

## CHAPTER XXII

### SUBJECTS OF MISCELLANEOUS INTEREST

#### FIRE COMPANIES

Almost any town, even though it be small, is always in great need of some sort of fire protection. This our people at Knox well knew years ago, but without a water system in the town it was looked upon as a thing almost impossible. But in order to protect the properties in the town they organized a sort of free fire company on July 20, 1894, and procuring a small chemical engine with buckets, etc., they started out to meet the emergencies as they should appear. So that for twenty years or more Knox has had a fire company, which was generally known as Knox Volunteer Fire Department with their chemical apparatus doing the best they could. But to successfully fight a fire you must have the equipment that will meet the demand and accomplish the purpose for which it is intended.

Along about that time George W. Sarber was fire chief and then J. F. Tarleton became fire chief. By this time the department developed into a strong and efficient organization, since the introduction of our late fire protection, being well equipped with two hose carts, hook and ladder wagon, and chemical engine. Especially under the late organization it has done some very effective work and saved many pieces of property from destruction during the last four or five years. The last Knox Fire Department was organized in the year of 1911.

The following is a list of the Knox Fire Department: Henry F. Schricker, chief; Elmer E. Horner, assistant chief; Charles H. Peele, first lieutenant; Bert Horner, second lieutenant; Frank Musselman, George Barnum, Clarence Scott, John W. Stevenson, O. D. Hepner, John Eisenberg, Allie Grindle, Clarence Slidinger, Charles Rannells, Guy Loudermilk, J. C. Applegate and Charles Cutshall.

Many were the disadvantages that our people worked under to fight fire before we put in our water system. The town had to depend upon a small chemical engine and water from the near-by pumps and a bucket brigade, principally volunteers, to combat the flames, that often became so remarkably hot that they could not approach near enough to do much good with their pails. Since the establishing of our water system and a full and complete company of fire fighters under the leadership of Mr. Henry F. Schricker, as chief, much effective work has been done. The old way of fighting fires became almost out of the question since

our people have begun to build greater and higher buildings. With the fire equipment we now have, they can subdue almost any fire that they have to cope with. Fire hydrants are placed along our streets a reasonable distance apart so that they can reach the fire from some one of those hydrants with the 1,000 feet of hose provided for their use. With a stand-pipe the capacity is ample to furnish water for the whole town for house use as well as to supply the water in case of a fire. This stand-pipe is located on North Shields Street and the fire station is at this time temporarily located in one of the Musselman buildings on Lake Street, the town board having sold the old town hall and grounds with a view of building a good and permanent town hall and fire station in the near future on their lot on Main Street opposite the Fitz Hotel. With a new and up-to-date town hall and fire station, this location, being on a brick street, will place the fire company in a position where they can do more effective work than they have been able to do.

The members of this company are all young men, stout, robust, willing and ever ready to respond at the first tap of the fire bell, each to his respective place according to their rules, all performing their part until the last spark of fire is quenched and the fire equipment returned to its resting place.

North Judson and Hamlet both have fire protection. A company at each of those towns furnishes to the citizens fairly good protection from the ravages of fire, which is a great menace to any town when it gets under headway. Should those towns be provided with a full and complete system of water, with a power house or stand-pipe sufficient for the towns, it will add materially to the interest of all the property owners in the towns. A system of water properly provided for the town is expensive, but all towns require something of that kind to put them on the safe side of any calamity that might occur in the shape of fire. True, North Judson and Hamlet have driven wells upon the streets where they can attach the hose and put out the fire in an ordinary building, but it does not meet all the requirements that an up-to-date system can furnish. Much credit is, however, due to the citizens of North Judson and Hamlet for the effort they have shown in providing the equipment they have at their hands.

#### COUNTY ASYLUM

Many years ago the Legislature enacted laws for the protection and care of those not able to take care of themselves.

Many became so from causes over which they had no control. Sickness and misfortune have sent many good hearted citizens to those benevolent institutions. Many times they have been found at their home suffering from the ravages of hunger and almost freezing with cold on account of not being able to procure clothing and other necessities of life. Starke County, not wishing to be behind in this particular, lost no time in providing for its poor and knowing too that all being human the same heart that beats within one bosom is not so much

unlike the heart of the unfortunate person, the victim of circumstances. Although you may be in good circumstances the same Ruler that rules over your destiny shall rule over his.

The county asylum, known as the poor house, is located in Center Township in northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 27, township 33 north, range 2 west, and is conducted by Frank Hildenbrand and his estimable wife, who was appointed as superintendent of the poor in 1911.

There are a number of inmates the whole time at the place who are well taken and provided for by our very courteous and gentlemanly superintendent. This farm lies just across the road dividing it from the south line of the town and lies at the south end of the Main Street pavement. No county farm in the state is conducted upon a safer and more business-like manner than the poor farm in Starke County.

This farm was purchased of John Megill on the 20th of October, 1875, for and in consideration of \$5,000. Since the farm was purchased by the county commissioners, they have made some fine improvements in the way of buildings as well as improving the land.

A good and commodious two-story and basement building fronting towards the town is well built and so arranged to make it pleasant for the inmates that have the misfortune to have to be assigned to a charitable institution. Good barns and sheds are built upon this farm for the protection of the stock and grain and farm implements. The superintendent aims to carry out all the requirements imposed upon him by the county commissioners, to which they can look with pride and pleasure, in being fortunate in securing one so well qualified to manage this farm to the best interest of Starke County.

It is unfortunate to be placed in those institutions, but our legislatures saw fit to make laws by which all the poor and unfortunate beings might have a home where they can be provided for even though the expense has to be paid for out of the county revenues.

So after all, while it is embarrassing to some to go to those places, it is a great credit after all to know that you can be provided for and have a home where you can be protected from winter's cold and frozen days of inclement weather, a place where you may reside as long as you live, a place where you may enjoy yourself as you could not enjoy without those privileges extended to you until you shall have served your time and be assigned to another place among those placed in the cemetery beyond the hills, a place of the silent dead.

#### CEMETERIES

The Crown Hill Cemetery lies in the southeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 23, township 33 north, range 2 west, and is in the corporate limits of Knox. There seems to be no regular surveyed plat of the original part of this cemetery, but William Windish and wife on February 15, 1890, had an addition laid out on the west side of the old cemetery. This was regularly laid out with walks between the rows of lots and contains seventy-two lots. It appears that the old part of this

cemetery was taken out of the farm then owned by Job Short, and those wishing to bury their dead chose any location that suited their fancy the best.

This cemetery is enclosed with a good iron fence on the north and west sides and a common fence on the south and east sides. Many have put cement curb around their respective lots, thus giving them a neat look. Flowers are planted upon the graves which shows the respect the living have for the dead.

Several years ago it was found to be necessary to extend the size of this cemetery by adding another addition to it or procure ground elsewhere. A decision of the health officer of the town stated that it would be a violation of our laws to lay out any more cemetery in or so near to the town. Then a company was organized and land bought for a new cemetery. This company consisting of the following named persons, to-wit: Mark R. Wright, president; John G. Kratli, vice president; John C. Jones, secretary; Wilber A. Pierson, treasurer; George W. Beeman, and Fred A. Chapel, as trustees, with William E. Pinney, Jacob Bozarth, Adam F. Seider and James C. Fletcher, with Joseph N. McCormick, engineer, did lay out the following land into a cemetery known as Oak Park Cemetery, the north half of the northwest quarter of southwest quarter of section 27, township 33 north, range 2 west, making 703 lots with walks and driveways through it. This cemetery was laid out on the 26th of January, 1900.

This cemetery lies south of town about one and a half miles from the courthouse. It has a good gravel road on the west line and is also accessible by a track leading into it on the east side from the gravel road running north and south. It is a great consolation to the friends to have a neat and well kept cemetery where they can bury their precious ones.

The Fletcher Cemetery is located in the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 30, township 34 north, range 1 west, upon lands owned at that time by Jesse Fletcher and wife. The original plat contained sixty-four lots. This was laid August 12, 1878. Then on the 18th of October, 1907, with Marvin Schrock, as engineer, an addition was laid out, containing 128 lots, making in all 192 lots in this cemetery, which lies on an elevated tract of land, a very desirable location for a cemetery, with a good gravel road on the east side make it accessible to the whole neighborhood.

The people in and around the Town of Hamlet buy lots here and many of their friends are buried in this cemetery. There being no cemetery at Hamlet is perhaps why they choose to bury their friends at this place. Of course, the Catholics have a cemetery, where they bury their dead, which is located in the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 6 in township 33 north, range 1 west, being about three miles south of Hamlet. This cemetery was laid out a few years ago, but the plat is not recorded, but is owned and managed by the Catholic denomination of the neighborhood.

## THE LARK CEMETERY

located in the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 17, township 33 north, range 1 west, was laid out by Stephen Lark in about 1880 and is kept neat and clean with the choicest flowers and shrubbery, which adds greatly to the looks of any cemetery.

This cemetery, like the others spoken of, is on a cross road, which has been graveled in the last few years and inasmuch as it is within a few rods of the Eagle Creek Church makes it convenient for the neighborhood.

## GROVERTOWN CEMETERY

The Grovertown Cemetery was laid out on November 1, 1889, by Andrew J. Uncapher, who owned the land, and is located in the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 22 in township 34 north, range 1 west (Oregon Township). This cemetery was surveyed by Joseph N. McCormick, engineer, and contains 270 lots. Being about one-fourth mile north of Grovertown, and a good gravel road on the east line of it and near the Grovertown United Brethren Church makes the distance very short in going from the church to the cemetery.

Mr. Uncapher has taken much pride in keeping this cemetery in a neat manner, which shows that there are those who obey the living and respect the dead. Many dear friends have been laid to rest in this cemetery, with tombstones and monuments placed at the head of the graves there to remind their friends of this world that they are sleeping beneath the sod, that they have gone on before, gone to that sleep from which there is no return.

## THE BASS LAKE CEMETERY

This cemetery lies in the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 6 and contains forty-nine lots. This had been used as a cemetery for several years and it was not until the "Church of the Living God" took it in hand that a survey and a plat were made of it, which was done, the survey having been made on the 3d day of May, 1902, and this plat is recorded in plat book No. 1 in the recorder's office. The plat is signed by Elmer D. Elder and Absalom Price, as trustees. There is another cemetery located in the same section, but it too like a good many other cemeteries in the county is not placed upon the plat book in the recorder's office, hence no record of them all can be given here.

## NORTH JUDSON CEMETERY

The land contained in the North Judson Cemetery (original plat) was conveyed by Ebenezer Jones and Elizabeth Jones, his wife, to John

Sharp, Ebenezer Jones, A. L. Chenoweth, Levi Lightcap and Isaac Aldrich, as trustees of the North Judson Cemetery. The said described land, to-wit: Commencing twenty-five rods west of the southeast corner of section seventeen (17), township thirty-two (32) north, range three (3) west, thence running west thirteen (13) rods, thence north thirteen (13) rods, thence east thirteen (13) rods, thence south thirteen (13) rods to the place of beginning, being a part of the southeast quarter of said section seventeen. Said deed was signed by Ebenezer Jones and Elizabeth Jones, his wife, who acknowledged the same before A. B. Ellis, a justice of the peace, on the 15th day of November, 1862, and filed for record in the recorder's office January 3d, 1862, and recorded by Willoughby M. McCormick, recorder of Starke County, Indiana, in Record "E" at page 726.

Then deed record "T" at page 431 in the recorder's office we find that Lewis Keller and Nettie C. Keller, his wife, convey to the North Judson Cemetery the following lands, to-wit: Commencing at the northwest corner of the old cemetery, thence running north 175 feet, thence in a northeasterly course 291 feet to the northwest corner of the school lot. Thence in a southwesterly course 332 feet, thence in a southwesterly direction 80 feet, thence south 16 feet, thence west 375 feet to the place of beginning, being a part of the southeast quarter of section 17, township 32 north, range 3 west. Signed, Lewis Keller, Nettie C. Keller, and acknowledged before L. E. Bernethy, a justice of the peace, April 1, 1880, and recorded April 12, 1880.

#### SAN PIERRE CEMETERY

James Brazzill and Ann Brazzill of San Pierre, Starke County, convey to the Cemetery Board of San Pierre, as follows: Commencing four chains and twenty-three links south of the northeast corner of the west half of the northwest quarter of section 28, township 32 north, range 4 west in Starke County, Indiana; thence south  $26\frac{2}{3}$  rods; thence west along South Knox Road 18 rods; thence north  $26\frac{2}{3}$  rods; thence east 18 rods to the place of beginning. Containing three acres and being a part of the northwest quarter of section 28, township, and range aforesaid, and signed, James Brazzill and Ann Brazzill and acknowledged before B. Glazebrook, a justice of the peace, on the 19th day of January, 1876, and recorded April 15, 1876, by Michael Kelley, recorder Starke County, Indiana.

Then Abigail M. Adair conveys to Ajace H. Triplett, John R. Seabrook, James H. Ekins, L. Dow Glazebrook and Elvin E. Mulvain, as a Cemetery Board and their successors for and in consideration of \$100, the following real estate: Beginning at a stake 8 chains and 32 links east of the corner of Webster and Elizabeth streets in the Town of San Pierre, north  $6\frac{1}{4}$  degrees west, one chain and 58 links to stake; thence

north  $83\frac{3}{4}$  degrees east, 3 chains and 16 links to stake; thence south  $61\frac{1}{4}$  degrees east, one chain and 58 links to public road; thence south  $83\frac{3}{4}$  degrees west 3 chains and 16 links to the place of beginning, being part of the northwest quarter of section 28, township 32 north, range 4 west in Starke County, Indiana, and signed, Abigail M. Adair, and acknowledged before J. C. Faris, a justice of the peace, on the 26th day of January, 1877, and recorded February 21, 1877, by Michael Kelley, recorder of Starke County, Indiana.

Many more cemeteries are in different parts of the county but not being placed of record we'll have to omit them. There are, however, several in each township.

### TAXES

Certainly every taxpayer in the county, or whether he lives in the county or not, if he owns property and pays taxes in the county, is always anxious to know what his taxes are going to be for the coming year. As I have said before, nothing will so touch the heart strings of man, as that which requires him to pay out his money with no expectation of ever getting it back, but just such is the case in paying taxes each year. I will herewith produce an official list of your taxes for 1914, to be paid in 1915. This schedule is signed by the county treasurer, Mr. Frank Joseph, and is official. It is given by township and corporations, as the same rate of taxes does not appear the same in all the townships and corporations, giving the various items upon which the taxes are based and carried out showing the amount in first and second installments also the amount for the whole year. And as to school loans, the table is signed by Charles W. Weninger, county auditor.

#### *Rates of Taxes for 1914 in Starke County*

The taxpayers of Starke County, Indiana, are hereby notified that after January 1, 1915, I will be prepared to receive the several amounts of taxes for said county for the year 1914, at the treasurer's office in the Town of Knox.

The following table shows the rate on each \$100 assessed valuation, and each poll in the several townships and corporations in Starke County, Indiana, for the year 1914.

NAMES OF TOWNSHIPS AND CORPORATIONS, ALSO NUMBERS CORRESPONDING  
TO THE NUMBERS ON TABLE

1, North Bend Township; 2, Washington Township; 3, Oregon Township; 4, California Township; 5, Center Township; 6, Wayne Township; 7, Railroad Township; 8, Davis Township; 9, Jackson Township; 10,

Knox Corporation; 11, North Judson Corporation; 12, Hamlet Corporation in Davis Township; 13, Hamlet Corporation in Oregon Township.

	Township and Corporation	State	State Benevolent Institutions	State School	State Educational Institutions	State Debt Sinking Fund	Vocational Education	County	County Bond	Township	Tuition	Special School	Road	Additional Road	Poor	Gravel and Stone Roadbed	Gravel and Stone Road Repairing	Corporation and Township	Board—Principal and Interest
1	1	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
2	2	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
3	3	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
4	4	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
5	5	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
6	6	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
7	7	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
8	8	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
9	9	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
10	10	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
11	11	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
12	12	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..
13	13	7	10	13.6	7	1	1	50	16.9	33	40	40	30	10	4	50	30	..	..

	Township and Corporation	Light	Library	School Bond	Vocational Purposes	Water Bond	Special Building and Equipment Fund	Water Hydrant	Streets and Alleys	State Poll	State School Poll	Special School Poll	Tuition Poll	Water Hydrant Poll	Total Poll Tax	First Installment	Second Installment	Total Tax
1	1	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	..	..	..	1.00	1.85	1.60	3.45
2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	..	..	..	1.00	1.91	1.57	3.48
3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	..	..	..	1.00	1.98	1.39	3.37
4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	..	..	..	1.00	1.97	1.57	3.54
5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	..	..	..	1.00	2.21	1.87	4.08
6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	..	..	..	1.00	1.66	1.46	3.12
7	7	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	1.00	25	..	2.25	2.15	1.80	3.95
8	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	..	..	..	1.00	1.49	1.39	2.88
9	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	..	..	..	1.00	2.11	1.76	3.87
10	10	30	3	35	5	13	10	35	25	50	50	1.00	25	1.00	3.25	2.70	2.46	5.16
11	11	35	3	..	..	..	10	..	..	50	50	1.00	25	..	2.25	2.63	2.34	4.97
12	12	25	4	35	5	..	10	..	..	50	50	1.00	25	..	2.25	2.38	2.13	4.51
13	13	25	4	35	5	..	10	..	..	50	50	1.00	25	..	2.24	2.35	2.10	4.51

Taxes are payable in person at the county treasurer's office, and this notice is a legal demand for all taxes due from each and every taxpayer assessed in the county.

There is no law requiring treasurer to answer correspondence, but statement of tax will be sent cheerfully when stamp is enclosed for reply. In asking for statements give description of lands or lots and in what town or township located.

The owner of property on the 1st day of March in any year shall be liable to the taxes of that year. The purchaser of property on the 1st day of March shall be considered as the owner on that day. See Acts 1903.

### *Pay Your Taxes Promptly and Save Costs*

The attention of taxpayers is called to the following section of law, approved March 15, 1875: "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, that each person or taxpayer charged with taxes on the duplicate in the hands of the County Treasurer, may pay the full amount of such taxes on or before the first Monday in May, or may, at his option, pay one-half on or before said first Monday in May, and the remaining half on or before the first Monday in November, follow-



ing. And provided further, that in all cases where as much as one-half of the amount charged against a taxpayer shall not be paid on or before the first Monday in May, the whole amount charged shall become due, and returned delinquent, and collected as provided by law.

"It is the duty of taxpayers to call for the property on which they wish to pay, and see that they have separate receipts for each township or corporation, and see that they are correct before leaving the office.

"Taxpayers will find it greatly to their advantage to call early and avoid mistakes incident to the rush of the last few days, and those who have their tax complicated, such as undivided estates, are especially requested to call when we are at leisure, as it requires considerable time to make the divisions and issue separate receipts.

"The treasurer has no option in rebating the penalty on taxes allowed to go delinquent. Taxpayers are particularly notified that all road tax is due and payable with the first installment. No credit will be allowed on road tax unless the receipt is presented. Road receipts will not be received in payment of second installment taxes.

"No county order will be paid to any person owing delinquent taxes and parties are warned not to purchase such orders, as they will be held for delinquent taxes of the original owner.

"The annual sale of delinquent lots and lands will take place on the second Monday in February, 1915.

"FRANK JOSEPH,  
*"Treasurer Starke County, Indiana."*

#### MORTGAGE DEDUCTIONS

Mortgage deduction affidavits may be sworn to before any person who is authorized to administer oaths, and must be filed with the county auditor during the months of March or April of each year. Said affidavits must be sworn to by the persons securing the deductions personally.

#### SCHOOL LOANS

All persons owing interest on school fund mortgages are hereby notified to pay the interest promptly and thus save the expense of foreclosing same.

CHARLES W. WENINGER,  
*Auditor for Starke County, Indiana.*

KNOX, Indiana, November 20, 1914.

#### COUNTY EXPENSE

We herewith present the tax payers of Starke County a list of the monies that it takes to run the expense of the county for one year. This allowance is made for the year of 1915 made by the county council as follows, which is passed by them in September, 1914, furnished by the auditor from his records.

*Ordinance for Appropriations and Recommendations and Suggestions*

Section 1. Be It Ordained by the Starke County Council of Starke County, Indiana, That for the expenses of the county government and its institutions, for the year ending December 31, 1915, the following sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named and for the purpose herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same. Such sums herein appropriated shall be held to include all expenditures authorized to be made during the year, unless otherwise expressly stipulated and provided for by law.

Section 2. That for the said fiscal year there is hereby appropriated out of the "County Fund" the following:

## For Expense of Office of Clerk of the Circuit Court

Item	1. Salary of clerk.....	\$ 1,200.00
Item	2. Clerk's per diem attending all courts.....	216.00
Item	4. Office expenses and supplies, including books, blanks and stationery.....	555.00
Total .....		\$ 1,971.00

## For Expense of County Auditor's Office

Item	5. Salary of county auditor.....	\$ 1,100.00
Item	6. Additional salary as clerk County Council and secretary of the County Board of Finance.....	650.00
Item	7. Office expenses and supplies, including books, blanks and stationery, and all supplies for vaults .....	1,065.00
.....		200.00
Total .....		\$ 3,015.00

## For Expense of County Treasurer's Office

Item	8. Salary of county treasurer.....	\$ 1,500.00
Item	9. Office expenses and supplies, including books, blanks and stationery.....	490.00
Total .....		\$ 1,990.00

## For Expense of County Recorder's Office

Item	10. Salary of county recorder.....	\$ 1,000.00
Item	11. Additional salary on account of fees collected.....	500.00
Item	12. Office expenses and supplies, including books, blanks and stationery.....	720.00
Total .....		\$ 2,220.00

## HISTORY OF STARKE COUNTY

## For Expense of County Sheriff's Office

Item 13.	Salary of county sheriff.....	\$ 1,100.00
Item 14.	Sheriff's per diem attending all courts, Board of Review and County Council.....	380.00
Item 15.	Sheriff's fees, except per diem, payable out of county treasury under Act of 1909 including boarding and care of prisoners.....	130.00
Item 16.	Office expenses and supplies, including books, blanks and stationery .....	300.00
Total .....		\$ 1,910.00

## For Expense of County Surveyor's Office

Item 17.	Fees for county surveyor or deputy, if any, payable out of county treasury.....	600.00
Item 18.	Office expenses and supplies, including books, blanks and stationery.....	535.00
Total .....		\$ 1,185.00

## For Expense of County Superintendent's Office

Item 19.	Per diem of county superintendent.....	\$ 1,408.50
Item 20.	Expense of County Teachers' Institute.....	100.00
Item 21.	Office expenses and supplies, including books, blanks and stationery .....	1,115.00
Total .....		\$ 2,623.50

## For Expense of County Assessor's Office

Item 22.	Salary of county assessor.....	\$ 600.00
Item 23.	Per diem of deputy assessor, where allowed by law .....	40.00
Item 24.	Office expenses and supplies, including expense attending state meeting.....	35.00
Total .....		\$ 675.00

## For Expense of County Coroner's Office

Item 25.	Salary or per diem of county coroner.....	\$ 400.00
Item 26.	Office expenses and supplies.....	25.00
Item 27.	All other expenses of coroner's inquests and post mortems .....	25.00
Total .....		\$ 450.00

## For Expense of County Health Commissioner's Office

Item 28.	Salary of county health commissioner.....	\$ 250.00
Item 29.	Office expenses and supplies.....	35.00
Item 30.	All other expenses incident to the prevention or suppression of contagious diseases.....	1,000.00
Total .....		\$ 1,305.00

## For Expense of Commissioners' Court

Item 31.	Salary of county commissioners.....	\$ 375.00
Item 32.	Office expenses and supplies.....	685.00
Item 33.	For salary of county council.....	70.00
Item 34.	For salary of county attorney.....	250.00
Item 35.	For salary of pauper attorney, defending criminals, etc. ....	100.00
Item 35.	H. R. Robbins, Acct. Law.....	25.00
Item 35.	W. C. Pentecost, Darrow vs. Auditor.....	50.00

## For Expense of County Board of Review

Item 36.	Per diem of members.....	\$ 360.00
Item 37.	All other expenses .....	200.00
Totals .....		\$ 560.00

## For Expense of County Board of Truancy

Item 38.	Per diem of truant officer.....	\$ 360.00
Item 39.	Office expenses and supplies.....	70.00

## For Expense of Assessing

Item 40.	For assessing North Bend Township.....	\$ 300.00
Item 41.	For assessing Washington Township .....	300.00
Item 42.	For assessing Oregon Township .....	320.00
Item 43.	For assessing California Township .....	350.00
Item 44.	For assessing Center Township .....	450.00
Item 45.	For assessing Wayne Township .....	450.00
Item 46.	For assessing Railroad Township .....	350.00
Item 47.	For assessing Davis Township .....	300.00
Item 48.	For assessing Jackson Township .....	150.00
Item 60.	Making plat books .....	250.00
Item 61.	For expense of poor (to be paid back into county treasury by trustee's levies the following year)	4,250.00

## HISTORY OF STARKE COUNTY

## For Expense of Courthouse

Item 63.	Repair of buildings and care of grounds, including insurance and improvement tax.....	\$ 2,500.00
Item 64.	Janitors and other employes.....	820.00
Item 65.	Supplies, including fuel, light, water, movable furniture, etc. ....	1,650.00
Total .....		\$ 4,970.00

## For Expense of County Jail

Item 67.	Repair of buildings and care of grounds, including insurance and improvement tax.....	\$ 250.00
Item 69.	Supplies, including fuel, light, water, movable furniture, etc. ....	450.00
Total .....		\$ 700.00

## For Expense of County Poor Farm

Item 70.	New buildings and grounds.....	\$ 500.00
Item 71.	Repair of buildings and care of grounds, including insurance and improvement tax.....	250.00
Item 72.	Salary of superintendent and all other employes, including physician .....	1,300.00
Item 73.	Supplies and maintenance, including fuel, light, water, furniture, farm implements, etc.....	1,250.00

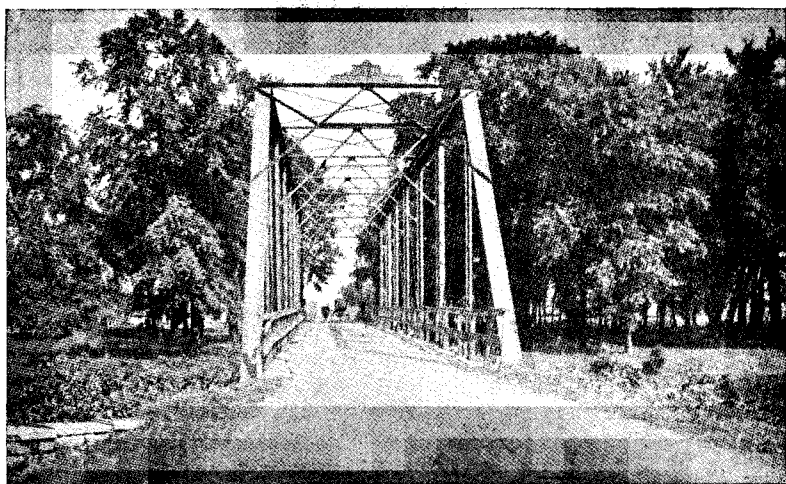
## For Expense of County Home for Orphans

Item 78.	For expense of orphan poor in other institutions, including transportation .....	400.00
Item 79.	For expense of inmates of State Penal and Benevolent institutions .....	400.00
Item 80.	For expense of insanity inquests.....	665.00
Item 81.	For expense of epileptic inquests.....	340.00
Item 83.	For expense of burial of soldiers, sailors or marines, their wives and widows.....	500.00
Item 84.	For expense of public printing and advertising...	1,000.00
Item 85.	For expense of highways, viewings, damages, etc..	525.00
Item 87.	For expense of Farmers' Institute.....	100.00
Item 88.	For expense of ditches, if any payable out of the county treasury .....	1,440.00
Item 90.	For expense of bridge superintendent or engineer	400.00
Item 91.	For expense of employes for special services under contract with the Board of County Commissioners .....	1,000.00

Item 92.	For deficiency on school funds, principal and interest .....	2,000.00
Item 93.	For expense of game warden, destroying seines, etc. ....	25.00
Item 94.	For expense of poor children under compulsory education law .....	200.00
Item 95.	For rent of county offices where not provided for in courthouse .....	36.00
Item 96.	For expense county agent out of county funds..	1,500.00
Item 97.	For expense posting delinquent notices, county fund .....	20.00

For Expense of New Bridges  
(Give Location)

Item 112.	For bridge .....	\$ 1,500.00
Item 119.	For expense of bridge repairs.....	3,000.00



BRIDGE OVER YELLOW RIVER, KNOX

For Expense of Prosecuting Attorney's Office

Item 125.	For expense of changes of venue.....	\$ 500.00
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For Expense of the Circuit Court

Item 127.	Expense of petit and grand jurors and jury commissioners, including per diem, meals, etc....	\$ 950.00
Item 129.	Per diem and expenses of official reporter, including fees, where allowed by law, and supplies..	350.00
Item 130.	Per diem of bailiffs, allowed by law.....	400.00
Item 134.	Expense of supplies, repairs, etc., for courtroom, on order of the judge, including law library..	175.00

## HISTORY OF STARKE COUNTY

## For Expense of Juvenile Court

Item 184.	Per diem and expenses of probation officers.....	\$ 75.00
Item 1.	Payment county bonds, principal and interest....	12,500.00
Item 92.	Deficiency in school fund.....	500.00
Item 96.	Special street paving.....	41.15
Item 125.	Changes of venue .....	500.00
Item 15.	Sheriff boarding prisoners.....	50.00

No question concerning the affairs of the county appeals to the taxpayers more than the expenses that it takes to run the county and pay the expenses of all the different departments of the county and believing that a statement made from the records in the county auditor's office which is official would interest our people hence we have given it above which is signed by the county council with their recommendations and suggestions as follows:

Memoranda of suggestions and request as made by the Starke County Council in session assembled at the auditor's office in the courthouse at Knox, Indiana, on the 9th day of September, 1914.

We, the undersigned members of the Starke County Council in view of the high rate of taxes prevailing in Starke County at this time, a considerable portion of which is caused by the extensive building of free gravel roads, do hereby respectfully suggest and request all taxpayers of Starke County, Indiana, to refrain from petitioning further the Board of County Commissioners to grant and establish any additional gravel road until the present gravel road indebtedness is greatly reduced, we deem it the best policy to carefully consider the cost before signing any gravel road petition to be presented to the Board of Commissioners of Starke County, and we further recommend that the county auditor cause a copy of this request to be published in the leading newspapers of the county for one insertion.

W. W. OSBORN,  
HENRY PEELE,  
WM. MARSH,  
FRED M. WHITE,  
JOHN DOLEZALL,  
HENRY W. ENGBRETH,  
FRED E. VIRGIN.

*Members of the Board of Starke County Council.*

## ELECTION 1914

Believing that an account of the recent election held in Starke County showing the official vote on the 3rd day of November, 1914, would interest our readers, especially in long years to come perhaps more than many other subjects we might write about, I will give the name of the candidate, the office for which he ran, and the number of votes

he received, and showing his plurality or majority over his opponent beginning with the judge of the Forty-fourth Judicial District.

### Judge

W. C. Pentecost, received.....1,548 votes  
 Frank Vurpillat, received.....1,111 votes  
 Pentecost also carried Pulaski County by 39 votes,  
 making his majority in both counties.....476 votes

### Prosecuting Attorney

John G. Capouch, democrat, received.....1,263 votes  
 James A. Dilts, republican, received.....1,349 votes  
 Dilts' majority in Starke County 86 votes and in  
 Pulaski County 161 votes, making his majority.....247 votes

### Clerk

John G. Marks, democrat, received.....1,279 votes  
 Hugh Kreuter, republican, received.....1,303 votes  
 Kreuter's majority ..... 24 votes

### Treasurer

Henry Luken, democrat, received.....1,292 votes  
 William Henry Emigh, republican, received....1,229 votes  
 Luken's majority ..... 63 votes

### Recorder

Edwin W. Mathews, democrat, received.....1,255 votes  
 Charles H. Reasoner, republican, received.....1,273 votes  
 Reasoner's majority ..... 18 votes

### Sheriff

George E. Pettis, democrat, received.....1,377 votes  
 Delbert Peterson, republican, received.....1,192 votes  
 Pettis' majority .....185 votes

### Surveyor

Charles A. Good, democrat, received.....1,362 votes  
 Frank W. Spoor, republican, received.....1,194 votes  
 Good's majority .....168 votes



## Coroner

Thomas C. Hite, democrat, received.....1,269 votes  
 Joseph B. Favorite, republican, received.....1,214 votes  
 Hite's majority ..... 45 votes

## County Assessor

Henry C. Rogers, democrat, received.....1,242 votes  
 Abel Rea, republican, received.....1,264 votes  
 Rea's majority ..... 22 votes

## Commissioner, District No. 2

Peter Mosher, democrat, received.....1,275 votes  
 Charles J. Swartz, republican, received.....1,258 votes  
 Mosher's majority ..... 17 votes

## Commissioner, Third District

Oliver Swanson, democrat, received.....1,269 votes  
 Fred J. Kingman, republican, received.....1,272 votes  
 Kingman's majority ..... 3 votes

## County Councilmen at Large

Maurice E. Parks, democrat, received.....1,237 votes  
 Wm. H. Clausen, democrat, received.....1,247 votes  
 Homer L. Piper, democrat, received.....1,252 votes  
 John Dolezal, republican, received.....1,279 votes  
 Henry Vieting, republican, received.....1,244 votes  
 Fred E. Virgin, republican, received.....1,258 votes  
 thus electing Piper, Virgin, and Dolezal.

## County Council for Districts

First district, Clarence C. Johnson, elected by..... 84 votes  
 Third district, Cecil R. Jackson, elected by..... 1 vote  
 Third district, Henry Henning, elected by.....181 votes

## Joint Representative

Peter Folmar, democrat, received.....1,212 votes  
 James R. Guild, republican, received.....1,265 votes  
 Guild's majority in Starke County..... 53 votes  
 and in Pulaski County it was.....275 votes  
 But Folmar carried St. Joseph County by about.....2,000 votes  
 thus Folmar was elected.

The proposed constitution was carried in this county by 709 votes, but lost in the state.

The appropriation resolution for a new state house was defeated by 1,952 votes.

Shively was elected to the United States Senate by about forty-four thousand votes over Hugh T. Miller.

Beverage was third on the ticket.

Henry A. Barnhart for representative in Congress was elected by 3,741. The following being for plurality votes:

	For Barnhart	For Hickey
St. Joseph County.....	2,554	
Marshall County .....	1,265	
Fulton County .....		31
Elkhart County .....	815	
Starke County .....	57	
LaPorte County .....		623
Kosciusko County .....		296
Total .....	4,691	950
Barnhart's majority .....	3,741	

This was a very interesting election and all parties working to get out their full vote, although the full vote was not in, yet all parties went to their homes or to their headquarters and waited patiently for the full returns of that election. Some were disappointed, of course, and some very much surprised at the result. The township trustees elected in the county were three democrats and four republicans and two progressives, as follows:

#### North Bend Township

Harry Leopold, democrat, was elected by six votes over George Collins, republican.

#### Washington Township

Walter Ransbottom, republican, was elected by six votes over H. O. Hisey, democrat.

#### Oregon Township

William R. Richey, democrat, was elected by forty-four votes over Peter Holm, republican.

#### California Township

Lon C. Miller, republican, was elected by forty votes over Samuel Taylor.

## Center Township

Joseph Cox, republican, was elected by fifty votes above Daniel B. Hostetler, democrat.

## Wayne Township

Henry Mathews, progressive, was elected by thirty-seven votes over Dr. Albert Fisher, democrat.

## Railroad Township

William J. Solt, progressive, was elected by nineteen votes over Jesse Eberhart, democrat.

## Davis Township

John Graham, republican, was elected by twenty-two votes over Gabe Doyle, democrat.

## Jackson Township

William H. Dunkelbarger, democrat, was elected by one vote over Frank Clemens, republican.

## AN OLD DITCH ORGANIZATION

In looking over the records in the recorder's office I find where there was an organization formed, the purpose of which was to drain the wet lands in Davis Township and surrounding country and I will give it in full as appears of record:

*Article of Agreement of Starke County Ditching Company*

Know all men by these presents that we the undersigned have this day entered into an association and body corporate to be known and "stiled" by the name and "stile" of the Starke Ditching Company and in such name to sue and be sued and do all business necessary to carry out the purposes of said company.

Article 1st. This company shall be known by the name and stile of the Starke Ditching Company.

Article 2nd. The object of this company shall be to contract drains and levees for the improvement of lands in Davis, Center, Washington and Oregon Townships, Starke County, Indiana, dated and signed this 20th day of July, 1860.

Peter Speelman,  
Ezekiel Cole,  
John Hamlet,  
Stephen Cole,  
Alex Hewett,  
James Jolly.

Journal of the Starke Ditching Company on the 28th day of July, 1860, written articles of election of directors of said company was posted up in five public places as the law directs signed by P. Speelman, Stephen Cole and James Jolly. Then members of this association, election to be held on the 24th day of August, 1860, at the house of Peter Speelman.

August 24th, 1860, a majority of said company having met according to the previous notice James Jolly and Stephen Cole were appointed Judges of election and Peter Speelman was appointed Clerk of said election after taking the following oath of office administered by S. A. McCrackin a Justice of the Peace proceeded to elect said officers.

We James Jolly and Stephen Cole swear that we will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of Judges of election to the best of our ability.

James Jolly,  
Stephen Cole.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of August, 1860.

S. A. McCrackin,  
Justice (Seal)

I, Peter Speelman, swear that I will faithfully discharge the duties of clerk of election to the best of my ability.

P. Speelman.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of August, 1860.

S. A. McCrackin, Justice, (Seal)

Names of Voters.	Result of election.
James Jolly .....1	Stephen Cole .....4
Ezekiel Cole .....1	Ezekiel Cole .....4
Stephen Cole .....1	Alexander Hewitt .....5
Alexander Hewitt .....1	P. Speelman .....1
Peter Speelman .....1	John Hamlet .....1

Stephen Cole received four votes and was declared duly elected Director. Ezekiel Cole received four votes and was declared duly elected Director. Alexander Hewitt received five votes and was declared duly elected Director.

I, Stephen Cole swear that I will faithfully discharge my duty as Director of the Starke Ditching Company to the best of my ability.

Stephen Cole.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of August, 1860.

S. A. McCrackin, Justice, (Seal)

I, Ezekiel Cole swear that I will faithfully discharge my duty as director of the Starke Ditching Company to the best of my ability.

his

Ezekiel X Cole  
mark

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of August, 1860.

S. A. McCrackin, Justice (Seal)

I, Alexander Hewitt swear that I will discharge my duties as Director of the Starke Ditching Company to the best of my ability.

Alex Hewitt.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of August, 1860.

S. A. McCrackin, Justice (Seal)

Know all men by these presents we Stephen Cole, Ezekiel Cole and Alexander Hewitt, Directors of the Starke Ditching Company appoint Peter Speelman Clerk of the Starke Ditching Company for the present year, dated this 24th day of August, 1860.

Stephen Cole, Ezekiel Cole and Alex Hewitt.

Know all men by these presents that we the Directors of the Starke Ditching Company appoint James Jolly Treasurer of said Company for the present year, this 24th day of August, 1860.

Stephen Cole,  
Ezekiel Cole,  
Alex Hewitt.

I, Peter Speelman swear that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Clerk of the Starke Ditching Company to the best of my ability.

Peter Speelman.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 24th day of August, 1860.

S. A. McCrackin, Justice (Seal)

I, James Jolly swear that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Treasurer of the Starke Ditching Company to the best of my ability.

James Jolly.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of August, 1860.

S. A. McCrackin, Justice (Seal)

Received for record August 25th, 1860 at 9 o'clock A. M. and recorded on the same day.

Willoughby M. McCormick,

Recorder.

Then on the 20th day of October, 1860, the appraisers file their assessment sheet showing the assessment made by them which reads as follows:

*Schedule of the Appraisers of the Starke County Ditching Company*

State of Indiana:

Starke County:

Be it remembered that according to previous notice the appraisers of the Starke Ditching Company, to-wit George Laramore, Jesse Jackson, and Philander Coffin appraisers for the ensuing year met at ten o'clock A. M. on the lands hereafter described and proceeded to assess the value to each piece as follows, to-wit NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 26, T 34 N Range 2 West, also the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 25, T. 34 N. Range 2 West appraised to Peter Speelman 60 cents per acre: \$72.00. The SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 26, T and range aforesaid, appraised to James Jolly 35 cents per acre \$14.00.

The SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25 T and R aforesaid appraised to Glidden and Reeves at 60 cents per acre \$48.00.

The SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25, also NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25, T and R aforesaid, appraised to F H Nitterhouse at 85 cents per acre, \$68.00.

The NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25 to A. Roose and John Hamlet, appraised at 35 cents per acre, \$56.00.

The N $\frac{1}{2}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25 T and R aforesaid to Peter Speelman at 85 cents per acre, \$68.00.

We the undersigned appraisers of the Starke Ditching Company do certify the above to be a true appraisement to each tract of land to the best of our judgments.

George Laramore,  
Jesse Jackson,  
Philander Coffin.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Peter Speelman, Clerk of the Starke Drainage Company, October 20th, 1860.

Peter Speelman, Clerk.

Received for record October 22nd, 1860 at 10 o'clock A. M. and recorded the same day.

Willoughby M. McCormick, Recorder.

Thus it is seen that there was a faint attempt to drain the Kankakee Valley, or east of it rather, before the Civil war, but that war coming on as it did the following year, the Starke Ditching Company went to naught and there was no real effort to drain this county along its north-western border until H. R. Robbins and afterwards the Place Ditch or the Kankakee Reclamation Company took up the work as I have already shown.

It was during one of those meetings that one of the members of this organization undertook to make his first speech when he said: "Gentlemen and ladies (no ladies present) we have met here today for a grand purpose, a noble scheme, a great enterprise stands out before us, a matter long sought but not found, brother Pete, a matter we should all take an interest in, gentlemen and ladies (no ladies being present), but by the long-handled spoon, by the stars that look down upon us, by the course of the milky way and the comet's tail we have struck a good ide Zeke, that is to ditch our lands and rise our crops"—interrupted by Hewett "You should say raise."—"Don't make a racoon bit of difference, we John, we are going to fetch her come and ditch this here land and make her blossom as the sun flower Philander, aint we James?" All agreed yes, yes, and after singing, "Nearer to the Kankakee," etc., they adjourned sine die.

#### ACCIDENTS, ETC.

Not many people in the county realize the number of inquests held by the coroner since Starke County was organized. The following is a list made up from the files in the county clerk's office and it does not

contain all at that, for the writer can recollect several being drowned in Bass Lake and Jacob Zerba drowning in Yellow River several years ago, and a Miss Gould drowning at the same time, a lady that Mr. Zerba was trying to rescue, and some others that some of the old settlers can tell about. This list is made from the files, as there is no regular record kept in the clerk's office, hence I had to make it from the papers filed by the coroners in each case, thus you see the dates are all mixed up, but in each case the coroner's report was signed officially by him.

Julius Long, found dead about one mile east of English Lake, December 5, 1900. Verdict: Ran over by train.

John R. Snyder, found dead at Koontz Lake, January 9, 1901. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Ora Bennett, found dead near Ora, June 26, 1899. Verdict: Drinking carbolic acid and hanging.

Charles Dodd, found dead at his home October 16, 1899. Verdict: Organic disease.

Elizabeth Kenline, found dead October 19, 1900. Verdict: Miscarriage.

Edward Ames, found dead at Knox, September 26, 1899. Verdict: Falling between cars on I. I. & I. Railroad at Knox.

J. B. Falaradeon, found dead in I. I. & I. Railroad yards in North Judson, August 15, 1899. Verdict: Falling between cars.

Unknown man found dead in Pan Handle track, September 16, 1886. Verdict: Struck by locomotive.

Charles Henderson, found dead in Hamlet, February 9, 1888. Verdict: Came to his death attempting to board a train.

Unknown found dead at Aldine, July 31, 1904. Verdict: Falling from train.

Anna Konovsky, found dead on Erie Railroad, September 1, 1898. Verdict: Struck by train.

Henry Engelke, found dead September 23, 1889. Verdict: Supposed to come to his death by violence or from drink.

John Brusnaham, October 12, 1886, Washington Township. Verdict: Shot in road by man supposed to be Martin.

Herman H. Redman, found dead in Hamlet, Indiana, February 28, 1886. Verdict: Came to his death jumping from train.

Michael Haley, Hamlet, Indiana, December 17, 1888. Verdict: Dislocating neck from falling off freight caboose.

Ella Dyer, found dead in Railroad Township, March 15, 1895. Verdict: Nervous prostration.

Richard McIntire, found dead June 24, 1887. Verdict: Fell between cars.

Anna Kado, found dead June 27, 1889. Verdict: Supposed carelessness.

Henry Dier, found dead February 11, 1891. Verdict: Found hanging in barn in San Pierre.

Man unknown, found dead at Davis Station, July 23, 1895. Verdict: Run over by cars.

John E. Becker, found dead in depot of Pan Handle Railroad, October 20, 1890, North Judson. Verdict: Hit by train.

Man unknown, found dead on track of Nickel Plate R. R. east of Jackson in Center Township, March 13, 1890. Verdict: Struck by train.

William E. Waterson, found dead at Nickel Plate Depot in Knox, April 25, 1892. Verdict: Falling from the cars about three miles west of Knox.

Phillip Anthony, found in Cedar or Bass Lake, February 25, 1894. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Jacob Simmons, found dead in an old house on the Piper farm, April 22, 1891. Verdict: Over exertion from walking.

Levi Crim, July 20, 1892, in Oregon Township, found dead. Verdict: Perhaps paralysis.

Unknown remains found in Grovertown, June 10, 1894. Verdict: Killed by train in Grovertown near station.

Henry Mickesh, Wayne Township, June 25, 1891, found dead in calaboose in North Judson, June 24, 1891. Verdict: Hanging.

Charles Adams, October 28, 1896, found dead. Verdict: Accidental.

Grovini Dorato, found dead at Aldine, July 27, 1891. Verdict: Struck by engine on C. & E. Railroad.

An unknown found dead in Center Township, February 21, 1894. Verdict: Causes unknown.

Frederick Smith was found dead on his father's farm, April 6, 1891. Verdict: By shot from gun.

Infant unknown, March 30, 1891. Verdict: Cause not known.

Lon Williams, found dead May 16, 1895, at Grovertown. Verdict: Shows killed by accident in getting off train.

Mrs. Mary A. English, found dead in California Township, April 1, 1895. Verdict: Organic disease.

Ambrose Road, found 1 mile west of county line of LaPorte and Starke County, May 21, 1893. Verdict: Drowning in bayou.

Oliver P. Campbell, found dead November 14, 1895, at his residence in North Judson. Verdict: Hemorrhage of the lungs.

Martin Stalkman, found dead at residence of Clinton Cooper on January 7, 1895. Verdict: Apoplexy.

Daniel Garbison, died in postoffice at Ora, Indiana, February 19, 1894. Verdict: Heart failure result of intemperate use of ardent spirits.

Benjamin E. Bush, found dead at Grovertown, Indiana, March 2, 1892. Verdict: Supposed killed by train.

F. W. Vincent, found dead at North Judson, January 31, 1895. Verdict: Crushed between cars on I. I. & I. Railroad through carelessness.

Unknown man, found dead near C. I. & S. Railroad tracks  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles southwest of Toto, Indiana. Verdict: Accidental.



J. F. Cunningham, found dead at Knox, August 29, 1891. Verdict: Falling off of freight train.

Anton Miller, English Lake, September 28, 1880. Verdict: Cause unknown.

Anton Bamivah, found dead July 15, 1884. Verdict: Supposed caused by violence, unknown.

John W. Lowe, found dead July 15, 1882. Verdict: Natural causes.

Edward W. Loring, November 26, 1885. Verdict: Cause paralysis.

George W. Whitney, Davis Township, October 11, 1881. Verdict: Ran over by train at Hamlet.

James Kelley, found dead September 27, 1883. Verdict: Caused by drinking liquor.

James Austin, found dead in Starke County, October 24, 1885. Verdict: Cause unknown.

Andrew Stilson, Oregon Township, found dead September 17, 1884. Verdict accidental discharge of gun in hands of Thomas Welsh.

Anna Horak, Wayne Township, July 8, 1885. Verdict: Cut her throat with razor.

Lineus C. Bullock, found dead September 18, 1884. Verdict: Circumstances show he shot himself.

Henry Bonekemper, found dead July 20, 1896. Verdict: Fell off wagon west of Knox.

Ralph A. Nadherny, found dead at club house at Bass Lake, July 10, 1905, struck by lightning.

Verne Cecil Adam, found dead at his home 1 mile east of Ober, July 29, 1905. Verdict: Natural causes.

David Reed, found dead in Robbins Ditch near Hamlet, August 4, 1905. Verdict: Suicide by drowning.

Elizabeth Smith, found dead near Ora, July 30, 1905. Verdict: Cause unknown.

Louisa Starke, found dead on Pennsylvania Railroad, December 5, 1905. Verdict: Killed by passenger train.

Charles Schultz, Railroad Township, October 20, 1904. Verdict: Suicide by hanging.

Eva Alice Mays, found dead in Bass Lake, June 6, 1905. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Charles Weidner, found dead at his home in California Township, April 2, 1905. Verdict: Natural causes.

James Dolezall, found dead at home July 3, 1905. Verdict: Natural causes.

Wilhelmena Mittlestart, found dead in North Bend Township, January 5, 1905. Verdict: Natural causes.

Walter R. Baker, found dead on north spur of Erie Railroad, January 13, 1905. Verdict: Accidental by reason of a defective engine.

George Krow, found dead in Knox, February 28, 1905. Verdict: Natural causes.

Carl B. Fry, found dead in bed, December 6, 1904. Verdict: Natural causes.

Louisa Tietz, found dead December 8, 1904. Verdict: Natural causes.

James Polka, found dead at English Lake on C. C. & St. L. R. R., November 9, 1903. Verdict: Killed by train, no one blamed.

A. Gritz, found dead in Hamlet on Pennsylvania Railroad, September 7, 1904. Verdict: Struck by train.

Paul Budack, found dead on Nickel Plate Railroad, September 15, 1904. Verdict: Killed by train.

Commodore P. Rogers, Center Township, found dead November 24, 1904. Verdict: Accidental shooting himself.

J. Michel Freet, Oregon Township, July 31, 1903, found dead. Verdict: Struck by passenger train.

Floyd Brugh, found dead near Bass Lake on C. & E. Railroad, September 14, 1903. Verdict: Accidental.

John Jandik, found dead on C. & E. R. R. in Railroad Township, November 5, 1903. Verdict: Ran over by train.

Wilhelmena Ristoff, found dead in her bed, August 2, 1903. Verdict: Apoplexy.

Infant of Julius Fechner, December 1, 1901. Verdict: Natural causes.

David Turnbull, found dead 1 mile west of Knox on Nickel Plate Railroad, December 31, 1902. Verdict: Struck by passenger train.

Charles Haines, December 7, 1904, Washington Township. Verdict: Shot supposed by a neighbor.

Clifford Chapman, found in the Kankakee River, August 8, 1903. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Elizabeth H. Duncan, Davis Township, August 29, 1903. Verdict: Drinking carbolic acid.

Herman Shuman, found dead in Davis Township, October 31, 1898. Verdict: Accidental discharge of gun in his own possession.

Wm. H. Sult, found dead in Oregon Township, June 19, 1903. Verdict: Struck by engine.

Arthur Akers, found dead June 4, 1903. Verdict: Drowned.

Alex J. Bartkieveice, found dead in Railroad Township, May 5, 1903. Verdict: Natural causes.

Infant, died January 10, 1903, child of E. E. Rodgers. Verdict: Natural causes.

Samuel Scott, found on tracks of C. & E. R. R., August 30, 1898. Verdict: Killed attempting to cross track in front of engine.

Joseph Zabar, Wayne Township, July 21, 1896. Verdict: Struck by train.

John G. Taylor, found dead in Oregon Township, December 29, 1897. Verdict: Heart failure.

William E. B. Fetters, December 15, 1896. Verdict: Found buried under a mule near Eagle Lake, supposed to have been shot and then buried.

Unknown person, found dead near North Judson, March 2, 1903. Verdict: Frozen to death.

Stella Wilson, found at home of George Osborn, North Bend Township, May 11, 1897. Verdict: Accidental discharge of gun.

William Splitstizer, found dead in Railroad Township, April 13, 1897. Verdict: Falling out of his wagon.

Charles Nelson, San Pierre, found dead August 12, 1897. Verdict: Bullet fired from gun in hands of Charles Messenger.

Della Akers, two miles south of North Judson, October 29, 1900. Verdict: Hanging.

Charles Kruper, found dead at San Pierre, November 16, 1900. Verdict: Cerebral hemorrhage.

John L. Broadstreet, on the Gallup Farm, August 24, 1900. Verdict: Gun shot by his own hand.

Unknown man, found dead two miles northwest of North Judson, October 10, 1899. Verdict: Unknown causes.

Nicholas Theodore, Bass Lake, July 21, 1902. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Augustia Gertz, found in dying condition, died same day, September 4, 1907. Verdict: Took poison presumably by herself.

William H. Henderson, found dead on Peelle Farm one mile east of Knox, July 20, 1900. Verdict: Killed by lightning.

Albert Penfield, found dead Bass Lake Station, September 26, 1900. Verdict: Struck by mail car.

James G. Brunner, found dead on C. R. & M. R. R., April 29, 1902. Verdict: Knocked down and run over by train.

Lillie M. Seider, September 7, 1899. Verdict: Shot herself in Knox.

Edith M. Davis, found dead January 7, 1902, Center Township. Verdict: Shot supposedly by Henry Clements.

S. Lebanz, found dead May 7, 1902. Verdict: Rheumatism of the heart.

William B. Chapel, found dead in bed, November 27, 1902. Verdict: apoplexy.

John R. Snyder, found dead at Koontz Lake, January 9, 1901. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Jones Dipert, found dead April 20, 1901. Verdict: Killed by vicious bull.

John W. Aker, in Washington Township, found dead January 26, 1900. Verdict: Struck by engine.

Dale Darling, found dead at Grovertown, August 23, 1901. Verdict: Killed accidentally by train.

Hudson Fuller, North Judson, April 11, 1902. Verdict: Struck by train and killed.

Mary Reed, at home, found dead August 4, 1905. Verdict: By pistol shots fired by her husband.

Amos Payne, found dead about three-fourths mile east of Knox, August 10, 1905. Verdict: Accidentally struck by train.

Isaac J. Davis, found on bridge where Nickel Plate crosses Yellow River in Center Township, June 4, 1906. Verdict: Being struck by a train.

Joseph Butzen, found in Koontz Lake, July 16, 1906. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

August Bery was found October 18, 1906, Davis Township. Verdict: Hanging himself.

James Reese, found at Mr. Appelgate's barn in Knox, January 23, 1907. Verdict: Came to his death by alcoholic drinking.

Manervie Kline, found at her home in Knox, November 21, 1906. Verdict: Natural cause.

Gilbert Payne, found on C. I. & S. R. R. at North Judson, July 21, 1907. Verdict: Neck broken by locomotive.

Carnile Rutgart was put off train at Knox, May 4, 1907. Verdict: Natural causes.

Peter Oyinga, found at home, Wayne Township, December 9, 1907. Verdict: Natural causes.

Infant child of J. Nodell, California Township, found July 16, 1907. Verdict: Natural causes.

Ed Lintz, single, found at his father's house, North Judson, July 10, 1907. Verdict: Suicide.

Martha Anna Thompson, found at her home, North Judson, May 6, 1906. Verdict: Natural cause.

Philip Mondon, California Township, found on farm of Carl Forina, November 29, 1907. Verdict: Being shot by gun in hand of Carl Forina.

Henry Z. Roberts, found on Monon R. R., one-fourth mile south of Kankakee River, in Railroad Township, December 30, 1907. Verdict: Struck by train.

John J. Budka, found at his home in Wayne Township, April 27, 1908. Verdict: Suicide by shooting himself.

Josephine Budka, found at her home three miles north of North Judson, March 28, 1908. Verdict: Taking Paris green.

Martin Surina, found about three miles north of North Judson, in Wayne Township, April 8, 1908. Verdict: Drowning.

J. R. Wilson, found at the Steiger Farm, one-fourth mile west of Ora, in Starke County, February 20, 1908. Verdict: Natural causes.

Minnie Zable was found at her home in Railroad Township, June 2, 1908. Verdict: Suicide by hanging.

Theodore Kane, found on Nickel Plate R. R., at Bolen Crossing, in Washington Township, April 30, 1908. Verdict: Accidentally killed by locomotive.

Wm. H. Robertson, Railroad Township, found about three miles north of English Lake, Starke County, May 30, 1908. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Joseph F. Mrazek, found on C. C. & L. R. R., at North Judson, July 19, 1908. Verdict: Accidentally struck by locomotive.

Darelex Willard Gardner, found in Yellow River, one mile east of river bridge at Knox, July 15, 1908. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Charles Nostrum, found in Center Township, December 2, 1904. Verdict: Suicide by shooting himself.

Lewis Hulka, found on C. I. & S. R. R. track in Wayne Township, near Bogus Ditch, May 5, 1908. Verdict: Accidentally struck by locomotive.

Delitha Buck, found at her home in Knox, August 30, 1908. Verdict: Natural causes.

Julius Fechner, North Bend Township, found hanging in his barn, September 22, 1908. Verdict: Suicide by hanging.

Marion Edna Haskins, found at North Judson, November 13, 1908. Verdict: Cause unknown.

James Marion, found at English Lake, Railroad Township, November 11, 1908. Verdict: Natural causes.

Francis Pruksa, Wayne Township, found January 15, 1909. Verdict: By myocarditis.

Frank Follick, found on P. C. C. & St. L. R. R., March 17, 1909. Verdict: Struck by train breaking his neck.

Samuel Worman, found at Hamlet, Davis Township, November 15, 1908. Verdict: Struck by train.

Emil F. Kvasnicka, at his home, Wayne Township, one-half mile north of North Judson, May 21, 1908. Verdict: Shot with a shot gun in hands of Albert Roubek.

Wm. G. Mills, found dead at house of his son Chas. T. Miller, June 28, 1909. Verdict: Mitral stenosis.

Samuel Cassaday, California Township, was found dead at Bass Lake, Indiana, July 20, 1909. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Mandes Myers, Center Township, was found in Yellow River, July 25, 1909.

Franciska Goudeca, found dead at Knox, September 7, 1909. Verdict: Brights disease and heart complications.

John Bertkewitz, Railroad Township, was found in Railroad Township dead, September 4, 1909. Verdict: Suicide by hanging.

Samuel Foust, North Judson, Wayne Township, found on Pan Handle R. R. west of C. & E. Crossing, January 21, 1907. Verdict: By being struck by a car on said railroad.

George Henry Anders, found dead in Oregon Township, November 14, 1909. Verdict: Apoplexy.

Josephine Prickett, found at Ober, Indiana, December 6, 1909. Verdict: From effects of poison.

Thelma Golding, found dead in Knox, January 28, 1910. Verdict: Accidental suffocation.

Jacob Drunecky, found dead April 11, 1910. Verdict: Struck by lightning.

Edwin Larnek, found dead near Hamlet, Indiana, May 31, 1910. Verdict: Accidental shooting.

Robert M. Bailey, found dead August 8, 1910. Verdict: Fatty degeneration of the heart.

William Alonzo Noland, found on the C. & E. R. R. track at North Judson, December 21, 1906. Verdict: Struck by locomotive on Erie Railroad.

John G. Goppert, found dead September 30, 1910. Verdict: Apoplexy.

James G. Heilman, found dead September 28, 1910. Verdict: Struck by train on C. I. & S. R. R. west of Knox.

Charles Vendell, found dead October 20, 1910. Verdict: Acute gastritis.

Frank Hugh, found dead on Stinson Gravel Road west of English Lake, November 22, 1910. Verdict: Accidentally shooting himself.

William Sawyer, found dead February 11, 1911. Verdict: Myocarditis.

Ethel Thompson, found dead February 22, 1911. Verdict: Found dead when returned next day.

Mary Kenaline, found dead June 12, 1911. Verdict: Valvular heart lesion.

Mrs. Abigail Stauffer was found dead February 16, 1910. Verdict: By rupture of left ventricle of heart.

Mary Wilson, found dead March 18, 1911. Verdict: Apoplexy.

Marie Jane Parrault, found dead May 29, 1911. Verdict: Cerebral hemorrhage.

Nels Frederick Olson, found dead in Koontz Lake, May 27, 1911. Verdict: Accidental drowning in Koontz Lake.

William Schuenke, found dead July 2, 1911. Verdict: Accidental drowning in Bass Lake near Cranberry Point.

Jacob Clark, found dead September 20, 1911, Brems, Indiana. Verdict: Mitral stenosis.

H. S. Robinson, found dead under train at Bass Lake Station, September 16, 1911. Verdict: Struck by train on Erie Railroad.

Nathan M. Leeper, found dead October 11, 1911, Hamlet, Indiana.

Frank Duzik, found dead on Nickel Plate R. R. right of way, September 2, 1911. Verdict: Accidental death by being struck by train.

John Rosson, found dead December 20, 1911. Verdict: Rupture.

Margaret Burbank, found dead December 20, 1911. Verdict: Cerebral hemorrhage.

John Elinger, Lena Park, January 2, 1912. Verdict: Falling of brick wall.

William H. Stevenson, found dead on streets of Knox, Indiana, January 8, 1912. Verdict: Mitral stenosis.

Chester Herbert Young, found dead February 5, 1912. Verdict: Abscess of left lung.

Elmer Montogue, found dead March 24, 1912. Verdict: Apoplexy.

Geo. Hohamer, Center Township, found dead March 28, 1912. Verdict: Apoplexy.

Lizzie Vojak, found dead April 17, 1912. Verdict: Spontaneous death due to exposure and cold.

James Shanahan, found killed April 4, 1912, struck by Erie train.

Unknown infant, found dead in privy vault in Hamlet, Indiana, June 11, 1912. Verdict: Death due to exposure.

Frank Trunosky, found dead July 1, 1912. Verdict: Cerebral hemorrhage.

Sigmond Klopot, found dead in Knox, September 3, 1912. Verdict: Suicide by hanging and shooting.

Geo. C. Wood, found dead September 25, 1912, Oregon Township. Verdict: Accidentally thrown under wagon.

Charles M. Kemp, found in Washington Township, November 23, 1912. Verdict: Paralysis.

Bert Gehr, English Lake, found dead October 31, 1912. Verdict: Burned to death.

Wm. J. Green, found dead October 31, 1912. Verdict: Skull mashed.

Daniel P. Haley, found dead Davis Township, December 18, 1912. Verdict: Cerebral apoplexy.

Anson Phillips, found dead in bed at Brems, in Center Township, January 8, 1913. Verdict: Chronic interstitial nephritis.

Leander L. Tompkins, found dead on street in Knox, Indiana, March 8, 1913. Verdict: Chronic valvular heart disease and embolism.

Raymond Merrel Baughman, found in Bass Lake, July 4, 1913. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Ethan T. Reasoner, found dead in his cottage at Bass Lake, July 16, 1913.

Martin V. Strasburger was found on front porch, Bass Lake, July 20, 1913. Verdict: Suicide by shooting himself.

Austin C. Holdeman, found on Pennsylvania R. R. at Grovertown, August 7, 1913. Verdict: Accidental death, being struck and run over by train.

John R. Bunnell, died in Dr. P. O. Englerth's office, North Judson. Verdict: Suicide by drinking carbolic acid.

Geo. Miller, found on Erie R. R. track one-fourth mile east of North Judson, August 29, 1913. Verdict: Chronic myocarditis.

Arthur Albertson, found on porch of his home in Hamlet, Indiana, September 14, 1913. Verdict: Suicide by drinking carbolic acid.

Treva Bower, found in branch of Craigmile Ditch, September 17, 1913. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

Frank Hall, Washington Township, found in bed in tent, September 25, 1913. Verdict: Pulmonary hemorrhage.

Felix Lelka, found one-half mile east of English Lake on P. C. C. & St. L. R. R. right of way, December 1, 1913.

Henry Otto Breunlin, picked up on Erie tracks, North Judson, November 8, 1913. Verdict: Struck by west bound train on Erie while crossing track.

Norman Adam Bruenlin, picked up at Erie Crossing, November 8, 1913, east of North Judson. Verdict: Struck by Erie train.

Otto Henry Goltz, picked up on Erie R. R. right of way, east of North Judson, November 8, 1913. Verdict: Struck by Erie train.

Carl August Kane, North Bend Township, found in bed at his home, February 13, 1914. Verdict: Apoplexy.

Patrick Phillips, Center Township, found dead in bed, February 9, 1914. Verdict: Aortic regurgitation.

Peter A. Peterson, found in shed at Hamlet in Davis Township, February 17, 1914. Verdict: Paralysis of heart.

Burnadetta Gains, found dead at home, March 27, 1914. Verdict: Acute colitis.

June Frederick Shultz, Oregon Township, found dead in his bed in Oregon Township, April 30, 1914. Verdict: Endocarditis.

Albert Svoboda, found in field across road in Center Township, June 2, 1914. Verdict: Accidental manner gored by bull.

Alvin Barnum, found in Yellow River just above Heaton Street Bridge, June 27, 1914. Verdict: Accidental drowning.

John J. Stinson, found in bed at Ora in North Bend Township, June 28, 1914.

Mrs. Emma Isfort, found in Yellow River just above Heaton Street Bridge in Knox, June 27, 1914. Verdict: Accidental drowning while trying to rescue Alvin Barnum.

James Hubeny, found in bed in home in North Judson, August 14, 1914. Verdict: Acute endocarditis.

Infant of John Banta, found in bed in California Township, October 26, 1914. Verdict: Suffocation.

Verna May Clark, found dead in bed at her home in Washington Township, August 7, 1914. Verdict: Hydrocephalus.

Lewis Ray, found about seventy-five yards east of house at Hamlet, Indiana, October 28, 1914. Verdict: Cerebral apoplexy.

Wm. G. Hurst, found dead in Fitz Hotel basement stairway, November 5, 1905. Verdict: Apoplexy.

Geo. J. Girard, conductor Pennsylvania Railroad, March 18, 1906. Verdict: Accidentally killed by train.

Robert Meeks, found dead on Erie tracks east of North Judson near Bogus Ditch. Verdict: Took carbolic acid.

## BIRDS

In 1897 Mr. Amos W. Butler made up a list of the birds in Indiana, in which he says that nearly every species of birds is found in this county.

During the month of February the migrating birds begin their movements to the sunny shores and the broad expanse of those lakes. The duck, the robin of the South, make their flight for the Hoosier State and many other kinds of birds, as the bluebird, the blackbird, the orioles and swallows, arrive to take up their joyful songs of praise for this happy land they love so well, also the snipe, the plover, the thunder-pumper, so common during the summer months appear here.

The goose too with the great sandhill crane can be heard in our land. The pheasant used to be a common sight. The peculiar sound that it would make with its wings would attract the attention of anyone for acres around.



Prairie chickens would come in great droves and it would be a common thing to catch or kill a dozen a day. They are, however, getting very scarce of late years. The purple martin is a bird much admired and is a beautiful singer.

A goodly number of birds winter here, nearly half a hundred different kinds remaining here during the cold winter months. Hence, we see that Starke County can produce many kinds of birds and wild fowls that are found in other counties of the state.

This would apply truly to the aquatic birds as from the reports we have with the exception of some two species of wild duck all the varieties found in the state are "citizens" of our county.

Bird meat was eagerly sought after by the early settlers, wild game furnished about the only kinds of meat they had until later years, when the farmer began to raise cattle and hogs for meat. We still have the buzzard, the crow, the hawk, which stay with us, but some species of birds have become quite scarce. The wild turkeys are a thing hardly ever seen in the county. The eagle is seldom seen. The pheasant is next to no more, and the whippoorwill is a scarce quantity, but for all that we have birds galore, their sweet melodious songs to lull us to sleep at night, and their sweet strains of music to call us up in the morning. What would be a country life without the twitter of those birds and the melodious voices as they sing from the trees above us, ever reminding us that we should enjoy the grand scenes of nature and take pleasure in them! We have in our possession a list of the birds found here that gives the blue jay, the blackbird, the robin, the woodpecker, the meadow-lark, the chirp bird, the pee-wee, the thrush, the catbird, the crow, the hawk, the owl, the kingfisher, the swallow, and the world renowned English sparrow, which is a great bird to increase in numbers and is a great fighter and can endure untold suffering in driving out the bluebird and the common barn swallow, a fact not noticed by a number of our people, as they occupy the same conspicuous abode in our hay lofts and barn garrets on the farms.

Those swamps, that once contained innumerable birds that built their nests low down, having become farm lands by the draining and clearing, bird life has greatly decreased in that section of the county, but we have birds with us, we shall have them for all time. When the birds all leave us and we can no longer hear the fine warble and the sweet songs of them it will be when things shall cease to be and time shall be no more.

#### ARBOR DAY

Arbor day was first established in Indiana in April, 1884, but not being very well observed it continued about the same until the year 1896, when on the 30th day of October of that year the day was quite generally observed and has been since that time. There are some forty-four states that have passed laws for arbor day.

The planting of trees was introduced by Hon. Northup of Connecticut

in the year of 1864 or 1865. The first proclamation for a day of this kind in Nebraska was promulgated in 1872, and the day known as arbor day has existed in that state ever since that time. Minnesota adopted arbor day in 1876. Kansas adopted arbor day two years later. Michigan, Iowa and Illinois in 1882, and as I have said, Indiana in 1884. This day is being quite generally observed, and I predict it will only be a few years until all the states will adopt a similar day, encouraging the planting of trees as some of the states are now doing.

This is certainly a thing in the right direction; it gives amusement as well as pastime for the young people to engage in, and beneficial in after years as the encouragement of raising timber is a matter that is going to command the attention of our people in the near future. If I am correct, the 30th of October of each year is our regular arbor day in Indiana.

#### METEORS

The meteors or falling stars were certainly a grand sight. Often the writer's father has sat and told of the falling stars that occurred in the fall of 1833. He was living on a farm in Bedford County in old Virginia at the time and many people became frightened and thought the world was coming to an end. The whole sky was lit up with those falling stars that would descend with a buzzing or sizzling sound. I have no recollection of the meteoric shower of 1866. Whether it touched this part of the country, I cannot say.

There has occasionally a meteor or leonoid fallen from the skies, one or two that the writer witnessed, but no shower of those meteors have been seen by the oldest inhabitants of Starke County. Some of them frequently speak of their parents' witnessing the grand sight in 1833. It is said that those showers occur two or three times every 100 years but perhaps they would not be general over the country.

#### WEATHER

The coldest weather experienced by our people in this locality was January 1, 1864. The mercury registered 26° to 30° below zero. The wind was high, which added greatly to the discomfort of all the people of Starke County. The day before was warm with a drizzling rain in the evening which turned to severe cold in the night. As long as they shall live some of our neighbor boys will recollect that eventful night or towards morning of January 1st, as they went to a dance up Eagle Creek some six miles on the evening before, and returning towards morning they became prostrated with the cold, and being afoot they nearly froze to death. They did however reach home and fell against the door to signal their parents to take them in. Some of those boys are living in Knox today, never to forget that fearful night nearly fifty-one years ago.

The year before was cold and frost was common, not missing a month

during the year. According to some diaries kept of the weather, the year of 1812 was said to have been the coldest. But the coldest weather during the summer months is charged to 1816.

The greatest snow storm ever witnessed by the people of the United States was in 1817.

The winter of 1875 was said to be the mildest, when on January 1st the thermometer registered about 70° above zero. This was a clear day and the fields were green, giving the appearance of summer weather. This was known as the wet month as it rained a greater part of the month. It was a hard winter for the ice men, very little ice being put up that winter. March the last was closed with a deep snow but it did not last long as the sun came out warm and the snow soon melted and gave way soon after it fell.

According to the weather bureau the hottest weather we have had during the whole summer for twoscore years was in 1901. The year of 1911 being nearly as warm as the summer of 1901.

The drouth of 1871 was the most severe and lasted the longest of any that we have any knowledge of. This was the year that Chicago was nearly swept from the map by fire. Well do our citizens recollect that awful catastrophe. Well do our citizens recollect that awful dry period when the corn apparently burned up. The stalks standing in the fields looked more like a brush thicket in the fall after they had shed their leaves.

Another severe drouth might be mentioned, which was fifteen years before or in the year of 1856, when rain was almost unknown during the summer months. The wettest season according to history was 1855 and 1857, when it rained almost constantly during June and July of those two years.

The 4th of July, 1873, is claimed to be the coldest National holiday witnessed by the people of Starke County. Many persons suffered from the cold, being thinly dressed as the morning of that day was very beautiful, but turned cold during the day. Many of us living in Starke County well remember that disagreeable 4th of July, a day long to be remembered by those who dressed for a pleasant day but were so wonderfully disappointed.

According to history (as we were not born at that time), the great storm of 1845 occurred five years before Starke County was organized. The storm did but little damage here, as there were no residences or big barns or telephone or telegraph lines to be destroyed. Some of the older counties east of here sustained a great loss by the hurricane. A pioneer poet describes this storm in a poem written by him after it occurred, which we found among some old papers. It reads as follows:

“ 'Twas on the first day of July a storm rose, the wind blew high  
and in a furiouss plash did crash, and tore many things to smash.

“The first we heerd twas on its way, within our midst there did stay,  
and there a wind storm by turns, it struck the hows of nabor burns.

“And tore a part of the roof asunder, which caused them to quake of wonder

As it passed across the river, and those who saw it how they did quiver

“To behold the water whirled in air, it made the people gasp & stair it made its course toward the ski and drank the river almost dri.

“The next we heerd as it dashed and tore many roofs to smash, kind providenc held out his arm, protecting all those from harm.

“The bildens stanin by it hit them as they were near by it cawt the rufs al in its flite, as if it was nuthin but a kite.

“The places hit fel to the groun, tops of chimneys tumbled down, this wind storm it cawsed much wunder, the bildens was nerly rent asunder

“Now i must speak of mr ross to his offis it then flew across, his buggy was whurld roun & roun, and then returned safe to the groun

“The next thing thet cum to view, the methadis church was damaged too, the next thet cum to view aroun, was a man in the upper end of town,

“As he was out in the strete, the storm it did him badly beet, this maid him somewhat flat, becaws it damaged his bran new hat.

“This cawsed him to wonder and look cause he seen he,d lost his pocket and now when a storm begins to rise, you,l see him lookin fer a hole in the skies.”

A wind storm passed over this county in 1879 but did no great amount of damage. We had a severe snow storm in the winter of 1912, as many of us can tell. About twelve inches of snow fell and the wind kept up most of the day with the temperature almost down to the zero mark.

It was the cold blizzard of April, 1910, that put the fruit crop out of business for that year. On November, about the 10th or 12th of the month, the mercury in the thermometer fell more than 50° in twelve hours. This day was accompanied by rain and snow and the telegraph and telephone lines and poles were carried down causing many dollars of expense in repairing them.

June 30, 1912, was ushered in by a continuous roar of thunder and the sky was made red with the constant flashes of lightning.

March 21, 1913, will be remembered by many as an unusually stormy day, although there was not much damage done in this vicinity. This storm, however, covered many of the western states. The loss of life by those storms has been light here, as compared with some other locali-

ties, but several houses and barns have been burned by the lightning setting them on fire.

In the year of 1881 a severe tornado passed over a part of this country. Those tornadoes are very much different from a hurricane. They pass through the air in a funnel shape, point downward, and when the cyclone touches the ground it begins to mow a swath and as it descends the wider swath it mows and when it begins to rise the swath becomes smaller or narrower, when it will then rise so far above the ground that it will cease to do any more damage.

The storm just spoken of, which occurred on the 21st of March, 1913, as I have said before, did but little damage here in Starke County, as compared to other localities. This storm took an easterly course and did considerable damage in the counties farther east. The heavy rains caused the rivers to rise above their banks and inundate a great area of country, which was the case especially in Cass, Miami, Grant and Delaware counties, and at many more places in the state, but as the flood did not materially affect us in Starke County we can feel proud that we have been as fortunate as we have. True, we did have bridges and culverts washed away and all this required money to replace, but nothing like they had to meet in some parts of the country.

It is a foregone conclusion that our rivers rise quicker than they used to do, but this is all easily understood, for when you come to think of the ditching that has been done both with dredges and other means, all emptying into our larger streams, and then consider the miles of under or tile drainage that is put in by the farmers, then is it any wonder why those rivers rise in so short a time? The more ditching there is into those rivers, just in that proportion will the rivers rise. This has been done by a system of ditching. This the farmers can see by the time it takes for the water to leave their lands as compared with what it required before being ditched. But those ditches carry the water off and soon the water begins to fall in the rivers, sometimes causing floods far below.

The climatic conditions in the Kankakee Valley are said to be slightly colder in winter and slightly warmer in summer than the surrounding country, for the reason that it is an open, prairie plain. The same rule will apply to the moon and stars. To magnify the brilliancy of the moon and make it appear closer would give some idea of the magnitude of this luminous body. It is said that the knowledge gained from the moon with reference to the south pole indicates that we know more concerning the south pole of the moon than we do about the south pole of the earth and its influence upon the weather. Somewhere I have read that if we were stationed upon the moon near the south pole we would find ourselves in the midst of steep mountains almost perpendicular which would measure 10,000 to 20,000 feet high and several miles across. This perhaps is not exactly correct but it is nearly so.

It is remarkable how those people of so many years ago could understand the conditions and positions of the sun, moon, and stars, the changes and the motion of the earth, yet one thing peculiar about it too,

they contended that the sun and moon and stars traveled around the earth instead of the earth traveling around the sun. Of course, the earth turns on its own axis every twenty-four hours and it takes 365 times 24 hours to travel clear round the sun. Certainly this is not the only movement of the earth. They did discover that something peculiar caused the different seasons and discovered from the means at their hands that the movement of the earth and the sun is towards the northern part of the heavenly space, which takes place at the rate of ten to fourteen miles per second. In this case we are then continually moving in the direction of the northern sky at the astounding rate of 400,000,000 miles every twelve months. The course traveled by the sun seems to us to be in a straight line, but some astronomers claim that it may be in a circular line of such dimensions that it cannot be observed by any means obtained by the human race. As the earth accompanies the sun this brings us into new positions of the universe.

By the great journey the earth and sun pursue by separate orbits through space, many of those stars appear to be traveling in different courses so far as has become known. There are indications in recent years of the existence of more than one general movement of the stars but this theory is rather weak. Hence the early citizens were not clear on those subjects, though astronomers have, it seems, worked out those problems and fully understand their conditions and positions, and their influence over the atmospheric conditions of the different parts and locations of this continent and their influence over the weather.