

THE OLD DOMINION'S CAPITAL.

A Type of Men Who Have Come Up Under New Conditions, and who have made the old Confederate Capital City to Blossom as the Rose.

The Early Career of W. Isaac Johnson.

In no state of the South have the colored people shown more progress and more power of development than in the city of Richmond, Va. Here the race has shown in a most conspicuous way its possibilities. Here the race has demonstrated beyond peradventure its ability to conduct large mercantile enterprises, and banking institutions. With a population of about forty thousand, the colored people of Richmond operate successfully four banks, more than a dozen insurance companies, many drug stores, groceries, printing offices; one steam laundry, and five newspapers.

Of the many successful men in Richmond, Va., Mr. W. Isaac Johnson, an undertaker, is an example. To the manor born, he has grown up since the Proclamation Emancipation was issued, and has won his success in his



MR. W. ISAAC JOHNSON,
Undertaken and Embalmer, Richmond,
Virginia.

native city under his own vine and fig tree. Mr. Johnson's career reads like a romance.

Born in Charlotte County, Va., Dec. 31, 1852; he was therefore only 13 years of age at the close of the Civil War, when his parents moved to the city of Richmond. He entered the public schools of Richmond, opened up by Northern teachers for the benefit of the Freedmen, graduating at the Normal School in the year 1871. After having taught public school for two years, he received an appointment in the Richmond Post Office as letter carrier, which position he filled for 12 years, until the advent of the Cleveland administration. "As to the victor belong the spoils," he had to give way to the victors. Then he entered the Undertaking and Livery business, having purchased one second-hand carriage while in the Post Office. He has built up to the present an Undertaking and Livery business, that is a credit to any man; his establishment is situated in the heart of the city, and has the distinction of being the most valuable piece of property owned by any individual member of his race.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Hon. H. P. Cheatham, of Littleton, N. C., was in the city a few hours last week.

Hon. John P. Green is spending a few weeks in his old home, Cleveland, Ohio; taking his vacation, and incidentally looking after his political fences.

The Jane Moseley steamer has returned from a successful two week's voyage to Baltimore, Md., and Manager Jecerson reports a good time.

Mrs. Katie A. Brown and daughters Janice and Inez, are spending a month's vacation at Raleigh N. C., the guest of Mrs. Rev. T. M. Nixon.

Mr. W. C. Payne, candidate for Vice President of the National Liberty Party Ticket, recently nominated by colored men of St. Louis, is well known in this city. He was for a long time connected with the Naval Observatory.

Miss Sarah Janifer, a popular school teacher, left last Wednesday for Asbury Park, where she will be the guest of her brother and family.

Messrs. Armond J. Scott and L. A. Satterthwhite, took in the excursion to Boston.

Lawyer J. Douglas Wetmore, of Jacksonville, Fla., passed through the city last Sunday night, en route to Boston.

Miss Edith Savoy, a graduate of the M St. High School, is spending her vacation in Brooklyn, N. Y., with friends and relatives. She is the guest of her aunt, Mrs. F. B. Ridgeley, and will be joined by her brothers and other friends. She will visit Ellis Island, and other points in and around Gotham before her return.

Hon. George B. Cortelyou, Chairman of the National Republican Committee, spent a few hours in the city, Sunday and Monday of this week, advising with the President on the political situation. Mr. Cortelyou has proven himself to be a popular Chairman as well as a competent one.

Mrs. Florence V. Dancy, wife of Recorder of Deeds, John C. Dancy, has just returned from a summer vacation in Allegheny City, Pa. While away, she attended the National Republican Convention at Chicago, and took in the St. Louis Exposition, in the company of her husband.

Mrs. John C. Dancy and her daughter Lillian, together with Mrs. Judson W. Lyons, left for Atlantic City this week.

Miss Eva F. Wilson is estivating at Mountain Gap, Va., in search of health. She will sojourn at that point for three weeks, and will return, it is hoped, much improved in health, and prepared to take her place in the whirl of society.

Miss Blanche B. Wilson, left for G. A. R. Encampment. While there Boston on the 13th inst., to attend the she will be the guest of Miss Lillian Ash, and Mrs. Carrie Bruce. She will return in the last of September.

Mrs. W. F. Smith and son, are visiting in Marshall, Va., where they will spend a few weeks.

Mrs. Eleanor F. Wilson, ladies tailor, and an expert in the school of modern science and dress making, makes her announcement in this week's Colored American. The ladies are cordially invited to visit her at 1719-19th St., N. W.

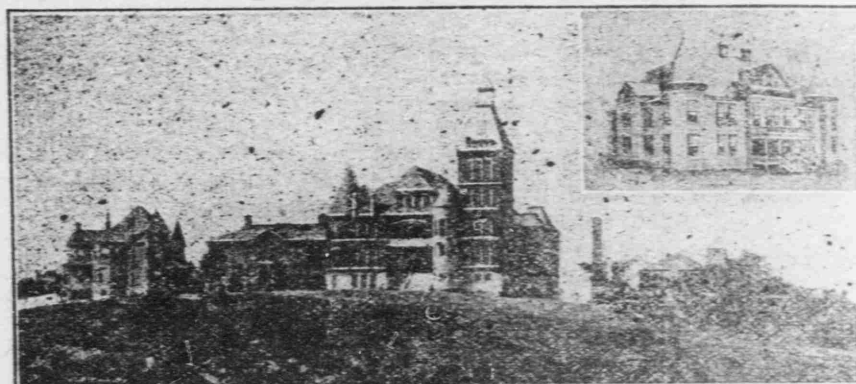
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