

THE INDIANAPOLIS LEADER.

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VOL. II.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1880.

NO. 4.

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SKETCHES FROM THE SOUTH.

The Impressions of a Buckeye Rambler in Dixie.

Politics, Politicians, Incidents, Etc.

No. V.

BY W. S. S.

To the Editor of The Leader:

The following episode really took place between the parties mentioned. To avoid being too monotonous I introduce it here. It is a common form of salutation in the South—not merely between persons of Hamitic, but of Semicitic extraction as well. While passing along the other day, by the cabin of an old colored man, we heard the following conversation. A boy was chopping wood in the yard; an old colored woman was sunning herself, apparently, in the cabin door; and an old "uncle," Ned, who was lame in one foot, came up to the front gate and rested himself on his hand-peg. After a very few moments, he shouted:

"How you do, Ann 'Dinah'?"

"I'm toler'ble. How you do?"

"I'm toler'ble. How's Ann 'Mary'?"

"She's toler'ble. How's Ann 'Phyllis'?"

"She's toler'ble. How's Ann 'Phebe'?"

"She's toler'ble. How's Gus 'an' de chilluns'?"

"Dey's toler'ble."

"Lord! Lord!" said the boy, wiping the sweat off his brow with one finger, and kicking a piece of stove-wood aside. "Eberybody toler'ble."

It is interesting to observe how shrewd and cautious the Southern rebels are. They have been out of power so long that they are willing to make almost any kind of concession to get the machinery of the Government into their hands. They tell the Negroes that if they will give them their support, they will pay every cent lost by them in the Freedmen's Savings Bank—they will increase their privileges, and will in the end do better by them than the Republicans are able to do. Wonderful! wonderful! wonderful! "Ubi nam gentium sumus," (where in the world are we?) Every intelligent colored man knows that this is false; not a shadow of truth in it. Why don't they begin now? Why delay? In Atlanta, at the depot, are three sitting rooms—one for white ladies, one for white gentlemen, and one for "Negroes," ladies and gentlemen. Here is another. The trains on the Macon and Western Railroad have three distinct coaches for passengers—one for the Caucasian, one for the African, and one for the Caucasian smokers. In the Negro coach it is placarded, "This car is for colored people only." But I noticed as I came up that quite a large number of white persons took refuge in there, often in close proximity with their colored brother. At times they began to smoke, but the conductor asked them to go into the next car, the smoker. Now notice the difference. A white man may go into a car that they call exclusively a negro car, and sit down while there; if a negro attempts to return the compliment his head or back pays the penalty. Observe again a feature of Southern justice. Throughout the North there are two grades of tickets, first and second; in the South but one, a first grade ticket. A white man and his black brother will buy the same ticket, for the same point on the same train. His "excellency" goes into the car he pays for. His "nigger" takes his valise into one he did not pay for. You remember that I said in No. 2 that it was rumored that Joe Brown and others of the same temperament said that they, though not Republicans, affiliated with that party in the early days of reconstruction to keep Negroes out of office as much as possible, and so save the State from Negroes and carpet bag supremacy. I conclude that article by saying: "Whether true or not, an article on the condition of the black man would show that it bears a semblance of truth." I ask the Indiana Democrat, the Ohio Democrat, the New York Democrat—all the Democrats, if there are any conscientious ones among them for an impartial decision on this point. Well, I am wandering and seeking that I won't get. The social and political condition of the Southern Negro is somewhat mysterious. Your correspondent has tried analytically and synthetically to solve the problem, but he, like others, finds no satisfactory solution, unless in a radical change of the Negro's present status, as effected by him and through himself. Financially, here in the city of Macon, the colored people are doing well. They own all the back lines, are acquiring property, some on a small and others on a large scale. A few, in addition to their homes in the city, own plantations, where they spend the summer when heat makes it disagreeable within the city limits. The editorial in the Independent (Aug. 12) on the Rev. Dr. B. F. Tanner's excellent communication on Ostracism, is worthy of perusal, as it has good and timely advice relative to the question I have discussed in part.

EVANSVILLE DEPARTMENT.

Pettie, Pratie, Politic—Conference Notes—The Young Men and the Squire—A-y and Everything.

It was said last week in this column that the party traces were not holding the colored man as securely as "it used to be." There is blood on the moon. And the Republicans who vainly imagine that the "nigger," or as a leading Republican calls the colored man, the "darkey" will vote the ticket anyway—so no effect should be made to keep his vote intact. Men are in a great measure like sheep; as the bellwether jumps so does the drove. The leading colored men have declared among themselves that they intend to vote against me or two men on the county ticket.

One of the parties is the nominee for Corner, Harmeling. Not because this man has done anything wrong, but because the party ignored their right to representation on the ticket. The Republican party can hold no one responsible but its own misdoings if the colored vote is all broken up this fall. White men of the party vote as they choose, and last spring they allowed the Republican nominee for Mayor to be beaten by their foolishness in insisting that they would vote for whom they please, irrespective of party ties. The colored man is imitative. He now intends, from the lesson received, to practice the device of "scratching." Four years ago the Young Men's Republican Club had a Hebrew for President and an Anglo-American for Secretary. The distinguished aristocrat could stand that combination. This year the Y. M. R. C. has no negro officers and will not have.

The different ward clubs used to have colored Vice-Presidents and Secretaries; but now not one is negro. The colored man is high positions. In the County Central Committee the negro is merely a figure-head. He is not admitted into their secret "confabulations." It is too true. The Republican party has drawn the color line. For the first time in this county the Republicans are placed on the defensive. The Democrats are making an offensive (in more ways than one) campaign. They have a fair chance of winning if they do—if they will purge the party of a lot of political lepers, chronic intellects, who are of the party for what it does for them. It is they who growl about the colored man. It is they who said at the salt well "we like a darkey to stay in his place" and that place is in the rear.

The colored man is a Republican. He makes fair promises to the colored man only to break them after the election. It reminds me of a story I've read somewhere. In a certain canal town was a bad man who was captain of a canal boat. He was a Republican. Bill would like to steal, go drunk, play "five up," "shoot craps" and do every thing else bad. His boat got aground; her bow was stuck high and dry but the stern was floating in deep water. "Bill, cursed, but the boat swung out into deep water and floated. All the good people of the town that he had 'got religion,' and to celebrate the event proposed to have a prayer meeting on his boat. All the good people came. The Baptists, the Methodists, the Presbyterians, all came. Bill stood on the bow and invited them as they came to "go aft" as the meeting would be held there. The many "righteous" there sunk the stern of the boat and raised the bow clear of the mud and the boat swung out into deep water and floated. As soon as Bill saw his boat was all right he shouted "Out of here, you d—d hoosiers, this prairie meetin' is adjourned." The story is good and the application is "gooder." The colored man in the Republican craft is out of the mire, and then they are told that reformation in that vessel is put off until the next election.

Senator John A. Logan speaks here next Tuesday night, at Turner Hall. It is not known at this writing whether the Republican club will imitate the foolishness of the Y. M. R. C. Paralytic Democratic club by giving a procession and yelling like mad men. It would amuse you to see the look of importance that the procession of this club assume while in procession. It is painful. It is reported that they are maturing a plan which will keep a number of colored men from the polls on election day. The editor of the "Currier," who is endeavoring to be a semi-democratic party, has written a notice, in which he is yelling to his hoodlums "The Negro must go." On all subjects except those of the Negro and T. H. R. R. Mr. Shanklin is rational, but on these two he is really a demagogue. The colored people who read the Leader were complimenting the Evansville department in its handling of the Salt Well set-down. The little sheet here had nothing commendatory to say. There is one man in this State who, if he were an out and out Democrat, would get the vote of the colored man. This man is Honorable William Hellman, our present and next Congressman. He is the colored man's true friend.

CONFERENCE NOTES.

For the past eight days a dragon with an insatiable greed has filled the pew of our church with his mad, but gentle, head like Hydra, and footed like a centipede. It gorged prayer, hymns, exhortations and sermons. When, in the morning, the preacher did all he could for it, it crawled back into the pulpit with its many, but empty, jaws just as expectant, its mouth just as wide open for more. It swallowed more prayer, more hymns, more sermons. It crawled back in the evening to glut, or try to glut, its horrid greed. Sermons, sermons, sermons! They were swallowed whole, without mastication or digestion. With our knowledge of the human mind, we are certain that no more than one good sermon can be digested by a congregation in a day; and that every added word goes to the gut of intellect and feeling, and confusion of impression. It is merely intellectual gormandizing, and no activity, no rest or reflection, the people sit upright and hear the words but they make no impression. Beat the heart or mind, for no time was no time given for reflection. We should like to know what the Master thinks about this.

Every sermon that a man hears after his first strong impression, and his first hungry reception is a distracting and depressing force. A delight in endless preaching is no evidence of piety. Let our ministers improve the character and quality of our preaching, and reduce the quantity. What does the Christian Recorder think of this proposition?

The Conference closed with eclat. Sunday services were held in the Temperance Temple, Evans Hall, Bishop Shorter, Dr. Jenner and Rev. Simpson held forth to large audiences of white and colored persons. On Monday the Conference Sabbath School anniversary was held. The school appeared to good advantage. At the close of the exercises the executive committee disposed of the case. Bass vs. Bundy. Bundy was the agent in circulating a damaging scandal concerning Bass. Bundy was disposed of by a severe

and stringent reprimand. Tuesday three minutes were given to the trial. The Bishop sat down severely upon tobacco-using preachers. The Leader is to be complimented for bringing before the people the evils of excursions. The Indiana Conference has distinguished itself by putting a veto upon Sunday excursions and camp meetings. Resolutions of thanks were passed, to the people of Evansville for their hospitality, to the railroads, to Rev. Lewis and the various clerks. During the day anxiety the most marked was depicted in the faces of the ministers; for the Bishop would at night read the appointments. All were anxious to know where they would be placed next year. No doubt their hearts beat strongly as the list proceeded to be read by the Bishop. It was the opinion of Bishop Shorter that this was the best session ever held of the Indiana Conference. We are certain that any Conference compares favorably with any Conference in brains and executive ability. The Rev. H. H. Thompson, New Albany, preached the Ordination sermon. By the way, he is the finest looking man in the Conference.

The following is the complete list of appointments: J. Mitchell, Terre Haute; W. S. Lanford, Evansville; H. H. Thompson, New Albany; J. W. Chaves, Charleston; J. J. Bass, Ypsilanti; J. H. Alexander, Battle Creek; J. M. Smith, Rockville; H. H. Wilson, Cambridge; M. Lewis, Franklin; J. Myers, New Garden; A. H. Knight, Saginaw; R. Jeffries, Kalamazoo; J. Bundy, New York; J. Simpson, Elkhart; Detroit; H. B. Gordon, Jeffersonville; A. J. Ferguson, Washington; J. A. Jordan, Logansport; R. Titus, Allen Chapel; John Ferguson, Vincennes; H. H. Knight, New Albany; J. D. Crosby, Richmond; S. W. Benson, Brownsville; J. Burden, Lafayette; D. P. Roberts, Bethel, Detroit; G. B. Pope, South Bend; J. H. Clay, Bloomington; J. P. Coats, Grand Rapids; M. Coleman, Marion; Q. A. Johnson, Madison; G. W. Thomas, Spencer; J. W. Harper, Knightstown; A. A. Burleigh, Greencastle; R. McDaniels, Fort Wayne; E. E. Wilson, Mt. Vernon; W. P. Toole, Mitchell; L. Ratcliff, St. Joseph; W. R. Hutchinson, Noblesville; G. W. Gilmore, Ann Arbor; C. H. Thomas, Spencer; Theophilus Price, Muncie; J. M. Wheeler, Carlisle Mission; L. Stokes, Princeton; W. C. Trevan, Bethel, Indianapolis.

Supernumeraries—D. Cole, W. J. Scott, C. F. Hill, A. M. Smith and C. M. Crosby go to Wilberforce University. Bishop Shorter, goes to meet the conference at Columbus, Ohio. James M. Townsend the indigent laborer for humanity went from Evansville to the Kentucky conference. He is the Ohio Conference, then he takes his Western trip to Kansas, Texas and Indian Territory. He is Corresponding Secretary of Mississippi Society.

H. H. Thompson, New Albany, is the fattest and best member of the Conference. He is also the finest spiritual singer. On Thursday morning the grip-sacks were seized and tracks were made for their different homes. The Evansville people were loath to give up Rev. M. Lewis. He, by his earnest labor, has done more for this church here than any other minister. His financial management was superb. His impartial and Christian acts endeared him to all. He was mixed up in no cliques, nor was he a party to any scheme to work mischief. He is the embodiment of all that we should expect in one of Christ's apostles. People outside the pale of the church are so grateful as the members themselves. He leaves us loving him. The people of Franklin are to be congratulated in obtaining him for the year.

The following is Rev. M. Lewis' report for the past year: Church membership, \$70,285; allowed \$700,177; foreign missions, \$14,100; debt, \$696. This is the largest amount paid on church debt by any church except this in the Conference reports. Incidental expenses, \$21,816; total raised, \$1,738,300; present indebtedness, \$1,200; value of property, \$10,590; members, 220; number of Sunday-school scholars, 175; missionary money, \$32,455. This is an excellent report, and all praise is due this congregation for their noble efforts, and it is mainly due to the able management of Rev. Lewis. We predict that this congregation will support all measures of his successor, Bro. Lanford, who is well known here.

Many of our youngest young men have been upon the verge of despair for a few days. Several sought sylvan retreats to avoid being found. They were called as witnesses in a dirty case of bastardy, and the boys did not wish to place their morals in jeopardy. Since Kelly who has been on the road since the mind of man cannot not to the contrary, fastened upon a young fellow to father her unborn child. The young man had seventeen boys summoned to say if they did not know as much about it as he. The Squire dismissed the suit in supreme disgust.

Miss Lizzie Moman, one of our belles, has no objection probably to a change of name, but she does persist that while she remains in her present state she should not be called Norman, as some Indianapolis boys condescend to name her. The "Knickerbocker," our tony club, gave a moonlight picnic Thursday night. Mr. D'Elbert, the chief factotum, always presents an elegant program. Mrs. Serena Beal, of Franklin, Ind., was in attendance at the Conference; also Mrs. Laura A. Wilson, of Indianapolis. Jacob Wilson is the Democratic nominee in the First ward in Hill Lencke's place. Steinbach will walk. Elder Sifers, of Zion Church, went to Henderson Wednesday on U. S. F. business. Mr. William Norman Curry returned from the Springs Wednesday. He weighs a ton. He stopped at Vincennes to catch his wife, Mrs. Nettie, who has been spending the summer with the good Tootle family. Mr. Washington went to Vincennes last week on lodge business—so he says. Miss Blanche Davis goes to her school in Kentucky Saturday. Mrs. Anderson Vance, of Vincennes, was in the city this week.

The Baptists made a grand rally Sunday. The Red Ribbon club gave \$108, Mrs. W. H. Beecher, President of the Blue gave \$55, Mrs. A. Rouse, President, the Silver Leaf, Mrs. Duke, President, gave \$65 and \$13 was contributed by friends. They begin to root this week. Gov. Finchback will undoubtedly speak here on the 22d. A merited compliment was paid Rev. Jas. M. Townsend by the largest white congregation in the city. He preached by invitation Sunday evening in Trinity M. E. Church. He was listened to with attention and appreciation. Mrs. Beecher who formerly taught in our city schools, and Miss O'Brien, who taught last year, have made applications for positions. They will doubtless be appointed. RIZZI.

CINCINNATI DEPARTMENT.

Cincinnati Randoms.

All the talk—when does The Leader arrive? Mr. Joe Lee has returned to his post of duty at St. Louis. School opens Monday and the children are getting their books in readiness. Miss Meta Pelham last Monday evening, Honorable Henry Burch, of New Orleans, honored our city with a visit last week. Miss Meta Pelham, of Detroit, has made a host of friends during her visit in our city. Boys if you want to treat your girls cool, take them around to Mr. Graves and give them a saucer of ice cream.

Mr. Will Anderson, a very clever gentleman of Detroit, who has been visiting our city left for home Monday. Mrs. Robert Whyte Nee Miss Mattie Fossett has returned to the city after spending several months in Delaware. Mr. Geo. W. Hayes left Wednesday morning for Mechanicsburg to attend the Sunday school convention that meets at that place. Remember to give Mr. Lewis your address and he will deliver you the paper promptly every Saturday. If you don't do this you are liable to miss them.

Mr. Henry C. Goins of Columbus, O., is in our city. Mr. J. H. Moody, of Louisville, spent several days in our city this week. Mrs. Kate Boen, of Barr street, has returned after a pleasant visit to Put-in-Bay. Miss Carrie Price leaves Sunday evening for Louisville, Ky., to take charge of her school. Mrs. Julia Rice, of John street, is entertaining her friend Mrs. Austin Hubbard, of Louisville, Ky. Fred. D. Anderson was in Lexington last Sunday and says the Lexington young ladies are very pretty. Miss Constantine Taylor, who has been spending the summer vacation at home leaves for Richmond, Ind., Monday.

Mrs. A. S. Thomas and her charming daughter Miss Alice have returned home after several weeks' visit to Cleveland, Detroit, Niagara Falls and Columbus. The reception given by the Misses Fossett at their residence last Friday evening in honor of Miss Meta Pelham, of Detroit, was a most pleasant affair. Too much praise can not be given to the hostess for the manner in which the guests were entertained. It was decidedly the social event of the season. Among those present I note the following: Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. H. Dickson, Mrs. George W. Williams of Columbus, Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis, Miss Blanch Liverpool, Miss Florentine Jackson, Mr. Will Anderson of Detroit, Fountain Lewis, Jr., Mr. Abe Willis, Mr. Fremont Anderson, Mr. Ed. Hawkins, Mr. Thos. Triplett, Mr. Willis Ross, Herbert Clark, Henry Forte and Geo. Fossett. RAYMOND.

[From another Correspondent.] Miss Margaret Young has returned home. Regular services at all the churches tomorrow. Teachers are preparing to smile now. School Monday. Mr. Alfred Johnson and Mrs. James Barnett, Jr., have returned from the South. Mr. Geo. W. Hayes, accompanied by several young ladies will attend the Baptist Sunday-school Convention.

Wm. Forter, our colored undertaker, is one man whose determined and enterprising spirit demands the patronage and should the pride of every colored citizen of Cincinnati. Mrs. Julia Broadie, of West Walnut Hills, has opened a boarding establishment for very young persons whose parents are desirous of having them attend the school here. The United Sisters of Friendship, or the Mysterious Ten, was organized by the Hon. Mr. Gibson, of Louisville, on the 27th of August, in the hall of the Brothers of the same order on Sixth and John streets. Prominent among those present we noticed Mrs. Harper, the worthy Princess, Mrs. N. J. Hollan, Vice President Missionary Society Allen Temple, Miss Hattie Harper, leader Allen Temple choir, Mrs. Nora Williamson, alto singer, Allen Temple choir, Mrs. Sarah E. Johnson, assistant superintendent Allen Temple Sunday-school, Mrs. Greene Perkins, of Court street, Mrs. E. D. Curtis of Riverside, Mrs. Mary Truly of East Sixth street, Mrs. Right of Sixth street Hill, Miss Mary Garrett, Mrs. C. Redman, Mrs. Berkly and son, Mrs. Thomas Johnson, Mrs. A. Johnson, Mrs. Bush and others whom we haven't space to mention. Mr. Lewis, worthy Princess of Covington was also present, it was a most brilliant affair. Mr. Hillman and wife of Covington was also present, Mr. Louis Gilbert and Joseph Taylor and assistants did the honors at the supper table in good taste. It was a grand affair.

Walnut Hills, (9.) Miss Nettie Hood, will attend school again this winter. Miss Rena Evans has returned from visiting friends in Kentucky. Rev. B. M. Carson, of Hillsboro, was highly pleased with the people of Walnut Hills. Miss Hattie Holmes is canvassing for Cobben's Bible Commentary, and is succeeding finely. Rev. Edmund Jones, wife of Avondale, and Miss Mamie E. Fry, of Walnut Hills will attend the Conference at Columbus. Miss Annie Pryor, one of our most intelligent young ladies, returned home Monday from a very pleasant visit to Put-in-Bay. The Sunday-school of the A. M. E. Church, is doing well under the able management of W. A. Peyton and Mrs. M. E. Cruitt.

The entertainment given by Miss Mattie E. Payton, at her residence, in Avondale, on Monday, 30th ult., was one of the most enjoyable affairs of the season, and this corroborated by a vivid recollection of having been there. There were present the following named present: Rev. B. M. Carson, of Hillsboro, Miss Tillie R. Bunch, Miss Mattie Holmes, Miss Minnie Armstrong, Miss Jennie Stephens, Miss Eliza Weaver, Miss Cornelia King, Miss Maria Williams and Mrs. R. G. Mortimer and family. The feather woman has in her bonnet in this world the more she will have on her wings in the world to come.—Philadelphia Item.

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RUGS

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