

QUARTER CENTURY CLUB

GERTRUDE HARVEY WRIGHT, twenty five years ago was mama's tiny tot and like all babies was "just too cute for anything" and a perfect picture of papa and mama (that's always safe to say). She was not giving music lessons then, but she did make the welkin ring to such an extent that papa often wondered, if her coming was not a bad blunder on the part of somebody. But as soon as she got a name she began to grow and learn until almost before you realized it you were being introduced to Miss Harvey, a young lady of rare musical attainments. She graduated from the city schools and then took a special musical course. She some three years ago married George A. Wright and is the mother of one child. Mr. and Mrs. Wright own an elegant home in the city. While Mr. Wright has not been a resident of Seattle long enough to be a member of the Quarter Century Club, yet he is from a pioneer family of Tacoma, who went there nearly seventy years ago.

HARRIET FREEMAN, twenty-five years ago had been a resident of Seattle for twenty years. She came here with her parents when a mere girl and here she has been ever since. Her brother, Al Freeman, was the town shoemaker in early days and the family was well and favorably known. Miss Harriet's mother became an invalid and for years before she died she was unable to care for herself and this fell upon her daughter, who was ever the angel of mercy. While she never took an active part in the affairs of the town as did many others, yet she never lost an opportunity to try to relieve the sick by doing them a nice turn, if only to take a bunch of flowers. She is the aunt of Newton Johns, who made himself famous some years ago by saving the lives of eight persons when a dock went down and a number of persons were thrown into the icy waters of the sound. Miss Freeman and Mr. Johns live at 112 Twentieth Avenue South and own their home.

FANNIE COLLINS, widow of the late Thomas Collins, twenty-five years ago lived with her husband in their home near the corner of 28th Avenue and Madison St. They had recently come to Seattle from South Carolina and had five children. She planned many things for the future of the children for whom she had chiefly left the South and come West, but man appoints and nature seemingly disappoints, and so was it with Mrs. Collins. Both of her daughters died just as they were breaking into mature womanhood and one of her sons was seriously ill for many years. Financial reverses overtook them and then Mr. Collins died, and her troubles seemed heavier than one person ought to have to bear, but things however appear to be a bit better for her now. Mrs. Collins has always been a member of the A. M. E. Church of this city. She resides at the Douglas apartments and is provided for by her sons.

ANNA BELL BENNETT, twenty-five years ago was one of the leading hair dressers of the city and had an elegant suite of rooms in the Haller Building. She was about twenty-seven years of age, and with no intention of posing as a hot air artist, a more handsome woman could nowhere be found. Mrs. Bennett for some reason built up a big trade among the Jewish women of the city, who paid well for their work and came often. Mr. Bennett was janitor of the block and pulled down a big salary and between the two it seemed to be the most prosperous family in the city, but for some reason neither seemed inclined to purchase real estate. They lived on Madison near Sixth and their home was elegantly furnished. Being high livers and full and overflowing with hospitality they always

had an army of admirers. For the past ten years Mrs. Bennett has been in very poor health. Her only child, Norris, lives in Juneau and he is about thirty years of age.

JAMES H. BOOKER a quarter of a century ago was one of Seattle's few high grade painters and paper hangers. Like most colored men of a mechanical turn of mind, Mr. Booker was equally as efficient a carpenter as he was a painter and he often taken a contract to give one a key job in the erection of a house and did all of the work himself. He however, kinder lost faith in the future greatness of Seattle and after he had been here for some time went back to Kansas City, where he remained for four or five years, but the cat came back and so did Booker, and when he reached Seattle a second time he settled down for good. He has followed the carpenter trade for the most part since his return, though he frequently picks up his brushes and shows the boys what an "old has been" can do. He is married and owns an elegant home at 1837 Twenty-sixth Avenue, which he built during idle moments.

GEORGE PARRIS, a quarter of a century ago was a professional foot racer and an all-round athlete. He made Seattle his headquarters and periodically sallied forth from here to curb the rising aspirations of any one who flattered himself he could do the sprinting act. He was in his twenties then and was the Beau Brummel of the city and even now, after the lapse of twenty-five years, he does not look so worse, yea, the young janes still look with longing eyes on him. He is still in the athletic business, though no longer a foot racer. For years he has been the official trainer for Dougdale's base ball teams and he has the reputation of being the best in the Northwest. So essential to Doug's success is he that it is highly probable that Doug would go out of business or if something should happen to George Paris that would force him to permanently retire from the diamond, Seattle would have no base ball team.

JAMES D. HOGE, one of Seattle's foremost bankers, has just returned from the East, bringing with him some three million dollars, which he inherited from an uncle. He first came to Seattle when a mere lad and has resided here for more than a quarter of a century and of course is well and favorably known to the most of those who have been formed into the Quarter Century Club hereof, and all because he has always been the friend of the colored man. That they appreciate his acts of kindness from time to time is shown in that nine-tenths of all of them in the city, who are able to have bank accounts, deposit in the Union Savings Bank, of which he is president and general manager. In the good old political days the editor hereof lived in the same ward and precinct as did Mr. Hoge and always worked in political harmony with him. Once on a time when Mr. Hoge was owner of the Post-Intelligencer and the editor hereof published The Seattle Republican, Mr. Hoge was elected president of the Republican State Editorial Association and the editor hereof was elected secretary—it was in the first McKinley campaign—and we had much work together. We still have a souvenir of that campaign in the form of a picture of McKinley on a tile block which was made at the tiling works of Mr. Hoge's uncle, who is responsible for his recent millions. While Mr. Hoge was far from a millionaires then, yet he has steadily gained financial ground ever since. While the editor hereof has lost financial ground, yet he has always been delighted to see the man that was always the friend of the friendless push on and upward. It has been moved, seconded and unanimously carried that James D. Hoge be elected an honorary member of this imaginary Quarter Century Club, and the same is herewith transmitted.

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DISFRANCHISEMENT

The Pittsburgh, Pa., Chronicle-Telegram says of the new House of Representatives:

"An analysis of the vote shows that it required an average of 25,624 ballots to elect a Republican congressman, while the Democratic congressmen were elected by an average vote of 18,870 each. The principal reason for this unjust disparity lies in the fact that in the South, where Democratic congressmen are most plentiful, Negro citizens are kept from the polls, but they are counted in the census for the purpose of ascertaining how many representatives the commonwealths shall send to Washington and to the Electoral College. It is estimated that the Republican party is deprived of a million votes through the election laws of the Southern States, which have the effect of giving a white southern Democrat far more political value as a voter than a northern Republican possesses.

"Notwithstanding this inequitable condition of affairs, the total number of votes cast at the last election for Republican members of the House of Representatives was 7,874,649, while the total number cast for Democratic congressional candidates was 7,753,286, leaving a clear Republican majority throughout the country of 121,363."

The Lima, Ohio, Republican-Gazette adds: "The other day a Democratic member of the house from Alabama digressed from the order of business long enough to pay a glowing tribute to the patriotism of the Southern Negro, 100,000 of whom he has in his district. He characterized the colored people as a 'loyal race that have few spokesmen and few to stand up for them.' 'Does not the gentleman believe,' interrupted Congressman William R. Wood, of Indiana, 'that in view of this beautiful tribute he has paid to them they are entitled to the full rights of citizenship and the right to vote?' The question caught the southern gentleman unawares, and he had to escape the embarrassment of an attempted reply by saying that he had not the time to explain why it was that the vote should not be given to the Negro."

In addition, we quote a colored paper, the Pioneer Press of Martinsburg, W. Va.:

"The South is fearful to see the Negro armed. In justice, they have a right to be, but in fact, none. Arm every southern Negro and in a crisis, he would defend and protect the whites of that section. We base our opinion on their conduct, honesty, labor, protection and love for the white women and children, whose sons, husbands, brothers and fathers were from home fighting to keep them in slavery. It is divine judgment in justice working on their consciences. If the whites had enough sense to treat the Negroes as God wants and wills, the world would call the South a paradise of love and devotion. Our necessity is your opportunity.

"It may be necessary that the Tillmans, Vardamans, and scores of others must be paralyzed as was Ben Tillman, or die before it can come to pass. When Ben Tillman was living and making money by abusing Negroes he said: 'Throughout the South every white family is living in a state of horror of Negro rapine,' but Governor Fishback of Arkansas declared he lied and he did, and God paralyzed him."

BURR WILLIAMS
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