

The Lexington Intelligencer

State Historical Society

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NO. 28

CAPTAIN W. D. RANKIN DEAD

Found on the Back Porch at 10:30 Yesterday Morning

EX-CONFEDERATE SOLDIER

A Large Land Owner—Prominent in Religious, Educational and Business Circles

Capt. William David Rankin, one of Lafayette county's most highly respected and wealthiest citizens, was found dead yesterday morning on the steps of the back porch at his residence on South street. His death was caused by heart failure. Capt. Rankin had been mowing the yard and was evidently returning the mower to the porch, when the attack, which ended his life, seized him. He was alone at the time, Mrs. Rankin being in Ray County. He was discovered by Miss Elizabeth Morrison.

William David Rankin was born in Jefferson County, Tennessee, August 15, 1836, and was the only son of Dr. and Mrs. James Rankin. He was educated in a private school conducted by Col. Stephen D. Lee, near Asheville, North Carolina. In 1857 he formed a partnership with his father in the mercantile business which

continued until the outbreak of the Civil war. At that time he raised a company of volunteers which was afterwards known as Company I, Sixtieth Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers. He declined an office in the company and entered the Confederate service as a private. He was afterwards offered a commission by the Colonel of his regiment and again refused. Sometime later he was prevailed upon to accept the office of Commissary of his regiment with the rank of Captain. His company was brigaded with Gen. John C. Vanghans' command which participated in the battle of Champion's Hill. After this battle the command retreated to Vicksburg, where it was surrendered with the city.

After the exchange of prisoners he was transferred to the cavalry and saw hard service until Lee's surrender when with five companions he made his way to Georgia, where after three and one half years of service, he received his parole.

At the close of the war he engaged in business at Rome, Georgia, until 1867. He was married to Miss Mary A. Moore, who was born in Ray county, Missouri, on May 7th, 1867. In the fall of 1867 he moved to Missouri and settled in Ray county, where he still owns three thousand acres of some of the richest soil in the world. In 1882 Capt. and Mrs. Rankin moved over in the city of Lexington, and have resided here

ever since.

Besides his large agricultural interests, he was always active in other enterprises. He was at one time president of the Lexington Savings Bank, and at the present he was actively interested in the welfare of Central College for Women and Wentworth Military Academy being a member of the board of both institutions. He was a member of the Methodist Church South, and a mason of high degree, being a Knight Templar.

Capt. Rankin, as he was known by everybody, was a most affable and courteous gentleman to meet. He has long been identified in a very active and earnest way with the official affairs of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He was one of the ever faithful and dependable ones on whom definite expectations could invariably be placed. Not alone in the church, but in the community at large will Mr. Rankin's death leave a noticeable void. Not because he was foremost, not because he was accustomed to make himself ostentatiously conspicuous, not because he craved political honors, not because he strived to be a leader among men and sought to do great things, but because of his softness, the quietness, the sweetness of his manner—the calm, peaceful demeanor that always portrayed the kindly, genial and courtly gentleman. His constant devotion to his Maker should lessen the

grief caused by his sudden death and should prove a source of comfort to the stricken family.

He is survived by his wife, and three sons, Edwin, James and Paul. Edwin is traveling in Europe this summer. James and Paul live in Ray county.

The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon from the Methodist church. Rev. C. M. Davenport will conduct the services.

CHANGE IN CLOTHING BUSINESS

Henry Sinauer Sells to McDaniel-Wiley Clothing Company.

It is with more than passing regret that the Intelligencer announces the retirement of Henry Sinauer from active participation in the clothing business in Lexington. Mr. Sinauer came to Lexington in 1865 to clerk in the clothing store of his brother, B. Sinauer. At his retirement, seven years later, H. Sinauer became the proprietor of the business which for forty years has been one of the leading clothing houses in the county.

"Henry Sinauer, Clothier," has the confidence and respect of people in all walks of life, which was won by square dealing. He never made a promise that he did not fulfill, nor a statement that could not be relied upon. He has always been public spirited and ever ready to contribute to the bet-

terment of the city. Mr. Sinauer will not retire permanently until June 1913.

One of the new firms is a Lexington boy—Joe Wiley. He needs no introduction from us, as everybody knows Joe as a young man of excellent character and business acumen. His venture in the clothing business will prove a success as those methods which created permanency in the old firm will be continued in the new.

Mr. McDonald is from Joplin. He comes to Lexington with a reputation as a hustler and business getter.

The new firm opened for business Wednesday with a sale to clean out all of the old stock.

Early Morning Fire.

Tuesday morning about one o'clock William Becker, who lives on Lafayette street, was awakened by a feeling of suffocation. The room was filled with smoke, and before the alarm could be turned in and the fire company gotten there, the whole inside of the house was in flames. The fire company made a quick run too. Nearly everything was destroyed. Mr. Becker was alone at the time, his family having gone away for a visit only a few days before.

Presbyterian Church.

Dr. E. C. Gordon will preach at the Presbyterian church Sunday morning and evening.

W. R. Painter for Lieut-Governor.

W. R. Painter, who went down to defeat with Mr. Cowherd four years ago, is again a candidate for Lieut-Governor. Mr. Painter is the editor of one of the largest Democratic papers in rural Missouri, The Carrollton Democrat, and as a teacher of the principles of Democracy he has been emi-



nently successful. He is deserving of a renomination by the Democrat party as he is known as an honest, honorable and intelligent gentleman. Cowherd and Painter, according to the time-honored custom of the Democratic party in Missouri, should be given a second opportunity to lead the party in the 1912 campaign.

AT THE

CHAUTAQUA

JULY 28 TO AUGUST 4

You Will Get

Recreation

Give yourself eight days to get rid of that tired feeling and to refresh and renew your mind, morals and body.

Re-union

Arrange to meet all your old friends and acquaintances at the Chautauqua Assembly.

Inspiration

Hear and see many of the most entertaining lyceum lecturers and brilliant platform orators in America.

Entertainment

Listen to some of the greatest musicians, humorists, singers and musical organizations now before the public.

Information

Drink in the discussion of the really great live questions of the hour, presented by men who are the recognized leaders of thought in their lines.

All for a Few Pennies a Session Under the Season Ticket Plan

SEASON TICKETS \$2.00 EACH

If Purchased NOW From Local Committee. For Full Information See S. Boyd White, Sec'y.