

**CORNWALL AND INVIRONS.**

In His Second Letter Mr. Rand Tells Something About Christmas in England—An Old Well and Old Church Built Centuries Ago—A Visit to Trerice, a Sixteenth Century English Manor House and Its Dungeon—The Magnificent Cathedral at Truro.

In beginning a letter which will deal mainly with places of interest near Newquay I wish in a brief digression to devote a few lines to Christmas. I had looked forward with much interest to the coming of Christmas as I wished to see how it was observed in England. For some time preparations had been in progress for the advent of the festive season. An abundance of holly and mistletoe, the constant decorating of stores, and the attractive displays in store windows were sure signs of its approach. On Christmas eve night the streets were crowded with people old and young, of both sexes. Youngsters might be seen gazing longingly through glass windows at miniature ships and toy trains, while the sparkle in the young girl's eye evidenced her happy anticipation of the gifts which the morrow would bring. Every one seemed happy and there was an unmistakable sense of Christmas in the air. Several selections by the band of the 2nd Cornwall Volunteers contributed much to the spirit and interest of the time. On Christmas day the weather was ideal. It was fair and moderately cold, with a light breeze stirring. The day seemed like Sunday. It was very quiet, saving perhaps to the absence of fireworks. In the morning I took a walk along the cliffs by the sea. The white crested waves rolling in from a background of deep blue and the distant grass-covered hills peacefully reposing in the sunshine combined to make a pretty picture and a pleasant walk. About dinner time I returned to my room—not to turkey and cranberry sauce, but to what proved to be a very good substitute in the form of roast duck and plum pudding. While I missed the former, yet on account of its novelty and excellence I enjoyed the latter very much. Plum pudding, I am told, is indispensable to the English Christmas dinner. And in my opinion it merits the high regard in which it is held.

It is customary here for the stores to close both on Christmas day and on the day following. It is also customary for people to attend services at church on Christmas morning, and the churches are appropriately decorated for the occasion. Christmas trees with attendant exercises in the churches are unknown, but family Christmas trees in the home are quite common. To the young mind Santa Claus is indispensable to Christmas, and his coming is hailed with equal enthusiasm and delight here as in America.

But the main purpose of this letter is to describe some of the places of interest near Newquay, and I will proceed to this at once. In the neighborhood of Newquay are several places which for antiquarian and scenic interest are unsurpassed in this part of England. Some of them supply material to artists and, I venture to say, might well furnish inspiration for poets. The lover of antiquity, in particular, will find near here material which will carry him back a thousand years and more. One such place is the village of Crantock. It is about two miles from Newquay and is prettily situated in a small valley, from the bottom of which the surrounding hills move upward by gentle gradations. The village possesses two attractions—an old well and an old church.

The well is in the center of the village and is surmounted by a hollow stone mound. It has been in existence ten centuries, and the water is said to be as good and as plentiful now as it was ten centuries ago.

According to history the church had its origin in an oratory built in the fifth century by Saint Carantocus who was associated with Saint Patrick in Ireland. By the time of Edward the Confessor it had become a church and was collegiate, having a school of canons. It was despoiled by Henry the Eighth and was imperfectly restored two centuries later. The church is situated a little to the right of the village on the side of a hill. It stands in the back part of the churchyard and is reached by a walk which runs straight through the churchyard. The church is about 80 feet long, 17 feet wide at one end and 25 at the other. The surface of the walls is scratched and crumbled and has a grayish appearance. At one end of the church is a tower which contains a bell whose chimes possess a peculiar sweetness. Entrance to the church is effected through a low narrow passage, or vestibule. At the front of the vestibule rising from the roof is a small stone cross. Fastened to the wall just under the cross

is an iron plate upon which appear the following words:

Ego  
Sum Ianua;  
Per Me Qui Intrabit  
Servabitur

A kind of gloom pervades the interior of the church, owing to the insufficiency of natural light. The walls contain several memorial tablets. At the lower end of the church is a stone font which bears the date 1474.

The church yard is interesting, containing many old graves and a stone coffin which was unearched near the church.

The regulations of this church contain a peculiar requirement. This is to the effect that men must attend services with heads uncovered and women with heads covered.

Another interesting place near Newquay is Trerice, a sixteenth century manor house. The manor of Trerice was at an early period the property and residence of a family of that name, whose heiress in the reign of Edward III brought it to a branch of the Arundal family. During succeeding generations it passed through two other families and in 1802 came into the possession of Sir Thomas Acland whose grand son Sir Charles Acland, the present Baronet, is now the owner.

I quote here from a local description. "The Mansion was built in 1572-3 apparently on the site of an older house as portions of a very solid masonry have been found under the soil. The house must have covered a large area. Local tradition says there was a chapel here and the ground whereon it stood is still called 'Chapel Close.' Many strange legends are told of the place and of the grand state in which the Barons lived. The main walls are of great thickness and there are at least two secret underground passages, no doubt serving as means of escape in troublous times. There is also a dungeon."

Only two rooms of the manor are open to inspection by visitors. These are the Hall and Drawing room. The Hall, which is on the first floor, is 26 feet long by 22 feet wide, and 24 feet in height. At the north end is a minister's gallery extending the whole width of the Hall. On the right side of the Hall as one enters is an immense fireplace, large enough in fact to roast a small ox. The wall above the fireplace bears the date 1572. In the wall opposite the fireplace is a very large window containing a great number of small square panes. There are said to be 576 panes in this window. The ceiling in the Hall is beautifully decorated. A careful survey of the ceiling will reveal near the center the monograms J. A.—K. A.—M. A., which are said to be the initials of John, Katherine and Margaret Arundel.

The drawing room, which is on the second floor, is 32 feet long by 20 feet wide and 30 feet high. This room also contains a large fireplace above which appears the date 1573. Just below the date the coat of arms of the builder of the manor is worked in the wall. The mantel-piece is very fine as are the vaulted ceiling and frieze also. Opposite the fireplace is a large oriel window. At one end of the room is a very old table of black oak; the top is one solid plank. The table is about 14 feet long and 2½ feet wide. It is said to have been in the house over 300 years and its appearance would seem to bear out this statement.

Besides these two rooms there are other portions of the manor which would doubtless be interesting, viz: the Turret or spiral stairs of stone, the West Corridor with its four arched windows, and fragments of a beautifully decorated ceiling. These cannot be shown to visitors as they now form part of the living and working rooms.

The entrance door to the manor is worthy of notice. It is a very heavy door made of oak boards three inches thick, and is strengthened by long narrow plates of iron secured by bolts. Judging by the appearance of the door nothing less than a battering ram could force an entrance.

The dungeon is also worthy of mention. The door of the dungeon opens from the side of the staircase on the interior of the manor. The keeper pointed this out to me as I was going upstairs to view the Drawing room, and I opened the door and looked in. It was damp and dark preventing my getting any idea of the dimensions. There seemed, however, to be a clear drop of many feet. It certainly looked uninviting. The lot of the prisoner of today is doubtless bad enough, but if he had his choice between a modern prison cell and a mediaeval dungeon and could take one look at the latter he would be very quick about making up his mind. When one sees a den like this he can imagine what many poor wretches suffered during the Middle Ages. And when he thinks of the numbers who languished and died in the semi-darkness and foul air of vile dungeons he is grateful for living in a more human age. There was, to be sure, a romantic attraction about

life in the Middle Ages. Its battles, its tournaments, and its knights in glittering armor appeal to the imagination. But it had its disadvantages; and not the least of these was the spirit of cruelty which caused heartless barons to confine men in just such dungeons as that of Trerice. Professor Turlington voiced the sentiment of most of us, I think, when he once said in substance that he much preferred living in the present age to living in what were called the good old days of the past.

In front of the manor is a long narrow court through the center of which a smooth hard walk leads up to the entrance. The court is enclosed on both sides by high walls. It contains two large trees, one on each side of the walk, and several small cedars. In the wall on the right side of the court is a spring of pure water, running from the rock.

The manor garden is situated on the right side of the house. It is beautifully laid out in walks and contains many flowers and large plants, and much shrubbery. In one part of the garden is a very pretty yew hedge formed by two yew trees which situated about five feet from each other, grow out of the ground in solid trunk to height of six or eight inches. The two trunks send out numerous interlacing branches and the branches in turn put forth twigs which, ending in numberless tiny dark leaves, form a thick impenetrable hedge. This hedge is very large and forms one of the prettiest sights of the garden. The yew is of extremely slow growth and the hedge, in consequence of the size it has attained, is reckoned to be 150 years old.

A few days ago I walked out to Mawgan, a village about six miles from Newquay. The village is situated on a valley and is charmingly screened by trees on the hillsides. The main interest in the village centers about the church. It is a very old church and has a tall square tower. The church contains several fine stained glass windows and a Norman font dating back to 1100. On a list of the deceased benefactors of this church appear the names of the King and Crown Prince of Portugal. In the churchyard are two old crosses—one an ornamented stone cross with the date 1420, and the other a plain stone cross of the tenth century. There is also in the churchyard a curious wooden memorial, in the form of the stern of a boat, on which are painted the names of nine men who were found in a boat, frozen to death, on the coast in 1846. Its charming location and its interesting old church make Mawgan a very attractive village. Artists are said to make frequent visits there during the summer months.

On December 23rd I went over by train to Truro and spent the day. Truro is a city of about 7,000 people and is 16 miles from Newquay. The business part of the city is not attractive, but there are some very fine buildings in the residential section. The city contains a public park called Waterfall Gardens, which was presented to the city by an ex-mayor some years ago. In the residential section of the city is a Doric column erected in memory of John and Richard Lander, explorers of the Niger river. The most attractive building in the city is the cathedral. It is a handsome and imposing structure both on the exterior and the interior. It was built about 22 years ago at a cost of \$1,000,000. The tower is 250 feet high and is very fine. The cathedral has a seating capacity of 3,000. The entire length of the cathedral is 300 feet. The height from the floor to the roof on the interior is 70 feet. The width on the interior is 76 feet. In the rear of the cathedral on one side is a memorial to the Cornish soldiers who were killed in the South African war. The names of all who fell are engraved on a large marble plate which is secured in the wall. At each end of the plate stands a statue of a soldier. The number of names engraved on the plate is large, showing that Cornwall did her full duty in the struggle. Fastened to the wall above the plate are two tattered and bullet pierced flags which were carried by Cornish troops in English wars of many decades ago. One of the flags contains the names of the battles it has gone through. There were more than a dozen and among others I noticed Salamanca, Dettingen, Corunna, and Lucknow.

Cornwall is proud of its cathedral. All classes and all sections of the county contributed to its building. Rich in design and splendid in execution it is a source of admiration to the visitor and of pride to the native Cornishman.

OSCAR R. RAND.  
Newquay, Cornwall, Dec. 28, 1908.

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**NOTICE.**

By virtue of the authority contained in a mortgage deed executed to me on the 21 day of January, 1907, by Leroy Garner, Catherine Garner and Margaret Garner, and duly registered in the Register's office of Johnston county in Book M. No. 9, page 560, I shall sell at public auction, for cash at the Court House door in the town of Smithfield, N. C., on the 6, day of February, 1909, the following described lands, to-wit:

That tract of land lying and being in Oneals township, Johnston county, and State of North Carolina, adjoining the lands of D. L. Corbett, J. E. Corbett and others, beginning at a lightwood knot, corner in D. L. Corbett's line, thence East to a hickory tree in S. T. Creech's line, thence South to a sweetgum tree on the bank of long branch, thence up said branch to the beginning and containing 73 acres more or less, and fully described in said mortgage.

This 6 day of January, 1909.  
C. R. Batten, Mortgagee.  
Ed. S. Abell, Att'y.

**NOTICE.**

The undersigned having qualified as Executor on the estate of John Hales, deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 29th day of January 1910 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 27 day of January, 1909.  
W. D. HALES, Exr.

**MORTGAGEE'S SALE.**

North Carolina, Johnston County.

By virtue of a mortgage deed executed on the 20th day of February, 1904, by J. W. Wood and wife, B. C. Wood, and recorded in Book T. No. 8, page 194, records of said county the undersigned will sell to the highest bidder for cash at the court house door in Smithfield, Johnston County, N. C., on Friday, February 12, 1909, at 12 o'clock noon, the following described tract or parcel of land lying and being in Banner township, Johnston county, described and defined as follows to-wit:

Adjoins the lands of Benj. Hudson, J. W. Wood, Jr., Isham McLamb heirs, G. M. Benson and others, and is bounded, beginning at a stake Isham McLamb heirs corner, and runs North 4 East 50 poles to a pine, thence South 86 East 16 poles to a stake; thence North 4 East 64 poles to a stake Benson's corner; thence as his line South 86 East 52½ poles to a stake; thence South 1 West 58 poles to a stake Benj. Hudson's corner in middle of Smithfield and Fayetteville public road; thence with said road South 61½ West 21 poles to a stake, J. W. Wood Jr. corner; thence South 4 West 72 poles to a stake; thence North 89 West 28 2-5 poles to a pine stump, Wood and McLamb's corner; thence North 37½ West 40 poles to the beginning containing forty three and three quarter (43¾) acres and is the same this day bought of said Leander Holmes.

Terms of sale cash.  
ALONZO PARRISH,  
Assignee of Mortgagee.

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION.**

North Carolina, Johnston County.

In the Superior Court, To March Term, 1909.

Bank of Selma, vs.  
T. T. Candler.

T. T. Candler, the defendant above named, will take notice that an action, entitled as above, has been commenced in the Superior court of Johnston county, to recover judgment for a debt of \$580.00, due the plaintiff by the defendant, and the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the next term of the Superior court of the said county, to be held on the first Monday in March, 1909, at the Court House, in Smithfield, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This 14 day of January, 1909.  
W. S. STEVENS, C. S. C.  
E. S. ABELL, Att'y. for plaintiff.

**NOTICE.**

The undersigned having qualified as executrix on the estate of James E. Smith deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 8th day of January, 1910 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 4th day of January, 1909.  
MRS. NORA SMITH,  
Executrix.

**To Amend Charter.**

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the General Assembly now in session at Raleigh for an amendment to the charter of the town of Kenly, N. C.

C. W. Edgerton  
Kenly, N. C., Jan. 7, 1909.