

From the Baltimore American.
The City of Richmond.
PROGRESS AT THE SOUTH.

AN "AMERICAN" MAN IN VIRGINIA'S PARTIALITY—THE RECORD OF HEROIC AND PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY—THE ADVANTAGES OF RICHMOND—TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

Richmond, Va., March 8.
The delightful spring weather of to-day is really becoming to our American "City of Seven Hills," and Richmond presents a charming scene of Saxon strength and activity, glorified by the atmosphere of a city, beautiful, historic, proud, sanctified through suffering; solid, hopeful and progressive. Richmond commands the admiration of the visitor and wins his love. I have been here now for three days. My only previous visit was in April, thirteen years ago, when the fires which destroyed the entire business portion of the city were still burning. This was then a stricken and almost despairing community. Richmond was worse than bankrupt. Her industries and commerce were in ruins. Her property was broken up, her property was destroyed, her merchants and manufacturers were without means, her money capital had been annihilated, her young men were returning from the army penniless and without business habits, her associations of business men were poor and ignorant and dependent, and her social and political relations were distracted, disorganized and chaotic. It was the most terrible picture and sacrifice that America has ever presented.

An hour ago I stood on Marshall Hill, which overlooks the city, river, and a vast expanse of country beyond, and I saw one of the most fascinating landscape views in the world. My mission here being eminently practical, the most striking features of the view were found in the city itself. Below me were the great wharves of the Roanoke, with ocean and river steamers loading and unloading; to the left stood acres and acres of vast tobacco factories, whose product is shipped to every market in the world, and further on stretched the long avenues of business blocks, all erected since the war, modern, spacious and slightly, with every sign of business activity, progress and prosperity. The city is not only rich in the things of the earth, but is also rich in the things of the spirit. The city is not only rich in the things of the earth, but is also rich in the things of the spirit. The city is not only rich in the things of the earth, but is also rich in the things of the spirit.

This march of improvement has been going on unceasingly ever since 1863. Up to the middle of 1873 the progress was very rapid—greater perhaps than in any other city in the country. Since the panic and during the long period of general depression, Richmond has moved forward. Her manufacturing interests have steadily enlarged, her jobbing trade has increased in amount every year without interruption, her population has multiplied, her wealth has grown, her business has increased, her public improvements, her financial condition has become an example, and all her resources have been strengthened. Richmond is today in a better condition for turning to advantage every circumstance which attends a revival of high activity throughout the country than any other city in the United States, with the exception of Baltimore.

ADVANTAGES OF LOCATION.
Let us get down to details. Few cities can boast of so many advantages of location as pertain to Richmond. Situated at the head of tidewater on the James river, ocean steamers receive and discharge their freight at her docks, the Kanawha canal, which traverses a great portion of the State, has its terminus here. Five lines of railroad, diverging in every direction, render her accessible from all parts of the State, and give her favorable connection with the railroads of the country. Thus, by river, canal and railroad the produce of Virginia and neighboring States finds its way to her markets, and through these three channels her manufacturers and jobbers always have the advantage of accessibility and cheap transportation. Richmond is the natural market for a large and highly productive agricultural section. Her manufacturers absorb the product of the most valuable tobacco lands in the United States; the wheat raised in this section is unsurpassed in quality, and has made Richmond famous in all parts of the Western Continent. Fruit of almost every variety yields abundantly. Apples and peaches, as well as all kinds of small fruits, are very prolific and of excellent quality. The farmers and planters have improved their condition very much within the past ten years. The crops have become more varied, leaving the farmers less dependent upon the great staple of tobacco. With this improvement farmers have realized better average prices and have become more liberal buyers. The interior towns tributary to Richmond have developed accordingly, and the Richmond jobbers have found improved selling markets. The whole country about her, and the location of her city gives her merchants the first claim upon a trade which is becoming more valuable every year.

TERRIBLE RETRIBUTION.
The attention of judges and persons who behave badly in church is invited to the very startling event that occurred on last Wednesday night in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Letter's Ford in Indiana, which many people will regard as a direct retribution of the Almighty for the punishment of the blasphemer. There was a revival in the church and many conversions were made. Among the persons present were Ellis Biddinger and Robert King, who disturbed the meeting by making sport of those who led the services. Mr. Jones, the minister, went up to Biddinger to expostulate with him, and laying his hand on his shoulder entreated him to try and lead a better life. Biddinger, with much profanity, laughed in the pastor's face and swore that he would do nothing of the kind. A few minutes later, while one of the congregation was leading in prayer, lightning flashed in the church, extinguishing all the lights, killed Biddinger and prostrated King upon the floor. King, as soon as he returned to consciousness, called upon the congregation to pray for him. After this impressive scene there was a great many conversions, and many awful sinners who had been given up for lost were brought into the fold.—Washington Post.

THE JEWS.

Rev. David Rossburg, a Jew, of Columbus, Ohio, published a circular in the New York Herald, which he requested all the papers in the world to copy, not long since, calling "for a national convention of all Israelites who are now willing to accept of Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah of the world." He says:

God said in Genesis xlv 10: 'The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a law-giver from between his feet, until Shiloh come, and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.' The scepter and the law-giver departed from Judah about one thousand and seventy-eight years ago. Therefore Shiloh has come, and we know him not.

The object of the convention, as indicated in the circular, is three-fold: 1. To form an alliance of all converted Jews of Israel throughout the world, and to appoint a set time to confess the sin of the nation in rejecting Jesus Christ the Son of God, and crucifying him, hereby bringing the wrath of God upon the nation. 2. To form a basis for a national existence upon the New Testament Scriptures, as the statute and law of the nation. 3. To implore the powers of the world to restore Palestine to the people of God.

For those many years since the death of our Lord these people have been groping with outstretched hand and strained eye in the dark, hoping against hope for the coming of the promised Shiloh in the glory and splendor at his command as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, to rule on earth with his people Israel; and in thus blindly adhering to the pompous standard set up by themselves regarding the appearance of the promised Messiah, they passed by the lowly and despised Nazarine, and knew not the hour of their visitation. In the language of Mr. Rossburg, "Shiloh has come, and they know him not." The scepter and the law-giver have departed from Judah for to these many years, and her people are scattered among the nations of the earth, being a byword and reproach, proving, according to the predictions of the prophets and of the rejected one himself, that they knew not the Lord, but went each one according to his own inclination.

As little by little the light of day dispels the darkness of night, so also is the glorious Sun of Righteousness gradually dispelling the mysterious darkness that beclouded Israel at the time of her visitation. That the day be not distant when Jesus of Nazareth will find a lodging alike in Jew and Gentile land, and be crowned our universal King, should be the prayer of every Christian heart.—Luth. Visitor.

THE INDIANapolis Journal prints the following story in its correspondence from the town of Reusser, Ind.:

"An itinerant evangelist was here last week. He gave instructions in the art of exorcism. The exorcism was performed by his employer last Sunday evening. The family, and even the new-fledged Professor, became frightened at the condition of the girl, and sent for another Professor, who could not remove the suspicious influence of the operator. They then sent for a physician, who in turn prescribed a stimulant, and led. The clerk could not remove the influence, and the girl lay in a trance for exactly 24 hours, when she awoke and related all that transpired the evening before. The clerk will not 'hear the last of it for some time to come.'"

How can it be possible that youth and inexperience are best fitted to guide, instruct, and restrain youth and inexperience? This is actually the great overshadowing evil of the hour in our educational work. We need more age, experience, knowledge, and skill in the average teacher. We need more persistence. We need greater judgements to a better, broader and deeper preparation. We need more teachers inspired with higher motives and with an ambition for those studies which counteract the corroding tendencies of the profession.

To this end there must be more stability. There must be the assurance of a competent material and moral support. It is to be wondered at that there are teachers in Chicago, and everywhere else, who, in one sense, "have taught too long," and whose "enthusiasm has decayed." Whose enthusiasm would not decay in any calling with the prospect of starvation superadded to the wear and tear of the school-room? Look at the history of the salary question in the Chicago schools for the past few years. Look at both the material and moral support which the action of the city authorities of late seems to imply. Look at the average school board everywhere. See how these boards are too often constituted. What sort of appreciation of the teacher's difficulties and duties, what delicate apprehension of the motives, methods, and needs of the education can be expected from men whose souls are absorbed in law, lumber, life insurance, lager beer, and—lucres generally? Is it strange that the enthusiasm of teachers should decay under such circumstances? Is it strange that the best talent is retiring disheartened and disgusted from the field? It is true that large numbers do teach too long,—for their own interest, too long to enable them to engage in other pursuits where talent, tact, and industry reap an adequate reward. But the reason for it is, too much rather than too little enthusiasm. They have loved not wisely, but too well.—Educational Weekly.

Davidson Record: On last Monday night a water spout visited Healing Springs, inundating the ground to a depth of one foot on a level. Considerable damage was done to fences, and also to Holmes & Renrow's still house.

Mr. Moody's secrets of power, from the human standpoint, are worth inspection. First of all, his genuineness; it shines through the man and makes him personally attractive. We go with prejudices and contrarities, but, on looking him well over, we like him. He speaks what he means, and means what he speaks, and without the least suggestion of mental trickery or pompous mannerisms, he "pitches right in, without introduction, or circumlocution, as an earnest man would talk on the sidewalk, holly unconstrained, unartificial, and unconvincing. It is like a fresh breeze, on a spring morning, coming through pine woods. We like to draw it in. Mr. Moody is unstuffed, but not unlearned. A man of quick eye, he has studied it, believes in it, interprets it simply, naturally, and transparently, with small regard to any niceties of exegesis, but in just the homely, vivid, Saxon, John Bunyan-like way that the people relish. He also reads the suggestion of thought at a time, struck at once, deftly turned over and over, through the conscience and pounded under glowing heat, into a sledge hammer or a gleaming scimitar, but dropped in season, before the appeal has time to cool or the benediction becomes a relief. Mr. Moody's eloquence is that of a warm heart, an earnest glowing purpose, a perfect self-control, strong common sense, and pungent, homely, rugged and rapid speech, always grasping the conscience at close quarters, but never forgetting to speak the truth in love. He knows how to handle as with a woman's touch the tender sympathies and best affections, and when also concentrate and mass his strength in a direct assault which shall take the stubborn will by storm. It is one of his best characteristics that, unlike some evangelists, he appeals to the conscience rather than to the feelings, and preaches a religion of every-day righteousness rather than a "go-to-meeting" religion, which preaches that, in the dollar, and makes some persons out of it every time.—Springfield Republican.

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