

What Do You Know Of Peter Francisco?

An historical article by Dr. J. E. Hodges, Maiden, N. C. During the past month I have asked of forty people, "What do you know of Peter Francisco?" 33 of these people had never heard of him. All of them were educated, and extensive readers, a few of them history students. On the battleground at Guilford courthouse stands a monument erected to this little known character, Peter Francisco, who fought in that battle and rendered a lasting service to the cause of freedom. He was a member of a volunteer cavalry company from Virginia, commanded by Capt. Watkins, and Lieut. Holcomb, in the terrible charges. At Guilford, the cavalry regiment was commanded by Col. William Washington, who shared with Col. Lee the reputation of being the most efficient cavalry commander in the Continental armies. Peter Francisco was a physical giant, being six and a half feet tall, and weighed 240 pounds, with not a pound of surplus fat on him. His monument says he was a "giant of incredible strength." He served for three years with Gen. Washington in the north, then on his discharge, was soon back in the thick of the fighting in the South. He had been in the army but a short time when he complained that the swords furnished him were too short and too light. So a special one was made for him which he wielded at Brandywine, Germantown, Powel Point, Monmouth and Stony Point. At Guilford courthouse at a critical part of the conflict when it seemed that Greene's army might be annihilated, Col. Washington sounded the bugle for a sabre charge on the guards, the flower of Cornwallis' army. Dashing down a ridge the cavalry fell upon the rear of the guards at full gallop and with whipping blades, went through them, whirled and back again, slaying them right and left. Francisco laid three redcoats low on the first charge and 11 before it was over. Whatever he may have done with carbine, pistols and sabre during the other portion of the battle, eleven fell before his terrible broadsword as they rode down the guards in the terrible cavalry charge. Foot's "Sketches of North Carolina says "the carnage was dreadful." Here is an account by Lieut. Holcomb to Dr. Jones of Nottaway, and relates how Francisco performed a deed of blood without parallel. "In that short but terrible encounter he cut down 11 men with his brawny arm and terrible broadsword. One of the guards in desperation thrust his bayonet and in spite of the parrying of Francisco's sword, pinned his leg to his horse. Francisco forbore to strike, but assisted him to extricate his bayonet. As he turned to flee, Francisco rose in his stirrups, to give additional force to the blow, and with his terrible blade, cleft the poor fellows head down to his shoulders." A story by a descendant, Nanne Francisco, relates the following of him: "No one knows from whence he came. He was brought to the shores of Virginia by unknown captors about the year 1760 when approximately five years old and the barque that brought him disappeared after landing him and, though nearly two centuries have passed, the mystery is still unsolved, and the tears and heart-break of his mother in some unknown land is unrecorded. Judge Winston, on hearing the story of the little waif, was touched and took him to his home, and also took him on his circuit and also to the meetings of the Virginia legislature, where he heard the troubles of the colonies with the mother country discussed by the

statesmen and other patriots. He was fired with patriotic fervor while yet young and was well posted on colonial affairs. It is to be regretted that Judge Winston did not give him a higher education than he did, a lack which handicapped him in after life and prevented him from accepting an officer's commission in the Continental army. After the war he made an upright and worthy citizen. He married three times, first to Susannah Anderson, two children, one of them died in infancy; second to Catherine Brooks, four children, and third to Mrs. Mary West who survived him without issue. He has a number of descendants in Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. When you visit the Guilford battleground near Greensboro, you will first want to stand in reverence at the graves of William Hooper and John Penn, two of North Carolina's signers of the Declaration of Independence. Then find the monument of Peter Francisco. Upon this monument, marking the spot where the carnage took place, is inscribed: "Peter Francisco, a giant of incredible strength, killed 11 British soldiers with his broad sword and though wounded, made his escape."

DALE CARNEGIE Our subject is competition. It scares the pants off some people, but instead of being frightening, competition often works to advantage. When Noah Webster was poor and trying to put over his dictionary he wanted to go to England to study words. He was so poor that he had to borrow money for the journey. He tried to finance the book by selling subscriptions to it from door to door; that is, the book had not yet been published, so he sold coupons good for the book when it came off the press. Suddenly competition swooped down upon him. He had a helper named Joseph E. Worcester who had left and got financial backing and started a rival dictionary called "Worcester's Universal and Critical Dictionary." The man got the endorsements of most of the college presidents in New England, including Harvard. Webster was worried. He could not, he said, stand such competition. More, the country could not support two dictionaries, and his rival had greater financial backing than he had. The big work of his life would amount to nothing! Then suddenly there sprang up something which the newspapers called "the war of the dictionaries." It was the talk of the day; cartoons celebrated it, people took sides. It was Webster vs. Worcester.

There was a town in Massachusetts named Worcester, and a railroad center. A branch line ran from there to a town named Webster. The conductor used to go through the train singing out, "This is Worcester; all change for Webster."

Now Noah Webster, who at first had quaked at the thought of competition—a supposed enemy—found that it actually was working to his advantage. This country had become dictionary-conscious, the big step leading to sales. When the first edition was published, Webster's success was assured. Sales were far, far greater than he had dared hope they would be. Little by little he forged ahead. Finally, he said "Thank God for Worcester; he gave me my start." Webster's dictionary got so far out in front that Worcester finally gave up and his dictionary no longer was published. Today Webster's is booming along; in fact when the next edition comes out, 300 people will have worked on it.

FOR SALE NEW FIVE ROOM HOUSE with large bath, hardwood floors, electric hot water heater, large spacious lot. Priced to sell. NINE ROOM HOUSE, two baths, five bedrooms, conveniently located to schools, churches. Can be financed. Quick sale. GOING BUSINESS, year around business, located in the heart of Boone business district. Can be bought on terms. FOUR APARTMENT HOUSE, large lot located near college, rents the year around, will trade for small house any place in Boone. Can be financed. GREENE HEIGHTS: New five room house, bath, large lot, can be bought on terms. Small down payment. FARMS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS for sale, small, large, from \$5,000.00 up. BEAUTIFUL 20 ACRE FARM located about 1-2 mile from Boone. Good brick house, very valuable land. Terms to the right person. "IF YOU WANT TO SELL YOUR PROPERTY AND THE PRICE IS RIGHT, SEE US."

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OPERATION VITTLES



Crew members of the U. S. air force planes flying supplies to Berlin get refreshments from a mobile snack bar which comes out to their planes as soon as they are parked for unloading. A variety of sandwiches are available, including American style "hot dogs."

Seek to Improve R. F. D. Service

The postoffice department has again launched a nation-wide rural mail box clean-up campaign. It is stated by Mrs. Addie Clawson, secretary of the Watauga county rural letter carriers association, who adds: "Such a campaign was started several years ago, but was dropped temporarily, because wartime needs made new mail boxes unavailable. Now that mail boxes are again on the market, the department has declared its intention of enforcing the regulations which says that only approved boxes of no. 1 or no. 2 size may be used, and that they must be in good condition, with doors, signals and handles to open them by, and firmly fastened to a support of proper height and conveniently located so as to be easily accessible from the carrier's vehicle. Inspector Kever spent two days recently in the county, checking up and personally directing the campaign locally. A good many notices were mailed to rural patrons whose boxes were not approved. The response has been wonderful. Every day sees new boxes erected, and old ones reconditioned or moved to a better location and other patrons have signified their intentions of doing likewise. "The postmasters and rural carriers of the county join in thanking the rural patrons for their fine spirit of cooperation and feel sure that when the second inspection is made at the end of thirty days, there will be little cause for complaint."

RADIO PROGRAM FOR EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"Great Scenes From Great Plays", an entirely new departure in religious radio program, sponsored by the Episcopal families of Watauga county, will be broadcast for the first time on Friday evening, October 1, from 8:00 to 8:30 p. m., Eastern Standard Time over the mutual network and every Friday evening thereafter. "Cyrano de Bergerac", Edmond Rostand's timeless drama of self denial, starring the beloved veteran actor Walter Hampden, who created the part of the daring, poet and philosopher Cyrano in more than 1,000 stage performances, will be the first "Great Play" to be broadcast coast-to-coast over 500 stations of the Mutual Broadcasting System. The unusual radio series is produced by the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church with the cooperation of the 200 members of the Episcopal Actors' Guild. Mr. Hampden will act as host for all subsequent programs. Without hymns, prayers or reading of scriptures, "Great Scenes From Great Plays" will be heard on Friday evenings in frank competition for listeners with other broadcasts. The commercial announcement will differ only from competitors' in that it has nothing to sell... except that it offers unchurched millions an opportunity to become better acquainted with the Episcopal Church and its relation to the individual.

WANT ADS "OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS HERE"

- SHOES—Bring your whole family in and fit them up for your fall and winter needs. We have a complete line of every kind of shoe that you would want, including combat boots for men and boys. We also have a nice line of wool plated jackets for men, boys and girls. Economy Shoe and Ready to Wear Store. 9-30-2c
- BEFORE BUYING see our line of men's and young men's 100% wool suits. Nice selection of patterns and colors, single and double breasted, priced unusually low. Full stock of men's reconditioned John B. Stetson hats, \$3.95. Also Montclair brand new hats, narrow bands, \$7.50 value, our price \$4.95. Economy Shoe and Ready to Wear Store. 1c
- WE HAVE A NICE LINE of women's and girls' dresses in prints and dressy dresses. Women's girls' and children's all wool coats at a very low price. Economy Shoe and Ready to Wear Store. 1c
- FOR SALE—One five burner kerosene stove, with two burner oven. Please call 312-W or contact H. Hoover Cole, 5 Agle Apartments. 1p
- MAKE YOUR FARMING AND FEEDING EXPERIENCE pay off in your spare time. We have immediate openings in this county and surrounding counties for full or part time men. No investment. Home nights. Age 25-50. Car necessary. To get started immediately write Moorman Mfg. Co., Box W-4, Quincy, Ill. 1p
- CAR OWNERS—Bring your car to City Service Station and leave it while you go shopping and to work. Let us grease, wash and vacuum clean it. Free parking to our customers. We sell Goodwear tires. Ace batteries and Pennzoil. Homer Arnette. 10-7-2p
- WANTED young couple. Will furnish three quarters, meals and small salary for winter months. Call 2514 Blowing Rock or write box 546. 1c
- WASH AND DRY YOUR CLOTHES—We come to little and takes such a short time at Buchanan's Automatic Laundry, 401 East Main St., Boone, N. C. Telephone 66-M. 1c
- FOR RENT—Furnished four room apartment with garage on Pine street. Call 198 or 295-J. 1p
- WINTER WINDS—Are you planning to treat winter winds in your home or business? We have one of the best custom built blinds of the lowest cost in town. Write or call R. W. Watkins, phone 247-W. Free estimate on your home. 10-7-2c
- BLOWN ROCK WOOL AND WEATHER STRIPPING—Now is the time to have your home insulated for this winter. We also handle the new rhodod type of weather stripping for windows and doors. Write R. W. Watkins or call 247 for estimate. 10-7-2c
- FOR SALE—25 bushels Buckingham apples, \$1.00 per bushel. Miss Edna Bingham, Linney Building. 1p
- ATTENTION TRUCKERS—Oil treated Stoker Coal and Lump Coal for sale. On hard surfaced Road No. 624, one mile north of Honaker, in Russell County, Virginia. Pendleton Construction Corporation, Honaker, Virginia. 9-30-2c
- WANTED—Laurel and Ivy burls. Well trimmed, delivered at the old diesel power plant, Blowing Rock, N. C. 9-30-2p
- FOR RENT—Modern cabins with shower, weekly and monthly rates. Little Grill Cafe, Rt. 421 near Villas. 9-30-2p
- FOR SALE—Small piece of land near scenic highway and near my place. Won't cost much to own. Mrs. J. C. Church, Shulls Mills, N. C. 9-23-8c
- ALTERATIONS, reweaving, mending, buttons and buckles covered. Complete belts tailored. Call Boone, 249-J. 9-23-4p
- EARN SPLENDID INCOME selling Avon cosmetics. Open territories in Boone, Sugar Grove, Shulls Mills, Valle Crucis. Write Mrs. Sarah Sorrell, 23 Broad St., Asheville. 9-23-3p
- WESCOTE SUPREME PAINT, guaranteed the highest quality possible to manufacture! Our price \$3.29 gallon. Why pay more and get less? We also carry a wide selection of Wall Paper in the latest designs low as 19 cents per roll. Western Auto Associate Store. 7-15-tfc
- DR. C. G. BAUGHMAN, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist at Elizabethton Tenn., will be at the Watauga Hospital in Boone the first Monday in each month for the practice of his profession.
- RADIO BATTERIES, extra heavy metal covered A B packs, guaranteed 1400 hours, special this week \$9.95 each. Our customers find they last one third longer than the 1000 hour batteries yet sell for less. WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE. 9-18-tfc
- FOR RENT—Floor sander, sander and polisher. Call C & E Home and Auto Supply Co., Boone, N. C. 7-29-tfc
- NORTH WILKESBORO BEAUTY SCHOOL G. I. approved. Now open to both boys and girls. 1-30-tfc
- FOR RENT OR LEASE—Service Station and Store Building, 3 1/2 miles west of Boone. See Dallas Hodges, Villas, N. C.
- NOW BUYING GALAX—Want women to do piece work in their homes. Wilcox Drug Co. 9-9-4c
- NEW TYPEWRITERS AND ADDING MACHINES. Fast delivery, expert repair service, all makes. LENOIR OFFICE EQUIPMENT CO. Phone 419, Lenoir, N. C. Authorized distributors of Remington Rand office equipment.

Naval Reservists To Hold Meeting

The Naval Reservists of Boone will hold their first fall meeting on Tuesday night, October 12 at 7:00 p. m. in the Science lecture room at Appalachian State Teachers College. An interesting program is arranged and Lt. Comdr. George F. Kirchner, the Commandant's local representative, urges that all Boone reservists attend. Commander Robert M. Laird, officer-in-charge of the Naval Reserve Training center in Winston-Salem will be present to discuss naval reserve retirement, promotions, active duty tours, and to make a short talk on new developments in naval warfare.

Midwives Hold Annual Meeting

At the annual meeting of the midwives held recently at the Health Department the local registered midwives were graded as follows: Grade A, Mrs. Belle Cole, Route 2, Boone; Mrs. Eliza Guy, Beech Creek; Mrs. Sarah Phillips, Laxton; Grade B, Mrs. Sallie Triplett, Deep Gap, Mrs. Nancy Ward, Rominger; and Grade C, Mrs. Grace Greene, Deep Gap.

Dr. Moore Speaks To Baptist Group

Dr. Hight C. Moore will speak to the brotherhood of the Baptist church at the Skyline Restaurant Tuesday October 12 at 7:15 p. m. Dr. Moore was editorial secretary of the Sunday School board for many years. As editor of Points for Emphasis and the teacher his influence was very great over the thousands of teachers in Southern Baptist churches. Dr. Moore is retired and lives at Ridgecrest, N. C.

MASONIC MEETING

A communication of Snow Lodge No. 363, will be held Friday October 8, at 7:30 p. m. for the purpose of conferring the Master Mason's degree. The membership is urged to attend. A. R. Smith, Master, J. E. Clay, Secretary.

On June 1, there were 198,755 living physicians in this country as against 170,163 in 1940, according to estimates by the American Medical Association's Bureau of Medical Economic Research.

CARD OF THANKS We wish to thank our neighbors and friends who were so kind and thoughtful during the burial of our son and brother, Hal, for the beautiful flowers, bringing in and serving food and the many other kind deeds.—Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Vines and family. 1p

NOTICE IN THE SUPERIOR COURT North Carolina WATAUGA COUNTY Ruby Trivette Presnell, Plaintiff Bynum Presnell, Defendant

The above named defendant, Bynum Presnell, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Watauga County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to secure an absolute divorce from the defendant on the ground that the plaintiff and defendant have lived separate and apart for more than two years next preceding the bringing of this action; and The defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Watauga County, in the Courthouse in Boone, North Carolina, within twenty days after the fourth day of November, 1948, and answer or demur to the complaint in the said action or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint. This the 4th day of October, 1948. FRED M. GRAGG, Clerk Superior Court 10-7-4c

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Having qualified as the administrator of the estate of R. J. Millaps, late of the county of Watauga, state of North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased, to present them to me for payment within twelve months of the date hereof, of this notice will be filed in the said recovery. All those indebted to the estate are asked to make immediate payment. This September 27, 1948. PERRY FARTHING, Admr. 9-30-4p

Winter, Is Just Around the Corner

BETTER CHECK OVER YOUR HEATING EQUIPMENT

It's time to start thinking about heat for your home this winter. If you're going to need a new heater, better come in now and get it and be ready when cold weather comes.



Magazine Type Automatic Coal Heaters

Trouble-free economical heat for your home in coldest weather. This heater holds 100 pounds of coal at one fueling. Automatic—Needs very little attention.

Ashley and Wood Saver Automatic Wood Burning Heaters

You can't go wrong in choosing either of these fine heaters for your home. They burn any kind of wood. Thermostatically controlled—even heat at all times.

LAUNDRY HEATERS . . . Some are equipped with hot water coils

SHEET IRON HEATERS in various sizes

QUICK HEAT OIL CIRCULATORS

Can be equipped with circulating fan

Now you can secure that modern heater you've been waiting for: Quick Heat Oil Burning Heaters provide all the convenience of clean, healthy, dependable heating and give you every feature you've wanted in a heater, including time-tested performance. There's no better heater buy today. OIL HEAT IS DEPENDABLE HEAT.

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