The Watchman and Southron.

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Robt. E. Lee.

Gen. E. W. Moise's Tribute to the South's Greatest Soldier and Citizen.

The following address was delivered by Gen. Moise at the Lee Memorial Exercises at the Graded School, January 19th:

Ladies and Gentlemen: This day has been set apart by the State of South Carolina as a public holiday, and this occasion has been appropriately selected for the purpose of instructing the large number of the youth of this city and county in the reasons which have induced the State to make this day one of almost religious observance. It is important that the young people of this country should be impressed with the grandeur and nobility of the man who was born on this day, ninety years ago, who lived sixty-three years, and died as we shall show, leaving behind him a reputation and a name which is the brightest jewel in the crown of his native State, the mother of States and statesmen. We are not here to deliver a panegyric upon Robert E. Lee. "The living man scorned fulsome adulation and his living spirit, if permitted to be with us now, would reject with scorn any testimonial which could not bear the scrunity of time and the pure test of truth." The character of Gen Lee can gain nothing from what we may say here to day. We are not hero worshippers, but we adopt the beautiful thought with which Mr. Hammond opened his noble eulogy upon South Carolina's greatest son, John C. Calhoun. Mr. Hammond said: "Faith is an instinct of the human heart, its strongest, its purest and its noblest instinct; the parent of love and of hope, in all ages and everywhere. Mankind have adored and put their trust in the great Ruler of the universe, and descending from the holy and infinite to the human and finite, they have entertained the same sentiments, differing only in degree for those of their own race who have especially been endowed with an extraordinary degree of intellect or of virtue. The ancient heathen deified them; amongst the early Christians they were enrolled among the saints. It is a shallow and a base philosophy which finds superstition in such usage only, and fails to recognize the working of a profound admiration and veneration for the attributes of God as manifested in His favorite creations." With strict truth and simple, unadorned statement we propose to demonstrate to these children here assembled and to all our audience that Robert Edmund Lee stood in the front of gifted mortals, either of this or of any other age, and we propose to prove it by the unbiased testimony of the civilized world. Gen Lee was a great soldier, perhaps the greatest of this or any other age, but the world has been productive of many great soldiers. They have been found in all countries and in all time, but by a careful analysis it will appear that in addition to his soldierly qualities Gen. Lee possessed also in eminent degree all those rarer traits which constitute perfect manhood and heroic virtue. Merit is comparative. We shall draw honest portraitures of the great military geniuses who have adorned history, and we shall show that not one of these possessed that rounded, complete and perfect character which had embellished the man whose birthday we this day celebrate. Achilles was said to have been of divine origin; his powers in arms was conspicuous among great chieftains, but it will be observed that such was his selfishness of character that he withdrew from the service of his allies because forsooth a wretched captive was wrested from his arms by his commanding chief. Achilles is perhaps a fictitious personage, yet he embodies the epic idea of the first and greatest of heroic writers. With Gen. Lee there was no selfishness. His high and chastened ambition sought his achievements, and gave all praise to that overruling Providence to which he ascribed his greatest success and to fact all of his victories.

Alexander conquered the Eastern world, yet slew his friend, Clytus, in a moment of wild dissipation "and left a name to other times linked with one virtue and a thousand crimes." Gen Lee left a name which he who does not honor is himself unworthy of respect. He fought no effeminate Persians, but met the resolute sons of the great North and West, men who could rally after defeat, and before whose eyes was always borne those "Stars and Stripes" which had given freedom to the world, and which he had learned at his mother's knee to honor, to love and to defend. He met those skilled officers who fell upon every field and before whose dying eyes, the world receding and growing less and less, yet revealed the spirit of patriotism, waving that loved standard and beckoning his dying soul to the reward of the patriot and the martyr. And such a memory our chieftain left that the survivors of our folds unite in heaping laurel wreaths upon his humble bier. Caesar was great in peace and in war, a scholar, as well as a soldier, yet Caesar fell, not at the hand of the enemies of Rome, but by the dagger of Brutus, his friend, who struck him down that liberty might live. Lee had not the ambition of Julius Caesar, and no man could have been found within the length and breadth of the American Continent, friend or foe, who would have lifted a hand to hurt that humble citizen whose brow reflected alike to Northerner and Southerner "those rays of light which gleamed on Moussa's cheek, run down the mount he trod, all glorious from the presence of his God." Napoleon was pre-eminently a soldier, a genius of war, and also a profound politician. His renown has filled the world, "and lo! the trump of fame makes seldom echo of a nobler name." For twenty years Europe stood aghast before the wild illumination which flashed from his red artillery. France became an oriflame of war, and all mankind recognized and bowed before the genius from Corsica. Yet was Napoleon's private life blurred and stained by the darkest excesses. He did not hesitate to send forth from her high state the woman who had loved him long ere his star had reached its zenith. The murder of the Duke d'Enghein is a stain upon the memory of Napoleon. His retreat from Moscow, where he had been detained by a loathsome disease, the loss of the great battle of Leipsic, the loss of Waterloo are blasts upon his escutcheon. Waterloo might not have been lost had Napoleon held Grouchy in close communication and thus prevented Blucher from falling upon his flank in the critical hour of the day. The retreat from Waterloo was not creditable to Napoleon, and history must regard him as great in victory, but weak in adverse fortune, whilst Gen Lee shone through the darkness of the blackest night and became in ruin and defeat the grand apostle of that nobler courage which is proof against the adverse arrows of relentless fate. His words, when all was lost, ring in the ears of his surviving people and will be heard to the remotest posterity: "Human virtue should be equal to human misfortune, and, oh, a thousand deaths were preferable to this. but if we die what will become of the women and the children of the South? We must go home and care for them, and build up anew our ruined homes and till the soil, with profound submission to the will of God." These words, so indicative of a mind attuned to the highest sense of duty, are in accord with the sentiment he impressed upon his young son, "That duty is the noblest word in the English language."

The world resounds with the plaudits given in most generous manner to Arthur Wellesley, the Duke of Wellington, and well did this iron man merit the praise he received. Yet must it be remembered that on the great day of Waterloo, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, he cried out in the great travail of his soul: "Would to God that night or Blucher would come!" It must also be taken into consideration that while he was opposed to the gratest soldier of his day, yet the army of Napoleon Bonaparte was composed largely of boys, and Napoleon himself was obese, unsound in health and over confident, and it must be also remembered that at a critical hour of the day he was heavily reinforced by Field Marshal Blucher—sometimes called "Vorwartz," meaning forward!—with 80,000 Prussians. Lord Wellington was a noble character, and deserves his great reputation; but when he and Napoleon Bonaparte was weary of war and all asked happiness at his (Wellington's) hand. His country was [illegible] supplied with all the sinews of war. The greatest [illegible] approximates to a [illegible] with [illegible] mobilized, and a nucleus of British soldiers whose tenacity and stubborn courage had been severely tested at Vittoria, Torres Vedras and Ciudad Roderigo—all resources were available to him—whilst Lee stood with a ragged army, half fed, half clothed and often barefooted, with few resources, in his rear, and with a country blockaded as to every port; without manufactories of arms or munitions, and having only such supplies as he wrested from his enemy—yet, hurling back armies larger than his own until exhausted by the attrition of armed men. Can there be any comparison between these two: Ulyses S. Grant coming from the West with the reputation of never having been defeated, (although on one or two occasions he had approached singularly near to that unfortunate condition,) with entire command of all the United States; with his lieutenant, Sherman, in the West cutting off supplies of men and materials or even provisions from Gen Lee; with an army outnumbering his opponent's on every field; with a disposition prodigally to expended the life blood of his soldiers, knowing that while he could reinforce his depleted ranks, his adversary—to use his own words—"had robbed the cradle and the grave to organize the force he then held in the field." Yet, notwithstanding all this, it is matter of history, admitted to be true on all sides, that from the day when, in the spring of 1864, Gen Grant appeared in front of Lee in the Wilderness, until the close of the campaign in 1864 at Cold Harbor, Gen Grant lost more men in killed wounded and missing than Lee had in his army, and it is absolutely true that, although Gen. Grant had announced his determination to reach Richmond on the line he had taken up, "if it took him all summer," yet he utterly failed to keep this promise, and the summer of 1864 closed with Grant beseiging the cities of Petersburg and Richmond and constantly extending his left flank as fast as reinforcements came to him, whilst his opponent held a weak line of thirty miles in length, with a force utterly inadequate. Gen Grant called to his aid the soldiers of fortune from all over the world, and his country rewarded them with bounties which the South could not pay. He summoned the engineering skill of the miner and through the bowels of the earth he tunnelled a path terminating between the batteries of his foe. At daylight he exploded one hundred tons of gun powder beneath the lines of his adversary and moved 5,000 men to enter like a wedge into the crevasse thus made. But when the morning sun rose on that beautiful June day it reflected back the serene brow of Robert Lee as he, with his full and entire staff, rallied his soldiers, and, after a desperate conflict, reinstated his lines with immense slaughter of Gen Grant's troops—a slaughter so great that Gen Burnside was Court-martialled for the ruin brought to his division on that bloody day.

That Lee was finally compelled to surrender the remnant of his army is no proof that Grant was the greater general, and such has not been the verdict of mankind. Hannibal stands to day immensely higher in the world's estimation than Scipio, who conquered him at Zama. The three hundred Spartans who fell at the Pass of Thermopplae, upon whose monument is inscribed these words: "Oh, stranger, tell it to the Lacedemonians that we lie here in obedience to her precepts; have done more to make the name of Greece famous than all the glories shed around the plain of Marathon and the Cape of Salamis." It is in the fires of adversity that the nature of man is purified and refined. "The stubborn metal of the mine must burn before its surface shine." It was indeed in defeat and with a heart broken by the misfortunes of his countrymen that Gen. Lee reached the highest pinnacle of his true greatness. When the war was over he was offered positions of great emolument, if he would suffer his name to be used in any commercial enterprise, but firm as granite rock he stood against all temptation, and devoted the balance of his life, so short, to the education of the youth of his country. As the moon often dispels the clouds of a dark night and shines in placid beauty, so did the example of Robert E. Lee calm the storms in the popular heart, and made of Southern men hitherto so rash and desperate, the exponents of humility, of resignation and of peace. The great Moltke, who rose to eminence in 1870, and swept the German eagles over prostrate France, had at his back the united Teutonic nations and the splendid discipline of Prussian troops. His armies were [illegible] already [illegible] ready he [illegible] the Crown Prince with a colossal army, and a class of generals and staff officers without superiors on earth in their several lines of duty.

Opposed to him was Bazaine, since adjudicated to be a traitor; McMahon, a good soldier, but who rushed upon the German advance at Woerth before he had realized that there were soldiers before him, who would shoot at his troops through spectacles. He had the Emperor Napoleon III, an effete monarch, who rushed into war with one of the strongest powers of Europe at the behest of his wife, and to save his tottering dynasty. Lives there a man in Europe or America who for one moment believes that if Lee had had Von Moltke's troops in perfect equipment, or Grant's legions, fat and sleek, with all the munitions of war; lives there a man, I say, who does not know in his heart of hearts, that with such armies and such equipment Lee would have marched in triumph across the continent? Let us not be, however, blind to the censure or deaf to the cavils which have been heard as to our hero's generalship. It has been said that Lee was worsted at Sharpsburg, or Antietam, as it is sometimes called, and defeated at Gettysburg. Let us look to this charge with candor. It is a well known and recognized fact that just previous to the battle of Sharpsburg a copy of Gen. Lee's order, detailing the proposed movements of the army, which had been sent to Gen. D. H. Hill for his guidance, fell by accident or treachery into the hands of Gen George B. McClellan, commanding the United States army. Any person of ordinary intelligence can estimate the immense advantage accruing to Gen. McClellan from this unfortunate accident, if accident it be. It enabled him to move by interior lines and counter-check Gen. Lee's combinations; it enabled him to force an engagement while Gen. Lee's great lieutenant, Jackson, was at Harper's Ferry. It is true that by forced marches Jackson came up, but his troops were worn and fatigued. Notwithstanding all this on the second day at Sharpsburg Gen. Lee proposed to Jackson to move around the left flank of McClellan, (after crushing that flank with artillery fire,) Jackson and his chief of artillery differed with Lee, and deemed the position of McClellan to be so well supported by batteries that it would be unsafe to make the move. Who can tell what would have been the result had Jackson adopted Lee's views, as he did afterwards in the Wilderness, and at Chancellorsville? Even after this bold move had been abandoned Lee stood in line all day and awaited an attack from McClellan, which did not come. A retreat followed, but it was not a defeat, and this notwithstanding the great preponderance of McClellan's forces.

At Gettysburg success attended the arms of the South on the first two days, and on the third day Gen. Lee determined to attack Gen Meade on Cemetery Ridge. That attack would in all human probability have succeeded had it received from Gen. Longstreet that hearty support that Gen Lee had a right to expect. Pickett's division was of Longstreets corps, and the future historion will, in all reasonable probability, conclude that if Longstreet had accompanied the charge in person and supported it with his whole corps and his whole heart the result of Gettysburg might have been different. We have thus endeavored to show that the American soldier and Christian gentleman, whose birthday we this day commemorate, was as pure a man and as noble a character as history portrays.

We now propose to show what others thought of our knight. The morning Chronicle, of Halifax Nova Scotia, in October 14, 1870, contained a most beautiful tribute to Gen. Lee, from which we extract the following: "Ah, Sir Launcelot," he said, "thou art head of all Christian knights." "And now, I dare say," said Sir Ector, "then, Sir Launcelot, there thou liest, that thou wert never matched of earthly knight's hand, and thou wert the courtliest knight that ever bare shield, and thou wert the kindliest man that ever strove with sword, and thou wert the goodliest person that ever came among press of knights, and thou wert the meekest man, the gentlest, that ever ate in hall with ladies, and thou wert the sternest knight to mortal foe that ever put spear in rest." (The Mort D'Arthur of Sir Tomas Mallory.) "With reverence and regret (continued the Morning Chronicle,) we repeat Sir Ector's words for the great Sir Launcelot, and apply them to the man who died yesterday—the noblest knight of our generation. In the life of Robert Edward Lee there was no reproach of man or woman. His deeds were dismissed by [illegible] Napier, McMahon and Von Moltke, and that America has also Sheridan, Sherman and Longstreet, but all these men and their fellow soldiers lack the grandeur which was inherent in Lee. In every particular he possessed the requisites of a true soldier; he was brave; his whole military record and his lifelong scorn of danger alike bear testimony to his bravery."

A Remarkable Criminal.

NEW ORLEANS LA, Jan. 19.—John Johnson, the negro who butchered the Colton family of five persons near Tickfaw, Tangipahoa Parish, in September last, and who has ever since been confined in the parish prison in this city, was taken to Amite City this morning to stand his trial.

Johnson is one of the most remarkable prisoners who was ever confined in the parish prison. He speaks of his crime as if it was an every-day occurrence, and, while he does not realize the enormity of his offence, he knows that he will be unceremoniously hanged for what he has done. He is a fair type of the country negro. He is 18 years of age, of a low order of intelligence, and and very black. It has been expected that he would be lynched the moment he was taken to Tangipahoa Parish. A special from Amite City to the Daily States says: John Johnson, in charge of a deputy sheriff, arrived here safe and well on the 9 10 a. m. train. There was no demonstration on the trip here, though at several stations crowds were waiting to see him. A large crowd awaited him here. He was rushed off to the court house, where he was arraigned. Three lawyeas were appointed to defend him. He pleaded not guilty to the five indictments for murder. The case was assigned for Friday. He will remain here until tried. He implicates a white man.

State Press Association.

The executive committee of the State Press Association met here to-night. It was decided that the annual meeting would be held in Newberry on May 25, at 8 p m. This is the hour of the first meeting. It is proposed to be in session until Thursday or Friday night. An invitation was received from the Harris Lithia Springs Company to accept the hospitalities of Harris Spring and to attend a banquet there. This will be on Thursday or Friday. An invitation was received by the entire Association to visit the Tennessee Centennial Exposition during the month of May. Other invitations came from the Chamber of Commerce, the Governor of Tennessee, the mayor of Nashville, the city council, the board of public works and the Press Club to attend the celebration. These invitations were accepted, and the Association will go from Newberry to Nashville in a special car. The exact route has not yet been selected. The Hon. Patrick Walsh, of Augusta, was selected as orator for the annual meeting. An interesting programme was arranged, and many valuable papers will be read, among them essays by Editors Apppelt, Garlington and R. R. Hemphill. Newberry proposes to make the meeting of the editors enjoyable and memorable. There were present at the meeting M. B. McSweeney, President E. H. Aull, Secretary C. C. Langston, the Rev. Sidi H. Brown, R. R. Hemphill, Louis Appelt, H. G. Osteen and John S. Reynolds. The matter of a programme for the trip will be arranged by Secretary Langston and President Aull.—Columbia cor. News and Courier, Jan 14.

A Popular Man in Tennessee.

NASHVILLE, Tenn, January 21.—To day Robert L. Taylor was inaugurated Governor of Tennessee for the third time. The inaugural ceremonies took place in the hall of the House of Representatives, beginning at 11 o'clock and ending a few minutes after noon.

The hall and galleries were crowded. The seats on the floor of the House were occupied by the members of both branches of the General Assembly and their friends, while the galleries were thrown open to the general public. The band from the Tennessee Industrial School was in the gallery at the left of the Speaker's stand, and the band from the Tennessee School for the Blind was in the gallery on the right.

Commendation of Gov. Ellerbe.

Gen. M. C. Butler Considers Him Honest and Patriotic and Predicts Peace and Prosperity.

To the State.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 20.—I cannot resist the impulse to say a word of commendation of the inaugural address of Governor Ellerbe. It is most excelent in style and the tone and temper and matter of it is above criticism.

Of course I do not agree with him in his endorsement of the dispensary. That institution is, in my opinion, radically and fundamentally wrong in principle, and indefensible in practice, but Governor Ellerbe discusses it with the fairness and frankness of patriotic conviction and therefore will command the respect and confidence of those who do not agree with him.

The address of Governor Ellerbe is in most refreshing contrast with the screeds that have been fulminated by his immediate predecessors, and the good people of the State are certainly to be congratulated on the improvement in their chief executive officer, and the harbinger of a decent, dignified administration, which the recent inauguration promises.

He ought to have the cordial support of all good citizens, and I trust will receive it. Taxation has been increased without, as it seems to me, compensative benefits commensurate with the increase. Public offices have been multiplied beyond the number needful for good administration, and sources of revenue have been recklessly impaired that might have been fostered and secured, but we have assurances now that the State government will address itself, patriotically, to bringing about honest reforms where evils are discovered, instead of fomenting discord and inviting antagonisms among the people.

I predict for Governor Ellerbe a prosperous, peaceful, honest administration, for I know him to be a straight forward, honest and capable man.

M. C. Butler.

DES MOINES, IA., Jan. 21.—The German Savings bank, the second largest bank in the city in point of deposits, closed its doors this morning shortly before 11 o'clock. The bank owed depositors at its last report on the 6th instant, $551,158, and its assets were $661,940. The failure was a great surprise.

LONDON, Jan 21.—The Globe publishes a dispatch from Bombay, sent out by a news agency, which says that three shocks of earthquake occurred on the island of Kihm in the Persian gulf on Jan 15, destroying thousands of houses and killing 2,500 persons.

A majority of the House of Representatives has decided that Mr. Tucker, of Virginia, shall retain his seat. Fifty three republicans voted with the democats.

The schooner Nahum Chapin, from Baltimore to Boston with coal, was lost within 300 yards, of shore near Quogue, Long Island, yesterday morning. The entire crew and one woman and child were drowned. There were hundreds of spectators, but no help could reach the ship in the raging sea.

Lamp shades, when artistically made of rope tissue are things of beauty. If you want to make shades to beautify your homes, H. G. Osteen & Co. can supply the materials. A large stock of rope tissue in four colors just received.

The Grandest Remedy.

M. M. B. Greene, merchant, of Millboro, Va., certifies that he had consumption, was given up to die, sought all medical treatment that money could procure and all physicians could hear of, but of no effect. Spent many nights sitting up in a chair. Was induced to try Kemp's New Discovery and was cured by the use of three bottles. For past three years he has been [illegible] Kemp's New Discovery [illegible] Kemp's New Discovery [illegible]

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE