

## An Indiana Burial Ground

### The Coal Creek Sensation and What There Is In It

For the past two weeks there has been no end to the talk of the number of Indiana skeletons found in a gravel pit in Coal Creek township, and when a REVIEW man braved the Winter blasts, Wednesday, to investigate the reports we were rewarded by finding quite a curiosity from the collections taken from the burial ground. The place was discovered by a party of Coal Creek farmers who had concluded to gravel the roads of that enterprising township, and the selected the large hill or mound on the farm of Jacob Luse, two miles west of Whitlock, to secure the gravel. Soon after they began haul the gravel, bones of human beings were found, and all kinds of rumors were afloat as to who they were, some parties even saying that it was the burial ground of a gang of robbers who once followed their avocation in this country. Further work caused more discoveries, and the mystery of the finding was that the bodies had all been buried in a sitting position. It was not long until a skeleton was found that seemed to be that of a giant, and buried with him was a dog. His bones were very large and the fellow must have been a powerful man. There was also in the same grave beads, a copper dart, and some pottery which had crumbled and broken. This caused the workmen to think it was an Indian, and upon further investigation it was proven that it was an Indiana burial ground. There has been over thirty skeletons removed, and will, in a probability be many more found, many of which will be reburied in a better location. The skulls are in a fine state of preservation and, with few exceptions, are low and show that the unfortunate being were not wise men. There can be no history found as to the location of this burial ground as even the oldest inhabitant does not know of it and has never heard of such a place, and as the history of the county can easily be tracked back for one hundred years, they must have been buried there long since. A strange feature of the finding is the different depth the bones are in the ground. Some are quite near the surface, others a few feet deeper, and some as much as twenty feet deep. They were probably Shawnees, as that tribe inhabited the northern part of this and Tippecanoe Counties. Through the kindness of D.A. Jenkins and Will Hixson the Review has on exhibition at our office a skull of a man who is supposed to have been a chief, and one of an Indiana who is supposed to have been one of the meanest, judging by the shape of his skull. Also quite a number of other bones of interest.