Litchfield - June 7, 1924

After interview with Wing we drove to Litchfield about 40 miles, and found there the file of the Litchfield Enquirer, which in 1865 was about 40 years old.

In the issue for April 13, 1865 is the valedictory of James Humphrey, Jr., who says that he had been editor for 5 1/2 years. He writes, "We bespeak for our successor, Messrs. Wing and Shumway, the same generous patronage and kind assistance that has been affored us, confident that we leave both the Enquirer and its readers in the best of hands."

Wing evidently took charge that week. The Enquirer of April 20 came out with heavy black leaded column lines. The name of Wing and Shumway was at the head on the first column, first page. Wing's editorial was not the salutatory he had planned, as told in previous notes. It was one beginning, "Our Chief Executive Murder - O God! What a weight of sorrow is in that sentence!

He evidently wrote one or two editorials a week. There was much of the conventional type, highly literary. The subjects ran, "The New Administration," "Sharman," "The National Debt," "Music," "Innocent Traitors", "The Day We Celebrate," "Negro Suffrage Again." On July 27 is an editorial headed, "Next Tuesday," which, he declares, will be the most glorious day in the history of Litchfield. "Three years ago almost a thousand men encamped on Chestnut Hill - a handful of stalwart veterans for returned to their homes on our hillsides."

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Chestnut Hill - a handful of stalwart veterans for returned to their homes on our hillsides."

On August 3 there is an editorial of three columns, headed "The Heroes" Reception."

Wing and Shumway's name stayed at the head of the first column, first page, until July 12, 1866. The issue of July 19 said, "To be published every Thursday by A. Shumway." The editorial page heading was "Litchfield Enquirer, George A.

Hickox, Editor." All the editorial following says is, "As will be seen by this heading a change has taken place in the management of this paper. Under new auspices we hope it may not forfeit the popularity which for 40 years it has enjoyed in this county." No word about Wing.

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