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ROANOKE ISLAND.

The Classic Land of all English America, which will live as the Mother-Earth of American Liberty.

Extract from the "Picturesque History of North Carolina" by Joseph Seawell Jones, re-printed at this time by request of the State Literary and Historical Association:

I have never wandered over the island of Roanoke without a feeling of melancholy, as intense as that of Byron whilst contemplating the fallen greatness of Greece. The days of her glory are over, and gone with those beyond the flood; but still she is to me an island of the heart, for her shores are the graves of the warlike and the wise. The native Indian built his Machicomack on her hills; and there, too, stood the city of Raleigh, the birth-place of the Anglo-American; and thus was Roanoke known long before the beach of Jamestown was settled or the rock of Plymouth consecrated. She is the classic land of all English America, and will live in the future story of our republic as the mother-earth of American liberty. The illustrious names of Raleigh, of Cavendish, of Greenville and of Drake—the heroes of the reign of Elizabeth—are a part and portion of her history. Hariot, the mathematician and philosopher of the age, for the space of a whole year studied its natural resources and Indian history; and nearly two hundred and fifty years since gave to the world a book unequalled for the accuracy and the interest of its details. It would seem, indeed, as if the chivalry and learning of that age had contributed this splendid representation, to give a dazzling brilliancy to the early history of that State on whose shores the flag of England was first unfurled, and in whose valleys, and over whose hills, the mountain goddess Liberty first shouted the cry of American Independence. Bear witness, Mecklenburg, on the 20th of May, 1775.

But it is not historic association alone which makes sacred the shores and the vine-clad forests of Roanoke. Nature seems to have exerted herself to adorn it as the Eden of the New World. The richest garniture of flowers, the sweetest minstrelsy of birds, are there. In traversing the northern section of the island, in the spring time of the year, flowers and sweet-scented herbs, in the wildest luxuriance, are strewn along your winding way, welcoming you with their fragrance to their cherished isle. The wild rose bush, which at times springs up into nurseries of one hundred yards in extent, "bloom blushing" to the song of the thousand birds that are basking in her bowers. The mocking-bird, too, whatever ornithologists may say of its "chimney habits," makes this his favorite haunt; and I myself have seen him pillowed on the highest cluster of roses, and swinging with his weight to the slender tree, as he warbled out his most exquisite song. It may be, however, that Roanoke is the very spot where, in the imitation of the Eastern queen of song, the mockingbird fell in love with the rose.

There are stately pine forests extending along the centre of the island; but the most beautiful of its trees are what are commonly called dogwood, the laurel, and a delicate species of the white oak. I have seen a forest composed of these trees, the branches and limbs of which were literally intertwined and knitted together by the embraces of the Roanoke vine, which here, in its native garden, grows with extraordinary exuberance.

Within the deep shades of these reclining vintages, the spirit of solitude at times reigns in undisturbed majesty. At midday, when the heat of the summer's sun is too glowing for exertion, there is not the chirp of a bird to break the solemnity of the spot. The long and slender vine snake, which at other hours is seen industriously threading his way

through the mazes of the vintage, has now suspended himself on a twig, and hangs as idle and as still as a black silk cord. If you hear the tread of footsteps, it is not of man, but the stealthy retreat of an unsuspecting fawn, which hath slept too long, and which now, like a woodland nymph, hies away on the approach of man. But in the morning and in the evening this scene of quiet and of repose is all changed. It is then the granary of the island, and the birds have all assembled and are warbling in bacchanal confusion their morning or evening hymn. The scenery of Roanoke is neither grand nor sublime. There are no Alpine summits to mingle with clouds, but a series of gentle undulations, and a few abrupt hills. In the valleys of which the richly dressed scenery I have described may be found. If it should ever be the lot of the reader to stroll under the vintage shades of Roanoke—made impervious to the rays of the sun by the rich foliage and clustering grapes above him—he will not venture to discredit the highly wrought sketches of Hariot, nor mock the humbler enthusiasm of the volume now before him. I remember once to have stood upon the loftiest eminence of the island, and to have watched the progress of a sunset. It was on a summer's eve which had been made peculiarly clear by a violent thunder squall the preceding night, and not a film of a cloud or a vapor was to be seen about the horizon or in the blue vault of heaven. There was not a breath of air to stir the slender leaf of the few lofty pines that straggled around me, and even the mocking bird seemed to have hushed his capricious song, to enjoy the intense feeling of the moment. To the westward of the island, the waters of the Albemarle crept sluggishly along; and in the winding current of the swash several vessels stood, with outspread but motionless wings. Away down to the south, the Pamlico spread itself out, like an ocean of molten gold, gleaming along the banks of the Chikamaconico and Hatteras; and, contrasted with this, were the dark waters which separate Roanoke from the sea-beach, and which were now shaded from the tints of the sunset by the whole extent of the island.

A sea of glory streamed along the narrow ridge—dividing the island waters from the ocean; and beyond this the boundless Atlantic heaved her chafed bosom of sapphire and of gold against the base of yon stormy cape. I enjoyed and lived in that sunset and twilight hour. I thought of the glorious destiny of the land on which I trod—as glorious as the waters and the earth then around me. I thought of the genius and the death of Raleigh—of the heroic devotedness of Greenville—of the gallantry of Cavendish and Drake—of the learning of Hariot—of the nobleness of Manteo, the Lord of Roanoke—of the adventurous expedition of Sir Ralph Lane up the river Moratook—of the savage array of the bloodthirsty Wingina—of the melancholy fate of the last of the Raleigh colonies—and I then thought of those exquisite lines of Byron,

"Shrine of the mighty, can it be
That this is all remains of thee?"

Disappointment.

Intimate Friend—How did you enjoy your visit to Japan?

Congressman Phresh—Oh, there's no special distinction in a public man traveling through that country. The blamed heathens are so polite that they call everything "honorable" from a shoe peg to a mountain.—Chicago Tribune.

Foils A Deadly Attack.

"My wife was so ill that good physicians were unable to help her," writes M. M. Austin, of Winchester, Ind., "but was completely cured by Dr. King's New Life Pills." They work wonders in stomach and liver troubles. Cure constipation, sick headache. 25c. at Hood Bros. drug store.

STATE NEWS.

Short Items of Interest Clipped and Culled From Our State Exchanges.

A number of northern capitalists are prospecting for oil near Asheville.

President Roosevelt has appointed W. W. Rolliqs to be postmaster at Asheville.

Gov. Aycock has changed "North Carolina Week" at the Charleston exposition from January 20th to April 7th.

Governor Aycock has appointed Judge Thomas R. Purnell chairman of the McKinley fund committee for this State.

W. M. Mitchell, of Guilford county, has been appointed a clerk in the war department at Washington at a salary of \$1,000 per year.

For this season up to December 1st, 11,248,958 pounds of leaf tobacco have been sold on the Wilson market against 11,281,330 pounds for same period last year.

State Auditor Dixon says the pension warrants will be sent out December 15th. State Treasurer Lacy says he is accumulating funds so as to be able to meet them promptly. The total this year is almost exactly \$200,000.

Senators Prichard and Simmons and Congressman Kitchin have asked the librarian of Congress to appoint Mrs. Boykin, widow of the late Judge Boykin to a place in the library, and it is believed that the appointment will be made as soon as there is a vacancy.

James McNeill, a white farmer of Wake county, in a fit of jealousy about a neighbor, attacked his wife like a madman, beat her to the floor, bruising her seriously, then shot her. She threw her arm up and the bullet struck it, and this saved her life. She is in the hospital at Raleigh. McNeill is in jail.

The grand jury of Durham Superior Court last week reported that they found a disgraceful condition of affairs at the Durham county home. They recommended that houses and bedding be cleaned and kept clean and that charges of gross immorality be investigated. Judge Shaw ordered an investigation.

Fred L. Merritt, so long with the Raleigh News and Observer, and now managing editor of the Norfolk Virginian and Pilot, will, about January 1st, become editor of the Asheville Citizen, now owned by Mr. Havland, who is a millionaire, a well known newspaper developer and editor of the Providence (R. I.) Journal.

A. L. Britt, the keeper of Robeson county's chain gang, was accidentally killed Sunday afternoon, near Red Springs. He was standing with his back to the fire resting on his gun and the fire heated the gun, causing it to discharge. The shot took effect in the back and ranged upward. He lived four hours after the accident.

Vard Helms, aged about 45 years, was burned to death near Cherryville Monday. He was drunk and asked a passing friend to build him a fire in his house (he being in bed). The man built the fire and left. About an hour afterwards he returned and found Helms about 200 yards from his house dead—burned beyond recognition. All his clothing was burned off except a thread or two around the waist.

Business enterprises in North Carolina are continually being established despite the hard times. Monday the Secretary of State chartered four corporations as follows: The Rose Mercantile Company, of Henderson, with an authorized capital of \$16,000; the Carolina Sizing Company, of Charlotte, capital, \$10,000; the Bostick & Cole Company, of Mt. Olive, capital, \$8,000; The Peoples Investment Company, of Raleigh, capital, \$100,000. The last-named company is a negro concern.

The State superintendent of public instruction has made up the figures showing the year's receipts for educational purposes. They are as follows: From poll tax \$347,404, general property tax \$521,658, special local tax on property \$15,544, and on polls \$444, fines, etc., \$23,411; liquor licenses \$79,279; from State out of general fund \$101,401; total \$1,101,746.

The State Board of Agriculture has decided to build two new buildings at the A. and M. College in place of Watauga hall, the one recently burned. One building will be used for a dormitory and the other for a dining room and assembly hall. For this purpose \$20,000 will be borrowed and this with the \$6,000 insurance on the burned building will be used to erect the new buildings, which will be constructed as rapidly as possible.

Wake Forest won the cup from Trinity in the debate Friday night. This is the fifth annual debate between representatives of Trinity and Wake Forest, the prize being a handsome silver cup donated by the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. The cup was won in 1897 by Wake Forest; in 1898 Trinity was successful; in 1899 Wake Forest again won the trophy, and in 1900 it went over to Trinity. The query for debate in the contest Friday night was "Resolved, That North Carolina should adopt the principle of compulsory education." Wake Forest had the affirmative side of the question.

In the M. E. conference Friday, in session at Fayetteville, the vote whereby the name of T. J. Gattis was not referred to the committee on conference relations, on motion of W. S. Roan, was reconsidered. Mr. Roan then moved the reference of the name to the superannuated relations. Mess. Roan, Cole and Nash made earnest speeches, filled with the spirit of brotherly kindness, in support of the motion. Dr. Yates also made one of the best of talks, saying that, although Mr. Gattis had declared he could not get justice, we will show him that he is mistaken. The name of T. J. Gattis was then referred.

About Children's Reading.

What should children between six and twelve years of age read?

Answers to this question have lately been given by Kate Douglas Wiggin, Mary Mapes Dodge, Edward Everett Hale, Horace E. Scudder, Agnes Repplier, Tudor Jenks and others, together with some extremely sensible and interesting suggestions as to the principles underlying the choice of children's books. Here is a single typical list from the ten included in the article which The Outlook publishes in its Annual Book Number. The list is that furnished by Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, editor of Saint Nicholas.

1. "Alice in Wonderland."
2. Hans Andersen's Fairy Tales.
3. Hawthorne's "Wonder Book" (or the "Tanglewood Tales").
4. "Gulliver's Travels."
5. Kipling's "Jungle Books" (or Seton-Thompson's "Wild Animals I Have Known," or Harris's "Uncle Remus").
6. Dana's "Two Years Before the Mast" (or Nansen's "Farthest North," or Kennan's "Teat Life in Siberia").
7. Scott's "Ivanhoe" (or Howard Pyle's "Robin Hood," or Lanier's "The Boy's King Arthur").
8. Gibson's "Eye-Spy," or some other good nature-book.
9. Cooper's "Leather Stocking Tales" (or Stevenson's "Kidnapped").
10. Scudder's "Children's Book" (or Miss Repplier's "Book of Famous Verse").

The White House Baby.

The December "National's" frontispiece is a full-page half-tone engraving from a portrait of Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt and the White House baby. The picture is wholly charming. The babe, bright-eyed and alert, seems ready to leap from the mother's arms—presumably to see what the photographer is doing with that funny black box.

GENERAL NEWS.

A Partial List of the Week's Happenings Throughout the Country.

Thirty-nine prisoners escaped from jail at Birmingham, Ala., Sunday, by digging through a back wall with pocket knives.

Booker T. Washington was refused rooms at three hotels in Springfield, Mass., Saturday. The hotel men claim it was lack of room.

Berry Howell, under indictment for complicity in the assassination of the late Governor William Goebel was arrested at Pineville, Ky., Saturday.

Carrie Nation, the Kansas joint smasher, announces the suspension of her paper, the Smashers' Mail. The paper was started about a year ago. She says it did not pay.

Representative Taylor, of Ohio, has introduced in the House a bill to pension Mrs. McKinley at the rate of \$5,000 a year, beginning Sept. 14, 1901, the date of the death of the late President.

Senators McLaurin and Tillman had a heated argument in the Senate Monday, which followed McLaurin's attempt to explain his political position. Tillman backed McLaurin down by offering to again resign.

Three persons were killed and 38 injured as the result of a head-on collision between two passenger trains on the St. Louis Iron Mountain and Southern railroad one and one-half miles south of Malvern, Ark., Thursday.

The transport Sheridan arrived in port at San Francisco Monday and reports that 1,555 soldiers whose time of enlistment expired during the voyage from Manila, practically took charge of the boat and ran things to suit themselves.

The town of Wayne, the county seat of Wayne county, W. Va., was almost wiped out by a fire, which broke out shortly after midnight Monday and raged until after daylight in the morning. The losses will aggregate \$40,000, with little insurance.

President Roosevelt Saturday signed the first bill sent to him by Congress. It was the act to admit free of duty and to permit the transfer of foreign exhibits from the Pan-American Exposition to the South Carolina Interstate and West Indian Exposition at Charleston, S. C.

Miss Maude Wilcutt stood in a telegraph office at Bowling Green, Ky., Saturday and became the bride of Dr. J. W. Simmons, of Peaster, Texas. They were married by wire. The questions were asked from the Texas end by a justice of the peace and were answered by Miss Wilcutt.

The tobacco storage warehouses of John E. Hughes & Co., and the American Tobacco Company at Danville, were burned Friday morning. The fire started in the engine room of the Hughes factory. The buildings were packed with loose leaf. The loss is estimated at \$200,000; insurance \$150,000.

Saul Poydras, a negro, who cut Chief Deputy Richard and wife seriously Thursday night, was lynched at Lake Charles, La., Saturday. Poydras was arrested at Welsh and the officers were about to lodge him in the parish prison when the mob overpowered the guard, and took charge of Poydras and hanged him to an electric light pole.

Andrew M. Lawrence, managing editor of Hearst's Chicago American and H. S. Canfield, a reporter, who were sentenced recently by Judge Haney to 40 and 30 days respectively for contempt of court, were discharged from custody by Judge Dunne, Saturday. In granting a writ of habeas corpus to the relators the court said that the case hinged on whether the case on which the Chicago American commented had been disposed of by Judge Haney or was still pending. Judge Dunne held that the case had been disposed of.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEES.

North Carolina Members Considered in the Distribution.—Blackburn Favored.

A Washington special to the Raleigh Post says: The North Carolina members as a rule fared well in committee assignments. They are on these committees:

Bellamy—Manufacturers, Irrigation of Arid Lands, Education. Blackburn—District of Columbia, Elections No. 3. Kitchin (Claude)—Expenditures State Department, Claims. Kitchin—(W. W.)—Naval Affairs.

Kluttz—Manufacturers, Census. Moody—Agriculture, Election of President and Vice-President.

Pou—Reform in the Civil Service, Expenditures in the Treasury Department.

Small—Merchant Marine and Fisheries, Expenditures on Public Buildings.

Thomas—Public Buildings and Grounds.

In the assignments W. W. Kitchin, Kluttz, Small, Thomas and Blackburn fared best. Senator Pritchard put in an oar for Blackburn, and as he was potential in Henderson's first election as Speaker, his word had weight.

The Census Committee will be one of the most important in this Congress, while Naval Affairs and Public Buildings too will figure largely in the public eye. The Merchant Marine will have the shib-subsidy bill before it. For new members Claude Kitchin, Pou and Moody did quite well.

Where the Preachers are Stationed.

RALEIGH DISTRICT.

J. T. Gibbs, Presiding Elder. Raleigh, Edenton Street.—G. F. Smith. Raleigh, Central—G. T. Adams and J. O. Guthrie. Raleigh, Epworth—J. M. Culbreth. Cary Circuit—A. L. Ormond. Clayton—G. W. Fisher. Smithfield—K. D. Holmes. Kenly—G. B. Starling. Millbrook—N. L. Seabolt. Youngsville—G. R. Rood. Franklinton—J. H. Shore. Louisburg—M. T. Plyler. Tar River—R. H. Broom. Granville—W. H. Puckett. Oxford Station—A. M. McCullen. Oxford Circuit—J. D. Pegram. Editor R. C. Advocate—T. N. Ivey. Brooklyn and Macedonia—M. M. McFarland. Supt. Methodist Orphanage—J. W. Jenkins. Chaplain U. S. Navy—W. E. Edmundson. Agent Methodist Orphanage—J. B. Hurley.

The Money Pledged.

Last Friday at Winston Governor Arnold made an address before the Baptist State Convention. His subject was education. He made an appeal for money to pay the debt of \$42,000 on the Baptist Female University. At the close of his address a collection was taken and the money raised, or pledged. It is said that it was one of the greatest speeches the Governor ever made.

Senator Martin Tuesday introduced a bill for a memorial bridge across the Potomac river at Washington at a cost of five million dollars.

At a session of the privy council King Edward definitely fixed June 26, 1902, as the date for his coronation. It was also decided that Parliament will meet January 16th.

The U. S. Treasury officials have decided to anticipate the interest due on January 1st and next Saturday United States Treasurer Roberts will mail checks covering interest amounting to \$4,665,742.

The three-masted schooner Joel Cook, with lumber from Savannah, Ga., arrived at Baltimore Tuesday morning, after ten days of the worst weather at sea that Captain Frazier has experienced in forty-seven years.