In the meadow the bobolink, the black birds, the meadow lark and the crow. A little later in the spring, than the robin and the blue bird, come the turtle doves, the thrushes, the nighthawks, the whip poor-wills, the humming birds and the tanagers. These not only add to the beauty of the landscape, but they destroy innumerable insects. Passing through the woods one is startled by a pheasant, or in reality a ruffed grouse. Its whirring wings and its brown body are seen by you through an opening in the trees.

At one time the marshes of our county were peopled by almost innumerable prairie chickens. The old settlers tell of going out and killing ten or twelve in an hour's time; but this species has been greatly decreased in recent years so that only a small number at present abound in the county. While rambling about in the marshes you hear a queer rumbling sound. Sometimes it sounds like distant thunder, othertimes like an old wood pump. Looking around, you see a queer stick on the marsh. Soon this turns to life and an American bittern flies awkwardly away. This bird is locally known as the thunder pumper. The purple martin is one of the most interesting and beautiful of our songsters.

From observation and authorities, it is found that there are about fifty species of birds found here in the winter time. The wood peckers, a few varieties of the Finch family, the snow birds, the nuthatches, the crows and the blue jays are some of the more common ones.

IX.

TWO LIVING CURIOSITIES.

ELI GREEN.—Doubtless there is not a single person in the county who has not at least heard of Indiana's greatest living curiosity. The name, Eli Green, the ossified man of North Judson, has been heard not only in county and state, but throughout the United States and other countries, and while most of the readers of this little volume are familiar with this strange personage yet there are many interesting facts connected with his life that are not generally known, and for that reason the following complete history of his life is given.

Eli Green was born near Foreston, Ogle County, Illinois, June 22, 1862, of humble parentage. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm and his early education was obtained in the Foreston public schools. Young Green worked on the farm until he was 25 years of age, after which he was a carpenter until disability. From Foreston, Green moved to Ora, Ind.,

from there to Akron, Ind., thence to Monterey, Ind., then to Harper Ill., and from here to North Judson, Ind., at which place he was living at the time of affliction, but was working at Streator, Ill. Here Green was building a platform for the Streator bottle works and on account of great need of same by the company he worked in a heavy cold rain.

Three days later the first change in his condition was noticed. the same being a binding and pressing sensation. He took several hot baths and during one of these was first noticed the hardening of the flesh of the arms and hands. The same continued to harden and spread over the entire body and limbs from collar bone to feet. Mr. Green possesses no sense of feeling at all. He says one can jab a knife or needle through his hands or feet without any pain whatever. His joints are so stiff that it is with great difficulty that he walks or uses his arms. He has practically no use of his fingers. The x-rays show his bones to have shrunk or diminished to one-half their normal size.

He has tried various treatments of the leading doctors of the land; has attended Medical Society gatherings of the most noted doctors of the country, and has taken various treatments prescribed by them. He has been placed in an over, with the exception of the head, and baked with the temperature as high as



Henry R. Robbins. a Prominent Knox Attorney, and
Promoter of the Great Industry of Drainage
in Starke County.

360 degrees. No relief or benefit whatever was derived from any source of treatment.

He recently started into business, selling candy, peanuts and cigars, from which source he supports his family at the present time.

He has attended a few fairs and has had several tempting propositions from large museums in Chicago and elsewhere, but declines on account of being so closely confined, and again he does not like to appear on exhibition.

He is of a clever and jolly temperament and never tires of telling and showing his friends and visitors of his peculiar affliction.

With the exception of Green, but one case of the kind has ever been recorded. This was in Australia, and the man died a couple of years ago.

Green was married June 2, 1887, to Ella M. Warren, of Ora, Indiana, and has six children: Irving W., Tracy G., Charles C., Harold C., Loyd R. and Grant W., ranging in years from one to thirteen in the order named.

Thus far Green has not been internally troubled, and, while he does not anticipate any cure, he still looks on the bright side of life.

CHE MAH —Starke County has the smallest man in the world. His name is Che-Mah, and by nationality he is a Chinese. His home is at Knox.

“Are you actually the smallest man in the world?” was asked of him by the writer.

“I am,” he replied, “and with no exception. Of course,” he continued, “there are children smaller than I, but I am the smallest man in the world.”

Che-Mah is only 28 inches high. His weight is 40 pounds. He was born in China in April, 1838, making him at the present time 64 years old. He came to the United States in 1881, or at the age of 43 years.

He has traveled with shows the greater part of his life. He is the most polite and intelligent manikin ever on exhibition, being with the largest shows in the country and having appeared before all the crowned heads in Europe. He has appeared and performed in all the big museums and circuses in Europe.

Mr. Mah is in great demand by the world's biggest circuses, and he may again join Barnum & Bailey when they return to this country from their present tour in Europe.

Che-Mah is one of the most highly respected citizens of Knox, and owns considerable property in this county.

The more notable human mites of the world living today are named below:

Name.	Inches High.	Date of Birth.	Place of Birth.
Tom Thumb, (Chas S. Stratton.)	31.	1837.	New York.
Mrs. T. Thumb,	32.	1842.	New York.
Che-Mah,	28.	1838.	China.

From the above table it is seen that Che-Mah is by far the smallest man in the world.

“How does it feel to be the smallest man in the world?” was asked of him.

“Well,” he replied, “I don't know as it feels any different from being any other kind of a man. It's not the size of the man that counts, but it is his brains or what he knows,” he said, pointing to his forehead.

With an ossified man, and a man 28 inches high, Starke County has two world's wonders.

X.

RELIGIOUS HISTORY.

The following account will show the different religious denominations in the County, their locations and in some instances, the number of membership.

In preparing this brief summary of the religious history of Starke County, it is as Mr. Ball says on the same subject in his review of Northwestern Indiana:

“Some of the denominations have succeeded much better than others, in maintaining church life and in securing a fair amount of growth. The real good accomplished cannot be estimated by any standards or measurements known in this world. Some churches die and some live. As it is with men, so it is with organizations, who can tell what is really failure and what is success? In the realm of the moral and

spiritual, neither wealth nor numbers can be the sure criterion by which to determine what God at last will call success. From the words 'well done, when written by the great Judge, there will be no appeal.'

1.—THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL. In Starke County, the first Methodist minister was Elder Munson. The first Methodist church was built at Knox in 1856. Besides the church and congregation at Knox, there are Methodist Episcopal churches in North Judson, San Pierre and Hamlet, making four now in the County. Regular Sunday Schools are held in connection with the church in each of these towns, also the young people's Epworth League societies.

2.—THE BAPTISTS. In Starke County the first Baptist church was organized December 3, 1899, with fifty-eight members, through the efforts of J. W. Keller, a licentiate. This is known as the Nickel Plate Baptist Church, and is the only class of that denomination in the county.

3.—THE LUTHERANS. There are four different churches of this denomination in the county. One at North Judson, with 405 members; one at San Pierre with about 200 members; one at Winona, with 185 members, and one at Hamlet, just organized.

4.—THE "CHRISTIANS." There is but one church of this denomination in the county. This is at Knox.



Starke County's Present Magnificent Court House,
Erected in 1898, at a Cost of \$130,000.

A successful Sunday School is carried on, as is also a young people's Christian Endeavor society.

5.—ROMAN CATHOLICS. In Starke County there are three churches of this denomination; one at North Judson, one at San Pierre and one at Hamlet.

6.—FREE METHODISTS. There are two churches of this denomination in the county, one at Knox and one at Toto. each of which have successful Sunday Schools. The church at Knox was erected in the spring of 1880, and was dedicated in that year by Rev. Philip C. Hanna, who is now United States Minister to Mexico. Rev. John D. Kelsey was the first regular pastor.

7.—UNITED BRETHERN. We have three different societies of this denomination, one at North Judson, one at Round Lake and one at Grovertown, the latter having a beautiful brick church building. A very successful young people's society, called the Young People's Christian Union, is carried on by each of these churches.

8.—WESLYAN METHODISTS. The only church of this denomination is at Hamlet, where there is a satisfactory membership.

9.—LATTER DAY SAINTS. This denomination has a church at Knox, the only one in the county. The church has a somewhat peculiar and interesting history, with which comparatively few people are familiar,

Owing to this fact, and by several requests, the following summary is given, which shows what this denomination advocates, believing it will be of interest to many readers:

We believe in God, the Eternal Father and in His Son Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.

We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.

We believe that through the atonement of Christ, all men may be saved by the obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.

We believe that these ordinances are: First, Faith in God and the Lord Jesus Christ; Second, Repentance; Third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; Fourth, laying on of the hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost; Fifth, We believe in the resurrection of the body, that the dead in Christ will rise first, and the rest of the dead will not live again until the thousand years are expired; Sixth, We believe in the doctrine of Eternal Judgment, which provides that men shall be judged, rewarded, or punished according to the degree of good, or evil, they shall have done.

We believe that a man must be Called of God, and ordained by the laying on of Hands of those who are in authority, to entitle him to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.

We believe in the same kind of organization that existed in the primitive church, viz: Apostles, Prophets, Pastors, Teachers, Evangelists, etc.

We believe that in the Bible is contained the word of God, so far as it is translated correctly. We believe that the canon of scripture is not full, but that

God, by His Spirit, will continue to reveal His word to man until the end of time.

We believe in the powers and gifts of the Everlasting Gospel, viz: The gift of faith, discerning of spirits, prophecy, revelation, healing, visions, tongues and the interpretation of tongues, wisdom, charity, brotherly love, etc.

We believe that Marriage is ordained of God; and that the law of God provides but one companion in wedlock, for either man or woman, except in cases where the contract of Marriage is broken by death or transgression.

We believe that the doctrines of a plurality and a community of wives are heresies, and are opposed to the laws of God.

We believe that the religion of Jesus Christ, as taught in the New Testament Scriptures, will, if its precepts are accepted and obeyed, make men and women better in the domestic circle, and better citizens of town, county and state, and consequently better fitted for the change which cometh at death.

We believe that man should worship God in "Spirit and in truth," and that such worship does not require a violation of the constitutional law of the land.

XI.

THE COUNTY'S OLDEST MAN.

It is with great interest that we view the faces and read the biographies of men and women who have lived ninety or more years. Isaac Drake, who lives near Bass Lake, is credited with being the oldest man in the County. Mr Drake was born in Dearborn

County, now Ohio County, near Rising Sun, in 1809, making him at this time past 93 years of age, with every promise reasonably hoped for of his living several years more, for his habits are of the very best, and so active and ambitious is he that it is nothing uncommon for him to mount a horse and ride five or ten miles or walk two miles to a post office to get his mail. He is a great reader and reads without glasses. He chops nearly all of his own wood, not from force of need, but force of habit, as he has a step-son who is very mindful of this old gentleman and sees that his wants are well supplied,

Mr. Drake joined church when 43 years old and has been a faithful member ever since, believing that "The love of God is broader than thh measure of man's mind, and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind, if our love were but more simple. We should take Him at His word, and our lives would be all sunshine in the sweetness of the Lord."

Mr. Drake's first vote for president of the United States was for Andrew Jackson, but he has been an ardent republican ever since the party was organized, never missing an election. He has a distinct recollection of his boyhood days, and is a pleasant and intelligent conversationist. He helped build the first railroad in Indiana.

XII.

FIRST WHITE WOMAN IN THE COUNTY.

Mrs. Rachael A. Lambert, who died only in August, 1901, is credited by some authorities as being the first white woman to settle in Stark County. She was, nevertheless, one of the first pioneers in the County, and was the very first white woman to take up her residence in the town of Knox. She came to this County in 1850 and took up her abode in Knox.

The County was almost in a primeval state at that time, there being many more Indians than white people living here. The family settled on the place where Mrs. Lambert died, and during the half century and more that has rolled away since her coming, she continued to reside at the old homestead.

She was born in Dark County, Ohio, in 1821, being almost eighty years old at the time of her death. Until recently her memory was strong, and she made hundreds of affidavits concerning early residents here in the adjustment of titles to real estate. Because she was the first white woman to take up her residence here, Mr. Shields, who laid out the town, gave her a deed to seven acres of land within the confines of the town. Since the death of her husband in 1866, she lived alone with her adopted son, Thomas Lambert, whom she adopted in 1873, at Peru, Indiana.

Her maiden name was Rachael Ann Murphy. Her first husband was Jacob Tillman, and to them two children were born, only one of whom survives. Her second husband was Adam Lambert, who died in 1866.

Mrs. Lambert's home, which stands north of the present court house, was used for county purposes for a number of years. Here was held the first term of the Starke Circuit Court.

XIII.

IN MEMORIAM.

“Behold, we know not anything;
We can but trust that good shall fall
At last—far off— at last, to all,
And every winter change to spring.”

On the following few pages are given sketches of a few principal characters who have been prominent in the affairs of the County, and whom death has claimed as her own. To make mention of all the characters who have played important parts in our history, would here be impossible, and mention is made only of those who have just recently died and whose memory is yet fresh upon most of our minds.

DR. ALEXANDER H. HENDERSON.—One of the conspicuous characters in the death annals of Starke County is the name of Alexander Hamilton Henderson. He was born near Lafayette, February 21, 1841,

being sixty-one years and two months old at the time of his death. He worked on his father's farm until fifteen years of age, after which he attended school for a time and became a teacher.

In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, 72nd Indiana Volunteers. At the close of the war he again, taught school, studying medicine at the same time. He began the practice of medicine in 1868, at Monee, Illinois. In 1871, he came to Knox and remained here until his death. In 1873 he was elected county superintendent of schools. While holding that office he was elected county auditor, being the only republican ever elected to that office in Starke County. In 1882 he was elected joint representative for Starke and St. Joseph Counties. He was several times chairman of the republican central committee of this county, was post master here from 1889 to 1898, member of the pension examining board for years, and a member of the G. A. R., Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias. In business he was considered upright and honorable, and he had a large circle of friends over the county and state.

Dr. Henderson died suddenly April 21, 1901, from congestion involving the entire system. The Indianapolis Sentinel spoke of Dr. Henderson's absence from the republican state convention being greatly noted, and stated that a chair in the convention hall was draped in flags and crepe in his memory.



Chas. J. Dantelson, one of the County's most honored citizens, who has done much for the improvement of his county.

SAMUEL R. CHILDS.—This very old gentleman, whose face was familiar to almost every body in the county, died August 30, 1901. He was more than 77 years of age, having been born in New Jersey, in March, 1824.

Mr. Childs had been a resident of this county for many years, living near Grovertown for several years, when he moved to Knox. Until the last two years of his life he was actively engaged in the real estate business, in which he was quite successful. In his younger days he was an extensive traveler and trader. For some time he was in business in Chicago. In politics he was an uncompromising democrat and was never slow to make the fact known.

GEORGE S. SAVERY.—This influential citizen, who was one of the first residents of Knox and Starke County, and prominent in political affairs, passed from this life November 27, 1901.

George S. Savery was born at Rollinsville, Lancaster County, Pa., December 17, 1832. He moved to this county in 1869, after residing for two years in Marshall County, and lived for a time on Bogus Creek, this side of North Judson. In 1874 he was elected sheriff of this county on the democratic ticket, and was reelected in 1876.

“George Savery, like every other son of Adam, had his virtues and his faults. The commendable thing

for erring mortals to do is to remember and emulate his virtues, and in the presence of the great leveler, throw a mantle of charity over whatever faults he may have had, for we are all in need of sincere charitable consideration."

ALBERT IRVING GOULD.—Albert I. Gould was born in Saratoga County, New York, March 26, 1833. When a child he was taken by his family to Ohio. At the age of eighteen he entered the law office of Lawrence S. West, at Belfontaine, Ohio, and at the age of twenty was admitted to the bar by Chief Justice Corwin. Previous to this he taught school. He began the practice of law at Marysville, Ohio, but shortly removed to Iowa, where he conducted a newspaper for two years. In 1858 Judge Gould located at Winamac, Indiana, where he practiced law ten years, and was for nine succeeding years manager of the auditor's office at Covington. He then removed to Indianapolis, where he practiced law until February, 1882, when he came to Knox and opened a law office. For several years he was associated with George A. Murphy, now of Beatrice, Nebraska, in the practice of law in Knox. Later Charles H. Peters was associated with him, the firm dissolving two years ago, when Judge Gould retired. He was for many years attorney for the county and for the town of Knox.

In May, 1861, he was united in marriage to Martha

M. Tibbetts, and to them two daughters were born, one of whom survives. His second wife was Elizabeth Wierbaugh.

Judge Gould died May 1, 1901, and according to his wishes the body was cremated at Ft. Wayne.

Albert I. Gould was one of the best known men in Northern Indiana, and enjoyed the respect and confidence of his large circle of acquaintances. He was a partisan in politics, being an ardent republican, and his work for the party was keen and effective. At the time of his death he weighed about 300 pounds, but he had weighed as much as 435 pounds.

JEREMIAH GOOD.—Jeremiah Good was born in Starke County, May 2, 1855, and died May 20, 1902, being a few days past 47 years of age. Mr. Good lived in Starke County all his life, and being connected with it in its pioneer life took an active part in building up the county and making it what it is. He had a multitude of friends who honored and trusted him. For eight years he was the honored clerk of the county. He received a good education in the Knox schools and at the Valparaiso Normal. For the past twenty years he had been engaged in teaching school. In 1877 he was married to Miss Martha Coonfare. Mr. Good was brought up in the German Reform Church, but for the past sixteen years had been a member of the M. E. Church. During his sickness he frequently said he



Jacob Keller, a Prominent North Judson Real
Estate Man, Who Has Done Much to
Promote His County and State.

was reconciled to the will of God. He said he would like to stay with his companion and children, but if it was God's will for him to go he was ready.

“His life was gentle and the elements so mixed in him
That Nature might stand up to all the world
And say, ‘This was a man!’”

J. DON GORRELL.—It is with a feeling of sadness and regret that we chronicle the death of J. Don Gorrell, the late editor of the North Judson News, which occurred August 27, 1902. Mr. Gorrell had suffered for nearly two weeks prior to his death with cranial neuralgia and a complication of other diseases, which the heroic treatment of eminent physicians and trained nurses could not abate. For several days physicians had announced his condition hopeless, but his numerous friends throughout the county silently prayed that he might rally and recover. The deceased who was 31 years old at the time of his death, is survived by his wife and three children, ranging in age from three to six years. His death at such an early age is extremely sad, following so closely the death of his aged father, the late James Gorrell, who passed away just a week before.

J. Don Gorrell came to Knox from Ossian, Wells County, in June, 1892, where he published the Knox Democrat for nearly a year. He purchased the North Judson News in 1894, which he had since published,

making it one of the brightest and best weekly papers in this part of the state. He was a prominent member of the Masonic and Woodmen orders, and carried \$2,000 life insurance in the last mentioned. He was sincerely loved by all who knew him, and his death is a source of regret to his town, his county and his state.

XIV

COUNTY CENSUS FIGURES.

The following table shows the population of the townships and corporations of Starke County in 1900 and in 1890:

Township or Corporation.	1900.	1890.
California Township,	949	521
Center Township,	2264	1480
Davis Township,	793	430
Jackson Township,	340	225
North Bend Township,	1217	884
Oregon Township,	1035	773
Railroad Township,	1045	875
Washington Township,	1092	846
Wayne Township,	1696	1305
Total in County	10331	7339
Total Gain in County, . . . . .	. . . . .	3092
Gain per cent in County, . . . . .	. . . . .	42.1

There are but six counties in the state that have made a greater gain in the past ten years than Starke. They are Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Lake, Madison,



Che-Mah, the Smallest Man in the World.
[see page 59]

and Marion. Starke county has made the gain of 42.1 per cent in the past ten years while the surrounding counties have made the following gains: Laporte, 11.4 per cent; St. Joseph, 38.7 per cent; Marshall, 5.5 per cent; Fulton, 4.2 per cent; Pulaski, 24.9 per cent; Jasper, 27.8 per cent; Porter, 6.2 per cent.

The first census of Starke County was taken in 1840, when the population was 149. In 1850 the population was 557; in 1860, 2,195; in 1870, 3,888; and in 1880, 5,105. It will be seen that the population of the county has made rapid increase each decade. The official population figures of the three principal towns are shown below:

Town.	1900.	1890.
Knox,	1466	790.
North Judson,	944	572.
Hamlet,	432	. . . . .

The gain per cent in Knox was in the past ten years, 85 5. In North Judson, 65 per cent. Hamlet was not incorporated before 1890, so the gain per cent cannot be ascertained.

The county seats of contiguous counties shows the following gain per cent, which will be of interest in comparing the increase of our own towns:

Laporte City, 0; South Bend, 65; Plymouth, 34; Rochester, 34; Winamac, 38.5; Rensselaer, 55; and Valparaiso, 23 per cent. By comparison it is seen

that Knox is far ahead of the list, which speaks well of Starke County in general; also there is only one equal to North Judson.

Coming down to the county itself, the gain per cent in each township is: California, 82; Center 53; Davis, 84; Jackson 51, North Bend, 37.6; Oregon, 34; Railroad, 20; Washington, 29; and Wayne, 30 per cent.

It will be seen that the greatest gain was made in Davis Township, with 84 per cent, followed close by California with 82 per cent, the rest of the townships ranging in the following order: Center, 53; Jackson, 51; North Bend, 47.6; Oregon, 34; Wayne, 30; Washington, 29; and Railroad, 20 per cent.

XV.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

It has been truly said that, "The public schools are the hope of our country." If asked what is the greatest accomplishment one could possess, the answer would doubtless be, without hesitation, education. The "little red school house" has accomplished wonders. The vast amount of good it has done is self evident. As time passes, these "little red school houses" are being supplied with large and elegant brick structures. The people of Starke County are unquestionably in the educational spirit and love to work for its advancement.

Closely associated with educational work of Starke County is the name of the late William B. Sinclair, a name with which we are all familiar and proud. It was through his untiring efforts that the schools of Starke County came to the front.

The grand work of education is at present being carried on by our able superintendent, George E. Butcher. Through his zealous efforts our standard has been raised until today our schools are among the best in the state.

At Knox, North Judson, and at Hamlet there are elegant brick school buildings. The success that has met with the Knox schools has already been mentioned. To Superintendent J. Walter Dunn belongs most of the honor of bringing about the present standing of the Knox schools. The schools of North Judson are also among the prominent institutions of the county. Hamlet and San Pierre have good schools. In fact, the schools all over the county are to be highly praised.



Prof. George E. Butcher.

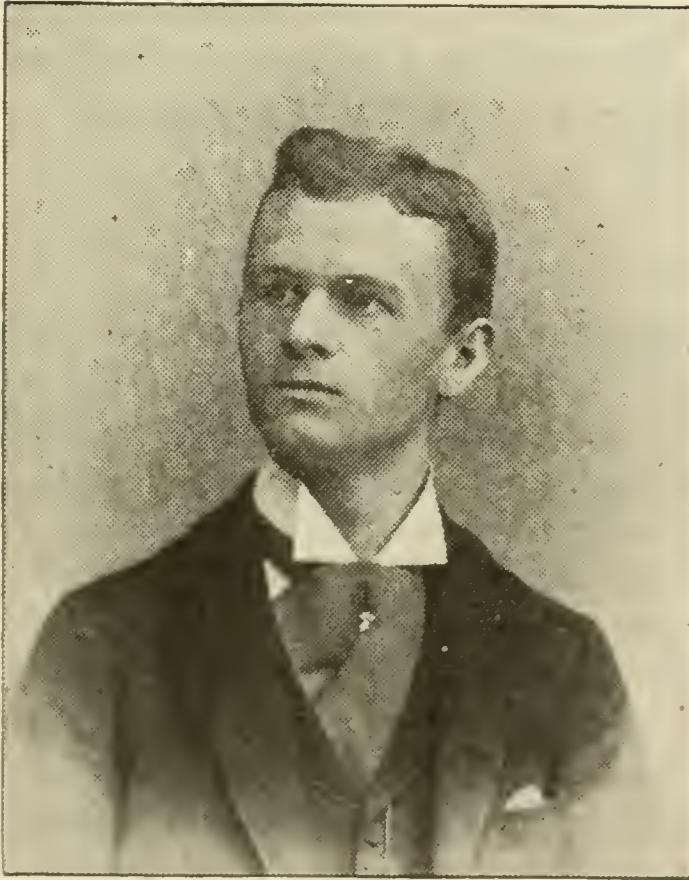
The school enumeration of Starke County for the

year 1902, as shown by the county superintendent's report, is as follows:

Township.	Male.	Female.	Total.
North Bend.....	237	213	450
Washington.....	197	186	383
Oregon.....	184	160	344
California.....	190	140	330
Center.....	134	110	224
Wayne.....	139	130	269
Railroad.....	192	100	358
Davis.....	76	61	137
Jackson.....	72	71	143
Knox Corporation.....	209	221	430
North Judson Corporation.....	172	182	354
Hamlet in Oregon.....	32	18	50
Hamlet in Davis.....	43	49	92
Total.....	1877	1707	3584

All the pupils in the county are white except one one colored female in Knox corporation.

In 1901 the tables were 1872 males and 1696 females. showing a net gain of only 16 since last year. The gains and losses in the thirteen school towns were as follows:—North Bend lost 9 males and 8 females; Washington lost 11 males and gained 9 females; Oregon lost 1 male and 14 females; California gained 11 males and lost 2 females; Center lost 14 males and 2 females; Wayne lost 9 males and gained



Omer A. Garner, Prominent in Drainage Matters and
Engineer of the Place or Kankakee River Ditch.

1 female; Railroad gained 19 males and 17 females; Davis lost 6 males and 7 females; Jackson gained 13 males and 8 females; Knox gained 3 males and lost 19 females; North Judson gained 4 males and 21 females; Hamlet in Oregon lost 1 male and 4 females; Hamlet in Davis, gained 6 males and 11 females.

XVI.

OUR INDUSTRIES.

The industries of Starke County, while varied, would, for the most part, come under the one head of agriculture. Correctly speaking, Starke County is an agricultural region, particularly so during the last few years as the result of many hundred acres of land in the Kankakee valley region being reclaimed by drainage. The chief products raised include the various grains, potatoes, melons, fruits and vegetables, among which some of the more important are: Corn, wheat, rye, oats, millet, cucumbers, onions and most all the smaller fruits and vegetables. Car loads of melons are shipped each season to several of the larger cities. The soil is exceptionally fine for the raising of sugar beets.

Buying and selling grain and stock is another industry of prominence.

Prominent among the industries of the county is that of drainage. The vast amount of good and the

speedy results brought about by this great industry are self-evident to all. A further, lengthy and interesting account on this subject has already been given on another page under the head of "drainage in Starke County."

While Starke County is not a manufacturing district there are, however, several factories employing a number of men. The county has five pickle factories, each doing a large business and causing pickle raising to be quite extensively carried on. At Knox there are two factories, at North Judson two, and at Grovertown, one

There is a handle factory in Knox, owned by F. A. Hoffman, which manufactures almost any kind of handles.

The county has six grain elevators—at Knox two, at Hamlet two, at San Pierre one, and at North Judson one.

There are three flouring mills, located at Knox, North Judson and Koontz Lake near Grovertown.

At North Judson there is a peculiar industry, known as the "frog and turtle industry," owned by A. A. Sphung. A wholesale business is carried on and shipments are made to all parts of the United States.

In Knox are two cigar factories, one owned by Bill Solliday the other by Harry S. Loring. There is

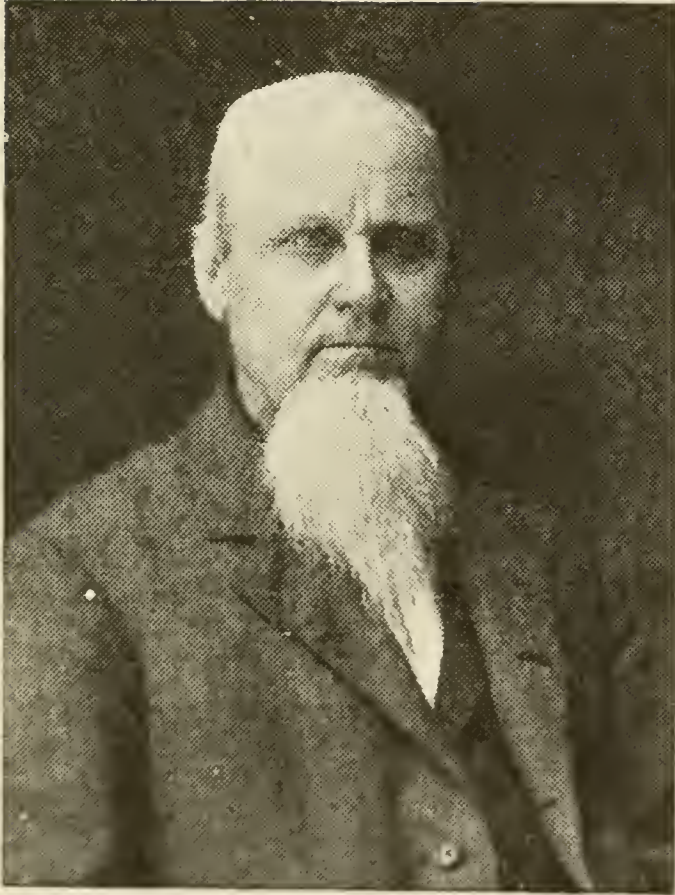
also a cigar factory at North Judson, owned by George Smith.

One of the largest and finest ranches in Northern Indiana is the one known as the Jamison Ranch, situated but a short distance from Hamlet. There is a large number of buildings, including a big steel and concrete fire proof barn, and a number of other substantial structures. In fact, the ranch presents the appearance of a small town in itself. C. A. Jamison, of Peoria, Illinois, is the proprietor of this enterprise. Here can be found some of the finest bred stock in the United States. Cattle from this ranch are continually capturing first and second prizes at live stock exhibitions all over the country.

The manufacture of artificial stone in Starke County has proven a great success. What is known as the Keller industry, owned by Jacob Keller, of North Judson, has for its purpose the manufacture of a product made of gravel and cement, pressed and shaped so that it can scarcely be told from ordinary stone. The demand for the material is very large. Mr. Keller also has a factory at East Chicago, where the same product is manufactured.

There is one brewery in the county, located at North Judson. Its product is shipped to surrounding towns and to various points throughout the country.

The only industry of its kind in existence is the



Wm. H. H. Coffin, an Old Resident and Former County
Officer. Prominent in Drainage Matters and Con-
struction Commissioner of the Famous
Kankakee River Ditch.

manufacture of a folding railroad velocipede, patented by Marion F. McCormick, of Knox, and manufactured by the McCormick Folding Velocipede Company, M. F. McCormick and F. E. Dumas, proprietors. The company has a modest factory in Knox, where the attachments are made. From here they are sent out to all parts of the country. The invention comprises an attachment by which an ordinary bicycle may be ridden on the railroad tracks, at any desirable speed, over frogs, switches and crossings. One of the principal features of the invention is that when off the track the attachment may be folded and carried conveniently along the wagon road. In the near future the company expects to build a larger factory and manufacture other articles.

About a mile and a half south of Knox is the large fruit and berry farm of Hugh Rogers, known as the "Tiger Lily Fruit Farm. From here comes most of the shrubbery and trees used in Knox and surrounding towns.

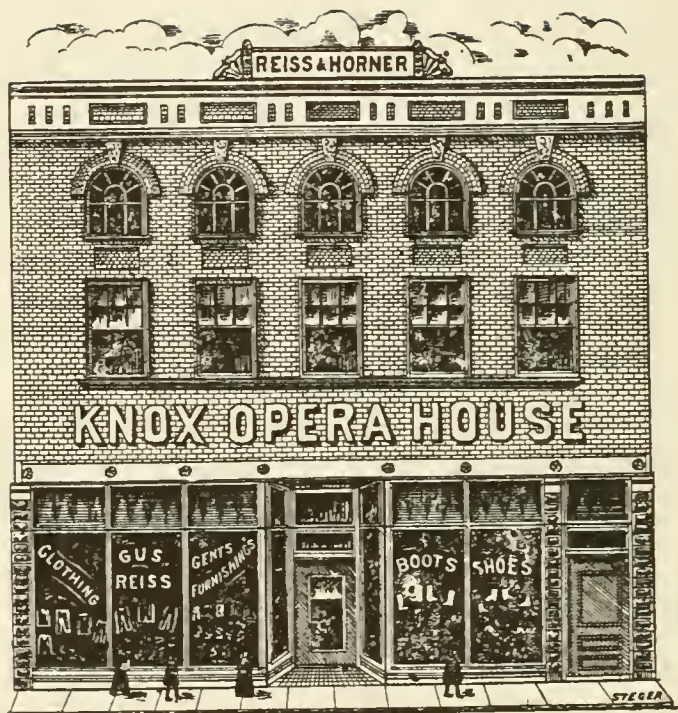
At Hamlet there is a foundry and machine works, owned by L. D. Parmley, where all kinds of general repairing is done, also blacksmith and foundry work. It is expected in the near future to manufacture a patent wind stacker and threshing machine, which were invented by Mr. Parmley.

XVII.

SOCIETIES.

“It is probable that quite early in the history of the world men learned the benefit of uniting, for better self protection and for improving their condition, in organizations or compacts which bore various names and had various purposes. Whether from the first age of civilization, before the time of what is known as Noah's flood, living through that period of destruction, any traces of man's earliest organizations have come down to us is not easily proved, nor yet can it be entirely disproved. In well chosen words Professor John Russell, in 1852, before a large and highly intellectual audience declared: ‘Long before the period of written history, there existed an order of men, known only to the initiated. It is the oldest human society in existence. The dim twilight of the early ages rested upon its broad arch, yet through every period of its existence has it been the agent of onward progress.’ While some may question these statements, it is true that some forms of organization, some societies, are sufficiently old, while others are distinctly modern, very, very new.

“The pioneers in these beautiful wilds retained their recollections of the old homes and of the associations and of the ties which had been pleasant to them



The New Opera House at Knox, One of the Best
Opera Houses in Northern Indiana.

there; and so, along with civil society and the new formed ties of social life, along with schools, churches and Sunday schools, they soon began to organize literary societies, and to form lodges, to organize library associations, agricultural societies, temperance societies, and in late years, study clubs and reading circles, and the new orders of the present day came into existence in all our larger towns." A full account of these would here be unnecessary, and only brief mention is made of all the societies and organizations reflecting credit upon the community.

In North Judson there is an Odd Fellows, a Modern Woodmen, a Knights of Pythias and a Masonic lodge. There are ladies' fraternities of some of the same orders known as the Ladies of Maccabees, Lady Rebeccas, and a ladies order of the Odd Fellows. The G. A. R. has a post here. There are two young people's societies, the Epworth League and the Young People's Christian Union.

In Knox are the following prominent societies and clubs: Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, Maccabees, Odd Fellows, Masons, Royal Neighbors of America, Lady Rebeccas, Lady Maccabees and a G. A. R. post. Some of the prominent women's clubs are: The P. E. O. Society, Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. Church, Ladies' Aid Society of the Christian Church, Ladies' and Pastors' Union

of the M. E. Church, Book Club, Whist Club, and Literary Clubs. The Christian Endeavor and the Epworth League are the two young people's religious societies. The Knox High School has two literary societies of surpassing merit. The High School and Instructors have been highly praised for conducting so successful literary societies. Interesting programs are rendered every two weeks. An annual debate between the two clubs is an interesting attraction. These organizations which reflect much credit upon the school and community in general are known as the Lew Wallace Club and the Star Literary Society.

Hamlet has five secret orders: The Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of Maccabees, Knights of Columbia, Ladies of Maccabees, and Ladies of Columbia. There are also women's clubs and young people's societies.

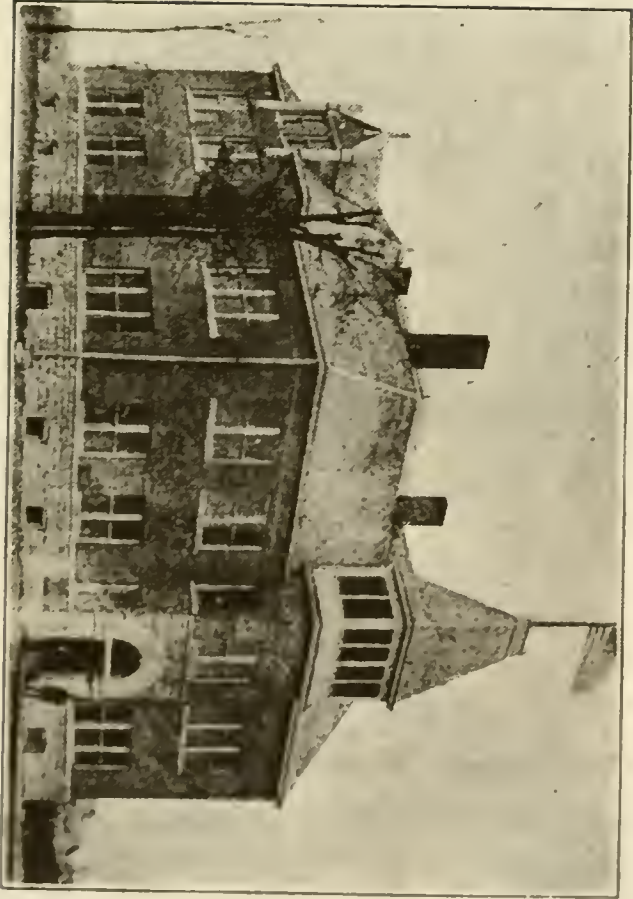
At Grovertown there is an organization of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Gleaners.

At San Pierre there is a G. A. R. post and an order of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Toto has an organization of the gleaners.

Ober has the Modern Woodmen and Gleaners.

Various other societies and clubs exist in the county, where names were not obtained.



Knox School Building.

XVIII.

A RECORD OF COUNTY OFFICIALS.

COUNTY CLERKS.

The first County Clerk was appointed in 1850.

Stephen Jackson.	Mathias T. Hepner.
Jacob Bozarth.	Mathias T. Hepner.
Chas. Humphreys.	Mathias T. Hepner.
John S. Bender.	Jeremiah Good.
Oliver H. P. Howard.	Jeremiah Good.
Andrew W. Porter.	James C. Fletcher.
Andrew W. Porter.	James C. Fletcher.
Wiloughby M. McCormick.	Henry E. White.
Wiloughby M. McCormick.	Henry E. White.

COUNTY AUDITORS.

The first County Auditor was appointed in 1850.

Jacob G. Black.	William Perry.
Chas. S. Tibbits.	William Perry.
Chas. Humphreys.	Robert H. Bender.
John S. Bender.	Robert H. Bender.
James H. Adair.	Aug. H. Knosman
James H. Adair,	Aug. H. Knosman
Robt. H. Bender	John. W. Kurtz
Robt. H. Bender.	
Alexander H. Henderson	.. .. .

COUNTY TREASURER.

First County Treasurer Elected in 1853.

Jacob Tillman.	} app'd.	Austin P. Dial.
Adam Lambert		Joseph K. Hartzler.
Wiloughby McCormick		Franklin P. Whitson.
Solon O. Whitson.		Franklin P. Whitson
Solon O. Whitson.		Andrew O. Castleman.
Wingate Prettyman.		Andrew O. Castleman.
Wingate Prettyman.		Oratio D. Fuller.
John Good.		Oratio D. Fuller.
John Good.		George Lightcap.
Matmas T. Hepner.		George Lightcap.
Mathias T. Hepner.		Wilbert A. Pierson.
William H. H. Coffin.		Wilbert A. Pierson.
William H. H. Coffin.		
Austin P. Dial.		.....

COUNTY RECORDERS.

First County Recorder Appointed in 1850.

Jacob Bozarth.	Jacob Bozarth
William M. Calkins	Jacob Bozarth
Wiloughby McCormick	Henry Seegrist
Sylvester A. McCrackin	Henry Seegrist
Austin P. Dial	Jacob P. Quigley
Austin P. Dial	Jacob P. Quigley
Austin P. Dial	
Michael Kelley	
Michael Kelley	.....

COUNTY SHERIFF.

First County Sheriff Appointed in 1850.

Jacob S. Wampler	} App.	William Segraves
A. W. Porter		William Segraves
Solon O. Whitson		John W. Segraves
William P. Chapman		Mathew Hays
Wingate Prettyman		Joseph E. Jones
Wingate Prettyman		Joseph E. Jones
Mathias T. Hepner		Jacob VanDerweele
Mathias T. Hepner		Jacob VanDerweele
William Elmandorf		Joseph E. Harvey
William Anderson		William H. Harter
William Emandorf		William H. Harter
William H. H. Coffin		Sidney A. Uncapher
George S. Savery		Sidney A. Uncapher
George S. Savery		
William Elmandorf		
William Elmandorf	.....

COUNTY CORONERS.

First County Coroner Appointed in 1850.

James B. Prettyman	Joseph W. Hiler
John Lindsey	Thomas R. Lambert
Adam Lambert	Thomas R. Lambert
Adam Lambert	Leander E. Conner
J. K. Crites	Mark R. Wright
Samuel Smith	Mark R. Wright
Elijah Wood	Mark R. Wright
David P. Favorite	William M. Kelley
David P. Favorite	Charles Waddell
Wingate Prettyman	Thomas J. Agnew

George W. Scofield	James S. Denaut
Israel Uncapher	Samuel S. Bonar
Israel Uncapher	William J. Solt
Wilson T. Loring	
Joseph W. Hiler	.....

COUNTY SURVEYORS.

First County Surveyor Elected in 1856.

John S. Bender, App'd.	Abner L. Purcell
Robert H. Bender	Abner L. Purcell
Robert H. Bender	Henry C. Roney
John P. Kelley	Joseph N. McCormick
John P. Kelley	Joseph N. McCormick
William C. Boyles	John W. Good
William C. Boyles	John W. Good
John E. Short	Howard M. Chapel
John E. Short	Adam F. Seider
Joseph N. McCormick	Leo M. Kelley
Joseph N. McCormick	Alfred A. Savery
William C. Boyles	
William C. Boyles	
George M. D. Fisher	.....

COUNTY ASSESSORS.

First County Assessor Elected in 1863.

Nathan McCumber, App'd	Jacob Keller
Eli Brown, Appointed	Albert C. Wolfram
Christopner Hillabold	William James
Thomas Cussins	George W. Harkins
Peter Speelman	
William P. Stanton	.....

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The first County Commissioners appointed to locate the seat of justice of Starke County on the first day of April, 1850, were:

Wm. C. Barnette, L. Chamberlin, Wm. N. Patterson

The first regular elected Commissioners, in 1850, were:

{ William Parker	John W. Rea
{ George Esty	Jefferson Seagraves
{ John W. P. Hopkins	Christian Kreis
Andrew Long	Richard M. Gibbs
Edward Smith	William L. Scudder
Abram Welsh	Oratio D. Fuller
George Felden	Oratio D. Fuller
John Good	William Turner
William P. Chapman	George Stocker
James P. Fry	Richard M. Gibbs
George Felden	George Stocker
William Swartzell	Joseph M. Hiler
Isaac Reed	James M. Tucker
Jacob Kolver	Daniel H. Stanton
Eli Brown	Daniel Lefever
Amos A. Green	Jacob Kreis
Jacob Kolver	Daniel Lefever
Eli Brown	Jacob Kreis
Jesse Jackson	Daniel H. Stanton
Jacob Kolver	William T. Collins
Madison Jones	William T. Collins
Elijah W. Geiselman	Fred E. Vergin
Madison Jones	William Miller
Mathias T. Hepner	William T. Collins
Madison Jones	William Miller

Samuel Lefever	Christian Borchardt
Elijah W. Geiselman	Christian Borchardt
Jacob Shilling	Henry C. Short
Samuel Lefever	Sherman Carnes
Henry Bender	Sherman Carnes
Edward Tucker	James G. Heilman
Christian Kreis	
Elijah W. Geiselman	.....

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

First Superintendant (County Examiner) App'd 1861.

Andrew W. Porter	William B. Sinclair
M. T. Howard	William B. Sinclair
Samuel Jacobs	William B. Sinclair
John E. Short	William B. Sinclair
Wiloughby McCormick	William B. Sinclair
Uziah Kline	William A. Foust
Alexander H. Henderson	George E. Butcher
Oliver Musselman	
George A. Netherton	
Henry C. Rogers

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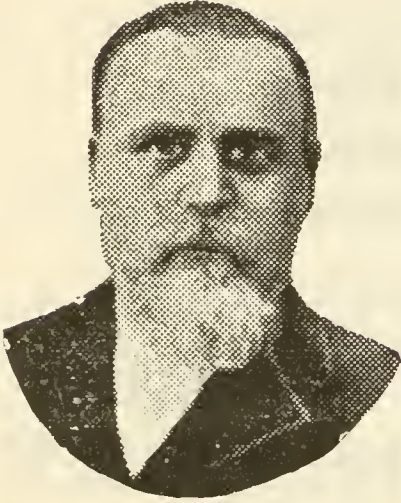
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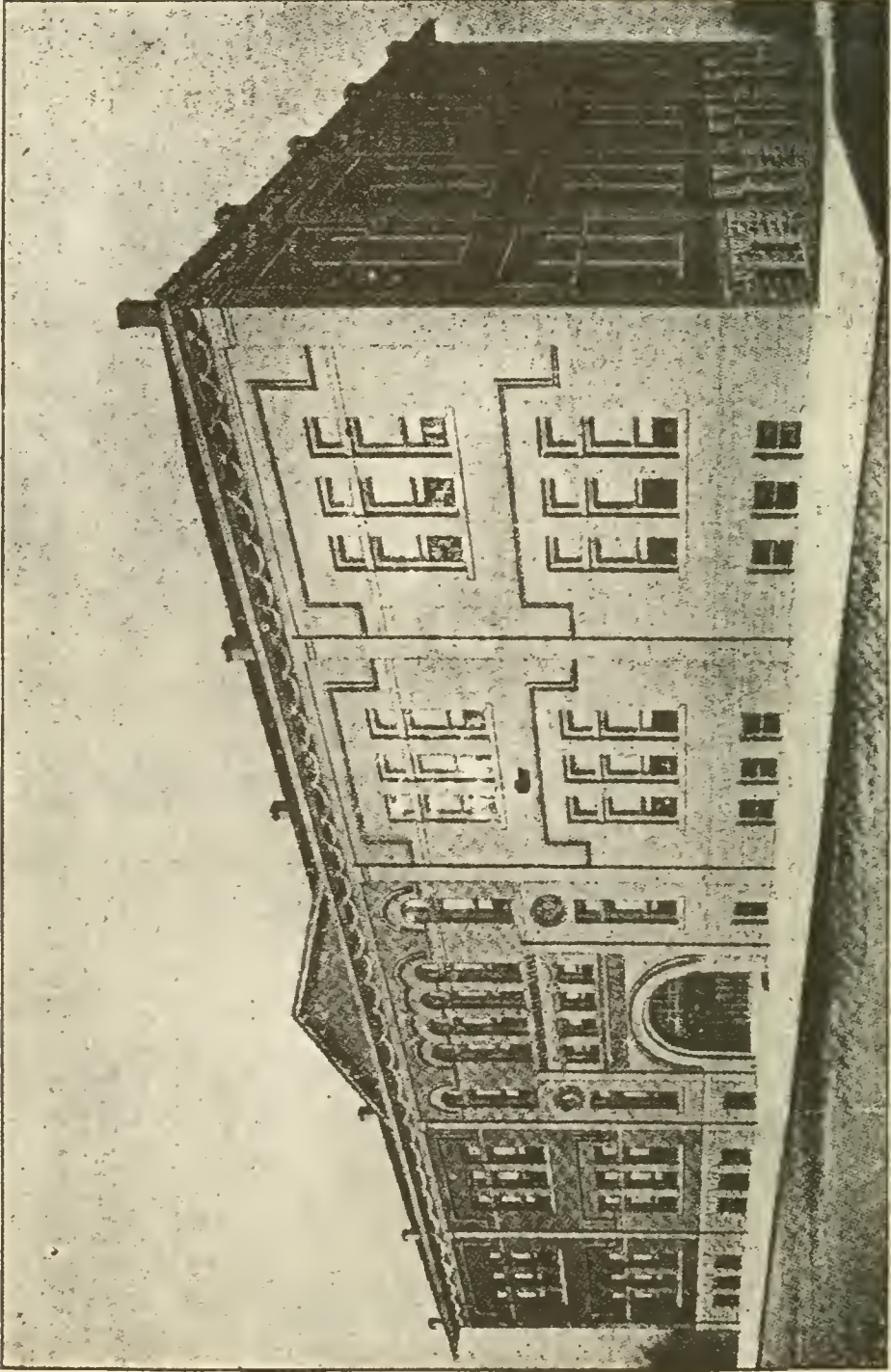
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| Summer..... | 60   | 90   | 91   | 174  | 195  | 212  | 259  | 250  | 251  | 333  | 453   |      |
| Fall.....   | 326  | 392  | 413  | 488  | 565  | 591  | 608  | 628  | 629  | 600  | 655   |      |
| Winter..... | 335  | 385  | 429  | 453  | 541  | 585  | 593  | 622  | 605  | 602  | 664   |      |
| Spring..... | 373  | 443  | 488  | 527  | 656  | 725  | 746  | 760  | 717  | 829  | *850  |      |
| Total.....  | 497  | 572  | 633  | 771  | 879  | 944  | 1049 | 1050 | 1016 | 1137 | *1200 |      |

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