THE MERCURY.

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WILL J. KEBLER

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To the Public:

I am at last forced by the disagreeable necessity of disclosing my private affairs to a public accustomed, as my indolence has proved me in a stringent financial situation, at least two or my creditors being disposed to push me, and, if possible, break me down.

On the first of May, 1877, I took charge of the MERCURY, in connection with Mr. VANCE, at the solicitation and through the kindness of friends whose aid and encouragement I shall remember as long as I am endowed with a sense of gratitude.

On assuming charge of the paper and purchasing Mr. VANCE'S interest, I incurred (for me) a heavy indebtedness, one-third of which I have paid, and can pay the balance if given more time. During my ownership of the MERCURY the business has increased, being to-day worth fully at least a thousand more than ever since its birth.

I have learned to every expediency in my power to stay proceedings against me, but without avail, as it seemed nothing but cash would satisfy my creditors, and that source unobtainable being unattainable in large quantities on short notice, the law was resorted to and a judgment procured against me at the last term of Court, to satisfy which my material will be sold.

If all those indebted on my subscription and other accounts were to come forward and pay up, I would be able to buy in the office and pay every cent I owe, which, however, I expect to do at all events. I might move on economically and take advantage of my creditors, but I propose that no sum shall lose a dollar by me. All I want is a fair show, half a chance, and the continued support of the people of Nicholas County and I will extricate the MERCURY, so kindly and liberally given to its post.

W. J. KEBLER.

HARGIS NOT TO TESTIFY.

A dispatch from Louisville says the Court of Common Pleas has decided that Judge HARGIS need not give his deposition.

DEFENSIVE DEPOSITIONS

Latest information received Ostiagville, conveyed by strictly reliable authority from Morehead regarding the COMBS-HARGIS affair is that upon the evidence of some sixteen Republicans who are disinterested parties to the affair, and at one time were the best enemies of Hargis, Christopher Combs, a staunch Republican, depositions that he was justice of the peace in 1868, and was present at the 5th of February, 1866, saw Stephen Ros. Hon. Judge of the Rowan County Court, write and sign Hargis's certificate of "honesty, probity," &c., that in time was very angry at Ros for granting such a certificate to a man just out of the penitentiary, but he did not believe that any more would be made was on the Government was entitled to such a certificate. He also made a memorandum of all the facts connected with the obtaining of the certificate, and told Ros that he had done so, and would use it against him. He afterwards got the memorandum in a basket with the shavings of the pencil. While upon the stand he produced the original memorandum, and made it a part of his deposition. The appearance of the paper showed age, and the writing bore evidence of having been done years ago. WM. KINNE, another strong Republican, who was also a Magistrate in 1866, testified that Hargis never was in a practicing attorney in May or June, 1866. Kinne stated that he had been summoned by the County Judge to act with others of the county to consider the letting of the contract for their new Court House; that this was before the contract was let, which the record shows was on the 10th day of June, '66. Kinne says that there were many errors in the record found twenty months that makes him positive that it was in June or May of June. That at the time he Hargis was sworn in, he was not a practicing lawyer. Hargis had been in the field some, and it was shown that Hargis had been admitted to the bar in the fall of 1867, county of Cass, Illinois, and that Hargis was sworn in Rowan and that he did nothing else by which to fix the time; he would remember it from the fact that at the time Hargis was sworn in Rowan and Hargis were enemies, because of something that happened during the war, that they did not speak, and that Hargis became a candidate for County Judge in the race of 1866 election in August and over the first day of July he and Hargis met and became reconciled to each other.

Delaney Bowling swears that he came to Rowan County on the window of May, 1866; that a few days after that, he learned that the title to his land was invalided and he went to Morehead to consult attorneys, and he employed Hargis about the 1st of June, and Hargis told him to go to Judge Stephens and get Zachariah Tyree to a certain paper and he could have Tyree's title perfected. He did procure the signature of Tyree as directed, and while on the stand produced the original paper which he showed the date of May 7, 1866, and the affixed date, June 16, 1866, and made said paper a part of his deposition. He therefore knows that Hargis was a practicing lawyer in June, 1866.

Allen Keaton deposeth that he knew Hargis was practicing lawyer with an office in Morehead in June, 1866. That he employed him in two cases against McDaniel, at the June Quarterly Court, 1866, and he made a copy of the record in those cases a part of his deposition which show the facts so stated by him.

McDaniel, the defendant in those cases

COL. R. A. STEWART.

An Eventful Life—The Colonel as a Lawyer, Minister, Soldier and Politician.

When a telegraphic dispatch announced him on the morning of the 16th of September last, announced the death of Colonel R. A. STEWART at his lovely southern home on Orange Lake, Florida, but few of our citizens were aware of the high character of the dead STEWART, and but very little indeed of his eventful history. The sun

only knew him as the lonesome of one of Carlisle's most intelligent, accomplished and handsome daughters, a few with a more intimate and fraternal knowledge of the man, had some faint conception of the honor, the honor worth and nobility of nature, hidden under an exterior generally so austere and reserved. But few, indeed, perhaps not even his young and idolized wife, knew of his wonderful travels, his vast fund of information, and his rare insight into the secret springs of human thought and action.

Richard Atlantic Stewart was born in Nicholas County, in the State of Virginia, on the 16th day of September, 1804. In after years, during our great civil war, at the battle of Manassas, the left wing of the Confederate army stood upon the very place where he was born. During the following year (1805), his family moved to Gallatin, Tennessee, where Richard was reared and educated. Having chosen the legal profession for his calling in life, he selected Woodville, Mississippi for his future home, and began the practice of the law in that place in 1825, being then just of age. In 1827 he married Miss Mary Rumsey. Whether his marriage had any effect in changing Mr. STEWART'S habits of thought is not certainly known, but at all events he entered into the fate of 1837 to be become a minister. As proof to the unwavering faith of the Methodist church in the fair young widow his wedded wife, the pulpit was relinquished, after having preached more than eight hundred sermons in the county, for the practice of the law in Carlisle to complete his education and to attend Centenary College.

The Colonel now built a splendid villa upon the borders of Orange Lake, one of the loveliest lakes of that lovely country, situated nearly midway between the peninsula between the Gulf of Mexico and the Gulf of Mexico, and he introduced his Kentucky bride to the new home in the midst of the luxuriation of his warm southern nature, opening up a new world of love, beauty and adorn their home and elegantly furnish it with the choicest gifts of the great history of the family there in 1861 at a later period and taking to each with them the all-absorbing theme, and, also, for the tenderness of human love and feeling, the same had spring that the Colonel's native State was actually in the throes of the most terrible civil war that ever desolated any country. Two fond hearts pulsated as one, and the Colonel, with those under his control. Two loving hearts, the heart of the wife and that of the husband, were the only ones that were not deadened. It is to encouraging, a picture of calmness to say that Colonel STEWART was no ordinary man. We have already said that he was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a man of the most exalted character. He was also a lawyer of ability, and a politician of no mean order. He was a man of the most liberal views, and of the most generous impulses. He ought to take the stump, and he did take the stump, during the first political campaign that followed his settlement in Florida, and he was elected to the Legislature of that State, and served with honor to himself and to his constituents.

Upon leaving Broad Ford, STEWART first made his home in the city of Tallahassee, where he continued to reside until 1861. He was at length a member of the Florida Secession Convention, which passed the ordinance of secession, and was one of the committee which reported the same. Mississippi, were still in his system producing a species of terror and disquiet, and said to this his fondness for travel and adventure, had led him to seek and strange places in search of that from which we all crave and seek at last, to wit—human happiness.

He had visited nearly every spring or watering place of any note in the United States, and, according to his genius led him, early in the spring of 1861, to visit our own famous Blue Lick springs. It was the same season the Legislature met at Frankfort, and the Hon. Hugh Madison Stitt, in whose admirable "Station The Lacks" began to work something of their old-time celebrity. It was during the visit of Mr. STEWART to Wilson, who had returned from a tour through Europe, that he met with the disappearance of his thumb and finger.

BATH

The Lexington Gazette—We are talking of building a telephone line between Lexington and Mt. Sterling, and have received from that telegraph line but the privilege of using their poles.

WANTS.

Mason farmers have time for the following wants:

One night last week Alex. Hayes, of Mason, had a fine mule stolen from his stable.

Married—F. W. Mitchell and Miss Nannie Jones.

Married—On the 9th inst. at Fern Creek, by the Rev. Mr. Long, Mr. Jno. Hall to Miss Mary Rumsey.

The supply of wood for Maysville is being rapidly exhausted. The price has already reached $4 per cord, and is predicted to go to $5 before winter.

Mr. Wm. Hall, of Mason, has the finest lot of Berkshire pigs in the county. They are the property of Mrs. Mary Hall.

Mr. Jno