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A PACE MAKER

HOSPITAL FOR NURSES IN CHARLESTON

Dr McClelland's Matchless Work—An Institution Which has Done and is Doing Excellent Work for the Colored People in South Carolina—A History of the School.

The Sunday News of Charleston, S. C., in its issue of July 20th, 1902, has a most interesting account of the Hospital and Training School for colored nurses in that city. We reproduce the article in part:

"Near the west end of Cannon street is a plain, unpretentious brick building. Its solid walls and massive pillars and general style of architecture attest its age. A small marble tablet in front of the wall and bearing date 1798 is hidden by a large sign board, which displays the description of the building in the inscription, Hospital and Training School for Nurses.

The Hospital and Training School for Nurses is kept for Nurses is an institution with a history. The well kept grounds and neatly whitewashed outbuilding and the general air of repose pervading the place gives no hint of the difficulties and discouragements overcome and the obstacles surmounted to establish and maintain this institution for preparing colored women to be professional nurses.

In the fall of 1896 Dr. A. C. McClelland called a meeting of the colored physicians of Charleston at his office to consider the advisability of establishing a nurse training school for colored women. There were at that time in Charleston six colored physicians and one dentist, who had, with one exception, expressed willingness to cooperate in the work. Other meetings were held, the work was organized and in January, 1897, the course of lectures was begun. The use of a room in the Wallingford School building was secured and here the classes met for lectures. It was the intention of the physicians connected with the work to give practical training to the nurses by placing them in charge of cases in connection with their practice, but this proved to be impracticable and it became evident that hospital training was necessary if the school was to turn out competent nurses. Dr. McClelland, who was at the head of the work, then requested the commissioners of public lands to establish a hospital ward for the treatment of sick inmates at the Ashley River Asylum, offering to furnish medical attendance and nurse service free. This, however, the commissioners did not think practicable. An effort was then made to have a ward in the City Hospital placed in charge of the students of the Training School. This effort was also unsuccessful.

It now became evident that the

MEN OF THE HOUR



DR. A. C. McCLELLAN.

Surgeon-in-Chief Hospital and Training School for Nurses, Charleston, S. C.

school must have a hospital of its own, but how to get it was the question. There as no money on hand and there seemed to be no way of getting any. Some money, about \$300, was raised by concerts and other entertainments, but that was only a beginning, and a very small one. A meeting of prominent colored men and women was called in July, 1897, a charter was secured, with Mr. James Preston as president, and an association was organized. A committee appointed to secure a building reported in favor of the building the institution now occupies, which was offered for sale at \$4,500. The terms of the purchase were to be \$1,500 cash and the balance in annual instalments of \$500. The owner of the building consented, however, to give the Training School possession for a cash payment of \$500, provided \$1,000 was paid before the expiration of a year. By

hard work the \$500 was raised and the first payment made. Possession of the building was given and on October 4th, 1897, the building was opened as a hospital with appropriate dedicatory services. The work was begun under not very encouraging conditions. The building was old and needed considerable repairing; there was neither instruments, nor equipments. Donations were asked for, and churches, Sunday-schools, benevolent associations and private individuals gave furniture, bed clothing and money. Patients began to come in and it soon became apparent that the hospital was filling a long felt want. The Hospital and Training School will close the fifth year of its work in August next. During that time the building and grounds have

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IN THE PUBLIC EYE

BRUCE GRIT DESCANTS ON CURRENT TOPICS.

Secretary Root's Speech and its Real Purport—The Nullifiers at Work in the Old Dominion—Fitzhugh Lee and Some of His Tribe—Brave Negro Soldiers—The Ex-Slave Pension Bill.

Some of the democratic newspapers and some democratic statesmen, profess to be highly elated over Secretary Root's speech before the Union League Club, of New York, February 6th, on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of that organization, and have construed his remarks to mean that the republican party in view of the fact that Negro suffrage has proven a failure will now abandon its efforts to secure to that race its civil and political rights. I recently addressed a letter to Secretary Root on this subject, asking him if the construction placed upon his speech by these newspapers and statesmen was the correct one. His answer in part is as follows:

"My Dear Sir:

"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 28th. I send you under separate cover a copy of the speech I delivered at the Union League, February 6th, and I think a reading of it will answer the questions you ask.

Very truly yours,

ELIHU ROOT.

Yonkers, N. Y., Mar. 6th, '03.

Was your speech before the Union League Club intended to convey the impression that the republican party will now abandon its efforts to protect the Negro in his civil and political rights? Was it not your purpose rather to call attention to the high-handed methods of the people of one section of the country to override the constitutional amendments, and defy the majesty of the law by denying to these Negroes, rights for which the republican party and the Union League of America have contended since the close of the war of rebellion?

The answer to these questions are found on page 9 of the speech delivered by the Secretary, and I make the following citations:

"Now I am not discussing the question, I am simply showing that the same state of official treatment of the blacks meets a change in the public feeling of the South; that the right to aspire to office under the Federal government which was formerly unquestioned is now questioned. And it is probably but a matter of time—not so very long a time—when the overwhelming weight of opinion of the white men will succeed in excluding blacks from all offices in the Southern states."

This paragraph seems to have given

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