



RESIDENCE OF H. H. BOUDINOT.

railroad tracks converging from all directions to this common center; yet in the memory of living citizens is the time when Terre Haute was a score of houses on a green river-bank, more isolated, lonely and inaccessible in its thousand miles from the seaboard than is any point in the United States in 1889. At times, by impassable roads and river freshets it was entirely cut off from the outside world and, at the best, communication was by rough roads and occasional stages, or wagons, or by little steamers and keel-boats which traded with Louisville and Cincinnati.

There were substantial reasons for faith in Terre Haute, and, when in 1816 Indiana was admitted into the Union, emigration was greatly accelerated, and the tide from the East and Southeast rolled in rapidly. There are two distinct eras in Terre Haute's history. The first from 1816 to 1850, the years of the stage, flat-boat and canal boat, and from 1851 to the present, when railroads were projected and built. The first ambitious move was securing the courts, for Fort Harrison was the first county seat. The Terre Haute Land Company donated eighty lots and \$4,000 to secure this result. The next important event was the opening of the National road, which highway, extending from Maryland to Missouri, was opened as far as Terre Haute, in 1823, which then had fifty houses and perhaps



BIRDS EYE NORTHWEST FROM DOME OF COURT HOUSE.