

Transcription

Thursday Dec. 31st 1868.

Such dissatisfaction in the family on account of distribution of Christmas gifts. Distributed gifts to the children. Bureau has closed up today.

New Year 1869:

Varner and Forrest I met down st. Came up with them and fooled time away. At twelve went to the Court House where the Colored People assembled for the purpose of celebrating the 5th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Speeches were made by Messrs. Kelsoe, John Garland, Scott, Rev. White, Rev. Martin Warwick, Squire Tollaiferro and the rest. The meeting was conducted in the most mannerly manner. Speeches were good as party political speeches. But the tone of them was not destined to make a more amicable feeling between the two races. On the whole the speakers appealed to the prejudices of the people.

Came home at five and united both dinner and supper. After supper a species of gross injustice was practiced on me. One of the ladies was invited to a party at Gen Wilcox's. She asked me to gallant her there and fetch her from there at Eleven at night.

This I did.

Then I should have written to the association but I did not.

Saturday Jan 2nd 1868 [1869].

Morton Roberts and Mr. Wm. Smith called this Morning. Distributed the last Christmas presents. Read the Peoples Magazine. Did little work of any kind. Varner left this eve.

Citation: Jacob E. Yoder, Diaries, 1861–1870 (excerpts of December 31, 1868–January 2, 1869), Accession 27680, 51148, Personal Papers Collection. Library of Virginia.