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ENDORSED MITCHELL

FIVE THOUSAND PEOPLE RALLY

A MAGNIFICENT TRIBUTE.

REV. BROWNE'S LETTER CONDEMNED

SPLENDID ORDER.

A Harmonious Meeting.

W. M. T. FORRESTER PRESIDED.



Hon. Robert T. Teamoh.

The attack made by Rev. W. W. Browne upon Editor John Mitchell, Jr., in the columns of the "Richmond Dispatch" and "Daily Times" has created a widespread commotion in this city. On the street corners, in the shoe-shops, barber-shops in fact in every place that the colored people gather together...

Editor John Mitchell, Jr.'s reply in the Richmond, Va., "Daily Times" and which the "Richmond Dispatch" would not publish, was commended on every side...

Even the closest friends of Rev. Browne contented themselves with the statement, "Browne has made a mistake. He had nothing to do with it and should not have interfered."

Editor Mitchell succeeded in securing the Second Baptist Church on Tuesday, March 26th, and notice that a meeting would be held was given out in such churches as could be reached in time.

A call for a conference at the PLANET Office Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 P. M., was responded to with alacrity and by some of the leading citizens.

The sentiment was unanimous. Among the present were Rev. A. Bings, Jr., D. D., pastor First Baptist Church of Manchester, Va.; Rev. James H. Holmes, pastor First Church, Richmond; Rev. K. Wells, pastor Ebenezer Baptist Church; Rev. Z. D. Lewis, pastor Second Baptist Church; Rev. J. E. Rawlings, pastor Presbyterian Church; W. M. Forrester, Grand Master Odd Fellows; Major J. B. Johnson, Thomas C. Johnson, Esq., L. H. Dickerson, W. G. Singleton, John Oliver, Dr. B. Ramsey, William Barton, Rev. Evans Payne, pastor 4th Baptist Church, Rev. S. E. Griggs, Deacon Abner Cooley, Alexander Gaines, R. J. Bass, Lewis Braxton, J. W. Cary, Peter Ransom, William Morton Beane, Councilman R. Griffin, Councilman William B. Smith, Wm. Isaac Johnson, Rev. Thomas Briggs, J. C. Farley, Rev. J. T. Russell, Thomas F. Jeter, Peter Thompson, A. Washington, Rev. A. Ferguson, E. P. Vandervall.

After the arrangements had been made, the conference adjourned. The Second Baptist Church was packed from "pit to dome." At 8 o'clock standing room was at a discount. The aisles were crowded, the galleries presented a similar appearance, and yet the surging mass of humanity from outside continued to endeavor to gain admission. It was a night long to be remembered. It is a conservative estimate to place the number of people at the meeting at 5,000. The meeting was held in the evening, and the speaker was Rev. W. M. Forrester, who was elected permanent chairman. A committee was appointed to escort the speaker to the hall. As he appeared an outburst of applause greeted the man who had written the fatal letter. A body that represented 150,000 Odd Fellows in this country. Mr. Forrester expressed thanks for the honor tendered him.

He said that they were there to express their condemnation of the actions of one man, William W. Browne who had essayed to speak for them. The colored people were not yet ready to take upon themselves as one man's responsibility. They had no war to make upon any organization, but would unflinchingly condemn the usurpation of power by one man. He instructed the secretary elected, Mr. B. F. Vandervall, to read the letter of Rev. William W. Browne. This was done. A committee on resolutions was appointed as follows: John Oliver, chair-

man; Rev. R. Wells, Rev. J. E. Rawlings, Morton Deane, Dr. P. B. Ramsey. On the rostrum were Rev. J. E. Jones, D. D., Rev. R. Wells, Rev. Jas. H. Holmes, Rev. Z. D. Lewis, B. D., Rev. Thomas Briggs and others.

EDITOR MITCHELL SPEAKS. Chairman Forrester then introduced Alderman John Mitchell, Jr., the man who had been so unceremoniously condemned by Rev. William W. Browne. The applause which greeted the Alderman was enthusiastic and prolonged.

He said that the attack which had been made upon him in the Dispatch and Times of the 22nd inst., had led to the enquiry on his part, "Is Browne crazy?" He had been summoned as a witness in the Porter case. He learned that this was done at the instigation of Mr. Porter himself. He was to testify as to the report in the PLANET of the meeting which took place at the True Reformers' Hall condemnatory of the Porter scheme. He had long since learned that when the sheriff of Richmond summoned a person to court, he must go there or be fined and imprisoned.

REV. BROWNE'S STRANGE ACTION. Mr. Mitchell said that his testimony was in favor of Browne. It was well known that the PLANET had been forward in condemnation of the scheme. When Rev. Browne had denounced him at the meeting referred to he was much surprised although he had been previously warned that such a course would be done. His surprise was that he did not believe that "Rev. Browne would be as big a fool as that." The information given proved however to be correct.

The meeting however had voted that Rev. Browne and himself shake hands. They did so. He thought that this was a cessation of hostilities, that there would be no more use of force. Acting in conformity with this understanding he had withheld all reference to it from the PLANET, and not a line appeared anywhere in its columns with reference to it. His surprise and indignation could be readily imagined when he found that Rev. Browne had made an attack upon him through the educational progress of the colored people. Mitchell said that there was not a single business or professional man, not a minister so far as he had been able to learn, that endorsed that letter, and the masses of the people were solving against it. He then described how he came to accompany Representative Teamoh and the committee, being invited to do so. He described the visit to Allen & Ginter and T. C. Williams tobacco factory, reception at the Governor's Mansion and in a most entertaining way spoke of the drive. He declared that colored people could not afford to fight on another. He had had not enough leaders to allow any one to kill them off. He declared that Rev. Browne was too desirous of fighting the masses of the people. He said that Mitchell had defended the colored people at every opportunity. His record in the Board of Aldermen would speak for itself.

THE PEOPLES' ENQUIRY. He declared that everybody was asking the question "what did Browne do with the letter?" Each one had his duty to perform. Rev. Browne was over the finance. It was intended that he should attend to that. The ministers had to do with the moral, educational progress of the colored people, while he had charge of the journalistic department to defend the race against the aspersions of the Negro hating prejudiced white element.

THE SPEAKERS' LABORS. There was a liberal minded white element made up of some of the best persons in the city. The official of the city and state government knew that he was constantly trying to aid some unfortunate colored person.

He said he did feel charge. About forty per cent of the time was spent in this kind of work. He declared he could not fight prejudiced white men and vindictive and jealous colored ones. He would go on with his labors and leave the people to keep them off him. He closed amidst deafening applause.

REV. PAYNE SPEAKS. Rev. Evans Payne was introduced and was warmly received. He explained his position in the Porter case, and declared that at the time the Grant Monument and Old Folks' Home was endorsed by the Ministers' Conference, nothing was known of T. W. Porter, in connection with the affair.

Rev. Browne had come to the Conference in a manner to drive them to retract. He for one was not used to bossism and would not be bulldozed. He declared that as a Christian gentleman, there would have been no trouble. He did not know whether or not he should call him "Rev." for he had taken his commission, handed it back to God and gone into the money making business.

A PERSONAL EXPLANATION. He explained how he was summoned to court by the Sheriff of the city of Richmond. He knew he had to obey so he went. Rev. Browne, he declared talked very big at the True Reformers' Hall, but he did not do any of that big talking at the court.

He declared Rev. Browne's assertions relative to his having joined Porter to swindle and rob the colored people to be a lie, and the charge that he had contributed so much as when one cent to defray the expenses of the suit against Browne.

He's got to take it back," he solemnly declared. He condemned the criticism made by Rev. Browne concerning the salaries received by the ministers of Richmond. His people had raised his to \$100 per month and wanted to do even more than that.

He spoke of the ownership of the property, declared that Rev. Browne's heirs would finally come into possession of it.

ANOTHER BITTER CONDEMNATION. He was bitter in dealing with W. P. Burrell, declared him to be a plain felon, that animal that changes to the color of whatever object upon which it alighted. He compared him to a lizard. High references to how he was howled down in an alleged citizens' meeting at True Reformers' Hall was amusing, designating the head of the organization as "Boss Browne."

He referred to a sharp head boy at the True Reformers' building that clapped him down, declaring that there were people in Richmond, who had not received their sick dues in twelve months.

Rev. Payne imitated "Boss Browne's" antics on the rostrum. It created much amusement. For nearly an hour he delivered one of the most scathing denunciations ever poured upon an individual. He charged that the last grave offense of Rev. Browne was the injury he was doing John Mitchell. He had endeavored to kill him with a kiss. He referred to the hand shaking and quoted scripture setting forth that you should not make friends with an adversary while he is in anger.

REV. LEWIS' REMARKS. Rev. Z. D. Lewis spoke on the article which appeared in the daily papers, which depicted in the daily papers, principle and a betrayal of the race.

He wanted to know where Browne came from. He had put himself up as lord. He then reverted to the Porter case. He declared that the Negro had never been inside of his house that he had not furnished him any money to conduct the suit against Rev. Browne and denounced as a lie all statements that he was in league with a swindle and a scheme to rob the colored people.

He compared Rev. Browne with the snake of Esop's fables that had been taken to Editor Mitchell's labors in behalf of his race, declared that he was known over this entire country, for his fearlessness and devotion to his race and that for any man to attack him in this manner was an outrage.

THE KNIFING OF MITCHELL. He referred in burning language to Rev. Browne's effort to slay the champion and defender of the Negroes of this country John Mitchell, Jr. He declared that the Negroes were antagonistic to his principles and in violation of the fundamental rules of official life, and that the aforesaid article embraced an insult upon a member of the Massachusetts Legislature and a member of the Board of Aldermen of Richmond, in falsely alleging that they invited; and

WHEREAS the official recognition accorded these two representative citizens was in no wise a private social affair, but was formal and in conformity with the strict rules of etiquette; and

WHEREAS the communication in question has a tendency to place us in a false light, and to misrepresent our position which we are not prepared to endorse; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we disclaim any responsibility for the article in question and the admissions and insults which it contains.

RESOLVED, 2d, That after hearing fully the facts relative to the official courtesies extended the legislator of the North and those of the South, and their conduct in connection with the same, that we endorse their actions and commend them for their conservatism in the face of unmerited criticism.

RESOLVED, 3d, That we disclaim any desire for "social equality" or private recognition in a social way, realizing that it is a condition that will regulate itself.

RESOLVED, 4th, That we deprecate and condemn all efforts to belittle or cripple the influence of the clergy, realizing that it stands for the social, moral, and religious elevation of our people.

RESOLVED, 5th, That we discontinue and condemn all efforts to discriminate between the colored people of the North and those of the South, realizing that only by their combined efforts can the final elevation of our people be assured.

RESOLVED 6th, That Rev. Browne is only the head of the True Reformers, a benevolent and insurance organization and is in no wise authorized to speak for the colored race.

RESOLVED, 7th, That the letter is calculated to mar the peaceful relationship now existing between the white and colored people of this city.

They were adopted by a rising vote. In calling for those who opposed, but no man arose in the entire audience. Benediction was announced and a large audience retired from the spacious church edifice.

CHURCH HILL NOTES.

The Surging Mass of Humanity at the Fourth Baptist Church on Last Sunday—The Funeral of Mr. Jao J. Stinson—News in Brief

A very impressive service was held at Fourth Church, 28th & P. streets on Sunday evening last, when three funerals were presided by Evans Payne, the pastor. Two of which were those of Brother John Fields and his wife, Mrs. Lucy Fields. The latter died on Wednesday night the 20th inst. after a brief illness to typhoid-pneumonia.

His husband, whose protracted illness was mentioned in these columns a short time since, passed away on Friday morning. Both of them were members of Fourth Baptist Church for more than twenty years, and for an equal number years had been connected with the organization—Sons of the North and South. They were in attendance to pay the last sad tribute of respect to their memory. "Rebecca" Fountain, No. 507 of T. R., of which Brother Fields was a member, was also present.

As a deacon of Fourth Baptist Church, Brother Fields was well known for his exemplary christian character, and as a peaceful, and highly respected citizen, he was loved by the people and who knew him, as was attested by the letter of condolence read by deacon Alpheus Scott.

The third funeral was that of Mr. Selby Mayo, who departed this life on Friday, 22nd inst., after a sickness of or about a week's duration. He was the son-in-law of deacon James Wilder and was well known in this city. For quite a number of years he was successful business as a blacksmith in Fulton. Of late his shop was down on the River Road, at Varina Grove, Henric. In religion, Mr. Mayo was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a church here. He was a constant visitor of the Fourth Baptist Church in which he had two sons—Johnnie and Robert Mayo.

The attendance on this very sad occasion was one of the largest ever witnessed by many of the oldest residents. He was a young man, young and old, from all parts of the city. The sermon was deeply pathetic, and was listened to with most engaging attention. Rev. Payne was assisted by Rev. Mitchell and L. H. Dickerson, of the Richmond Theological Seminary.

The interments were all in the Evergreen cemetery. Messrs. Henry C. Johnson and William Isaac Johnson respectively officiated.

The sad intelligence of the sudden death of Mr. John Jefferson, in Washington, D. C. on Saturday last, was received here on last Monday. The arrangements were at once furthered for the funeral.

The following members of the family and friends who accompanied the remains which arrived here on Tuesday evening last, via the R. & D. R. R.—Mrs. Fannie Jefferson, wife of the deceased, and her son—Joseph, Mr. L. L. Williams of Boston, and the Rev. Wm. M. Turner.

Messrs. A. W. McCormick and E. A. Washington of this city, assisted Messrs. Willie and James Anderson in the funeral arrangements.

The funeral took place from the 4th Baptist Church, on Wednesday evening, the pastor, Rev. Evans Payne officiating. His discourse, though brief, was profoundly impressive. Invocation was offered by brother E. A. Washington. There were many friends present, and the service was most impressive.

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Most High of the Universe to remove from our midst our beloved sister, Mrs. Pattie Stewart, and

WHEREAS, The intimate relations long held by our deceased sister with the members of the Friendly Aid Society render it proper that we should place on record an appreciation of her services, she being the founder of our society, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That while we bow in humble submission to the will of the Most High we do not the less mourn for our sister who has been called to her eternal habitation to the one of eternal rest.

RESOLVED, That in the death of Mrs. Stewart, this Society has lost a member who was always active and zealous in her work, ever ready to do what she could for the advancement of the Society; she was wise in counsel, and fearless in action an honest and upright woman.

RESOLVED, That this Society tender its heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives of our deceased sister in this their sad affliction, and also that these resolutions be entered upon the minutes of this Society and a copy be sent to the family of our deceased sister, and also published in the "Virginia Baptist" and Richmond PLANET.

Mrs. MATTIE P. TYLER } Committee.  
Miss KATE J. COOKE }  
Miss S. ALICE KENT }

Rev. P. S. Lewis B. D., pastor of the First Baptist Church of Salisbury, N. C. has been invited by the faculty of Shaw University, Raleigh N. C. to deliver an address before the literary societies of that institution in May. He was also recently elected by the N. C. Legislature, a member of the school board of the "State Normal School" at Salisbury.

The board has been composed entirely of some of the most prominent men of the community, and Rev. Lewis is the first colored man who has ever been elected on that board. He is a graduate of the Richmond Theological Seminary, Richmond Va., of class '89—composed of Revs. Z. D. Lewis, B. D., E. B. Howard B. D. and W. M. Moss, B. D. all of whom are shining lights, and able divines. Rev. P. S. Lewis married Miss Mary E. Reese one of the most prominent and accomplished public school teachers of this city. He was in Richmond two weeks ago on business and to visit relatives and friends.

While he preached two powerful sermons at the Sharon Baptist Church. The Richmond Theological Seminary is justly proud of her son.

Personals & Briefs.

Mrs. Dianna Pollard is quite sick at the residence of her daughter in Manchester.

If you wish first-class groceries for a little money, call on Mr. G. K. Pollock, 901 N. 3rd St.

Rev. David S. Cincore of Phila., Pa. is in the city. He will remain with us about a week, a series of entertainments. He is particularly fine on selections from Shakespeare.

Did you borrow this journal? Why not subscribe? Only \$1.50 per year.

Mrs. J. C. Herndon of Buckners Va. called on us. She left Friday 22, inst. for New York.

Mr. L. L. Williams who was in the city this week, is a member of Christus Attucks Lodge, K. of P. of Boston.

Mrs. Charles H. Lewis, 1000 N. 8th Street who has been sick for the last week or ten days is now gradually improving.

Read our grand offers, and take advantage of them.

There will be a grand lecture at the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Rev. W. H. White pastor, Tuesday night April 2nd, by Rev. E. Watts, B. D. of Petersburg. The subject "The Christian the Devil Sick Nurse." Admission 10cts.

The Cadets Picnic. Monday night a large and appreciative audience gathered at the Ebenezer Baptist church to witness the new and popular play, "The Cadet's Picnic."

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He took care of him for about three weeks and upon his expressing a desire to do so gave him \$2.00 for him to return to Brownsville.

After getting the money he changed his mind and thought he would go in another direction, so he walked the distance so his money would be saved and he reached Humboldt, Tenn.

Three days after reaching there, he was taken sick and had to return to Brownsville.

He was sick at his sister's near that place for about six months.

Upon recovering he had an aunt living in the county and he stayed there. One night his cousin and himself were lying in the bed at her house and he was at the window and said "Boy, get up and open that door!" He said to his cousin Austin "This man says open the door there." He did so.

The Ku Klux rushed in—one looked up the chimney and another looked under the bed.

His aunt's husband, Monroe Palmer, was under the bed. They told him to come out. He did so, and they carried him out. He did not show any fear although they were masked.

They carried him under a big oak tree and threw the rope up over the limb. They tried to get him to have given up all hopes, being resigned to the hanging apparently, when all at once he jumped right from under them and went over a ten rail fence, and escaped.

He made Tennant and his cousin get up and put on their clothes, go in front of them and open the first gate. "When this was done they said "Bro, to the next gate." They did so. When they got to the front gate, they said, "Now, you boys go back and go to bed."

Young Tennant did not get scared until it was all over.

After many years, Tennant's aunt's husband who had been thus treated, returned.

Having secured some money, young Tennant went to Paris, Tenn.

He moved some dirt and secured \$2.00, this being his amount of capital. He worked in a blacksmith shop, with an Irishman as striker, and struck at him. He knocked him down, ran out and laughed at him, so he lost that job.

He had made up his mind to raise \$100 to go into the grocery business, when about the end of the year G. A. Bugg, a barber, took him as an apprentice in his shop. He made \$130 blacking the shoes during the year. This was the first money he made.

He learned the barber's trade in 12 months, and worked with his boss three months afterwards, clearing \$150.00.

MANCHESTER LETTER.

NOTICE—The members of the Alumni are requested to meet at the residence of Prof. James H. Blackwell, Monday evening, April 1st, at 7:30 to transact business of importance.

JNO. E. COOBLI, President; C. HENRY JONES, Cor. Sec'y.

The True Reformers and the best thinking people of our community are terribly "worked up" about the outrageous act of Rev. Wm. W. Browne, who published the article that appeared in the Richmond Dispatch, a staunch, outspoken, Negro-hating journal, on March 22nd, 1895. We are sure to say that he (Browne) will never be known as a great leader, though he boasts that he is one now. As for our people in Manchester, they are completely demoralized on all sides for having done such a low dirty trick and saying that he speaks in defense of the Negro race. Away with the vile scoundrel! Away with him!

The name of Browne has been buried forever. The voice of the best people now in "Browne, who tried to jump into fame, has fallen like Lucifer, never to rise again."

The True Reformers will hold a meeting at the 22nd Street Baptist Church on the 3rd of April, do honor to the great hero, Hon. Fred. Douglass All night.

A night of enjoyment was spent at the residence of Mrs. W. H. Smith, No. 16 W. 20th Street, on the night of March 25th, by the "Violet German Club." A large number of ladies and gentlemen were present. Amusements of all kinds were indulged in. Promptly at 12 o'clock refreshments were served the guests, after which the social chat was continued until an early hour.

Miss Lula Bland has been very sick, but is improving.

The concert given at the 1st Baptist Church on Monday and Tuesday nights by the small children of the public school, under the control of Misses Ida M. Bings, Mary E. Washington, Lella A. Johnson and Amanda Johnson, was a grand success.

They should receive unlimited praise for having brought before the public these little ones.

EMOS. JACSON WARD BREVITIES.

The article which appeared in the Dispatch of the 23rd inst. written by Rev. W. W. Browne has created a great sensation in this Ward. Many were the comments made concerning the article, and with a very few exceptions (but we couldn't expect any more of them—poor fellows!) it was commended in an interesting terms.

Mrs. James H. Holmes who has been quite ill, is convalescing.

Mr. Joseph Waller who has been absent from the city for quite a while has returned.

Miss Lula Watkins who has been quite sick is improving.

The people surely rallied to the call of Editor Mitchell and the pastors last Tuesday night. Some of the most intelligent and best thinking elements were present. Resolutions were adopted condemning the article which appeared in the Dispatch of the 23rd inst.

What an interesting know the sharp-headed fellow referred to.

Young man you acted wrong last Tuesday night. As you had made an engagement to accompany her home, you should have done so. You will regret it.

Perhaps young man if you would spend less time in barrooms at night, and more time at home, you would not regret it.

That young lady's presence when you go there Sunday nights.

The grim monster death laid hands on Mrs. Lucy Ammons last Monday morning and carried her to her final resting place.

Sister S.—What do you think about the brudders eating at the Gubnor's table?

Sister G.—What? Eating at de Gubnor's table? Dats out of sight. I told you we is coming.

Sister S.—Well, every one is not in favor of it.

Sister G.—Lord a murey, who can object dat? As dey was invited dar was nuffing for dem to do, but to go and eat and drink to the health of the Gubnor.

MAGNO DUCO. DEATHS. JACKSON—Departed this life Thursday March 21, 1895 at 6 minutes to 1 o'clock p. m., of marasmus Florence Naomi, beloved daughter of John B. and Ellen W. Jackson, age 13 months and 20 days. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Cooper. Funeral director Mr. William I. Johnson.

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