Excerpts From the Address by 
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The Treaty of Peace of 1783, which secured the independence of the colonies, did not relieve the western settlers from strife and suffering. In violation of her treaty engagements, Great Britain held military posts in the Northwestern Territory for still twelve years longer. At some of these posts, marauding bands of Indians were supplied with ammunition and encouraged in their depredations against the border settlements. The most troublesome of the tribes were those of the Miami Confederation. The army of General Josiah Harmar (1789) and that of General Arthur St. Clair (1791), which had been sent against this confederation, had met with frightful defeats, as a consequence of which the national government was humiliated and the whole country plunged in gloom.

Despite the continued aggressions of the savages, the national government persisted in efforts to secure peace with them, but finally decided to send against them another expedition. For this task Washington selected General Anthony Wayne, who in April, 1792, had been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army.*

In June, 1792, Wayne arrived at Pittsburgh and began the organization of an army, which was named "The Legion of the United States." In November of the same year, he proceeded down the Ohio River to a point seven miles above the mouth of the Big Beaver, where he went into winter quarters. Of this position he writes to Henry Knox, Secretary of War: "I am so strongly entrenched here that all the Indians in the wilderness could not drive me out." The camp was called, after the army, "Legionville." It was strongly fortified, and some of its trenches and the remains of several of its redoubts are still plainly discernible.

Here, at Legionville, Wayne remained until the following spring (April, 1793), when he broke camp, and with his army, descended the river to Fort Washington, now
Cincinnati, Ohio. After a winter spent in building Fort Greenville, Fort Recovery, and Fort Wayne (the last-named on the site of the present city of that name in Indiana), and after fruitless efforts had been made by commissioners to secure an honorable peace without a conflict, General Wayne, in July, 1794, advanced toward the enemy, and on the 20th of August of that year, he met them on the banks of the Maumee, or Miami-of-the-Lake, and totally routed them in a decisive battle. The enemy, about two thousand strong, under the lead of Blue Jacket, the most distinguished chief of the Shawanese, were concealed behind a "wind-fall," where an immense number of prostrate trees presented an almost impassable barrier to troops of any kind, especially to cavalry. Wayne, at the head of about three thousand men, attacked with such skill and impetuosity that even this obstacle was powerless to check him. Perceiving from the weight of the enemy's fire and the extent of their line that they were in full force in front and trying to turn his right flank, he ordered Major-General Scott, with the whole of the mounted volunteers, to gain and turn the enemy's right flank, and Captain Campbell, with the cavalry of the regular army, to turn their left next to the river. With his front line, composed of regulars, he then struck the savages in their coverts behind the trees with a heavy fire of musketry and with a bayonet charge, dislodging them, and driving them with great slaughter for two miles, until their shattered remnants reached the shelter of a neighboring British fort. This the enraged American forces were with difficulty restrained from attacking. The next day the British commandant, Major Campbell, sent a communication to General Wayne, in which, referring to the near approach of Wayne's men to the guns of the British post, he asked to be informed whether "he was to consider the American army as enemies, being ignorant of any war existing between Great Britain and the United States." Wayne replied: "Were you entitled to an answer, the most full and satisfactory one was announced to you from the muzzles of my small arms yesterday morning, in the action against hordes of savages in the vicinity of your post, which ter-
minated gloriously to the American arms, but had it continued until the Indians were driven under the influence of the post and the guns you mention, they would not much have impeded the progress of the victorious army under my command."

From the character of the position which was occupied by the Indians in this fight, the engagement is sometimes called the "Battle of Fallen Timbers."

This great victory of the American arms brought lasting peace to the western borders. Its effects were threefold:—First, local; up to this time all of the region west of the Allegheny River and north of the Ohio was known as the "Indian side," or the "Indian country," and was hermetically sealed against settlement by the whites. The few adventurous men who attempted settlement anywhere therein were driven out either by the Indians themselves or by the militia of the United States. Now settlement became lawful, and, as Judge Addison, in a letter to Governor Mifflin advising the speedy setting up in the newly opened region of the machinery of law, reports, "the people were going over the Ohio River in a mad flood."

Second, national; encouraged by the defeats of Harmar and St. Clair, the Indians along the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence, and in Georgia and Alabama, were pressing in upon the settlements. The news of Wayne's decisive victory over the Miamis overawed and quieted them.

And, lastly, it was international in the influence it had upon the British Government. Our minister, Mr. Jay, had been meeting with vexatious delays on the part of that government in settling questions hanging over from the Revolutionary War; he was now enabled speedily to close his negotiations with the Grenville ministry, and to secure the surrender of all the British posts still held, as already said, in the Northwestern Territory, a vast region out of which have since been carved several of the great commonwealths of the Union.

On the third of August, of the next year, 1795, a treaty of peace with the Indians was concluded at Fort Greenville.
This may, perhaps, be said to be the actual close of the Revolutionary War.

*Dr. Bausman’s address was not written, but he has kindly supplied the abstract of it herein published.

*Wayne had already distinguished himself in the Revolutionary War, and his apparently reckless bravery had brought him the sobriquet of “Mad” Anthony. But the Indians were more discriminating than some of his white admirers; they called him the “Black Snake” and the “Tornado.” They explained these apparently incongruous nicknames by saying that Wayne was like the black snake in the stealth with which he glided toward his foe, and like the tornado in the rapidity and force with which he moved when the moment for striking had come.