

A VISIT TO ROANOKE ISLAND.

Sheriff Powell Writes Interestingly of a Trip to the Eastern Coast Where He Saw the Big Scuppernong Vines and Fished and Feasted.

Messrs. Editors:

Having returned from a pleasing trip to the eastern coasts of North Carolina, I want to tell something about it. I surely saw and heard things. Leaving Smithfield on the 19th of March on an automobile with my son, B. C. Powell, for Elizabeth City, where he expects to "work Watkins" supplies, and passing Wilson, Tarboro, Scotland Neck, Weldon, Jackson, Murfreesboro, Winton and Gatesville to Beckford Junction, where we "stuck" and took the train via Edenton for Betsy, arriving there at 2:30 P. M., Thursday. Ben returned Friday for his car and reached Elizabeth City Sunday. We encountered all grades of roads, being pushed and pulled out of the mud five times, one time by a long horned ox making a ludicrous tandem. Old Buck was a puller though. We spent the first night at Scotland Neck, at the home of Representative Claude Kitchin, who has so recently made such a "sissy" record in Congress. I am sure his father, a dead gallant Confederate soldier, for whom a living Camp is named, would turn in his tomb if it were possible, in disgust. We passed through the very best farming lands of East Carolina. The big farms of Edgecombe County were models of neatness and thrift. Corn, cotton, tobacco and peanuts predominated. Farming operations were sadly behind, little plowing having been done.

On reaching Tarboro and learning that we could not cross the Roanoke River below Weldon, we detoured via Scotland Neck and Halifax to Weldon. Here, in June, 1861, fifty-six years ago, the 24th North Carolina Regiment containing three Johnston County companies—C, E, and I. I, a member of E, was organized and sent to the front where we spent four long years "doing things." The old Happer and Gooch hotels and the Evans and Emery families that I knew, have gone the way of all the earth. We passed Boon's Mill where a bunch of Ransom's brigade were in the pond swimming and were fired on by a Yankee cavalry raid. I was in that bunch. We passed old Camp Swain on the Potocasey Creek where the 24th Regiment was reorganized after the conscription act was passed by the Confederate Congress. Here I was elected First Lieutenant and often commanded as good a company of soldiers as ever stood before an enemy's cannon. Murfreesboro, another old stamping ground, our company was quartered a short time in a vacant female college, and finding an abandoned redingots or gabrielle or kimona and ladies' hat, dressed one of the boys (Lin Knox) and escorted him to an old tuneless piano and beat the band with music unheard of. Not one knew a note in music or an octave on keys. This is the only college experience except passing through Chapel Hill with Johnston's army. But I am off my "tale." My son's business being arranged, my old friend, Captain L. B. Midyett, of Oriental, met me by agreement, spent a night in the city with a friend, Mr. J. W. Pool, a descendant of the distinguished Pool family of Pasquotank County, and a relative of Rev. Solomon Pool, once the pastor of this circuit. Our reception was cordial and warm-hearted. They sold milk which was delivered in bottles twice daily, by a son about ten years old, riding a bicycle, wearing a milk jacket with cartridge-like partitions. He was a smart boy and showed us his rabbit hutch and Jersey calf. Elizabeth City is of about 10,000 inhabitants, situated on the Pasquotank River, the head of ship and steam navigation, is a beautifully laid out, narrow, well paved, shady city. A handsome county court house with beautiful confederate monument on the square alongside of the large United States post office, custom house and federal court rooms. Many large, modernly built business houses, elaborate rail road and boat warehouses and fine residences, school building and churches, and is apparently the chief emporium for Eastern North Carolina. A huge iron bridge spans the river and a sixty-foot section is raised by machinery for the passage of boats on signal. The enormous fish products of the sounds pass here for the northern markets. I saw a boat with 300 boxes and another with 600 came in and there were many others on the line. Shad, Rock and Herrings are the chief shipping now. They are taken from the boats and wheeled into waiting freight cars for the north, many times in 24 hours. According to history, this is the legendary rendezvous in piratical days of Edward Teach or "Blue Beard," and there still stands an old building with subterranean vaults and passages used by him in storing his ill gotten gains, as well as scenes of rapine and murder of his captive women, the stains of blood of which is said to still be seen on the walls.

Well, Uncle Lon, my chaperone and

I went by steamer to Manteo, the county seat of Dare County on Roanoke Island, via "Nag's Head," so called, legend says, by the "coaster" or "combers," people living on the banks, turning a horse to graze with a lantern fastened to him in view of passing ships off the dangerous sand reefs at sea and now designated as the "grave yard of the Atlantic." Navigators mistaking this light were wrecked and the combers plundered. An expensive light house and saving station now protects in a measure this dangerous point. Very recently a ship stranded here and after throwing overboard thousands of dollars worth of goods, was pulled off by tugs at a cost of \$100,000. I ate some of the cod fish, drank coffee and picked my teeth with some of the goods. Barrels of wine floated around and some of the boys "saw things."

From Manteo by auto to Mr. L. N. Midyett's a relative of my chaperone, lands us in clover swimming deep. The whole family smothered us with glad greetings and hospitalities. He took me to see the celebrated scuppernong vine with a history of 300 years old. There are three of them and they cover an acre or nearly an acre, are well kept and visited by many tourists. A well kept orchard of pear, apples and peaches nearby. Old Fort Raleigh was also visited. Ten acres of land there belongs to the North Carolina Historical Association and they have marked the outlines of the fort with granite stones two feet high and set up nearby a tablet with appropriate inscriptions. The only identification us by a mound of dirt some 20 yards square with bastions or wings at each corner. The famous Jno. White Colony, from which the Croatan Indians are supposed to have originated, was located here. The shifting sands, which pile up 20 feet high, are liable to cover all any time. I saw a shift recently made up to the limbs of the pines 20 feet high and into the public road. On this island Conary Godwin, a Johnston County Confederate soldier and captain of a Robeson County company, was captured by General Burnside in 1861 or '62. Sign of the battle is yet visible. Mr. Midyette took me to his pound nets and the catch was 60 shad and 1940 herring and a bushel of cats. He gave us a big fish chowder in his camp for dinner. The neighbors came in at night, had music, exchanged yarns and had a grand time. Uncle Lon was in his glory and "me too."

From here we went by steamer to Stumpy Point, Uncle's Lon's old home. We just naturally jumped out of the frying pan in the fire of hospitality, and warm welcome. The fishermen of this post were at the boat-landing getting their many boxes of fish off. Everybody seemed kin to us both. Invitations to go home with them came from all. Uncle Lon picked one with a big shad and rock fish, jumped in his boat and home we went. From then on the choicest sea food was provided at all the homes visited, and that served in the finest order. The ladies are all good cooks and their pantries amply supplied with canned fruit, which they put to us in abundance and various styles. Cranberries and huckleberries grow profusely there. To undertake to describe the hospitality and friendship of this people, would be only flirting with Sir Walter Scott, Rob Roy and the Sages of all ages. They surely are the children of Israel, and when the Prince of Peace comes to make up his jewels, these waters will be walked on. Not a negro, foreigner, or policeman there. They are taxed one dollar for each pound net and ten cents for each hundred yards of gill nets, which goes to support the fish commission of the State, which they say should be composed of their ranks, instead of Lawyers that don't know a goggle-eyed herring from a menhaden. All are broadshouldered, sun and wind tanned with hands as big as hams, with hearts as big as all out doors. They are goose and duck shooters also and nearly all have tame ones that they anchor out near their shooting batteries along with the wooden decoys. A bear hunter showed me his traps and account of sales for over two hundred dollars from one New Yorker. A wild cat brought six dollars. Most of them shipped alive. One man killed ninety geese in a day, receiving one dollar apiece for them. May the Lord of hosts deal generously with every one of them. The village is a single row of houses nearly a mile long, a crescent around the border of a lake and only one street. The houses, all two-stories, set about forty yards back and fifty apart, with lawns or gardens and fruit trees intervening. Rev. G. T. Adams, the presiding elder (a nigh Johnston County product), came from "Manns Harbor" another fish village along with the church choir, to hold quarterly meeting and sing a match with the "Stumpy Point" choir. Mr. Adams gave me a flattering introduction and after the singing asked me to decide the better. I told them they were both emus the same heavy. A fine church and large Sunday school here. The Bible class supports an orphan in Raleigh. Quarterly meeting attended by nearly all. Rev. Mr. Spence, the State

Sunday School Secretary, delivered the finest lecture I ever heard on Sunday school work. Said he would visit Sanders Chapel probably in June. We accompanied the "Manns Harbor" choir home, they singing nearly all the way. Spent a day and night here, as at "Stumpy Point."

Reached Elizabeth City Midnight and left for home at one P. M. Tuesday, reaching Smithfield 10 P. M. Like Queen Esther said when she visited King Solomon, the half has not been told.

C. S. POWELL.
Smithfield, N. C., April 9, 1917.

MISS RANKIN AGAINST WAR.

Lone Woman Member of Congress Could Not Vote For the War Resolution.

Early last Friday morning when the House had been in session for hours listening to a discussion of the war resolution and the time had come for a vote, Miss Jeanette Rankin, the only woman member of Congress, was in her seat with bowed head thinking over the tremendous import of what was being done. The correspondent of the Associated Press thus tells of her attitude:

"Miss Rankin of Montana, the only woman member of Congress, sat through the first roll call with bowed head, failing to answer to her name, twice called by the clerk.

"On the second roll call she rose and said in a sobbing voice, 'I want to stand by my country, but I can not vote for war.' For a moment then she remained standing supporting herself against a desk and as cries of 'Vote! Vote!' came from several parts of the house, she sank back into her seat without voting audibly. She was recorded in the negative."

Mill Creek School Close.

The school at Mill Creek will close Saturday, April 14th, 1917. We are trying to arrange a program that will please everybody present. The program will consist of recitations, dialogues, drills, monologues, songs and games. One of the most interesting features will be the games on the yard. A prize will be given for the winner in potato race and sack race. There will be other games also.

We are expecting some good music for the occasion.

Part of the program will be given in the afternoon, beginning at 1:30 o'clock, and concluded that night, beginning at 7:30.

Come out and enjoy it with us.

C. B. THOMAS,
MISS COLE,

Teachers.

Bentonville, April 6, 1917.

MR. BRYAN TENDERS SERVICES.

Asks the President to Enroll Him as a Private Whenever Needed.

Saturday's papers carried the news that Mr. William J. Bryan, who is in Florida, telegraphed to President Wilson the following message:

"Believing it to be the duty of each citizen to bear his part of the burden of war and his share of its perils, I hereby tender my services to the government. Please enroll me as a private whenever I am needed. Assign me to any work that I can do until called to the colors. I shall, through the Red Cross, contribute to the comfort of soldiers in the hospital and, through the Young Men's Christian Association aid in guarding the morals of the men in camp."

Mr. Bryan, with the rank of colonel, commanded a regiment of Nebraska volunteers during the Spanish-American war.

BENTONVILLE NEWS.

It looks to us like Old Glory will have to be unfurled now.

Miss Eva Johnson returned to her home Sunday, after spending a week with friends in this section. Mr. W. B. Beasley made a business trip to Smithfield Saturday. Quite a number of our folks attended the Easter services at Newton Grove Sunday.

Rev. Mr. Crocker filled his regular appointment at St. John's Holiness Church Sunday.

Mr. J. E. Powell, of Rocky Mount, spent Saturday and Sunday in our burg, the guest of his brother, Mr. W. A. Powell.

The monument erected to the honor of B. F. Thornton, by the Woodmen of the World, will be unveiled on the third Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Jasper Barfield, of Goldsboro, motored up to Newton Grove Sunday and while the Easter services were in progress, he was happily married to Miss Ida Bradshaw, Squire John Williams, of Sampson, officiating.

Makes a man as happy to tell him he is clever as it makes a girl to tell her she is pretty.

It is much better for one to think twice before he speaks than to take back half he says.

WARNING!!

Don't Buy Acetylene Light Plant---

Until you have seen the Davis Thermo---The Outdoor, Rust-Proof Plant Cheaper and Better Than Any Other Plant on the Market

A Chance to demonstrate this Plant is all we ask. We will install our plant by the side of any other plant on the market and allow the customer to choose between the two after 30 days trial.

The old style machines, sold by others, will freeze if not properly housed---This Machine Will Not.

Our price on 100 lb. or Light Plant **\$180.00**
All Other makes of same size sell for **\$250.00**

J. O. SULLIVAN
DUNN, N. C.

BUSINESS LOCALS

GOOD HOME-MADE SYRUP FOR sale, 60 cents a gallon. John A. Smith, Smithfield, Route No. 1.

PLENTY OF OLD PAPERS NOW on hand at The Herald Office at 5 cents per bundle.

THE SMITHFIELD BUILDING & Loan Association has helped a number of people to build homes. It will help others, and maybe you. New series of shares now open. See Mr. J. J. Broadhurst.

BUY A COTTON SEED GRADER and increase your yield. Cotter Hardware Co., Smithfield, N. C.

SOLID CAR LOAD OF TENNIS Oxfords just received. They will be sold at 50 cents the pair. The Davis Stores, Smithfield, N. C.

REAPER IN GOOD CONDITION. Will trade for mower, or will sell. E. F. Boyett, Smithfield, N. C.

SEE US FOR WIRE FENCING. We have it in any weight. Cotter Hardware Co., Smithfield, N. C.

PRINTED STATIONERY ADDS dignity to one's letters. Every farmer should have his farm named and then have his printed letter heads, note heads and envelopes. The Herald Print-shop is ready to do this class of printing on short notice.

WHEN YOU NEED SASH, DOORS and blinds see the Cotter Hardware Co., Smithfield, N. C.

YOU MAY HAVE AN ALMANAC, but you need a North Carolina Almanac which is better. You should buy a Turner's—worth 10 cents. Beaty & Lassiter, Smithfield, N. C.

SEE US FOR WELL TILING. Cotter Hardware Co., Smithfield, N. C.

WE HAVE WIRE FENCING IN any height. Cotter Hardware Co., Smithfield, N. C.

WANTED—TO BUY EIGHT OR ten shoots, weighing 25 or 30 pounds. J. W. Wellons, Smithfield, N. C.

SEE US FOR WIRE FENCING. We have it in any weight. Cotter Hardware Co., Smithfield, N. C.

WANTED—WHITE HOUSE KEEP-er to wait on old man and his wife. Box 48, Pikeville, N. C.

DON'T PUT OFF SCREENING your house—do it now. Phone us, we have the Screens. Cotter Hardware Co., Smithfield, N. C.

I HAVE JUST RECEIVED A LARGE shipment of automobile tires. See me when in need. W. R. Sanders, Smithfield, N. C.

FOR WIRE FENCING, ANY height, see the Cotter Hardware Company, Smithfield, N. C.

BUY A COTTON SEED GRADER and increase your yield. Cotter Hardware Co., Smithfield, N. C.

SEED CHUFAS AT \$1.00 PER PECK A. G. Powell, Smithfield, N. C., R. F. D. No. 2.

FOR SALE—COOK'S STRAIN OF Buff Orpington Eggs from Madison Square Garden prize winners, \$2.00 for a setting of 15; \$6.00 fifty; \$10.00 for 100. I also have Byrd strain giant bone Mammoth Bronze Turkey Eggs at \$2.00 for 10; \$4.50 for 25; \$8.00 for 50. Peole Farm, J. W. Poole, Manager, Smithfield, N. C.

CREAM AND FRESH BUTTER milk for sale. Mrs. A. Vermont, Smithfield, N. C.

THE COTTER HARDWARE COM-pany can sell you galvanized roofing cheap. Smithfield, N. C.

I WISH TO BUY 1000 HENS, ALSO 100 crates of eggs. W. M. Sanders, Smithfield, N. C.

Negro Students Signify Loyalty.

Fayetteville, April 6.—Persons who have heard with concern stories of German work among the negroes of the South and those who believe in the loyalty of that race were much encouraged when it became known here tonight that when E. E. Smith, principal of the State Colored Normal School of Fayetteville, made a talk to the 450 students today every one of the 110 male students over 16 signified his willingness to enlist in defense of the flag.

Principal Smith who was adjutant of the Third North Carolina Volunteers, colored, in the Spanish-American war, said he had this afternoon polled a number of his comrades in that war and that each of them expressed readiness to serve the United States against Germany.

Of course, you understand that the beautiful song about the old oaken bucket was written before they discovered that the thing was full of microbes.

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FOR SALE—THREE SOWS AND pigs. Sows weighing about 200 pounds and have 5, 6 and 7 pigs, respectively. A. G. Powell, Smithfield, N. C., Route No. 2.