

The Institute  
Monthly

February 1913

Volume 5

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The West Virginia Colored Institute



Summer School

AT

The West Va. Colored Institute

Commences

June 16, 1913

AND

Lasts Seven Weeks

TWO MAIN COURSES:

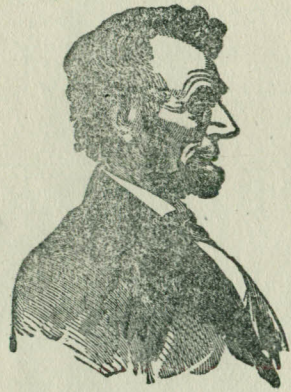
Teachers' Review and Professional. Expenses Low ::

WRITE

Prof. BYRD PRILLERMAN,  
Institute, West Virginia.

Prof. R. P. SIMMS,  
Bluefield, West Virginia.





ABRAHAM LINCOLN

BORN FEBRUARY 12, 1809.  
DIED APRIL 14, 1865.

: : Devoted to the Interests of The West Virginia Colored Institute : :  
25 Cents the Scholastic Year : : : : : : : : 5 Cents Per Copy

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Communications for publication should be given or sent to the Editor, or Managing Editor. All news will reach these columns through the Editors. : : : : :

EDITOR  
MANAGING EDITOR  
BUSINESS MANAGER

BYRD PRILLERMAN  
S. H. GUSS  
J. M. CANTY



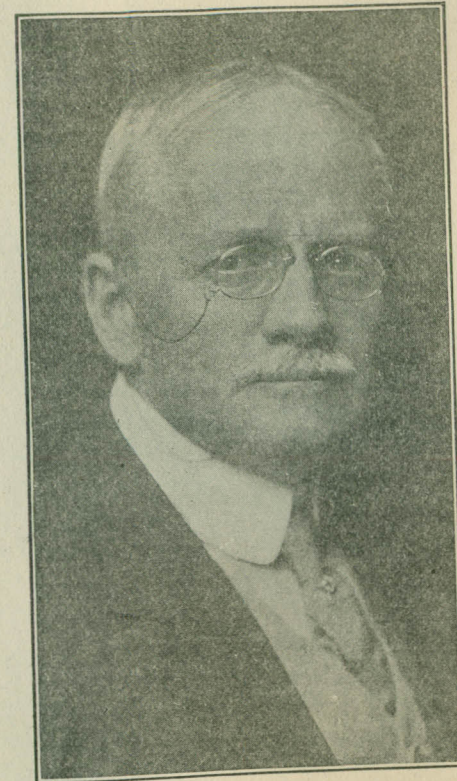
## Editorials

THE PATRONS AND FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL WILL BE PLEASED TO LEARN that the Editor has introduced a bill at the current session of the State legislature, reviving the former West Virginia Colored Institute Cadet Bill. ¶ It will be recalled that this bill, which meant so much to the Negro citizenry of the State, was overlooked in the revision that was made in the School Statutes a few years ago. ¶ The Negroes of the State are fondly hoping that this present legislature will favorably consider the Editor's measure.

THE MONTHLY IS IN HEARTY SYMPATHY WITH EVERY EDUCATIONAL measure, that adds to intellectual uplift.

THE NUMBER OF THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT SCHOOL THUS FAR IN THE scholastic year, is below that of previous years. ¶ If this high mark of attendance continues, it will add very much to the serious consideration of our requests for larger accommodations.

PREPARATIONS ARE BEING MADE FOR THE WINTER TERM REVIEWS AND consequent examinations.



HON. WILLIAM SEYMOUR EDWARDS  
of Charleston, West Virginia, who delivered  
an address to the students of the West  
Virginia Colored Institute, January  
1, 1913.



## Liberty, and What it Means to the Negro Race.

An Address, Delivered by Hon. William Seymour Edwards at the West Virginia Colored Institute, January 1, 1913.

Stenographically Reported by Alonzo C. Ellis, Class of 1911.

Hon. William Seymour Edwards, of Charleston, delivered the following address at the West Virginia Colored Institute, Wednesday afternoon. The occasion celebrated the 50th anniversary of the emancipation proclamation by Abraham Lincoln.

President Byrd Prillerman and the entire faculty of the West Virginia Colored Institute feel most highly gratified that they were enabled to secure the distinguished grandson of the famous anti-slavery leader, Arthur Tappan, to deliver the address on this memorable occasion.

The day was fine, and many of the most prominent colored people from various parts of the state were present to hear the address. Among those present from a distance, were Professor J. Rupert Jefferson, of Parkersburg; Thomas W. Taylor, of Buckhannon; L. O. Wilson, of Weston; Attorney T. G. Nutter of Charleston, W. Va.; C. V. Harris, of Elkins; T. R. Parrish, of Sewickley, Pa., and O. A. Pierce, Daniel Ferguson and Delbert Prillerman, students of the Ohio State University. Mr. Edwards was accompanied by his wife. Just before he spoke the school sang the "Hymn of the West Virginians," recently written by Mr. Edwards himself. When he was introduced by President Prillerman, he received a most enthusiastic greeting by the student body and visitors present. He was listened to with marked attention throughout the discourse, and it is generally conceded that this was one of the most helpful and practical discussions ever heard at this institution.

Mr. Edwards spoke as follows:

"If you can play football as well as you can yell, boys, you will clean up the State. [Applause.]

"I want to express to you, members of the faculty and students of the West Virginia Colored Institute, the very great, the profound gratification of Mrs. Edwards and myself at the splendid way in which you have rendered the new "Hymn of the West Virginians." I am proud that the impulse came to me to put those words in black and white. I would rather have done it, than to have been Governor of West Virginia, for I believe it expresses the spirit underlying the heroic history of our people; and I hope that the words will go on from year to year down through the decades of the future, and to be remembered by our people of West Virginia and their children, even unto generations yet unborn, and that it may live in the hearts of the people even when governors and senators shall have been long forgotten.

"The music of the song itself is a notable composition by Mr. W. S. Mason, the musical genius of the Kanawha Valley. He came into my office one day, read the words, and said, "I would like to write the music to that verse." "I do not know," he said, "whether I can gather into music an expression worthy of the words, but I will try." He did try, and I think he has created a notable piece of music. I have heard it sung now in this State by a number of students at Morgantown, Buckhannon, and at the schools in Charleston, but I want to tell you, as a matter between us, you beat them all! [Applause.]

"When Professor Prillerman's invitation reached me asking me to come down here today and talk to you, I did not know how in the world I was going to find the time. I was just in the midst of absorbing business affairs, and of a great political struggle that has been going on almost a year. I refer to the political movement called the great Roosevelt Progressive movement, for the betterment and uplift of the condition of the people, which I believe to be as great a movement as that momentous movement fifty years ago, which resulted in the emancipation of the people of African descent upon this continent.

And, I believe, this new emancipation movement is going to free not only the colored people, but the white people as well, from the thralls of an industrial oppression which has held them down even to



this time.

"Responsive, therefore, to your invitation, I decided that I must come down here. I must see your noble institution and meet you face to face. Indeed, I have a peculiar right to stand here on this platform and talk to you as now I do. It is because eighty years ago, in the City of New York, there was organized the first American anti-slavery Society by a band of courageous men, who taking their lives in their hands, fought for that liberty which they believe God has given to all men and women alike.

"The first President of that society was my mother's father, Arthur Tappan, a citizen of New York and for many years, the leader of that great movement upon this continent.

"When Frederick Douglass came to Charleston a few years ago and learned, incidentally, that a grandson of Arthur Tappan was in the city, he took the trouble of traveling along the streets and finding out where that young fellow was beginning the practice of the law. He found out my office and he came to see me. He said to me, 'The first material assistance that I had in attaining the career that has now come to me was given me by your grand father.'

Those were tempestuous days. It was a time when such influential bodies in the South as the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, held a meeting, raised \$20,000 in gold, fitted out a vessel and sent it to New York harbor, offering that sum of money for Arthur Tappan, the body of Arthur Tappan, dead or alive; when the Chamber of Commerce of Charleston, S. C., offered likewise the sum of \$25,000 in gold and fitted out a vessel, also, and sent to the harbor of New York for Arthur Tappan's life. Such was the price the slave owning lords set upon the body of Arthur Tappan, dead or alive. But he did not fear them, he never flinched, he changed his sleeping place each night, but he never left his post of duty.

He and his devoted band kept up the fight to free your race. Such men as William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Whittier, the poet, May and Lovejoy, and at the last, Seward and Chase and Abraham Lincoln, joined with him, and he finally beheld the triumph of the great cause and the emancipation act announced to a waiting world, which today we here commemorate. And at last, at last he had the satisfaction of attending the final meeting of the anti-Slavery Society in Philadelphia

in 1865, when they disbanded, because God's work was done. Your race was free.

"If the spirit of Arthur Tappan, were here to-day' and I believe it may be here, and if he could stand here and see the great work for benefit of your race which has gone on in the last fifty years, and see here gathered in these fine buildings these young men and young women these coming citizens and up-builders of this republic, endowed with all the powers and abilities of full citizenship within the limits of the law, he would say to you and to me, that was indeed rejoiced.

"These things come home to me for, as a little child, I heard them whispered and spoken into my ears. I knew that my grandfather who had been at first driven and cursed and hunted by the great slave-powers of this continent, had at last become one of the most honored men of the republic and of the world, for Abraham Lincoln, that great interpreter of the spirit of Liberty, had given to Arthur Tappan's sentiments the sanction of the Nation's law.

"A week ago, I was in Washington, and there spent a day at the studio of the distinguished sculptor who has created that beautiful monument embodying the spirit of the West Virginian, now standing on the capital grounds at Charleston and he showed me a bust of Abraham Lincoln which he had, during the past year completed, and which has now been set up on the field of Gettysburg. I said to him, 'Could you make me a copy of that?' He said he could. I said to him, 'I will purchase a copy of that bust of Lincoln as it now stands on the field of Gettysburg and it shall be taken down to the West Virginia Colored Institute and set up there' I think that by the time your next commencement comes in June, if that is the date, we can have that bust unveiled here upon these grounds in such building or on such a spot as you may designate.

"Now for yourself and the present day: You are gathered here as citizens of West Virginia. You are gathered here endowed with all the political and civil rights that belong to any men and women in this land.

"This state is here endeavoring to give you young men and young women an opportunity to learn reading, writing, arithmetic, and the trades of carpentry, blacksmithing, plastering, the laying of brick—to learn the fundamental trades and the intellectual lessons which will



enable you to enter life and be self-supporting citizens of the commonwealth. It is now up to you how well you will avail yourselves of these great opportunities. By your favor, by your study, by your devotion to the opportunities that come to you, you may become substantial and honored citizens of your state and country.

"Here at this institute, you have an advantage, it seems to me over other schools in this state. Up at Coalburgh, where I live, near the coal mines, we have a little carpenter shop connected with our school, wherein we teach the boys something about the handling of carpenter's tools. And they are eager to learn.

"At Hamiltonia, in Roane county, in the oil fields, we have a class of little girls who are learning to sew. We have also school gardens at these schools where the children learn the rudiments of agriculture. But here you have the whole thing developed. This afternoon, I have been through the work-shops and have seen the gardens and the farm and I am delighted with what I have beheld. You have here the solution of the true education for every man and every woman.

"The leading men and women of West Virginia feel as I feel. They feel that this institution is one that the state should be proud of and is proud of. I am sure that the coming legislature will give you the money to build the Glasscock Hall that you desire. And if I mistake not, the gentleman, who is soon to enter the gubernatorial mansion at Charleston, will be just as anxious and just as proud that there shall be likewise a Hatfield Hall.

"The state is able to have a great institution here and will no longer lag behind with its equipment. If I mistake not the temper of the people of West Virginia, they are going to back Professor Prillerman and they are going to back you, just as long as you shall use your opportunities and make good. And as I look into your faces I venture to predict that the day will come when you will show to them and to the world that you do have the power in yourselves to make good, and to become worthy citizens of this republic.

"I have a little boy at home. I am going to tell him what I have seen here today. And some day, next summer, perhaps, if Professor Prillerman will let me, when we come to unveil the bust of Abraham Lincoln, I am going to bring him down here. I want him to see how you do things. I want him to come here and observe and learn, for I

think he will see here better and will here learn more in the way of education than he would in any other institution of the State I have yet seen.

"Young men and young women, you have before you a great future an interesting future. The colored race, taken all together, possesses in the United States eight or ten millions of colored citizens. The continent of Africa, whence came your ancestors, is soon to become a great future industrial world, a center of industry and of commerce. Just as it has been the last great continent to develop, so the glories of the Africa of the future may yet stand out supreme in man's civilization when these other continents wherein have been built up man's early civilizations shall have crumbled in decay. If you will look at it with wide eyes, young friends, you may be holding in your hands the key of a mighty future, mighty even to a degree that the white man does not know.

"Thus, I would inspire you with the sentiment that you must go on and on, so that, in time, you may come to leadership in the world movement for civilization, not only here in America, but across the seas. I would inspire you not merely for a higher citizenship here in America, for a cleaner, fairer, and fuller citizenship here in West Virginia but I would like you to be so inspired and qualified that when the Russian Czar shall want experts to show how cotton should be raised over in Turkestan and Samarkand, he will have to come to America for one of our colored experts, even as he has already done. I want to have it so that when the English government wishes to carry on instructions in the art of raising cotton on the plains of India, they shall continue to come to the colored people of the South for their instructors, even as they have already done. I want to have it so, that when England or France or Germany, when all the world needs experts to develop mighty Africa they shall come to you.

"We look to you, my young friends, just as much as we look to any other citizenship within the confines of this republic, to hold up the stars and stripes and all it stands for not only here in America, but throughout the earth. Go on! go on! Stick to your books! Stick to what you are learning out in shops! Stick to your agriculture! Remember that you will be the fathers and mothers of the future generations of citizens of this republic. Go forward as you are now going, my young



friends, and throughout West Virginia, we shall take universal and sympathetic pride in the splendors of your achievements.

"I should like to talk to you here for several hours. It was an inspiration for me to look into your faces, and before I quit I want to tell you of one little incident, I remember as a child. When a little boy, five or six years old, like boys in those days I wore a skirt. I remember leaning out of a window in the City of New York with my old nurse holding me by my skirt, so I would not fall. The street below me was full of people. I looked and I wondered. I listened and I heard a mighty roar of multitudinous voices, and as I looked I beheld what I was told was a regiment of soldiers, the of men Vermont, marching to fight for the flag. Then I harkened to another mighty roar and the whole city seemed to arouse itself awake. I saw before me a carriage drawn by four black horses and in it were two men. One of them had his hat lifted to the people. "Look Willie, there is President Lincoln," my nurse exclaimed. That was when Abraham Lincoln was going down to Washington to be inaugurated, and when it was feared that he would be killed before he could arrive at the capitol. Here was the beginning of the career of that great man as President, who went to Washington against all dangers and remained there until the great crisis of the Civil war was at an end.

"The Emancipation Proclamation gave the white man freedom even as it did the colored man. It gave me and it gave you the assurance of liberty, civil and political, of freedom for us and for our children in this great nation forever. There will never be another time just like that time, when that Proclamation of Emancipation was sent out to the world. It was a day when the white man as well as the colored man upon the continent fell upon his knees in prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God, when all the world rang with the glory of that great act.

"You and I, as we go on in life, ought to carry with us the sentiment that we will always stand for what is right, we will always stand for the true, we will always stand for what upbuilds manhood and womanhood and makes this a better and happier land to live in. My young friends take these sentiments with you. Lock them in the recesses of your heart.

"The other day, my little son asked me this question. "What makes

a gentleman? What makes a lady?" I replied to him, 'My boy' it isn't fine clothes; it isn't fine jewels. It is consideration for your neighbor, the rights of your neighbor,' I said to him, 'Billy never let any one be any more polite or courteous than you are. Then in being true and square and courteous, you are an American gentleman.' My young friends, I want you to remember this just as much as my boy, Billy.

"When I go to Charleston tonight, I shall likely have a letter from the famous sculptor, Mr. Bush-Brown, and when I reply to it, I shall tell him of the promise I had made you today. And when next summer comes, he will come with us and he and I will place here forever, the glorious, benign countenance of Abraham Lincoln. [Applause.]

"I thank you for attention and I am going to ask you, before you go away this evening, just to sing over again a couple of verses of 'The Hymn of the West Virginians,' for I like to hear you sing it." [Great applause.]

## Founder's Day at Hampton Institute.

HAMPTON, VA.—Founder's Day at Hampton Institute, celebrated in honor of Gen. Samuel Chapman Armstrong's birth day, brought together a most interesting group of wide-awake men and women representing important interests in education and public life, for the study of vital problems relating to rural-school and rural-life improvement.

State superintendents of public instruction were present from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Virginia, and West Virginia, to hear the success-

ful white and Negro supervising industrial teachers of Virginia report on their aims and methods in bringing new life to men, women, and children in the country districts.

On the evening preceding Founder's Day, Mrs. Ellen A. Weaver, who is the younger sister of General Armstrong, told the interesting story of Samuel Chapman Armstrong's boyhood, which was spent in the Hawaiian Islands with his missionary parents whose lives were unselfishly devoted to teaching the natives how to live more



useful and more Christian lives. Mrs. Weaver recounted many entertaining incidents of young Armstrong's boyhood training, among the lovable, care-free, improvident Hawaiians, and of his brave self-sacrificing service for Negro and Indian youth on the Lower Virginia Peninsula.

In all his play and work, through boyhood and manhood, on every occasion, Armstrong was genuine, spiritual, and open-minded. He was always impatient with pretense. "To be rather than to seem" was Armstrong's motto.

The following Southern state superintendents were present during the Hampton Institute Founder's day celebration: M. L. Brittan, Georgia; George B. Cook, Arkansas; Barksdale Hamlett, Kentucky; T. H. Harris, Louisiana; M. P. Shawkey, West Virginia; William N. Sheats, Florida; R. C. Stearnes, Virginia; and Henry J. Willingham, Alabama.

Among the Hampton trustees present were: Hollis B. Frissell; Charles E. Bigelow, New York; William J. Schieffelin, New York; Lunsford L. Lewis, Richmond; Rev. James W. Cooper, New York; Frank W. Darling, Hampton; Clarence H. Kelsey, New York; and Robert Bacon, Boston.

### Paul Laurence Dunbar—His Life and Works Reviewed

By Prof. Charles Alexander.

The faculty, student body, and all others present at the Dunbar Reading given by Mr. Alexander in Hazlewood Hall the night of the 21 of January, have reasons to congratulate themselves.

The effort of Mr. Alexander was unique, in that it was a eulogy, a biography, and a reading combined.

To the students it was a rare chance to listen to bits of history of the dead poet, from one who had gleaned his knowledge from personal contact, who loved and appreciated Dunbar for his real worth.

Mr. Alexander held his audience for over an hour. He was prevailed upon to stay over for the 22, and spoke to the student body on The Necessity of a high ideal. He left the 23 to fill an engagement at St. Albans.

As a rule men habitually use only a small part of the powers which they actually possess and which they might use under appropriate conditions.—WM. JAMES.



PROF. CHARLES ALEXANDER,  
who delivered a lecture on Paul  
Lawrence Dunbar Tues-  
day evening, January  
21st, 1913.



## Resolutions

Adopted by the West Virginia State Teachers' Association.

The West Virginia State Teachers' Association in its twentieth session recently held in Huntington, unanimously passed the following resolution:—

"WHEREAS, our State neither maintains an institution for higher learning for its colored citizens nor makes other provision for the training of colored teachers than a normal course, and

WHEREAS, the needs of its 65,000 colored citizens and the growth of the secondary schools for them to the present number of ten or more make such higher training not only fair and just, but urgent and necessary, therefore

*Be it Resolved*, That we, the West Virginia State Teachers' Association, re-adopt the resolution passed at our 1911 meeting which recommends a state scholarship plan as being the most immediately practical, and that our committee on legislation be instructed to out-line such a plan and present the same to the state authorities for action."

In pursuance of this resolution, that committee of seven held a meeting in Charleston Jan 4, 1913, and worked out the plan as follows:

1. Ten scholarships to be created by the

State at a cost of \$1000 each, a scholarship to cover four years' expenses.

2. These scholarships to be awarded annually by competitive examination and distributed in the following manner: two for music, two for agriculture, two for mechanical arts, and four for arts and sciences.

3. The examinations to be the same for all applicants and conducted by the Department of Free Schools at five convenient points in the State in connection with the State Uniform Examinations.

4. Applicants for the scholarships to be graduates of our high and normal schools or residents who have completed equivalent courses elsewhere, all of whom must furnish evidence of high morals, sound bodies, and a willingness to teach at least five years in the State.

5. The institution for placing these scholarships to be selected by the Board of Regents and to be only such as meet the requirements of the Carnegie Foundation.

6. All other needful regulations to be made by the Board of Regents as may to them from time to time seem necessary to secure the prime end in view; namely, to provide competent educators in the future for our schools and to extend to the colored citizens of the State (at least in a measure) the benefits of a complete system of education.

## Institute School Song

Tune "My Own United States."

The poet sings of Harvard, Yale,  
In pæans of love and praise,  
Of universities far and wide,  
In laudatory lays,  
Of Oxford, countless ages old  
In science, primal root,  
But we'll acclaim, the school we name  
Our own dear Institute.

### CHORUS

I love every inch of her campus wide,  
Each brick in her buildings grand;  
I love every drop of the water clear  
That flows from her spring in the sand.  
I love every tree, every blade of grass  
That grows so silent and mute;  
The best place to be, either side of the sea,  
Is dear old Institute.

The poet sings of Columbia,  
Great school in a greater state,  
Of the rich and proud, whose praises loud  
Her glories do relate.  
But we will make the welkin ring  
On timbrel, harp and lute  
With echoes for the school we name,  
Our own dear Institute.



"The Quest of the Silver Fleece."—A  
Review.   ♦   ♦   ♦   ♦

By Prof. J. W. SCOTT,  
Huntington, West Va. ::

Continued from January Issue of THE MONTHLY.

The great cotton combine now began to manipulate the market; prices soared; then dropped, and the corner was complete. John Taylor reaped a fortune and the Cresswells came out with \$750,000. The engagement of Harry Cresswell to Miss Taylor and the engagement of John Taylor and Miss Cresswell were announced to take place soon. On the very evening that Cresswell proposed to Miss Taylor he went to the cabin of Old Elspeth with other young men for a carousal, but after kicking the door down to get in they found Elspeth on the floor dead and Zora standing by her body. In shame they silently departed. After the burial of her mother, Zora went to live with Miss Smith.

The double wedding was fast approaching at The Oaks. Helen's dress goods had been ordered from Paris but John Taylor fearing some delay wrote to Col. Cresswell to send him two bales of the finest cotton he had in his warehouse. He intended to have it woven with a silk wool into cloth enough to make two wedding trousseaux. The choice fell on Zora's bales—the bales which she had raised to put herself in school but which the Cresswells had stolen. The bales were shipped to the North. As Zora watched them being loaded on the train she became desperate. It seemed the whole world was against her and she was on the verge of moral ruin when Miss Smith found her in a rough house called Hell. Mrs. Vanderpool, a rich Northerner, came looking for a girl to be her maid. It was Zora's opportunity. She accepted and went with Mrs. Vanderpool over to the Cresswells where the wedding preparations were going merrily on. She was called in to help sew for the brides-elect. In some way she learned that the goods given her to cut out had been made from her stolen silver fleece. All that kept her from

packing it into a cedar box and hiding it in the swamp a thing she had resolved to do was the arrival of the French goods for Helen who then told Zora she might have the other pattern. Thus was averted a sensation. After the weddings were over Mrs. Vanderpool with Zora left for New York. Zora was given every opportunity to improve herself. Mrs. Vanderpool guided her into the very choicest literature. She became versed in history, biography, etc. As her mind and soul are expanding in genial New York let us follow the wanderings of Bles.

After his sudden departure from the school he made his way to Washington where he secured a clerkship in the Government service through the influence of Senator Charles Smith, the brother of Miss Smith and the cotton combine's candidate. He became acquainted with Miss Caroline Wynn, a public school teacher, who introduced him into society and in time they became engaged. A brilliant speech before Bethel Literary brought him before the public and he was picked out by the party leaders to swing the Northern Negro vote into line. This he did so successfully that as a reward for his great services he was offered a cabinet office. Two cheap Negro politicians Sam Stillings and Tierswell set a trap for him into which he walked with his eyes open. In a commencement address he disapproved his party's course in reference to an Education Bill which the Cresswells through the combine had succeeded in killing. Stillings had this speech construed in the newspapers as a vicious attack on the party. The Senate thereupon refused to confirm his cabinet appointment. So he lost the job, but not his honor, for he was true to the interest of his people. Stillings, his rival, through Cresswells influence became Register of the Treasury. "If they must appoint darkies said he, why can't they get tractable ones like my nigger Stillings?" Bles did not know Zora was in Washington with Mrs. Vanderpool and that it was she who wrote him unsigned notes to stand for the Right. He was especially impressed by these four lines which came from her:

"It matters not how strait the gate  
How charged with punishment the scroll  
I am the master of my fate  
I am the captain of my soul."

Caroline Winn broke her engagement with Bles and married his rival Stillings. She was shrewd and calculating. This was like gall and



wormwood to Bles but he determined to be master of his fate.

Harry Cresswell now a congressman from his district lived sumptuously in Washington but in time he neglected his wife. Their first child was born worse than dead. Her beauty fled. After some disgraceful conduct on his part and a social blunder on hers they separated. She went South to live with her father-in-law. Thus came true the words of Miss Smith,—“You have blundered into the lives of two loving children and sent one wandering aimlessly on the face of the earth and the other amoaning in yonder chamber with death in her heart. You are going to marry the man who sought Zora’s ruin when she was yet a child because you think of his aristocratic pose and pretensions built on the poverty, crime, and exploitations of six generations of serfs. You’ll marry him, but God in Heaven help you if you do.”

“The Vision of Zora” is the title of one of the best chapters in the book. It gives a vivid account of her conversion and her resolution to go back South to work for her people. Just prior to this she had heard of Bless’ engagement which may have led her to seek solace in religion.

On leaving, Mrs. Vanderpool gave her a cheque to use in her work, kissed her good-bye’ and Southward in a humiliating Jim Crow car Zora travelled to her old home. She immediately set to work among her people who soon began to give her the title of white folk calling her “Miss Zora.” Three incidents are given in Zora’s rounds which point out some forms of injustice which degraded her people—one, an eviction of tenants with the burning of their furniture; another, an altercation between an overseer and a negro boy who was sent to the penitentiary for defending himself; and the third, an attempted seduction of a colored girl by a half-grown white man. The little girl was Emma, the child of Bertie, whom Zora had often seen in her mother’s cabin in other days. With Zora’s aid Emma became a trained nurse.

Zora helped Miss Smith out of her financial troubles and had several thousands left. With these she bought 200 acres of the swamp from Col. Cresswell who made the terms so hard that he was sure to get the land back and all cleared up without any cost to himself. In this expectation, however, he was sadly mistaken. Zora had a hard time getting tenants to come on the place. She spoke in church but her good impressions were all destroyed by an old jack-leg preacher who sought to kill her influence. He would say “Who is dis what talks

of doing the Lord’s work for him? What does de good book say? Take no thought about de morrow. Why is yo’ trying to make de ole world better? I sp’ts on de world. Come out from it, seek Jesus, heaven is my home. Is it yo’s?” “Yes”, groaned the congregation.” Zora saw that all her splendid plans for the uplift of her people were turned to dust and ashes and she murmured bitterly “What’s the use?” Now a strange thing happened. A strange looking old man came out of the swamp.

His hair was gray and his eyes like death. He whirled into their midst and speaking in their own vernacular uttered this fiery denunciation, “God is done sent me to preach his acceptable time. Faith without works is dead. Who is you that dares to set and wait for de Lord to come and do yo’ work? Ye generation of vipers! Who can save yo? Pray Sam Collins, you black devil. Pray for de corn you stole Thursday. Moan, Sister Maxwell, for the backbiting you did to-day. Yell, Jack Tolliver, you sneaking scamp, till de Lord tell Uncle Bill who ruined his daughter.” “Then pointing his long fingers toward the fat preacher he shrieked, “You, you onery hound of hell, God never knowed you and the Devil owns your soul.’, Concluding, he cried “follow me,” and before sunrise tools—saws, hammers and axes—were in the swamp.

Trees were falling right and left, brush piles blazed, and by night twenty acres of the swamp stood clear. But the old gray man was nowhere to be seen.

That evening Zora looked down to the edge of the swamp and saw Bles Alwyn standing near the spot where they had parted three years before. She started her school off, and Bles became her business manager; but there was an impenetrable reserve about Zora which prevented a renewal of all former friendship. Both schools continued to flourish to the utter chargin of Col. Cressell. In order to regain the land which he had sold Zora he went to court and swore that he had signed the paper which Zora wrote for a contract as a receipt for rent. His son-in-law Taylor who was present at the transactiot refused to swear to a lie for him and the case was decided in Zora’s favor. On a previous occasion Bles had gone to Cresswell,s store to buy a bill of goods for the schools. Col. Cresswell refused to give him a discount for cash and hesitated much to quote him prices telling him that that didn’t matter for he would treat him right whenever they settled up. Bles however sent his order to Montgomery where he got the goods shipped to the school



for onehalf the cost at Cresswell's.

Col. Cresswell realized that in dealing with Zora and Bles he was dealing with a younger class of educated black folk who were learning to fight with new weapons. He disagreed with his son-in-law John Taylor. "I thought it was the lazy, shiftless and crimnal negro you feared," said John Taylor. "Hang it, no! We can deal with them; wev'e got whips, chain gangs, and — mobs, if need be. No its the negro who wants to climb up we've got to beat to his knees."

It was not long before Zora added a hospital to her school and many white children who sustained injuries in the cotton-mill established by Taylor were taken there for treatment. Col. Cresswell incited a mob to attack her settlement, but Bles with the aid of the tenants was on guard and saved the buildings from destruction. Only one Negro was caught and lynched and he happened to be a despicable emissary of Col. Cresswell. Emma, the nurse, at the hospital, fell in love with Bles and all thought it would be a match. But after his brave defence of the settlement he ventured to propose to Zora a third time, and this time she accepted him. She was married to him in a dress made from their silver fleece, which she had kept stored away in her trunk. Col. Cresswell felt a remorse for the part he took in inciting the mob to destroy Zora's school and on his death-bed he willed it \$200,000 and his mansion. He also willed Emma \$50,000 for she was the daughter of his own son. The opposition of the aristocratic whites to the political ambitions of the poor whites is intensified by the introduction of the new cotton mills. This seems to point to an alliance between the poor whites and the intelligent negroes which will eventually bring about an adjustment of the race troubles in the South.

THE END.



## Around the Institute

Mr. Homer Witte, of Coalburg, W. Va., and Mr. Chape Wilson, of East Bank, W. Va., were visitors on the 9th. They were sent by Hon. Wm. Seymour Edwards, to look into this plant, with a view to improve their schools.

Prof. C. W. Smith read an interesting paper on the berth of the Emancipation Proclamation, before the student body in the Assembly hall the morning of December 31. It was a fitting introduction to the Anniversary Speech of Colonel W. S. Edwards given elsewhere in these columns.

Prof. C. E. Mitchel was absent for a week or ten days the first part of January. He was in attendance on the S. C. of M. of the G. U. O. O. F., in the city of Philadelphia. He visited New York City and Washington D. C. before his return. While in the latter city, Mr. Mitchel visited the various educational centers.

The Managing Editor was the guest of the Fayetteville District Teacher's District Institute, January 17, at McDonald W. Va.

About thirty two teachers were present and a sensible program had been arranged. The discussions were spirited and helpful. The spelling contest aroused much interest.

The evening session was well attended, in spite of rather inclement weather. Prof. A. A. Hedrick, District Supt., and Prof. T. J. Peters are to be congratulated on possessing such a live body of Negro teachers.

Professors J. Rupert Jefferson of Parkersburg, L. O. Wilson of Weston, and Atty. T. G. Nutter were visitors New Year's Day. They occupied seats on the stage during the delivery of the Proclamation oration by Colonel Edwards.

Hon. E. Howard Harper of Keystone spent a few days here among friends and relatives supervising repairs at Rosemont.

Mrs. T. B. Payne and Son, wife and son of Mr. T. B. Payne, instructor in smithing, arrived here from the home of her parents in Montgomery, Alabama, the 18 ult. Mr., Mrs., and Master Payne, are



cozily ensconced in a cottage in the village.

Messdms Page, Pack, Brown, Hurt, teachers and alumnae, were visitors to relatives and families the 8th inst.

The Senior Normal Class, and the young men of the Junior Class were visitors to the State Capital the third and fourth inst. They witnessed the initial votes of the joint houses for United States Senators. The visit was of great practical benefit.

Rev. E. C. Page was a welcome visitor to the chapel the 9th inst. The reverend filled the pulpit at the village church in the line of his regular duties. Rev. Page has resigned his church here, and will devote his time to church work of all denominations in the state.

Much regret is felt here for his departure; although the honor of

his new calling is a source of much congratulation. As he is an old alumnus, we wish him God-speed.

President Prillerman was the feature speaker at the Sunday session of the Kanawha Valley District Sunday School Convention that closed its meetings the 9th inst. at the Second Baptist Church in Charleston. His address was, "The Conservation of Young Manhood." It was pronounced by the thoughtful a very helpful sermon, forceful in expression, edifying in content, thoughtful and serious in composition.

The Faculty, students and friends were pleasingly entertained the morning of the fourth inst. by Mr. James E. McGirt of Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. McGirt is the editor of McGirt's Magazine, and a writer of creditable verse.





The W. V. C. I.  
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