

DECEMBER • 1902

At this time he had many invitations to speak in the state, but he declined them all except at Charleston, Malden and Montgomery. After his address at Malden he attended a festival in the old church of which he is a member. There, surrounded by so many friends of his youth, he must have felt a boy again.

When Mr. Washington and his party returned to Charleston at five o'clock in the evening, they heard that President McKinley had been shot. As Mr. Washington waited at Charleston depot for the Malden train, he anxiously watched the people as they spoke to one another in subdued tones, but he could not believe the report. Soon after reaching Malden, however, he became convinced that the sad report was true, and he immediately telegraphed a message of sympathy to Mrs. McKinley. The old citizens of Malden came around him in great numbers to get his opinion of the tragedy. Some of the white men asserted that the assassin should be lynched, but Mr. Washington insisted too much of that had already been done.

Mr. Washington may not be pleased that I have made public these private facts of his Christian life, but it has been through these that his neighbors have seen into the man's soul and have learned to respect, trust and love him.

*National Magazine*, 17 (Dec. 1902), 353-56.

<sup>1</sup> William Davis.

<sup>2</sup> Lewis Rice.

<sup>3</sup> Sophia Agee.

## An Introduction to *Shadow and Light*

1902

It is seldom that one man, even if he has lived as long as Judge M. W. Gibbs is able to record his impressions of so many widely separated parts of the earth's surface as Judge Gibbs can, or to recall personal experiences in so many important occurrences.

Born in Philadelphia, and living there when that city — almost on the border line between slavery and freedom — was the scene of some of the most stirring incidents in the abolition agitation, he was able as a free colored youth, going to Maryland to work, to see