

EDITOR MITCHELL IN THE MOUNTAINS.

A Trip Westward==The Tomb of the Lees==Scenes at Lexington.

HOT SPRINGS AND ITS ATTRACTIONS—A GALLOWS WAITING—A QUEER CHARACTER—A
CONDUCTOR BAFLED—PANNELL'S MOUNTAIN—A RESORT FOR COLORED FOLKS—
A HAWK AS AN EXECUTIONER—CHAINED MEN FOR THE PENITENTIARY.
A KICKING LUNATIC.

We left Richmond Sunday July 16th for Lynchburg 10:20 A. M. via C. and O. R. R. The coach was crowded with excursionists who were going to Goochland, Powhatan and Buckingham counties to spend the day. The country preachers were aboard too and for the first time we fully realized the large numbers of local exhorters who "roost low" in the city churches of which many are members but who are all powerful in the county localities where they tell of the greatness and the goodness of the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world.

SOCIETIES DIDN'T SUIT HIM.

Standing room alone was obtainable, but as the stations were passed the "thinning out" process began and we soon had nearly the entire car to ourselves. One of the preachers was much disgusted with a certain secret order that was spreading in his county. "The people have very little money now for the church," he said mournfully. "They take it all and pay it in the societies." Evidently his congregation was healthy and did not get as heavy return in death benefits as was expected.

FRIENDS MET US.

Reaching Lynchburg, Va., we were met by Mrs. G. A. Patterson and Mr. W. J. Wells. A carriage had been provided and we were soon at the residence of Prof. U. S. G. Patterson where later an excellent repast was served. We repaired with Dr. J. A. Lewis to the residence of Mrs. Sarah Norvell where the well known Virginia hospitality was extended.

ON TO LEXINGTON.

We left Lynchburg Monday at 6 A. M. for Lexington, Va. Reaching South Glasgow, we changed to the branch line. The ladies met us and we were soon most pleasantly located at the establishment of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Woodford.

Here we learned to the surprise of Dr. J. A. Lewis that Lexington has been "dry" for some time. He was at last in the city, which was the Utopia of his hopes and where he could observe the effect of the enunciation of temperance ideas.

It was demonstrated conclusively that whiskey as a beverage was unnecessary. As a medicine though under some other name it tasted just as sweet.

DR. LEWIS' PREDICAMENT.

The arrival of Mr. A. C. Mabrey from Staunton in a state of exhaustion necessitated a prescription which toned up the system and stimulated the nervous forces into action. It was only necessary to secure enough of the medicine for both.

We were much pleased with a drive over Lexington. The Washington and Lee University is a source of interest and information. A ring of the electric bell at the chapel brought Mr. J. C. Carter the colored custodian who is kept busy showing visitors through the structure.

THE CONFEDERATE CHIEFTAIN.

As we entered we saw the milk white marble recumbent statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee, the late chieftain of the late Confederacy. The iron grating formed a canopy and gave the appearance of the entrance to a cemetery. On the rostrum was a fine Stieff piano owned by Gen. Lee

and which has his name worked thereon in ivory. The tone was rich and musical. Mr. Carter opened the gates to the enclosure where rested the statue.

THE TOMB OF THE LEES.

"An effort was made," he said to secure a perfect piece of white marble. The only discoloration in it may be seen at the toe of the boot. Valentine's masterpiece as this handiwork of the sculptor's art most certainly is, looked as new and as life-like as it did the day that it was unveiled to the anxious gaze of the multitude.

Mr. Carter led the way and we went below. It was sombre and dreary looking. There were dark openings made of brick. White marble slabs told that it was the tomb of distinguished dead, the vaults of those who had gone on before. On one was the name of Robert E. Lee. Below told that he died in 1870. This was all. "These in the centre, the immediate family of Gen. Lee. Those on the outside are for the distant relatives of his family," said Mr. Carter. On the floor leaning against the wall were extra slabs. "We always keep extra ones on hand," said Mr. Carter as we turned away.

JUST AS HE LEFT IT.

Crossing the passageway we entered the office of Gen. Robert E. Lee, said to be just as he left it 26 years ago. The moth-eaten table cover was there, the pens, the reports from one of the professors, letters that had been sent to him, one of which was unopened. The janitor had been ordered not to change the position of any of the chairs or other furniture. It was sombre looking and yet it impressed the sight-seeking visitor.

We visited the art gallery and the museum. Colored servants everywhere had control. Contractor R. R. Jones pointed with pride to the evidences of his handiwork. He was employed by the management to make all wood-work repairs, and when he could not do it, men from other sections were sent for. The management, however, seemed to be better pleased with the work of this contractor. We passed through the grounds of the Virginia Military Institute. Colored men were busily engaged at work. Cannon were on the campus and the appearance of the structure was imposing. Mrs. K. R. Jones sews for over forty of the best families in this city and was well posted.

COLORED PEOPLE PROSPERING.

We then visited the settlements of the colored people. Mr. R. R. Jones has a most cosy and attractive residence built by himself. We met his attractive daughter. Colored people everywhere gave evidences of progress. The colored people of Lexington and of Rockbridge county pay taxes on \$139,061 worth of property real and personal. The assessed value of the real estate owned by them is \$113,230 and of the personal property \$25,831, making the total amount previously quoted.

The First Baptist Church here is a large structure of brick and is out of debt. Rev. P. S. Lewis, D. D., the former pastor did a fine work here, leaving the congregation free of debt. Both he and Rev. W. T. Johnson, D. D. who had charge here are well spoken of by members of the congregation. A student of the Virginia Union University is doing supply service.

A MAGNIFICENT REPAST.

The supper tendered at the Hall was a magnificent affair. The visitors present were Mrs. Julia A. Watts and Mrs. G. A. Patterson of Lynchburg, Va., Miss M. L. Chiles and Dr. J. A. Lewis, M. D. of Richmond and Mr. A. C. Mabrey of Staun-

ton. Lexington did grandly and the visitors were jubilant. It might be well to state here that one needs sympathize when an ailing traveller leaves his medicine under his buggy seat, when he had coached the driver not to forget it. He is equally unfortunate when he reaches a city like Lynchburg on Sunday, meets with "Bill" Merchant and "sheds tears" of regret over existing conditions. Dr. Fawcett failing to extend the necessary relief with Dr. Lushington, the veterinary surgeon giving a cynical look when he is approached upon the subject.

A PATIENT'S PREDICAMENT.

It is worse still when on Monday morning he is sent to get a necessary quantity of the prescribed remedy and owing to a misunderstanding secures only one dose and when twenty miles up the road learns that at Lexington, owing to stringent laws, no one needs sing "everyday" be Sunday bime-by" for every day is Sunday there, so far as the uninitiated is concerned.

We reminded the Doctor, however that he could write prescriptions for others, why not for himself? He took the hint and two nicely wrapped bottles of medicine in white paper rewarded his efforts, while we humorously informed the druggist that he had "saved a human life."

It was not long before several of the Lexington, Va. C. Mabrey seemed to have been overcome by the fatigues of his long journey from Staunton to Harrisonburg, a distance of about 36 miles. In these cases Dr. Lewis wrote no prescriptions, but administered the medicine direct.

A TRIP WESTWARD.

Mrs. Watts and Mrs. Patterson left for Lynchburg at 10:25 Tuesday morning, sometime after our departure, for we left at 4:10 A. M. for Staunton. We had our baggage transferred. Miss Chiles went to Mr. Mabrey's residence while we repaired to Dr. M. W. Pannell's residence, where we met the Madame. She was to leave that day for Covington, Va. Dr. Pannell had been called to Washington and would join her at the Virginia Hot Springs in a few days. It was 6:53 when we left Staunton en route to Covington, Va. Mr. A. C. Mabrey and Mr. Jack Allen were there to bid us adieu.

MUCH MEDICINE LOST.

It was after we had gone some distance up the road that Dr. J. Alexander Lewis decided to examine the contents of his satchel examine his medicine chest and prepare for work at Lowmoor. An exclamation of surprise came from him. Collars, light suit and other contents gave evidence of being rough dry. The druggist preparation had broken and the pieces of the thin bottle told the whole story. There was no walling, no gnashing of teeth, but there was no smile or sign of any upon the countenance of the well-known Richmond physician. How could he prescribe for his patients and fill the prescription when he was out of the reach of a drug-store such as could be found in the "dry" town of Lexington?

RELIEF AT COVINGTON.

There was no help for it and not until he reached Covington, where he greeted the genial Mr. C. B. Brown did the old time laugh return and happiness reign supreme. At Clifton Forge, Va. we were met at the train by Mr. E. F. Scott, the well-known property owner and business man; Mr. Banks, his madame, Mrs. Annie E. Banks, and Rev. Thomas H. White. Mrs. Banks stopped at Lowmoor, Va. to prepare to receive us that afternoon when we came up from Covington, Va.

THE LIGHT IN THE DISTANCE.

We were going at a rapid pace, down grade and up. Now and then Driver Brown would apply the brake to keep the rapidly moving vehicle from injuring the running horses. Then there would be a bright light.

of Mrs. N. B. Newsome. Mrs. Newsome and her husband own a cosy cottage on the corner in the residential section of the white people on Lexington St.

FRIENDS GREET US.

We in company with Dr. Lewis were most comfortably located at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Brown. A fine dinner was served. Here we met Dr. W. W. Johnson, the enterprising colored physician. He is very popular and is doing a good business. He occupies a handsome cottage on the corner where his office is also located.

Rev. W. H. Hacker, the well-known pastor is preparing to build a new church of brick. He is succeeding well at Covington and gives general satisfaction. On the advice of Mr. Brown, we decided to drive to Lowmoor, Va., a distance of eight miles. It was 4 o'clock when we, in company with Miss M. L. Chiles, Mrs. Emma B. Brown, Mrs. N. B. Newsome, Dr. J. Alexander Lewis and Mr. C. B. Brown as driver went down the wagon road enroute to our destination.

DOWN THE VALLEY.

On either side were the high mountains while within three feet of the wagon road yawned a chasm along which flowed the river. At some places, it seemed that the water was flowing in both directions. A young rabbit scampered into the bushes as we drove along. Springs were to be seen with their clear, sparkling, health-giving water. Now and then blackberry and huckleberry pickers were passed on the roadway. But driver Brown was looking sick and Dr. Lewis found it necessary to take him to a spring at the roadside where he gave him copious draughts of water and prescribed for him from his ever present chest which he had filled at the "drug store" at Covington. There was no mishap and in about an hour and a half the party reached Lowmoor, where many expectant people were awaiting us.

THE OUTLOOK AT LOWMOOR.

We were conducted to the residence of Mr. M. B. Rose. He owns much property here and resides in a large residence which is located on a corner lot. Colored people are purchasing property. Away off in the distance were the Lowmoor furnaces and coke ovens. At night, the lurid flames from time to time light up the valley for over a radius of more than five miles. Colored laborers are well paid and there is a constant demand for more. As a rule, the population shifts, and only a small percent remain for a lifetime at one place. Like the ripples in the stream, the waves of the ocean they move onward and all of them are never still.

A GLOOMY JOURNEY.

It was 9:10 Tuesday night when we began the return trip. One of the residents there piloted us out of the dark recesses of Lowmoor. One of our vehicles was out of the road, but soon found the road again. Our guide got down and then on to Covington we went. The light roadway could be seen in the darkness. On our right was the yawning river. A balky horse, a runaway team, a collision with another vehicle would have precipitated the entire party in the yawning chasm where flowed the river below.

Fifth Street Baptist Church.

11 A. M. the pastor will preach. Subject: God's Best Gifts. 3 P. M. Communion. 8:30 P. M. Preaching by the pastor. All are invited to these services. A. E. EDWARDS.

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Richmond Hospital Items.

Miss Mattie E. Cabanis has returned from an extended trip in some of the Northern cities. While there, she visited many of the large Hospitals. She is feeling much improved in health.

The oldest daughter of Dr. J. M. Vaughn of Manchester has been quite sick. Dr. M. B. Jones was called in consultation last Monday. The Hospital operating staff has been kept quite busy during the spring and summer months.

We were favored with a call from Dr. Q. W. Moon recently. Dr. R. T. Ellis of Howard, Medical College is attending clinics at Richmond Hospital.

Miss Sallie W. Scott is nursing in Emporia, Miss E. Lillian Yancey in Westwood and Miss Hazel E. Riddick in the city.

Mrs. Annie Gadsden of Fairfield Road who had an operation performed is getting along nicely.

Miss Mary Daniels, who had an operation performed at a hospital in Baltimore; is here being treated for stitch abscess.

Miss Martha Campbell and Mrs. Mary E. Jackson both of Fulton, were operated upon last week.

Miss Rosa Reid, Little Evelyn Griffin, Mr. A. McKenney and Mr. George Fenney are improving in health.

Mr. James C. Cross of Newport News is at the Hospital for treatment.

Mr. James Williams, who was stabbed on July 4th and brought to the Hospital for treatment was discharged Thursday, in good condition.

PERSONALS AND BRIEFS.

—Mr. Jesse Macklin of Petersburg Va. called on us.

—Mrs. Rosa K. Jones is visiting her son in Colorado.

—Rev. W. F. Graham, D. D., has been confined to his room for a week.

—Mrs. I. J. Miller, who has been dangerously ill is convalescing.

—Mrs. John H. Johnson and her son, Robert are spending the summer in Boston, Mass. the guest of Miss Carter.

—Arthur E. Broadbuss, Esq. who is now living in King William Co., called on us.

—Mr. Robert A. Jackson, who has been working at New Rochelle, N. Y. called on us. He is working at the G. P. Putnam Son's establishment and is prospering.

—Miss Sara E. Gray and Miss Julia E. Gray of Arlington, Va., in company with Miss L. Druclilla Marks called on us.

—Miss Marion Archer was quietly married to Mr. Andrew D. Dabney on last Tuesday in Washington, D. C. Both are of Manchester, Va. and their many friends wish them much success in life.

Base Ball!

The Oxfords of Petersburg vs Astorias of Richmond, Tuesday afternoon, July 24th, 1906. Game called at 4:30. Admission 10cents. Ladies to the grand stand free; gents 10cents.

Wisteria Court Organized.

Grand Worthy Counsellor John Mitchell, Jr. organized Wisteria Court, No. 166 Friday, June 15th, 1906 at the Court Chamber, 511 N. Third St. with the following officers: Worthy Counsellor, Mrs. Adeline Turner; Worthy Inspector, Mrs. Ellen Pinkney; Worthy Inspector, Mrs. Mattie Reid; Senior Directress, Mrs. Susie Steward; Junior Directress, Mrs. Mollie White; Orator, Mrs. Annie E. Brown; Register of Deeds, Mrs. Mary E. Washington; Register of Accounts, Mrs. Frances Cooper; Receiver of Deposits, Mrs. Riscilla Woodson; Escort, Mrs. Annie Robinson; Conductress, Miss Christina Miller; Assistant Conductress, Miss Lizzie Hanner; Herald, Miss Martha Turner; Protector, Miss Maria Snead; Trustees: Mrs. Sarah Johnson, Mrs. Maggie Shackelford, Mrs. Martha Harris.

This Court was organized through the efforts of Special Deputy Grand Worthy Counsellor Mildred Johnson and the Grand Worthy Counsellor highly commended her for her work.

Continued on eighth page.

600 OFFICERS INSTALLED.

GRAND TIMES AT THE FIFTH ST. BAPTIST CHURCH.

Knights of Pythias Jubilant. Uniform Rank in Evidence.

The Fifth Street Baptist Church was the scene of a brilliant gathering Monday night, July 16th, the occasion being the installation exercises of the Knights of Pythias. The officers of 19 lodges and 32 courts were installed by Grand Chancellor John Mitchell, Jr. The spacious edifice was filled in the main auditorium as well as in the galleries. The back ground of the rostrum was decorated with a large Knights of Pythias flag and a large United States flag, and in the centre was a large sized portrait of the Grand Chancellor surrounded by Pythian colors.

EXERCISES COMMENCE

The gallery facing the rostrum was also decorated with a large United States flag. The Scriptures were read by Rev. A. E. Edwards, D. D. Prayer was offered by Rev. Letcher Morris. Music was furnished by the Fifth St. Baptist Church Choir. The roll of lodges and courts was called, after which the report of the Pythian Calantha Industrial Association was read by Col. Thomas M. Crump, Secretary of the Association.

It showed that the colored Knights of Pythias and the Female Department of the Order owned \$18,000.00 worth of property and that all bills had been paid and that the concern was free of debt. The total amount received by this department was \$20,289.90. The total amount expended, \$19,701.68, leaving a balance of \$588.22. The Grand Lodge of Virginia had made an appropriation of \$1000.00 more to this department and the amount was available.

ABLE ADDRESSES.

The address of Cashier Thomas H. Wyatt was very fine and attracted much attention. He showed that the Mechanics' Savings Bank had handled over a million and a half dollars since its organization four years and a half ago and had \$96,000.00 on deposit. He illustrated the point with amusing anecdotes. Grand Chancellor John Mitchell, Jr. explained the Self-Extending Endowment Plan. He was listened to with rapt attention as he explained the details of this most surprising feature of Pythian benefit. He also stated that the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Knights of Pythias reported a cash balance at its Staunton annual session of \$10,140.46. It owned real estate to the value of \$5,980.00, making its total holdings, \$16,120.46.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

At the conclusion of his remarks, he repaired with other Grand Lodge officers to the lecture room below, while District Deputy Grand Chancellor George W. Dandridge wielded the gavel. Grand Master at Arms William E. Mitchell then proceeded according to the rules laid down in the Installation Services and later the Grand Chancellor marched up the centre aisle and took charge again, after which he installed the officers of the lodges, there being 209 in all.

The Chancellor Commanders after receiving the printed pass-word then received it orally from the Grand Chancellor, passing across the rostrum in order so to do. Grand Master at Arms W. E. Mitchell then proclaimed the officers of the subordinate lodges of Richmond duly installed in knightly and chivalric form. Those who assisted were Sir W. E. Mitchell, Sir T. M. Crump, Sir O. M. Steward, Sir S. S. Baker and Sir J. S. Anderson.

THE COURTS IN EVIDENCE.

The installation of the officers of the subordinate courts of Richmond with their 448 officers immediately followed. Mrs. Anna Taylor, District Deputy Grand Worthy Counsellor wielded the gavel. Mrs. Nannie Johnson, Mrs. Georgia Boling, Mrs. Mary Mayo and Mrs. Lucy Cross assisted. At the conclusion Mrs. Anna Taylor proclaimed the officers duly installed. A vote of thanks was extended the church, pastor, Choir and other officers.

The Uniform Rank was out, the First Battalion being under the command of Major William A. Robinson. Eureka Co., No. 1, Capt. Isaac

Moore, commanding; Planet Co. No. 8, Lieut. Leroy Brown, commanding and the Pythian Cadets, Capt. Roscoe C. Mitchell, commanding were out. The rostrum was surrounded by the officers of the Brigade and Regimental Staff. Those present were Col. John R. Chiles, Chief of Brigadier General's Staff; Col. Benjamin Scott, Assistant Inspector General; Col. J. Henry Stokes, Brigade Signal Officer; Col. Jesse Scruggs, Assistant Commissary General; Col. Thomas Smith, Brigade Engineer; Capt. W. Henry Jones, Capt. Willie Wyatt, Capt. Thomas H. Wyatt, Col. Thomas M. Crump, Commanding 1st Regiment; Major John J. Bly. In their fatigue uniforms, they presented an attractive appearance. Sir John Mitchell, Jr. wore the white summer fatigue uniform of a Brigadier General.

The committee of arrangements was constituted as follows: George W. Dandridge, O. M. Steward, W. E. Mitchell, Willis Wyatt, S. S. Baker, Mrs. Anna Taylor, Mrs. Lucy Cross, Mrs. Sallie Fox, Mrs. R. Elnoora Wesley, Mrs. Kate S. Thomas.

The opinion was that this was the grandest affair yet held by the organization in this city. Sir D. H. Cornish of Petersburg was present.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

Mr. W. A. Randolph addressed the Y. M. C. A. Conference last Friday evening. Many good things were said. Men do not forget to put them in practice. Reports from the alms house and jail work for last Sunday were very encouraging.

Mr. John Ballard who is now one of the committee who has charge of the boys' work addressed the boys last Sunday. We feel that we got the right man to help us.

Mr. Johnson addressed the men last Sunday. Subject: The Songs which we sing. The men were helped.

Men be on time Sunday for work. Boys' meeting Sunday 4 P. M. at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms.

Dr. W. F. Graham, pastor of the Fifth Baptist Church will address the men of the city Sunday 3:30 P. M. at the True Reformers' Hall. Subject: Will a Man Rob God? Be a committee for this meeting. Come and bring another man.

Do not forget the Y. M. C. A. in your prayers.

In Memoriam.

WHEREAS, The Great Ruler of the universe, has in his infinite wisdom, seen fit to remove from our midst, our esteemed and beloved Sir Knight Benjamin Phillips, on June 27th, 1906.

WHEREAS, The kind relations and connection held by him with the members of Venus Lodge, No. 46, Knights of Pythias, for the past two and one half years, make it fitting that we record our appreciation of him, therefore,

RESOLVED, That the sudden removal of such a promising young man, when young men are always in demand, leaves a vacancy and shadow that will be greatly realized by the members of this Lodge and its friends, and will prove a sad spectacle to this Lodge and community.

RESOLVED, 2nd. That we extend to the afflicted relatives and friends our profoundest sympathy and express an earnest hope that our loss be his eternal gain.

RESOLVED, 3rd. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family, spread upon the minutes of Venus Lodge, No. 46 and be published in the PLANET.

Done by order of Venus Lodge, No. 46, K. of P.
SIR JESSE SCRUGGS.
SIR A. W. PARHAM.
SIR THAD. W. PEMBERTON
Committee.

The Old Scholar's Reunion.

The Reunion of the old scholars and intermediate silver and golden wedding celebration of our fellow citizen, Mr. O. M. Steward, will take place at Leigh St. M. E. Church on Sunday, 29th inst. at 3 o'clock, P. M. under very favorable auspices.

The following old pupils and other prominent citizens have kindly consented to take part in the program: Hon. John Mitchell, Jr., Madam Maggie L. Walker, R. T. Hill, Esq.; Messrs. J. A. Brown, W. T. Wright, R. A. Jordan, Benjamin Vandervell, W. H. Walton, R. L. Hewlett, and Capt. R. G. Richardson. Prof. D. Webster Davis who is not an old pupil has been requested to read an original poem and Madam Mildred A. Cross, one of Richmond's foremost Prima Donnas, will render a solo. Rev. W. H. Dean, pastor of the Leigh Street M. E. Church will perform the wedding ceremony.

—Bring or send us your JOB WORK; we do it nicely. We do it quickly.