

WOODROW WILSON

THE LIGHT WITHDRAWN

Extended Notes

4. Carolina Years

PAGE

- 44 *eighty-nine-mile route*: Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta Railway schedule, April 1870, in J.D. Lewis, *South Carolina Railroads* (Little River, SC: 2007).
- 44 *Joseph Rainey*: Philip Dray, *Capitol Men* (Boston: Mariner Books, 2008), 55–56.
- 44 *prestigious post*: “Inauguration of the Rev. Dr. Wilson,” *Southern Presbyterian Review*, vol. 22 (Columbia, SC: Presbyterian Publishing House, 1871), 413–28, 549.
- 44 *“stated supply”*: W. A. Clark, “A Brief History of First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, South Carolina,” *Presbyterian of the South*, vol. 86, no. 44 (October 30, 1912), 2; *LL*, 1:58; John M. Mulder, *Woodrow Wilson: The Years of Preparation* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1978), 13.
- 44 *across the street ... five-bedroom home*: Jennifer Whitmer Taylor, “Rebirth of the House Museum: Commemorating Reconstruction at the Woodrow Wilson Family Home” (PhD diss., University of South Carolina, 2017), 5–8, 328.
- 44 *a considerable sum*: *LL*, 1:59.
- 45 *“Every day”*: Orville Vernon Burton, *In My Father’s House Are Many Mansions: Family and Community in Edgefield, South Carolina* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985), 2.
- 45 *stores and businesses*: Richard Zuczek, *State of Rebellion: Reconstruction in South Carolina* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1996), 73.
- 45 *“white Republicans first”*: *Ibid.*, 78.
- 45 *“drive them out”*: 42nd Cong., 2nd Sess., *Testimony Taken by the Joint Select Committee to Inquire Into the Condition of Affairs in the Late Insurrectionary States*, vol. 2 (4), *South Carolina* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1872), 1260; Zuczek, *State of Rebellion*, 56–58 (“the Klan was a weapon designed to strike directly at the Republican political machine”).
- 45 *“solid Negro vote”*: “The Vote,” *Charleston Daily News*, November 9, 1870, 2.
- 45 *Seventy-five percent*: R.H. Woody, “The South Carolina Election of 1870,” *North Carolina Historical Review*, vol. 8, no. 2 (April 1931), 166–86, at 181, 184–85.
- 45 *Robert K. Scott*: Douglas R. Egerton, *The Wars of Reconstruction* (New York: Bloomsbury Press, 2014), 269, 292.
- 45 *reelected as governor*: Woody, “South Carolina Election of 1870,” 185.
- 45 *November election ... Three quarters*: *Ibid.*, 184.
- 45 *half a million*: The boast was made by Grand Wizard Nathan Bedford Forrest to a *Cincinnati Commercial* reporter. Forrest later denied it when summoned to testify before Congress. David W. Blight, *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2001), 421n47; Robert Kumamoto, *The Historical Origins of Terrorism in America: 1644–1880* (New York: Routledge, 2014), 223. In January 1869, Forrest issued an ineffectual call for the Klan to disband. Wyn Craig Wade, *The Fiery Cross: The Ku Klux Klan in America* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1987), 59.
- 45 *York County that spring*: Allen W. Trelease, *White Terror: The Ku Klux Klan Conspiracy and Southern Reconstruction* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2023), 363.
- 45 *retaliatory terrorism ... all resign*: Herbert Shapiro, “The Ku Klux Klan During Reconstruction: The South Carolina Episode,” *Journal of Negro History*, vol. 49, no. 1 (January 1964), 34–55, at 40–43.
- 46 *Klux Klan Act*: Third Enforcement Act, Pub.L. 42–22, 17 Stat. 13, §4 (1871).

- 46 “rebellion”: Ulysses S. Grant, Proclamation No. 200, October 12, 1871, in James D. Richardson, ed., *A Compilation of Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789–1897* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1898), 7:136–38.
- 46 *only the year before*: P.L. 41–97, 16 Stat. 162 (1870). The new law gave the attorney general direct supervisory power over U.S. attorneys, and a significant Washington staff to go with it. W. H. Hoffer, *To Enlarge the Machinery of Government* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007), 103–08.
- 46 *nine thousand residents*: Superintendent of Census, *Ninth Census*, June 1, 1870, vol. 1, Table 3, State of South Carolina (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1872) 260.
- 46 *clear autumn day* ... “eager, curious, and watchful”: “The First Day of the Ku–Klux Trials,” *Charleston Daily News*, November 29, 1871, 1; Shapiro, “Ku Klux Klan During Reconstruction,” 46.
- 46 “ministers of the Gospel”: Zuczek, *State of Rebellion*, 100–01.
- 46 “Doctors, lawyers” ... “too revolting”: “The Ku–Klux,” *New York Tribune*, November 14, 1871, 1.
- 47 “fabrications”: “Ye Hypocrites!”, *Charleston Daily News*, October 7, 1871, 2; “A National Crime,” *ibid.*, October 27, 1871, 1; “The Ku–Klux,” *New York Tribune*, November 14, 1871, 1.
- 47 “right and wrong”: “The Ku–Klux,” *New York Tribune*, November 14, 1871, 1.
- 47 *far more lenient*: “Negroes on the loose, and marauding Yankees haunted Tommie,” biographer Arthur Walworth wrote at mid-century, and “ground into the boy’s marrow a sympathy that was never to leave him.” Arthur Walworth, *Woodrow Wilson: American Prophet* (New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1958), 8.
- 47 “real leaders” ... “defend the constitution”: *HAP*, 5:58–62.
- 47 “One lawless force”: *Ibid.*, 5:64.
- 47 *idolized his father*: *LL*, 1:30–31.
- 48 “exactly what he thought”: “President Talks As Minister’s Son,” *New York Times*, April 22, 1915, 5.
- 48 “select school for boys”: *LL*, 1:60.
- 48 *public high school*: Justus K. Jillson, *Report of the State Superintendent of Education* (Columbia: State of South Carolina, 1870), 56.
- 48 “higher classes”: Colyer Meriwether, *History of Higher Education in South Carolina, with a Sketch of the Free School System* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1889), 115.
- 48 *segregated*: Jillson, *Report*, 56–57.
- 48 *slight majority*: *Ibid.*, 6–7.
- 48 “Reared in luxury”: Meriwether, *Higher Education in South Carolina*, 103–04.
- 48 “barnlike structure”: *LL*, 1:59.
- 49 *curriculum*: *Ibid.*; Meriwether, *Higher Education in South Carolina*, 30–31.
- 49 “not a brilliant student”: *LL*, 1:59.
- 49 “not one in fifty” ... *bother to vote*: Frances B. Simkins, “The Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina, 1868–1871,” *Journal of Negro History*, vol. 12, no. 4 (October 1927), 606–647, at 646.
- 49 *troops protecting voters*: Lou Falkner Williams, *The Great South Carolina Ku Klux Klan Trials, 1871–1872* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1996), 125–26.
- 49 *remarkably productive*: Egerton, *Wars of Reconstruction*, 270.
- 49 “crow congress”: *Ibid.*, 269.
- 49 *her writings*: Louisa S. McCord, “Woman and Her Needs,” *DeBow’s Review of the Southern and Western States*, vol. 1, no. 3, art. 5 (September 1852), 267–291.
- 49 “confusion, disorganization”: *LL*, 1:63.
- 49 *sparked a change* ... *unanimously admitted*: *LL*, 1:66–68.
- 50 “studying well”: James E. Woodrow to James Hamilton Woodrow, n.d. 1873, quoted in *LL*, 1:71.
- 50 “happy boyhood”: WW to David Clymer Ward, December 14, 1914, quoted in *LL*, 1:72.
- 50 “general understanding”: *LL*, 1:72.
- 50 *first Black faculty*: Katherine Reynolds Chaddock, *Uncompromising Activist: Richard Greener, First Black Graduate of Harvard College* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2017), 46–48.

- 50 *first Black law students*: W. Lewis Burke, Jr., “The Radical Law School,” in *At Freedom’s Door*, Burke and James L. Underwood, eds. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2000), 90.
- 50 *introduced himself as “Tommy”*: William Allen White, *Woodrow Wilson: The Man, His Times, and His Task* (New York: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1924), 81.
- 50 *sadistic murder*: “Life in North Carolina—The Murder of John W. Stephens,” *New York Times*, February 26, 1873, 1.
- 51 *broad amnesty*: “An Act for Amnesty and Pardon,” N.C. Pub. L. 1872–1873, chap. 181.
- 51 *exempted murder*: The law initially exempted specific classes of murder. *Ibid.* The following year the amnesty was broadened to include murder generally, without qualification. N.C. Pub. L. 1874–1875, chap. 20; “The Amnesty Act,” *Charlotte Democrat*, March 11, 1873, 2; “Life in North Carolina,” *New York Times*, February 26, 1873, 1.
- 51 *quarter-million bricks*: Report to President Carol Quillen from the Commission on Race and Slavery, Davidson College, August 19, 2020; “Davidson College Apologizes for Support of Slavery,” *Charlotte Observer*, August 20, 2020, 1.
- 51 *whipping posts*: D.A. Tompkins, *History of Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte from 1740 to 1903* (Charlotte, NC: Observer Printing House, 1903), 119.
- 51 *Clingman*: Thomas E. Jeffrey, *Thomas Lanier Clingman: Fire Eater from the Carolina Mountains* (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1998), 225.
- 51 *join its board*: Board of Trustees, *Catalog of Davidson College 1874–75*, 5, E.H. Little Library, Davidson College. Tommy Wilson’s Georgia father in law, J.S.K. Axson, joined Rev. Joseph Wilson on the Board of Trustees the following year, though Tommy by then had dropped out. *Catalog of the Officers and Students of Davidson College for the 39th Collegiate Year* (Walker, Evans & Cogswell, Printers, 1876), 7. An early Wilson biographer claimed that Wilson’s father was later offered the presidency of Davidson. White, *Wilson*, 51.
- 51 *chiefly devoted to politics*: Minutes of the Eumenean Society, *PWW*, 1:31–53.
- 51 *“Is slavery justifiable?”*: *Ibid.*, at 39. During the 1870s, the Eumenean Society and Davidson’s other literary societies chose a number of similar debate topics, such as “Was the reconstruction of the Southern States justifiable?” and “Was the introduction of slavery into the United States beneficial to the human race?” Cornelia Rebekah Shaw, *Davidson College: Intimate Facts* (New York: Fleming H. Revell Press, 1923), 258.
- 51 *no women faculty*: Faculty roster, *Catalog of Davidson College 1874–75*, 6, E.H. Little Library, Davidson College.
- 51 *“cult of chivalry”*: Bradley J. Longfield, *The Presbyterian Controversy: Fundamentalists, Modernists, and Moderates* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1991), 37.
- 51 *president’s daughters . . . “already knew”*: “Women of Davidson—Coeducation 1860s–1960s,” Archives and Special Collections, E.H. Little Library, Davidson College.
- 51 *“so damn lazy”*: William Bayard Hale, *Woodrow Wilson—The Story of His Life* (New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1912), 50.
- 52 *“Everybody here”*: Janet Woodrow Wilson to WW, May 20, 1874, *PWW*, 1:50.
- 52 *including a butler*: White, *Wilson*, 58.
- 52 *“mamma’s boy”*: WW to EAW, April 19, 1888, *PWW*, 5:719.
- 52 *“took it easy”*: Hale, *Wilson*, 51.
- 52 *hung around the docks*: *LL*, 1:78. Ray Stannard Baker observed that through Wilson’s twenty-fifth year he “had never up to that time earned a dollar.” Throughout his later life as well, Baker wrote, he “never had the slightest interest in business of any kind.” *Ibid.*, 1:109, 138.
- 52 *close friend*: *LL*, 1:79 and n1.
- 52 *“old young man”*: David Bryant to Ray Stannard Baker, quoted in *LL*, 1:78.
- 52 *“nose in a book”*: David Bryant to William Allen White, quoted in White, *Woodrow Wilson* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1924), 58.