

Homeslead No. 1,

Chap. I. = Back in the State.
~~The opening~~
Boy. to be Hero.

Chap. II. First - Opening.
Hero - with father -
Father fails to get claim.
returns to state.

Chap. III. Cherokee Outlet.
Father Hero accompany father
to this opening.

Chap. IV. Government Drawing.
Long contest for claims.
Hero of age - Register

Chap. V. Prize No. 1.
draws prize No. 1.

Chap. VI.

Chap. VII.

Chap. VIII.

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INDIANA MY BIRTH PLACE.

I am very partial toward Indiana. It ^Twas there I was born, reared, educated, and married. I left ~~Indiana~~ ^{the state} Indiana for the west when I was thirty one years old. In these years, I was a farmer-boy, student, teacher, lawyer, editor and ~~enough~~ of a politician ^{of sufficient caliber} to be elected to the legislature.

My home was in Vigo County, of which Terre Haute was the county seat. My father's farm on which I was born was located in the southern part of the county, about one mile from the village of Middletown, Prairie Creek postoffice. My father was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky. The family removed to Indiana when father was 13 years old. His name was Valentine Morgan. He died in March, 1880, at the age of 65 years. Land was cheap in the days when he started in life. He purchased his first farm of 40 acres on credit. To this he added, as the years went by, until, at his death, his farm consisted of 400 acres, one of the largest in southern Vigo County. But ~~this~~ the decade between 1870 and 1880, was unfavorable to profitable agriculture. The war time high prices of farm products rapidly declined, until corn, our staple product, was selling at twenty five cents ^{per bushel}. The value of farm lands greatly decreased. The farmer who was in debt for land found himself unable to meet his financial obligations. In these years father was spending considerable money in educating his children, who were nine in number, three girls and six boys. It was the old story, the farm

was mortgaged. In the settlement of the estate, one half of the farm was sold, the other two hundred acres were set off to mother, on which she lived, until she passed away only six years ago, at the age of 92. Father was a leader in his community, and an up to date farmer, for his time. He was a well posted man upon public affairs. In politics he was a Whig, when that party was in the height of its strength. He became a Republican on the organization of that party. I was fortunate in my parents. Mother was in many respects a remarkable woman. When I was first elected to Congress in 1908, on my trip from Oklahoma, to Washington, I stopped to visit mother. She was then 87 years old. I knew that she, above all others, would rejoice over my election. At that visit she said, "Dick, I am going to ask only one favor of you while in Congress. The nearest rural mail box to my house, is a quarter of a mile distant. As I have lived in this township longer than any other person now living, I think I am entitled to have my mail brought to my door." I answered her very promptly, that I would attend to that the first thing on my arrival at the National Capital. And I did. My first official business was to visit the Post Office Department. The mail route was slightly modified, without discommoding others, and mother's mail was soon being delivered at her door. The incident gave me quite a reputation in the southern part of Vigo County, for I soon began to receive letters from others wanting changes made in rural mail routes. These letters were, of course, courteously answered, but they were referred

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to Hon. Ralph W. Mass, who at that time was their Congressman.

My mother's maiden name was Frances Ann Thompson. She was born in Vigo County, Indiana. She was a half-sister of Martin M. Ray, of Shelbyville, Indiana, who was in his time a prominent lawyer of the state, and a descendant of James B. Ray, Governor of Indiana, for two terms, beginning in 1825. Martin M. Ray had a number of sons, who in the 80's were prominent in politics in Shelby County. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ The best known among these sons ~~XXXX~~ was Scott Ray.

My real name is Dick, not Richard. I was named after Richard W. Thompson of Terre Haute. While his name was Richard, he was almost universally called Col. "Dick Thompson." My father intentionally gave me his nick name, and it is so recorded in the family record.

CIVIL WAR MEMORIES

I was seven years old when Lincoln was inaugurated President. The home scenes and incidents of that war were vividly impressed upon my mind. Camp "Dick Thompson" was located at Terre Haute. It was named after Colonel Richard W. Thompson of Terre Haute, who was commissioned a Colonel by Oliver P. Morton, Indiana's great War Governor. I went to the camp with my older brother. Then I first saw soldiers drill. It made a deep impression on me. The people of Indiana were not all loyal and patriotic during that war. Quite a percentage of them sympathized with the South. They were called Copper-heads or Butternuts. The butternut was emblematic^c of the grey uniform worn by Confederate soldiers. ~~Southern sympathizers sometimes would appear in public wearing a charm made from the butternut shell. This led to many clashes between the Union men and those known as Copper-heads and "Butternuts".~~ To manifest their opposition to the war, and their sympathy for the South, men would sometimes come to the village of Middletown, wearing a charm made out of the shell of a butternut. This was a challenge to Union^{men}, who would invariably proceed to tear the offensive emblems from the clothing of the wearers. Generally this meant a fist fight, but sometimes it meant a shooting affair. What the men did, in

public places, the boyes were imitating in school. So when a boy came to school wearing a butternut charm he was generally pretty roughly handled. The sons of Union men were "hurraying" for Lincoln, and rejoicing in the victories of Grant. Occasionally a boy would "hurrah" for Jeff Davis, President of the Southern Confederacy. This was a challenge to fight, and as the Union boys were generally in the majority, the offender was severly flogged.

In these Civil War days every village and community had its fife and drum corps. Everywhere they were "beating up" for volunteers. I learned to beat the tenor drum. I was taken into the drum corps. A little later Home Guard Military Companies were organized, ~~for~~ ^T the Confederate General, ^{ad,} John Morgan, of Kentucky, (no relative of mine so far as I know) ^{had} ~~was~~ [^] invaded Indiana. In those days they had great Union rallys which would be attended by thousands of people. I was very proud to march at the head of our Home Guard Company, beating the tenor drum, What was the nearest I came ^{to} ~~of~~ being a soldier.

There was a log school house on my father's farm, where my older brothers ^{and sisters} attended school. I went with them ~~occasionally~~ occasionally and have very distinct memory of the home-made furniture therein. It was in a frame building in the village of Middletown where I first went to school regularly. At that period the country schools ~~were~~ were much inferior to what we have today. In the first place, the teachers had little educational qualifications. It was a time when order and discipline were enforced chiefly by administering ~~the~~ corporal punishment. Often it was carried to the extreme. My first teacher's name was Robert Allen. He was an elderly, baldheaded man. He used the rod unsparingly. The difficulty in school government was generally with the big boys. By the time I was a "big" boy, corporal punishment was not much in vogue. However, I did not escape entirely. Generally I deserved more punishment than I received. One time, I thought I was punished unjustly. My ~~parents~~ parents thought so too, for they would not permit me or my brothers and sisters to return to school. As a result, the teacher was not re-employed. But Robert Allen, my first teacher, was a type of the "Hoosier School Master", representing the pioneer days. He gave way to a better class of teachers. A new school house was erected in the village of Middletown. Some of the girls and boys, of the neighborhood went to college. My oldest brother, C. H. Morgan, and my oldest sister Loucretia were among them. They came back to the neighborhood as teachers.

My sister, Loucretia, who attended college at Merom and Terre Haute, opened a select school in a church, near the public school. It was an innovation, and was not well received. Those who attended it were looked upon as aristocrats. The school was referred to in derision as "Morgan College." But progress was the order of the day. A few years later, a great step forward was taken. A two story brick building was erected with three school rooms. This was in 1870. It was called Prairie Creek High School. I was about fifteen years old when I entered this school. It was in a debating society conducted in this school that I learned to speak in public. This was the foundation of my career as a lawyer and public official. In Sullivan County, just South of Vigo, only 16 miles south of my father's farm was the town of Merom. It was situated on a ~~high~~ bluff, ^{200 feet high} overlooking the Wabash River. Union Christian College was located at Merom. This was then, as it is now, one of the small colleges of Indiana, but it has always been a high grade institution. I entered this College in 1872. This was an important event to me, because here I met Miss Ora Heath, the daughter of Rev. A. R. Heath, the Secretary of the College. We both graduated from the institution and were married in 1878. Mrs. Morgan's home was at Covington, Indiana, and she has a sister, Miss Della, and a brother, E. W. Heath, residing there now.

Merom the seat of Union Christian College, was in Sullivan County, Indiana, ten miles west of Sullivan, the county seat. At Sullivan, there was a school known as "Assension ~~the~~ Academy." There was good natured rivalry between the schools. One of the professors

in the Sullivan school was John T. Hays, father of Hon. Will H. Hays, the present widely known Chairman of the Republican National Committee. My memory is that Will H. Hays' mother was a daughter of Professor Cain, another teacher in the Sullivan school. I knew John T. Hays, when I was a student and he was a teacher. Later he entered the legal profession, and I also became a lawyer. We lived in the adjoining counties and became well acquainted. So when at the National Capital, I meet Hon. Will H. Hays now the recognized leader of a great political party, my mind naturally goes back to the solid virtues of the splendid family from which he came.

SOMETHING ABOUT FARM LIFE.

Terre Haute, fifteen miles north of my father's farm, was the trading point, when the products of our farm were marketed. My father's farm was among the largest and best equipped in that section of the country. It was a pleasant farm home. A family of nine children, three girls and six boys, grew to womanhood and manhood, and eight of us are still living. Though we worked hard, we had our pleasures and recreations. The young folks met at spelling-schools, singing classes, social parties and picnics. Another source of amusement was hunting. ^{At night,} ~~we~~ went hunting for raccoon and opossums. Occasionally we would have a fox-chase. These were in the day-time. Hundreds of men on horse-back with a large number of fox-hounds would participate.

Improvement in transportation facilities marks the progress of our Nation. When I was a boy, there were few buggies in country neighborhoods. The farm-wagon was the chief vehicle. The young people, girls and boys alike, went to church and to all kinds of social gatherings on horse-back. Then came a time later ~~when~~ on when everybody had buggies and carriages, but these in turn have given way to the automobile, now in common use by the farmer in my old neighborhood.

In my boyhood days, there were two churches in the village of Middletown, the Baptist and the Christian (Disciple). It was

decidedly a religious ~~country~~ ^{Community.} Dancing was not common, for the churches would withdraw fellowship from any member who danced. Young people who had been "turned out" of church were hardly in good standing in the best society. My father and mother were staunch members of the Christian Church. For two years, when I was between the ages of 14 and 16, I was called the "black sheep" of the family, for no other reason than ^{that} I went to dances. But after sowing wild oats in this fashion, I united with the Christian Church. The religious impressions received in those days have in a very large measure dominated my career in life. After all the two churches were the chief centers of social life and the dominating influences of the community. ~~Then~~ ^{These,} with the Township High School, and ^{the} large ^{number} ~~percentage~~ of religious homes, made the village of Middletown almost an ideal American Agricultural ^{Community.} ~~Country~~, for as James A. Garfield said, "The three forces which constitute the strength of a free Government ~~these~~ are the church, the school, and the home."

EARNING MONEY.

Most of the farmers in Prairie Creek ~~Sanity~~ Township owned and cultivated ~~their~~ their own farms. When not in school, the boys were kept at work, on the farm, and I never knew the time when there was not something pressing to be done. But we boys found ways to earn a little money of our own, which we could spend without accounting to our parents.

'Coon ~~hunting~~ hunting and 'possum hunting at night was not only great sport, but it was a means of money making. There was a market for the hides of these animals. In this ~~way~~ way, I earned my first dollar. 'Coons were more difficult to catch, and their hides were more valuable ^{than were 'possum hides} ~~than~~ There was much timber on my father's farm. It had to be cleared. Wood was cheap in those days. But there was a grist mill in Middletown, which used wood for fuel. So at odd times, I would chop a wagon load of cord-wood, ~~haul~~ haul it to the mill, and get a dollar for it. The first money of any importance I earned was in teaching singing-school. When I was about sixteen years old, an instrumental music teacher came to Middletown and gave instruction on the organ and piano. In a short time, there were a number of farmers who purchased organs or pianos. My father was among the number. I went off to college and my parents instructed me to take music lessons. I did so, and soon ^{and later} learned to read music, sang in the college choir. When I returned ~~home~~ home to spend my first summer vacation, the young folks invited me to instruct them in singing. I accepted their invitation, and as a result made fifty dollars. I graduated from the

Merom

~~Merom~~ College in 1876. My father had paid my expenses in College for four years. I was 23 years old. I concluded it was time for me to be self-supporting. I had chosen law as my profession, but I concluded to teach school for a while, and read law in the meantime. I was employed as principal of the Prairie ~~xxxxxx~~ Creek High School. After I had taught about two months, I received a letter, the contents of which was a great surprise. It was from the President of Merom College, informing me that ^{the} professor of mathematics had been granted a leave of absence, and that I was invited to take the place for the six months following. I was under written contract at the home school, but the trustees, with general approval ^{of the patrons,} let me off, and I was soon back at my Alma Mater, recognized as one of the faculty, and was called "Professor". When the year closed, through the recommendation of the President of the College, I was employed as the principal of the schools at Hagerstown, Wayne County, Indiana. My salary was \$100 per month. This I thought sufficient on which to support a family and at the end of the year I was married.

I taught ~~■~~ two years there. I have not been there since. Hagerstown then had about 1200 ~~xxx~~ inhabitants. There were six teachers in the school. Among the prominent men living ~~xxxxxxxx~~ there at that time, were Messrs, Bonebraker, Shively, Tontz, Allen, Wiggins, Newcomb, Knode, Freeman, Thurston, Blount, Mason, and Purdy. Some ten miles from Hagerstown, was Cambridge City, noted for being the former home of Oliver ~~■~~ P. Morton. I had great admiration for Morton.

He became Governor of Indiana in 1861, and served in that position and as United States Senator, until his death, November 1, 1877. His statue is in the Hall of Fame in the National ^{Capitol} ~~Capital~~. He is universally recognized as one of the greatest men Indiana has ~~xxx~~ ever produced. I was teaching school at Hagerstown at the time of his death. ~~His body remains lie~~ ^{Tens} ~~in state at Indianapolis.~~ ^{of people} ~~There~~ of thousands from all ~~part~~ ^{lifeless} parts of the state went to take a last look at his ^{form}. I dismissed my school and went from Wayne County to Indianapolis to pay my respects for one ^{whom} ~~man~~ who I had been taught from almost childhood to admire and honor.

Teaching, I had only regarded as a temporary employment. I had to choose between that and law. I gave up the school room, and entered law school.

LAW SCHOOL

In 1879-80, I attended The Central Law School, at Indianapolis. Judges Byron K. Elliott and James B. Black, and Mr. Charles P. Jacobs were the chief instructors. Among my classmates were Hon. Merrill Moores, now Indianapolis' able and distinguished Representative in Congress; Hon. William L. Taylor, at one time Attorney General of Indiana and now a prominent citizen of Indianapolis; ~~was another of my classmates.~~ William F. Elliott, son of Judge Byron K. Elliott, now a member of the bar at Indianapolis, and author of a number of law books, ~~graduated in the class with me.~~ There were about 40 members of the graduating class. The Commencement exercises were held in one of the theaters. Former Governor, Conrad Baker, the President of the school, presided. The faculty selected me to deliver the valedictory address in behalf of the class. The next ~~morning~~ morning I felt that I was riding rapidly to fame when I ~~read~~ read my address in full in the Indianapolis Sentinel. Shortly after the close of the school year, I returned to my home ^{in Vigo} county, ~~of Vigo~~ to engage in practice of the law. Col. Thomas H. Nelson, lawyer, orator and diplomat invited me to office with him. He was not engaged in the active practice of the law at that ~~ix~~ time. I hung out my ^{''}shingel ^{''} as an attorney-at-law, at Terre Haute. This was in April, 1880. In a few months, the Republican County Convention was held, and I was nominated for a Representative

in the Legislature. The Republicans carried the county and I was elected.

IN THE INDIANA LEGISLATURE

I was 26 years old when elected a member of the Indiana Legislature. The election was on October 12, 1880. In those days Indiana held two elections in Presidential years. It was exceedingly eventful day for wife and I, for on that day I was elected to the Legislature and a son was born to us. It was the Garfield Campaign. The Indiana Republicans were successful. They carried a majority of the Legislature, on joint-ballot of the two Houses, and elected Albert G. Porter, Governor, so we named our son Porter, after the newly elected governor. The boy grew to manhood, married Miss Clemmer Deupree of Bloomfield, Iowa, and they have four children. Our son is now a successful attorney at Oklahoma City. The Legislature convened early in January, 1881. The chief interest centered in the election of a United States Senator to succeed Hon. Joseph E. McDonald, a Democrat, and one of the most distinguished lawyers of the state. The chief candidates for the Republican caucus nomination were Benjamin Harrison, Walter T. Gresham, then United States Judge, and Will Cumback, who had long been a prominent Republican politician and orator of the state. Gen. John C. New, the father of United States Senator Harry S. New, James A. Wildman, W. W. Dudley, who afterward became a national figure in politics, and D. M. ^{Ransdell} ~~Ransdel~~, who thereafter served a number of years as the Sergeant at Arms of the United States Senate, were some of the prominent managers of Harrison's Campaign. It was a new experience for me. It was the first time that important political powers ^{was} ~~were~~ placed in my hands. I

took my duties seriously. I was the ^{youngest} ~~greatest~~ man in the Legislature, except one, a Mr. Johnston from Jefferson County. The attention paid to me by those interested in the Senatorial fight was very pleasing, ~~to me~~. Judge Gresham had quite a following, but by the time the Republican caucus convened the majority for Harrison was so pronounced that he was nominated by acclamation. Then in a few days his formal election was to take place in the two Houses. I had been a Harrison man, ^{partially} ~~partially~~ from my own inclination and partially because the prominent men of Terre Haute, like Col. R. W. Thompson, ^{W. R.} ~~Riley~~ McKeene, president of the then Vandalia Railroad, Nick Filbeck, and others were for Harrison. A very great surprise, as well as a high compliment came to me. Those in charge of the program for the day ~~in~~ the House was to vote on the election of a Senator, decided ^{to have} ~~that there were to be~~ two nominating speeches made. Wholly unsolicited on my part, and intirely unexpected, I was ^{invited} ~~called upon and told~~ I was to make one of the speeches. Judge N. R. ^{Lindsay} ~~Lindsay~~ of Kokomo, was selected as the other orator of the occasion. Judge ^{Lindsay} ~~Lindsay~~ was probably 60 years old. ~~and~~ One reason for my selective was to give recognition to the young men of the state, ^{who} though organized effort had been an important factor in the campaign which had ended so successfully for the Republicans. I was ambitions to acquit myself ~~creditably~~ creditably. I immediately began the preparation of my speech. After it was prepared, I submitted it to Col. James B. ^{Black} ~~Bloch~~, then an attorney of Indianapolis, but for many years thereafter a judge. Col. ^{Black} ~~Bloch~~ was a staunch friend of mine. I had read law in his

I was in law school.

office. ^{when} He was a man of mature years, a great student and something of a literary character. I had confidence in his judgment. He said the speech was all right. I committed it to memory and delivered ~~ix~~ it according to the program. What pleased me most was that the Indianapolis Journal, owned by Gen. John C. New, and ~~which~~ edited by E. W. Halford, Harrison's private Secretary when he was President, ~~and the leading paper of the state, the next~~ ~~morning~~ printed my speech in full. Since the Star correspondent invited me to give a story on my experiences in the Indiana Legislature, I have secured from the Congressional Library the bond volume of the Journal contain^{ing} the issue of January 19, 1881, in which the speech was published and I find in a column headed "Legislative Gossip" the following paragraph:

"Dick~~son~~ Morgan, yesterday in seconding the nomination of General Harrison, made a most favorable impression upon the House and has the promise of becoming a most effective speaker. He is one of the youngest members of the House and his address had none of the faults which often characterize the efforts of our young debater."

As the Republicans did not have a majority in the Senate, it required a joint meeting of the two Houses the next day to complete the election of Benjamin Harrison to the United States Senate, which proved to be the stepping stone which made him President of the United States.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

One of the men who served with me in the lower House at that session was John L. Wilson. He was from Crowf'dsville. His father had been a ~~Rep~~ Representative in Congress. While ~~Hansen~~ ^{Harrison} was in the Senate, he secured for Wilson an appointment as Register of one of the U. S. Land Offices in the State of Washington. He ^{became} ~~being~~ prominent in the state, and was for some years a United States Senator from that state. His brother, Henry Lane Wilson, ~~also~~ attained eminence in the diplomatic service, and was ambassador to Mexico

J. N. Huston was also a member of the House. Huston was the Chairman of the Republican National Committee in the Harrison Campaign for President, and was appointed United States Treasurer. ~~Hansen~~ Huston was in those days a rich man. I understand he now lives in Washington, D. C. Warren G. Sayer of Wabash was a member of the House. For many years he was prominent in ~~that~~ Indiana politics, and was widely known. W. M. Ridpath of Brazil was the Speaker of the House. He removed to the State of Washington, took an active part in politics and became wealthy.

In the State Senate were a number of men who for years afterward were prominent in the state. Among these I recall D. W. Comstock of Richmond, who served many years on the bench, and was

elected a Representative in Congress in 1912, at the age of 75. He died while a member of Congress. ~~Other~~ Other prominent characters were F. J. Van ^{Wohlschlag} ~~Wohlschlag~~ ^{Wohlschlag} of Indianapolis, J. J. Spann of Rushville, C. L. Henry of Anderson, G. W. Grubbs of Martinville, M. Garrigus of Kokomo, and E. G. Bundy of New Castle.

INCIDENTS AT TERRE HAUTE

I lived in Terre Haute from April, 1880, to December, 1885. ^{the city} It had numerous distinguished ^{Citizens} citizens at that time. Col. R. W. Thompson, though a member of Congress thirty five years before that, was still hale and hearty, and the most highly respected and honored citizen of the city. Hon. David W. ^{Voorhees} ~~Voorhees~~, then United States Senator, was in the height of his popularity and political prestige. ^{Chauncey M.} ~~Chauncey~~ Rose, for those days, a very ^{rich} ~~sick~~ man, and who had contributed so much to the upbuilding of the city, and who founded and endowed the Rose Polytechnic Institute, was, I think, still living. Among the leading lawyers of the city were William ^{Mack} ~~Mack~~, ~~Harvey~~ Harvey D. Scott, Isaac Pierce, C. F. McNutt, B. E. ^{Rhodes} Rhodes, Charles P. Craft, ^{Sandford} ~~Grant~~ Davis, Sydney Davis, Thomas Harper, William Eggleston, N. G. Buff, and John G. Williams. C. Y. Patterson was Judge of the District Court, when I was admitted to the bar.

^{Cattin} Among the young men of the bar, were D. W. Henry, Robert ~~Cattin~~ Cattin, J. G. McNutt, Samuel ~~Hamil~~ Hamil, ~~Winley~~ Winley McNutt, Horace Pugh, Edward Pugh, J. W. Keyser, George W. Farris and John E. Lamb, and James E. Piety. Robert ^{Cattin} ~~Cattin~~ is still there and is well to do financially. D. W. Henry, served as Judge for a long time, then as collector of Internal Revenue and became prominent in state politics. He is reputed to be enjoying a respectable fortune which he made in coal and oil lands. George Farris served three terms in Congress and died here in Washington about four years ago. John E. Lamb, a Democrat, beat

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INDIANA AND OKLAHOMA: OUR BIRTHPLACE AND ABIDING-PLACE.

We hail from a great state - great in wealth, great in resources, great in industrial interests, great in educational forces, and great in the history, character, and achievements of its people.

Indiana occupies a proud position among the sister-hood of states. She ranks eighth in population, eighth in the value of manufactured products, ninth in the value of farm products, seventh in the value of lands and improvements, and first in the amount of her permanent school fund. Her sons have contributed their full share to the building of this mighty Republic.

In the field, in the factory, in the workshop, in trade, commerce and transportation, and in every line of ^{human} industrial activity, they have kept in the front rank of the ^{great industrial} army of ~~tollers~~ ^{which has made} the United States ^{great, rich and powerful.}

In the intellectual realm of life, in the learned professions and in art, science and literature, the Hoosiers have won honorable distinction. Indiana has given the world popular poets, famous authors, distinguished lawyers, celebrated jurists, and eminent orators. In Congress, in the Cabinet, in the Chief Executive Chair of the Nation, she has placed wise and patriotic statesmen. In every war, for a hundred years - whether fought to preserve the life of the Union, to maintain its honor ^{and} credit, or to emancipate an oppressed people - Indiana, in the hour of need, has never failed to furnish the

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Republic with brave and illustrious soldiers. The census of 1900 gives Indiana a population of over two million five hundred thousand people. Seventy-five per cent of these were native Hoosiers. Only about five per cent were born on foreign soil. Indiana has been sufficiently attractive to draw within her limits persons from every state in the Union. Looking to the future greatness of this State, the most encouraging and promising fact revealed by the census table^s is that in 1900, there were in Indiana, one hundred and forty-two native born Oklahoman^s.

In the minds of many, Indiana has been a good place to emigrate-from. There have been two forces in the state. One ~~has~~ been a centrifugal force, drawing ~~the~~ people into the state, the other a centripetal force pushing ~~her~~ ^{them} out of it.

In 1900 there were in other states and Territories, six hundred and fifty thousand native born Hoosiers. One hundred and twenty eight thousand were found in Illinois, 75,000 in Kansas, 70,000 in Missouri, 52,000 in Ohio, ^{and} 48,000 in Iowa. Thousands were found in other states. In Delaware there were 94, the smallest number in any single state. Of all the Hoosiers who ^{have} turned their backs upon their native state, in search of wealth, health, fame or ^{fortune} ~~happiness~~, the ones who have shown the best judgement ^{those displaying the} and made the wisest choice ^{were} ~~of~~ the 17,351 who ^{came} ~~came~~ to Oklahoma.

In many respects Indiana is a wonderful state. Her resources are abundant. Her industries are numerous and varied. Her products are of ^{great} ~~great~~ variety and of immense value.

Agriculture and manufacturing

73.

is favorable for the growth of farm products. Her soil ^{is} rich, fertile and productive. She has ~~an~~ inexhaustible deposit^s of coal and an abundance of raw material for manufacturing. She has ^a great net work of railways which have given her the best facilities for transportation and commerce, stimulated the growth of her cities, and contributed largely to the wealth and prosperity of her people.

Indiana is an educational center. Her universities, colleges, and high ^{er} institutions of learning, compare favorably with those of other states. Her public schools are hardly surpassed. Her permanent common school fund exceeds \$10,500,000, and is increasing at the rate of \$50,000 annually. In maintaining her public schools, Indiana spends annually over \$8,000,000. Within her borders ~~are~~ ten thousand public school buildings, in which over 16,000 teachers are employed, at a cost, in salaries ^{ies of} over \$5,000,000 annually.

Eighty-four years have passed since Indiana was admitted as a state into the Union; more than one hundred years have rolled by since her organization as a territory; and two hundred years have come and gone since the first permanent settlement was made within her borders. Her present population, wealth, institutions, and industries, are the product of ^{two} centuries of growth, progress, and development.

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Our Abiding Place.

From our Birthplace we turn to our Abiding-Place. We are not ashamed of one; we are proud of the other. Oklahoma has become a great Commonwealth -- great in area, great in natural resources, great in acquired wealth, great in internal commerce, great in the extent, variety, and volume of business, great in the number, character and efficiency of her educational institutions, great in the culture, refinement, and progression spirit of her people, and great in the magnificent possibilities of the future.

By the assessors' returns Oklahoma's wealth exceeds \$82,000,000., and by actual count, ^{her} ~~our~~ wealth exceeds \$300,000,000. In proof of this statement, I point to ~~our~~ ^{her} annual agricultural products of 40,000,000 bushels of wheat, sixty million bushels of corn, two hundred and twenty thousand bales of cotton and other farm products worth, ^{Eighty} ~~fifty~~ million dollars; to her two million head of live stock valued at fifty million dollars; to her two thousand five hundred miles of railroad, worth fifty millions of dollars; to her three hundred and ten banks, with twenty millions in deposits, and twenty-eight millions in resources; to her annual manufacturing products, valued at seven millions; to her rich and fertile farms, valued by the latest United States census at one hundred and seventy nine millions of dollars; to her magnificent cities, prosperous towns and villages and vast local trade and internal commerce.

The evidences of Oklahoma's intelligence and good citizenship are seen in the two thousand free public schools; in her high schools and denominational colleges; in her normal schools, agricultural colleges, and Territorial University; in the work of her 2,500 school teachers; in the million dollars spent annually in the support of her public

five hundred church buildings; and church property valued at over one million. As proof of her patriotism Oklahoma points to her thousand of old veterans who, in the darkest hours of our country's history, endured the hardships of the march, faced the danger of the battle, and carried the flag of our country to victory; she points to the time when this country was engaged in a war with a foreign nation -- fighting a war for humanity's sake -- that Oklahoma responded promptly to the call for ~~xx~~ troops and that her boys were among those who charged up San Juan Hill, under the leadership of that fearless soldier, that brave and patriotic statesman who, now occupies the position of Chief Magistrate of this Nation, Theodore Roosevelt.

Oklahoma's population came from every state in the Union. The largest number from a single state, 63,344, came from Kansas; the smallest number from one state, 22, came from Nevada. 17,351 came from our native State, Indiana. Here are representatives from every section of our country. Our population is cosmopolitan. The Federal census of 1900 shows that forty-one different nationalities and foreign countries are represented in our population. People have come to Oklahoma from all the countries of Europe, Asia and Africa: from the Islands of the Atlantic and the Islands of the Pacific: in brief, in Oklahoma you will find people from every civilized country on the globe.

The census reports show that the States and foreign nations have not sent to Oklahoma the scum of their citizenship. Of all white persons in the United States over ten years of age 6.2 per cent are illiterate. 4.2 per cent of this class in Indiana are illiterate. In Oklahoma only 2.9 per cent of this class are illiterate. Oklahoma has not been selfish. Having borrowed largely from other states, she has paid them back in in-

forest -- according to Oklahoma rates. One of the remarkable facts revealed by the Federal Census of 1900, was the presence of native Oklahomans in every State in the Union except Delaware. Though Oklahoma had been opened to settlement but ten years, persons born in Oklahoma were found in every section of the United States. Over 10,000 native Oklahomans were enumerated in 1900, in other States and Territories. ^{2,400}~~27,000~~ were found, ^{in Kansas,} 1100 in Missouri, 1100 in Texas, and 142 were found in Indiana. In every state, except poor little Delaware, the native born Oklahoman was found. In view of the fact that native born Oklahomans are domiciled throughout every section of our country, we may well take an optimistic view of the future of this nation. These native Oklahomans will doubtless prove to be the little leaven that will leaven the whole lump of our 80,000,000. people. Well may we boast of the fact that ~~is in~~ ⁱⁿ but one state in the Union -- North Dakota -- do so large a per cent of the families own their homes, as they do in Oklahoma, and in no state in the Union is there as large a per cent of the homes free from debt or encumbrances, as there are in our Territory. In Indiana 56.1 per cent of the families own their homes: in Oklahoma 71.8 per cent of all our families own their homes. In Indiana 19.1 per cent of all the homes are mortgaged; in Oklahoma only 8.3 per cent are mortgaged. In Indiana 26.7 per cent of them farm homes are mortgaged; in Oklahoma only 8.4 per cent of the farm homes are mortgaged. Garfield said that the three great forces which constituted the strength and glory of a free government were the family, the school and the church, and that the glory of our country could never be dimmed while these three lights were kept shining with undimmed luster. In founding our commonwealth, in moulding our society, in establishing our civilization, in building our institutions, in

sanctity

framing our laws, the people of Oklahoma have recognized "the ~~society~~ ^{sanctity} of the home, the intelligence of the school, and the faithfulness of the church."

Oklahoma's growth has been phenomenal, unparalleled, and unprecedented. In grand totals of wealth, resources and population she cannot compare with our native State, and yet Oklahoma excels Indiana in the production of the great staple agricultural product of wheat; she has a greater number of banks, and a larger number of cattle. Indiana excels: another thing. Her State debt is over \$5,000,000.. -- \$2. per capita. Oklahoma's debt is only about five hundred thousand -- about eighty cent per capita. In comparing Indiana and Oklahoma we must not over-look the difference in their ages. One represents manhood, the other childhood. Indiana is the full grown forest tree, with its great strong roots deeply imbedded in the earth, with its strong branches extending in every direction, from its mighty trunk reaching to the clouds. Oklahoma is the young sapling -- thrifty, vigorous and promising -- but yet in Uncle Sam's nursery, confined, guarded and protected by the strong framework of Federal control. Uncle Sam's servants have greatly neglected their business. This young sapling, Oklahoma, long ago should have been transplanted in the field of statehood. For five years this federal framework has retarded its growth, hampered its development, debilitated its strength, and dwarfed, scarred and ~~deformed~~ ^{deformed} its branches. with only 60,000 population.

Indiana was admitted to the Union, and was in the Union a quarter of a century before she had the population Oklahoma now has. Yet when Oklahoma with 600,000 people stands knocking and pleading for admission, the junior senator from Indiana, Hon. Albert J. Beveridge, stands at the

As Ex-Hoosiers we do not question Senator ~~Albert J.~~ Beveridge's honesty of purpose, we admire his culture, ^{and} eloquence, and we would rejoice to see higher honors thrust upon him, but I for one regret that his great talents could not be used in a better cause than keeping 600,000 American citizens from rights and privileges to which by law and all precedent they are justly entitled.

STATEHOOD.

The one thing that distinguishes our Birthplace from our Abiding-Place is that one is a state, the other a Territory .

Under Territorial government, we are only quasi citizens of the United States. We have no participation in national affairs -- except to pay our share of the taxes. We have no representative in Congress. When laws are to be enacted -- laws which affect our interests and which we must obey -- our delegate is allowed no vote. This is gross injustice. Every day that it continues, our rights are being trampled upon. This is not all. We have no voice in presidential elections. The people of Oklahoma are entitled to be heard when the nation chooses its Chief Executive. We are entitled to speak when the time comes to settle the great questions now confronting the American people. But, we cannot speak. Our lips are closed. Our voices are hushed. Our opinions, our sentiments, our views, our ideas are smothered under the great incubus of Territorial government. Territorial government retards our material growth and progress. Every business halts and hesitates under its paralyzing touch. Commerce feels insecure. Capital is timid. The specter of Territorial government frightens it from us. Eastern people dislike to invest their money in a Territory. There is a wide-spread opinion throughout the United States that the laws of a Territory are unstable and its institutions and society are in a chaotic state. In other words, Territorial government stands as a stigma upon our people, our laws, our society and our institutions.

The most striking characteristic of a Territorial government is its
Its most prominent features are its imperfections. It is

are conspicuous. Its drawbacks are numerous. Its burdens are heavy. Its disadvantages are as the sands on the sea-shore. To further perpetuate it, after the reasons for its creation have ceased to exist, is oppression and tyranny.

Statehood would increase our population, augment our wealth, attract new capital, revive business, give confidence to investors, give permanency to our laws and institutions, give new life and spirit to the people, give our country and our citizens a better reputation abroad, contribute largely to a higher intellectual and moral development, provide a better government, give greater security to property, better protection to life and liberty, promote the general welfare, insure greater prosperity to the people, and in a thousand ways bless the inhabitants of Oklahoma.