

N. H. GABLE, VETERAN ANGLER

By E. P. HOUK

N. H. GABLE—"Uncle Nat"—of Portland, Ind., is an ardent angler. He has won and still holds the pennant in his locality. He is seventy-four years of age, and has been angling for seventy years. He is still



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young in spirit. His first angling trip in spring is considered by all to be a sure sign of the approach of summer, and his last fishing jaunt in the fall of the year is regarded as an indication that winter-time is near at hand. He is a civil war veteran, and fished in Southern waters even during his army service.

Uncle Nat is a fair fisherman and a true sportsman. He is a sincere lover of nature. He can hear the heart-beat of an ordinary clay clod and find angling worms where most men declare there are none. He loves children, flowers, music and the sport of angling—hence this old world, to him, is a heaven. He achieved success as a sportsmen's goods merchant, but is now retired from all else save angling.

While in business he derived more real pleasure from giving some poor child hooks and lines than he did from selling an expensive gun to a customer. "The quality of mercy is not strained." He dearly loved to sell fishing tackle, as this led to the subject nearest his heart, and he always carried fine goods in stock. Uncle Nat's favorite bass ground is Long Lake, Lagrange County, Indiana.

When our pioneer angler has had his last "strike" here on earth, we bespeak for him fishing celestial, in the same boat and along beside an elder brother—the Master—and his disciples, who were not only fishermen, but fishers of men.