

NAPLES OF AMERICA.

Historic Memories of Beautiful Town of Edenton—First Church on Carolina Soil.

Around the name of Edenton clusters many romantic memories, and much eventful history. It was once the proud colonial capital of North Carolina and was even then noted for the refinement, culture and charming grace of its society. It was the birth place and home of many distinguished patriots, both men and women, whose learning and deeds would shine resplendent in any age or country. The people in this section were pre-eminently noted for their love of liberty and religious freedom, they chafed under British tyranny and oppression and defied English authority long before the Revolution—until some thirty-two years ago the house was still standing in which fifty high souled patriotic women met in October, 1774, and passed resolutions approving the action of the Colonial Congress. They further resolved they would neither countenance nor conform "to that pernicious custom of drinking tea, and that the aforesaid ladies would not promote wear of any manufacture from England," until that government abolished or repealed the odious taxes required from the colonists. History records the action of these patriot women as the "Edenton Tea Party." This incident is believed to have antedated the action of the "Boston Tea Party."

HISTORIC BUILDINGS.

The county court house at Edenton was built of brick brought from England in 1736, and stands as solid and sound now as the day it was built—a monument to good and honest workmanship. Within the vaults of this old building are well preserved records that date back to the early part of the seventeenth century. Tradition relates many interesting incidents connected with this old court house. In the early life of this settlement it is said there was a great ball given in the court house, at which a young midshipman, a scion of England's royalty, participated. The warship to which he was attached was then cruising in American waters, and he came ashore to attend the dance. The whirl and excitement among the colonial bells caused by this visit of royalty can readily be imagined, and was a fruitful theme for a long time afterwards. The court room is on the first floor. The second floor is used as a Masonic lodge room. This is the oldest Masonic lodge in the State. In this room there are many valuable and rare relics, the most important of which is a large mahogany chair which was used by George Washington when he was Grand Master of a Masonic lodge in Fredericksburg, Va. This chair was brought to Edenton about a century ago, it is said, by the captain of a vessel and presented to the Edenton lodge. The chair is ingeniously and elaborately carved, showing many of the symbols of Masonry on its arms, back and legs. The bottom of the chair is made of thick leather. The whole chair is quite ornamental and in the best state of preservation.

St. Paul's Colonial Episcopal Church was the first church ever built in North Carolina. The original edifice was erected by the Society of St. Paul in 1702. Owing to being so poorly constructed the building lasted but a little while. Another church building was commenced in 1710, but was never completed. In 1738, the present building was commenced and finished seven years later. The end of the eighteenth century showed a much decayed and dilapidated church and a small membership, but under the able administration of the Rev. Daniel Earle, under whose charge it came about this time, the membership and church property were again built up and placed on a healthy basis. The Rev. Daniel Earle was better known as "Parson Earle." He was not only a good minister but a successful farmer and fisherman as well. His love for herring fishing was so great that he was called the "herring-catching parson." Some fun-loving persons, thinking to tease him, shocked him very much by tacking the following placard on the church door:

"A half-built church
And a broken down steeple,
A herring-catching parson
And a dam set of people."

Parson Earle was a pronounced patriot in freedom's cause and the British made many endeavors to catch him, but failed. The

vestry of St. Paul were so patriotic they framed a Declaration of Independence for themselves fifteen days in advance of the National Declaration of Independence. Another contribution to patriotism was during the war between the States when the original bell of St. Paul's was taken down and melted into cannon with which to defend the South. The history of St. Paul's church is full of vicissitudes and heroic deeds. The Episcopal Council of the East Diocese of North Carolina, which met in St. Paul's on Wednesday, May 22nd, held special exercises on Friday the 24th, to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the organization of the first vestry organized in North Carolina, which event occurred on December 12th, 1701.

Edenton is truly called the Naples of America. It is situated on Edenton Bay, which is really the head of Albemarle Sound. The Roanoke, Chowan and Cashie rivers empty into and form this bay. Edenton Bay is a most beautiful sheet of water and is said to closely resemble the Bay of Naples in the picturesque beauty of its surroundings. Edenton has a population of 3,346 and is 73 miles from Norfolk, Va., by Norfolk and Southern Railroad and 95 miles by the Dismal Swamp Canal. The town is a fine business center and is the supply point for a large section of country of varied productions. It has good water connections and quite a number of steamers and different kinds of craft ply between its port and points on the sounds, rivers, and outside places.—Richard Battle in News and Observer.

America's Enormous Resources.

The idea which prevails in Europe that American prosperity can be checked by a political or commercial league of European countries against the United States is, in the opinion of the New York World, the result of foreign ignorance of America's wealth and resources. Says the World:

"The total wealth of the United States far exceeds that of any other nation—is at least \$15,000,000,000 greater than Great Britain's—and it is distributed per capita more evenly than any other nation's."

"They have 41 per cent. of the world's total railroad mileage and 12,000 more miles than the trackage of all European countries put together."

"They produce more gold than any other part of world save Africa, more silver than any other country save Mexico and coin annually about one-fifth of all the world's metallic money."

"They manufacture every year a greater total product than England, France and Germany combined."

"They produce 80 per cent. of all the world's cotton, cottonseed and corn, 40 per cent. of all its steel and other mineral products, 33 per cent. of all its coal, 30 per cent. of all its iron and all its grain and 25 per cent. of all its wheat."

"These are the pillars of our temple of prosperity. Europe could not even shake them."

Seven Years In Bed.

"Will wonders ever cease?" inquire the friends of Mrs. L. Pease, of Lawrence, Kan. They knew she had been unable to leave her bed in seven years on account of kidney and liver trouble, nervous prostration and general debility; but, "Three bottles of Electric Bitters enabled me to walk," she writes, "and in three months I felt like a new person." Women suffering from Headache, Backache, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Melancholy, Fainting and Dizzy Spells will find it a priceless blessing. Try it. Satisfaction is guaranteed. Hood Bros. Only 50c.

Cotton Manufacturing.

According to Mr. Watkins, a statistician, North Carolina had 337,786 spindles in 1890; in 1900 it had 1,264,509. In 1890 it had 91 cotton mills in operation; in 1900 it had 190. South Carolina had 34 in 1890 and 93 in 1900. It had 1,693,649 spindles in 1900. Its mills are far larger than those of North Carolina—more than double the size. The South had in 1890 1,554,000 spindles; in 1900 it had 5,001,487. Its factories had increased from 239 to 500. The report shows that North Carolina mills consume 58½ per cent. of the cotton grown in the State; those of South Carolina consume 44.6 per cent. of the State's crop. Georgia mills use 22.4 per cent. of the Georgia crop.—Wilmington Messenger.

"THE OLD PLANTATION."

A Book That Should Find Its Way Into Every Southern Home.

Capt. S. A. Ashe, in Raleigh Post.

"The Old Plantation"—By Jas. Battle Avirett, author of "Ashby and His Compeers," "Who Was the Traitor?" etc. F. Tennyson Neely Co., New York.

This interesting and entertaining volume is an offering by its gifted author to the reading public, made with the view to perpetuate the recollection of life on the Southern plantation in the golden days before the war. It is the product of a warm heart and a correct apprehension of the deep influences that pervaded the home of the Southern planter. The author was reared among the scenes he so pleasantly depicts, and is himself the emanation of the influence he so strikingly portrays. A product of plantation life, he enters on his description with zeal and enthusiasm and writes *con amore*, as if he were in love with the subject, and as if, indeed, every thought was the result of some affectionate remembrance of incidents in his own boyhood.

Some chapters are devoted to a description of the plantation life, and the cares of the planter are elucidated and brought vividly to the mind of the reader. The sympathy between the master and the slave, the ties that bound them together, the carefulness of the owner in regard to the welfare of the servant, the attention in sickness, as well as the discipline necessary to control and regulate the labor of the negroes, are all set forth appropriately and intelligently.

That part of the book has an intrinsic value as perpetuating a truthful picture of the institution of slavery as it existed on a large plantation.

Further on the author enters into the details of life in the Great House and life in the humble cabin of the negro. Here his fine descriptive powers have room for ample play, and many will read those pages with keen interest. As it is not intended as a humorous book, but a valuable contribution to historical literature, it does not abound in that wit for which some of the darkies are famous; but, nevertheless, here and there are flashes of humor that will be thoroughly enjoyed. One is reminded constantly of that admirable raconteur, the author of "Brer Rabbit" and other darkey stories that constituted the folk lore of the old plantation.

The corn-shucking, the fox hunt, the pony penning, the dance, the Christmas festivities, the fishing and hunting scenes are one and all very enjoyable, and old, as well as young, will find it hard to put the book down until each story has been finished.

In presenting this book to the public the author has not sought to enter into controversy concerning slavery. He believes that he has been content to let the reader pass on the question without argumentation on his part. And yet one cannot read Dr. Hunter McGuire's introduction without feeling that in the estimation of that very intelligent scholar, the author has furnished a most satisfactory reply to Mrs. Stowe's famous work, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." But, without regard to that which had reference, we believe, to the slave, rather than the master, to the negro rather than the white race, the author in this volume portrays the influence of plantation life and of negro slavery upon the whites in a manner that appeals very strongly to sentiment. There has never been a finer strain of manhood and of womanhood than that developed on the Southern plantation. If proof were asked, look at that coterie of Southern men who made America famous in the days of the Revolution; remember that from the formation of the United States until the South seceded the directing intelligence of our country was found at the South; and then recall the splendid achievements of these men during the war and the heroism and exalted deeds of the women in those days that tried the temper of their souls.

If any other people in the world have equaled the Southern people in what constitutes the highest human excellence we do not know it; and Dr. Avirett traces these fine attributes of superiority and excellence to the institution of slavery. And in doing so he does not indulge in disagreeable argument and unpleasant contention, but merely draws his pictures and leads the reader gently to comprehend his view.

The book is thus one that should find its way to every

Southern home, as presenting a true and real view of Southern life in its halcyon days and as affording both information and pleasure to all classes of readers.

The style in which it is written is easy and good and the English excellent; and since so large a portion of the book is very entertaining, it strikes us that many teachers at the South will find it well to use it as a Reader in their schools. Indeed, because we believe that much benefit will be derived from familiarizing the youth of our country with the ideas and sentiments and information the book contains, we would be glad to see it generally read everywhere, although necessarily the people of the South will be more apt to appreciate it than the Northern people.

Mr. W. S. Whedon, Cashier of the First National Bank of Winterset, Iowa, in a recent letter gives some experience with a carpenter in his employ, that will be of value to other mechanics. He says: "I had a carpenter working for me who was obliged to stop work for several days on account of being troubled with diarrhea. I mentioned to him that I had been similarly troubled and that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhea Remedy had cured me. He bought a bottle of it from the druggist here and informed me that one dose cured him, and he is again at his work." For sale by Hood Bros.

Losses Beyond Computation.

The month just past will be ever memorable in North Carolina for its low temperature and disastrous floods. The damage by the latter has never been approximated and can never be, for the reason that there is no basis upon which some of the greatest losses can be computed. The railroads will know how much the damage cost them for repairs, and how much, approximately, in loss of business while traffic was suspended; the man whose house with all its contents was swept away knows his loss, and so does he whose store and stock are gone, and he whose grist or flouring mill; the man whose cotton factory was damaged, part of his stock damaged and another part floated off, can guess at how much he is out; the County Commissioners know what it will cost them to replace the bridges and the farmer knows what he paid for the fertilizer which was washed out of the ground and carried down the stream. But who shall put a price upon the acres of top soil carried away, down to the hard ground, and deposited in the beds of the streams, the bottom lands which this soil formerly made fruitful now covered deep with sand? It will be years and years before these bottoms can be restored to fertility. And this enumeration takes no account of the planted crops destroyed nor the loss suffered by the inability of the owner to raise any crop at all this year, or adequate crops for years to come, upon the devastated lands. One cannot figure it all in dollars and cents, but it is certain that no equal disaster ever befell these flood-stricken districts before.—Charlotte Observer.

A Good Cough Medicine.

It speaks well for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy when druggists use it in their own families in preference to any other. "I have sold Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for the past five years with complete satisfaction to myself and customers," says Druggist J. Goldsmith, Van Etten, N. Y. "I have always used it in my own family both for ordinary coughs and colds and for the cough following the grippe, and find it very efficacious." For sale by Hood Bros.

Faith.

This world is not our all. Man is not limited by centuries. Faith looks from man up to God. Science has weighed the suns and determined their elements; but faith sees the hand that made them and upholds them all.

Archæology has gone back to earliest ages and read their history on monuments and tablets. But faith goes back of Archæology and reads "in the beginning—God."

Ethnology has traced Adam's family from paradise down, but faith traces their future to the paradise above.

Science in our day has formulated many of the laws of life, but faith lays hold of the source of all life.—Homiletic Review.

If you wish to buy ladies' misses' and children's Oxford Ties and Strap Sandals cheap call on W. G. Yelvington. Prices from 40 cents up.

Progress of the A. & M. College.

The State Board of Agriculture has just taken wonderful steps to improve and to strengthen the A. & M. College at Raleigh. They have raised the salary of the Professor of Agriculture to \$2,500, making it the most important chair in the college, and have resolved to find the best man in the country for it. They have established a Professorship of Animal Industry and Veterinary Science at a salary, if necessary, of \$2,500, and they are looking for a strong man for this chair. They have created 120 scholarships and appropriated \$2,000 to pay agricultural students for farm work and thus not only teach them but help them to get an education. At the request of President Winston they have permitted him to devote his entire time to the emolument and development of the college and have appointed as Director of the Experiment Station, Professor B. W. Kilgore, now Chemist to the Agricultural Department and Director of experiment work at the various test farms throughout the State.

Commissioner of Agriculture, S. L. Patterson, President Winston of the College, Professor B. W. Kilgore of the Experiment Station and the Board of Agriculture are determined to develop the agricultural side of the College and to make it equal to any in the country. They want students from each county in the State. Here is a wonderful opportunity for young men.

Didn't Marry for Money.

The Boston man, who lately married a sickly rich young woman, is happy now, for he got Dr. King's New Life Pills, which restored her to perfect health. Infallible for Jaundice, Biliousness, Malaria, Fever and Ague and all Liver and Stomach troubles. Gentle but effective. Only 25c at Hood Bros. drug store.

Mental Geography.

The largest river is Time. The deepest ocean is Death. The region where no living thing hath habitation is called Yesterday.

The most highly civilized country is To-day.

The highest mountain is called Success. Few reach the top save those who watch sharply for the passing of the spirit of the mountain, Opportunity, who carries upward all those that seize hold upon him.

The region where no man hath set foot is called To-morrow.—Baptist Worker.

A surgical operation is not necessary to cure piles. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve saves all that expense and never fails. Beware of counterfeits. Hare & Son, J. R. Ledbetter, Hood Bros.

Brother Dickey's Sunday Sayings.

If hell is in de sun thanks ter de Lord, hit's 95,000,000 miles away!

Some er de churches is changin' dey creeds, but de ol' time Methodists continues ter fall from grace in de ol' familiar way.

De hymn goes dat "We wants ter be a angel, en wid de angels stan;" but wen de time comes, we swings on ter real estate down heah wid a mighty tight hold!

You can't put life in dead church members no mo' dan you kin have rheumatism in a wooden leg.—Atlanta Constitutional.

Eczema, salt rheum, tetter, chafing, ivy poisoning and all skin troubles are quickly cured by DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. The certain pile cure. Hood Bros., Hare & Son, J. R. Ledbetter.

Presidential Love Affairs.

One married abroad.
One married a divorced woman.

Cleveland was oldest married—at 49.

Three presidents were twice married.

Four married clergymen's daughters.

Three became engaged while at school.

Johnson was married at 18. Mrs. Cleveland was the only White House bride.

Tyler's wife was 35 years younger than himself.

Dolly Madison was the youngest presidential wife.—Ex.

Littleton Female College expects to have a new industrial building 50 by 60 feet 3 stories high ready for use by the time of its fall opening.

FOR 40 YEARS.

Dr. Worthington's Southern Remedy has been sold on a strict guarantee to cure cramps, colic, cholera, cholera morbus, diarrhea, dysentery and all pains of the bowels and has stood the test. Price 25c. at Hood Bros.

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Treasurer's Card.

John W. Futrell, Treasurer of Johnston County, will be in Smithfield every

Monday and Saturday and Court Weeks.

Office in back room of the Bank of Smithfield. In his absence county orders will be paid at the Bank

HOTEL DICKENS,

SMITHFIELD, N. C.

Transients and Boarders

ON MAIN BUSINESS STREET.

Rates Reasonable.

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Fresh Meats, Beef and Ice.

HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR HIDES.

Beef cattle wanted.

Rand & Stephenson,

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We desire to call the attention of the public of Smithfield and vicinity to the fact that we have associated ourselves together for the purpose of engaging in

Contracting and Building BUSINESS.

We want the work and we think that we can make it to your interest to have us to do yours. Estimates promptly furnished on all kinds wood or brick work. Call on or address

Walter Rand, W. J. Stephenson. Rand & Stephenson.

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STALLINGS HOTEL,

W. H. STALLINGS, Prop'r,

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Rates 25 cents per meal or \$1.00 per day. Call and see me when you come to town.

MY STORE,

—I KEEP—

Groceries, & Fruits
CANDIES,

Confectioneries and Vegetables.
MARKET Run in Connection. I will pay highest price for fat cattle, beef, pork, &c.

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March 20—3m

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