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The Loan Committee Approves

The Loan Committee of the Sand Hill Farmers' Association have investigated a number of properties in this vicinity on which the owners want to borrow some money, and this committee recommends several of these as being conservative. Those interested in loaning may apply to Mr. L. M. Smith, Secretary of the Association, or in his absence, Mr. R. W. Page or Mr. A. S. Newcomb, all of whom may be found on the ground floor of the General Office Building, Pinehurst, N. C.

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MR. LEONARD TUFTS
MR. JOHN R. MCQUEEN
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GLINTS OF COLONIAL HISTORY

Pinehurst the Vicinity of the Real Cradle of American Liberty



LIBERTY has had as many cradles as the offspring of a plutocrat, but I reckon the traveler who happens to drift along in his automobile between Greensboro and Pinehurst will get pretty close to one

of the real pieces of historic furniture if he happens to wander into the Sandy Creek country. That is where Herman Husbands lived before the Revolutionary war days, and if Herman is not falsely accused he rocked the cradle of liberty several times. Husbands was a Pennsylvania Quaker, a relative of Benjamin Franklin, and if you know anything about Quakers you have observed that they are pretty hard to get started into a fight, but reasonably hard to get out of a row when they once have it properly mixed up. He seems to have been a pretty good sort of a Quaker, and he found himself in the colonial General Assembly about 1768. Evidently the spirit had moved Husbands to some action, for he was arrested for disturbing the animals and taken to court at Hillsboro for trial.

The people looked upon him as their David, come to toss a rock or two at the British Goliath, and they protested the ruling. The court told the people to run along home and be good. The people went home, but one of them, who had evidently been reading from "Standard Selections by the Best Authors," said he would return and make Rome howl. They served notice on the governor, as next friend, to take care of his minions at court, or the British lion would have to sit close on his tail to keep it from getting twisted, and the governor retorted by pardoning a lot of those who were not guilty, and excepting Husbands and a dozen or so others who knew it would be useless to try an alibi. Husbands insisted that the government robbed the people in taxes and fees, and he seemed to have his men with the goods on them. The government hated like a snake to be caught in the act, and ordered the Regulators to stop their kidding.

Husbands continued to be elected to the legislature, and when he went down to Newbern to the meeting, Governor Tryon acted for all the world like ern the refractory colony. the Clan-na-Gael when the Orangemen's try vote, so one day in April when he joke that North Carolina should send to

should have been at home getting the ground ready for the cotton, he gathered up seven or eight colonels with their commands, some captains, some artillery and the various other things that a governor took in those days when he went out to war with his constituents, and they began to tramp down the path towards Sandy Creek, up in the county above us.

Husbands and about two thousand other Regulators were on hand to do their turn, and when Governor Tryon rode up on his milk white horse and told the bunch to scatter and get ready to pay their taxes when the collector made his June collecting trip, they told the governor that he had a bass wood head. They defied the governor and he told them if they did not disperse he would fire. The profane and impolite Regulators told him to fire and be d-d, which he proceeded to do. At least, I suppose he did, for the history chronicles the first, while the character of the man makes it a passably safe guess as to the second. I only give this as opinion, however, for I have no real knowledge of the subject such as would satisfy a critical lawyer in court. That is where liberty roused up in the cradle. Tryon ordered his troops to fire, but they hesitated. Seeing that the game must go on, he insisted that they should fire on the enemy or on their commander, and the troops showed the questionable taste of firing on the Regulators.

Might as well make a note of that date, May 16, 1771. That is about the original battle of the Revolutionary war, although some folks who have not gone clear back to the beginning of the argument have fixed on later dates for the start. The Regulators had twenty men killed besides several wounded. One officer slain, one seriously wounded, and over sixty men killed and wounded marked the loss of the royal troops. For a starter it was a right interesting mill. A number of prisoners were taken by the royal troops. These were turned over to the courts for trial, and several of them were executed. Now, it may be supposed that this thing did not settle the matter of royal imposition on the people of the colony of North Carolina. A couple of weeks later Tryon was transferred to New York, where he was appointed governor, and a new man, Josiah Martin, came over from England to gov-

Martin found trouble in plenty lined lodge comes up the other side of the up for him when he came, and he tried street, the band playing the Boyne to introduce a lot of ceremony among a Water. So Tryon had the assembly re- people who wanted some straight andistrict the state, and Husband's county swers to some direct talk. Martin told was sliced into pieces, making at that the folks they could not hold meetings time Chatham, Rowan and Guilford. to discuss a free government, and the Still Husbands and the Regulators said people established a regular congress. the taxes were robbery, and the govern- Martin tried to suppress it, and in the ment was no better than a sheep-killing fall of 1774 Governor Martin went dog, and this line of talk was peddled aboard a ship-of-war in the Cape Fear back and forth until Tryon saw that he river, and from there set sail to more had to start something if he wanted to pacific scenes, and from that day to this hold his job with King George. He also North Carolina has been free from Britwanted to square himself with the coun- ish rule. It looks like a sort of grim