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FORTIFYING THE PANAMA CANAL

The Government Making it Impregnable in the Time of War --- Work Being Completed as the Digging Goes on --- Cost of Fortifications Has Been Reduced

The canal commission is now arranging to carry out the work of making the Panama canal impregnable against the attack of any hostile nation. It will provide the emplacements for the armament and the fortifications and quarters for the small army which will guard the big waterway from cranks in time of peace and from invaders in time of war. Whatever may have been the opinion of men as to whether the canal should be fortified or neutralized, there is now no difference of opinion that since Congress has elected to fortify it the work must be done so thoroughly that there never will be a possibility of its being wrested from us.

The troops to be stationed on the isthmus will consist of twelve companies of coast artillery, four regiments of infantry, one battalion of field artillery, and one squadron of cavalry. In time of war this force would be augmented by such additional troops as the exigencies of the time might demand. Such general provisions for the location of these reinforcements will be made as will assure them of good camp sites when they arrive.

It is the intention to fortify the two ends of the canal with extreme care. At each end there will be placed four fourteen-inch rifles, giant barks which will begin the formalities of a warm reception by the time a hostile fleet is ten miles away; six six-inch guns, and twelve twelve-inch mortars. The topography of the Limon and Panama bays lends itself admirably to the purposes of defense. In Limon bay, on the Atlantic side, the distance between Toro Point and the opposite side of the bay is incon siderable, and this will be narrowed down by the big breakwaters which are being thrown across the bay to protect the mouth of the canal from the violent northerns which sweep down upon Colon harbor and the entrance to the big ditch.

On the Pacific side the same conditions prevail. A breakwater is being constructed from the mainland to Naos island, a distance of about five miles. Beyond Naos island is Perico and beyond that is Flamenco. On the latter island the big coast defense guns will be situated, and bridges will connect Flamenco and Perico with Naos, and thence with the mainland over the breakwater.

In addition to these defenses of the entrance to the canal there will be a complete system of mines to be planted in case of war. The original plan was to spend \$19,000,000 for the defenses, but in the interest of economy, the number of guns, the size of the permanent garrisons, and other matters were reduced so that the total cost will be something above \$12,000,000.

It is fortunate from the standpoint of economy that Congress decided to carry forward the work of fortification at the same time that the canal is being constructed. As the work on the canal nears completion one steam-shovel after another finds up room to operate in, and other parts of the equipment must go out of commission with the steam shovel. The same is true of the force. By utilizing the men and machinery no longer needed for canal work, under the efficient labor system of the present canal regime a great saving is assured in the cost of the fortification.

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Graduates from Naval Academy

North Carolina, the Old North State, is signally honored this year by having the largest number of native sons of the State graduated from the Naval Academy. She comes forward with seven graduates and is the only State having more than five men in the first class without at least one dropping out. One is a Charlotte boy.

Although none of these five is in the first fifty, all have done well and some have distinguished themselves in athletics as well as in their academic studies. They all left upon the completion of the weeks' ceremonies, most of them for their homes before entering upon their careers at sea. The graduates, and their relative standing, are as follows. George B. Ashe, of Raleigh, number 62; Donald C. Godwin, of Williamston, 175; Jay L. Kerley, of Morganton, 181; Stanley Mitchell, of Asheville and Washington College, 194; Eugene Oates, of Charlotte, 131; George F. Parrott, Jr., of Falling Creek and Kinston, 125; Wallace B. Phillips, of Greensboro, 107. While Ashe leads in class standing, Oates has won perhaps the greatest amount of general distinction at the Academy. He is a star baseball player and is the most popular story teller in the entire class.

Mrs. J. G. Staton Entertains

Monday afternoon from 3 to 6 o'clock, Mrs. J. G. Staton entertained a party of friends at cards at her residence on Haughton and Main Streets. There were two tables arranged for four each and the games proved very interesting from the beginning. Ham and pepper sandwiches, pickles, crackers, iced tea and cream and cake were served during the hours.

The guests were: Miss Mary Bethel, Miss Carrie Alexander, Miss Essie Peel, Mrs. F. W. Hoyt, Mrs. F. U. Barnes, Mrs. J. H. Saunders, Mrs. T. J. Smith.

The fortification of the canal will cost about seven million dollars less than was originally estimated. When the fortification board went over the grounds it decided to make recommendations such as would give the isthmus fortification of the highest type, and provide for army posts which would be the last word in military architecture. But the nearly twenty million dollars that this would have cost seemed too large an amount to President Taft, and he asked the board to scale things down as sharply as safety would allow. So they cut out a gun or two at either end of the canal at a saving of more than a million dollars. They saved another million by omitting the reclamation of land at Naos, Perico and Flamenco inlands, the total saving on the entire cost of the fortifications proper amounting to a little over two and a half million dollars. The bulk of the remainder of the seven million dollar reduction came about largely through reduction in post costs.

The work of constructing the fortifications will begin at once, and it probably will be completed by the time the canal is ready for operation. In addition to the defenses at the ends of the canal there will be a mobile artillery ready to move upon an instant's notice to any threatened point on the zone. There will be a highway and a railroad across the isthmus ready at all times to furnish the defenders with means of rapid communication and a small body of men will be quartered at all times at each of the vital points of the big waterway.

Cardinal Gibbons and The Church

The ovation which was given Cardinal Gibbons in Baltimore on Tuesday, the 6th inst. in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, and the twenty-fifth year of his cardinalate brings to mind very vividly the great importance of the Catholic Church in America.

The Church, which has an authentic unbroken line since the Apostolic days, claims America; it was a Church Queen who aided a loyal Catholic in the voyage across the seas to explore unknown regions, the result of which was the discovery of the American continent, and one of the very earliest things which Columbus with his company of explorers did was to have the celebration of the Mass on the Western Hemisphere. The oldest Church in America is Catholic at Saint Augustine, Fla., so it can be seen that the Catholic Church rightly claims America as it own.

Not only was the Church the most important factor in the lives of the early Spanish settlers in this country, but today it represents more souls than any other religion in the United States, and frequently it brings within its Apostolic folds persons who have not seen the light heretofore.

A Cardinal of the Church is the highest dignity, save one, to which a priest may aspire. There have been two only in America. The present Cardinal, who has his residence in Baltimore, is a national figure, one admired by Catholic and Protestant, Christian and Jew alike, as said President Taft in his eulogy on the 6th inst. North Carolina people should be particularly interested in the American Cardinal, for besides being the most prominent Churchman in America, he has lived and worked within our state, as in 1868 he began his labors in the holy office of Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina. Cardinal Gibbons rapidly rose in the priesthood because of his wonderful mental qualities, and today, as a Prince of the Church, his sayings are published in all the journals of the country.

Of particular interest to him is the growing divorce evil, and his ideas about this alarmingly increasing sin are studied seriously by the clergy and laity alike of the Protestant denominations as well as by those of the Church itself. Cardinal Gibbons is as equally interested in the questions pertaining to the political life of the Republic, and on all public questions he speaks with a freedom which makes him a student of those civic matters which interest his people.

The Cardinal knows and is proud of the place of the Church in history, and he always acts with that dignity to which the Prince of the Church is entitled. Although of a dignified bearing, he is most democratic in his private life, and one visiting him in his residence finds a most cordial welcome. His simplicity makes him great. When his praises were spoken of in Baltimore, the Cardinal most modestly said: "Gentlemen, you have pro trayed your subject, not I, I fear as he is, but as he should be."

The celebration in Baltimore was not only that of the Church, but it was attended by the heads of the nation, and distinguished men in the country. The President, Vice President, The Chief Justice of the United States, the Speaker of the House, Col. Roosevelt and many senators. It was a tribute coming not from the Church alone, but from the State as well, which acknowledges Cardinal Gibbons as a power in the life of the nation as well as a prince of the greatest organization the world has ever known. Each citizen of North Carolina should join with Speaker Clark in saying: "I wish you peace, prosperity and length of days."

EVERETTS ITEMS

J. S. Ayers went to Oak City Sunday.

G. W. Taylor went to Hamilton Wednesday.

J. T. Barnhill went to Williams- ton Monday.

Ed James of Robersonville, was here Monday.

H. A. Brown, of Norfolk, was here Tuesday.

Paul Salsbury was here from Hamilton Friday.

L. H. Bailey went to Williamston Sunday night.

G. D. Barnhill, of Robersonville, was here Monday.

J. H. Purvis, of near Hamilton, was here Saturday.

J. J. Stroud was here from Scotland Neck Monday.

W. G. Williams, of Greenville, was here Wednesday.

J. L. Meeks and son went to Williamston Monday.

E. S. Fleming, of Greenville, was in town Tuesday.

Miss Lena Thomas, of Williams- ton was here Wednesday.

Clayton Keel and Oscar Daniel, of Robersonville, were here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will James, of Williamston, are in town this week.

Dr. W. E. Warren was here Tuesday quarantining cases of whooping cough.

George D. Burroughs, who has been at the A. & M. College, is at home for a while.

Miss Essie Woodard returned home from Battleboro, where she has been attending school.

Miss G. F. Burroughs, who has been visiting relatives near here, returned to her home in Scotland Neck on Monday.

Whooping Cough Quarantined

Dr. William E. Warren, Health Officer for Martin County, acting under instructions from the State Board of Health, placed all cases of whooping cough in Williamston in quarantine on Saturday last. The prevalence of the disease has been noticeable for several months, and children have suffered greatly from it. The quarantine only applies to the patient, others in the house being permitted to go and come. Placards were placed at a conspicuous place on the front of the houses where a case was found.

Notice

Subscribers of the Williamston Telephone Company will please make the following additions and changes to their Telephone Directories.

New subscribers: Ayers, A. B. 107-1½; Bradley, Rev. Rufus, 44; Coaltrain, C. C. 114-3½; Crawford, J. C. Sheriff, office 68; Dennis Simmons Lbr. Co. Logging Camp, 114-4½; Griffin, Geo. W. 106-½; Gurganus, J. D. 42; Leggett, J. H. 101-½; Manning, A. J. 114-1½; Manning, N. R. 114-3; Market, 52; Peel, Plenny, 106-1½; Peel Ephrath, 106-2; Peoples N. C. Steamboat Line, 19-2; Roanoke Bottling Works, 88; Roberson Charlie T. 114-4; Rogers, Walter 131; Smith & Hadley, 52; Teel, Mrs. W. J. 103-5; Taylor, McS. 38; Whitaker, W. J. 89; Williams, Dr. John W. 103-4½; Wynn & Whitehurst, 100-½; Hassell, C. B. 69.

Changes: Daniel & Staton, 104-½; Daniel, Wm. Ed. 104-4½; Gurganus, J. Henry, 109 2½; Hardison, Simon E. 104-4; Hopkins, J. W. 104-3; Hardison, J. B. 104-1½

Jamesville Central

Askew, C. A. 14; Davenport, J. L. 18; Evans, J. E. 17; Edwards, D. S. 20; Hotel, 19.

Change S. R. Biggs Drug Co., to The Jamesville Drug Co., 3.

W. C. Manning, Mgr.

Parmele Industrial Institute Holds Annual Commencement

Annual commencement exercises of the Parmele Industrial Institute were held at Parmele last Thursday and were attended by a large interested audience.

Representative John H. Small, of this district, and William B. McKinley, of Illinois, were expected to be present and deliver addresses on this occasion, but owing to unavoidable circumstances, they were unable to fill their engagement.

The entire program was well arranged and rendered. It showed that Prof. Chance, President of the Institute, is fully able and competent to fill the duties and responsibilities of his position. In his formal announcement he made mention of many important improvements and flattering achievements the school had attained and predicted that there is a great future ahead of it. He gave a brief review of the school and its commendable work, calling attention to its great effort to improve and enlighten the colored race. Furnishing data of the school's past work he convinced his hearers that a great good has been done by it, but, that under its proposed future management, it has in its power to wield a greater influence for good over the race for whose uplift it was established.

It is a wonderful and a commendable work that this school has undertaken to perform and the efforts of its management deserve the aid of all classes. Nothing will be a greater factor in solving the race problem than enlightening and properly educating the colored people. This is the work that President Chance and his co-workers have undertaken. They aim to make their people a self respecting race. They want to improve the morals of their people and make them welcome citizens of the state. They inculcate in the minds of their students the idea of thrift and industry that they may build homes and become of value to the communities in which they live. Their undertaking is a most worthy one.

But, to get back to the exercises. The music, both vocal and instrumental, displayed talent and training and the essays and recitations were well chosen and delivered. We were unable to get the names of those taking part in the exercises, so we can say only that all of them did remarkably well and reflected credit upon the institute.

Prof. R. H. Wright, of this city, delivered an appropriate and forcible address and in his highly augmentive way showed how the colored race could most quickly acquire the higher standards to which it aspires. He placed particular emphasis upon the importance of individual effort and responsibility on the part of the colored people in securing for themselves that high ideal of education to which they aim. He showed them that power and strength came only through the dignity of labor, and that to become good and respected citizens they must learn the lesson of obedience; that to become proficient in their chosen vocations is as much a part of their education as the study of the sciences or languages—that industrial education is a most important factor in their history and will determine, to a great extent, their future as a race.

He admonished them to be virtuous and cleanly, to be chaste and pure, and to become thoroughly proficient in their vocations and professions. His remarks were of a most practical order and were most timely and appropriate in that the subjects discussed by him were those in which the race to which he was speaking was most concerned—Pitt County News, Greenville, N. C.

ROBERSONVILLE

NEWS ITEMS

Local Happenings and People who are Coming and Going, Here, There and Yonder as Gathered by our Regular Correspondent.

C. James and family spent Sunday in Everett.

Dr. Warren, of Williamston was here Wednesday.

Miss Bettie Roberson is visiting in Pine Tops this week.

Mrs. W. A. Ross is visiting relatives in Stokes this week.

Joseph L. Johnson, of South Carolina, was here Monday.

Miss Lena James returned home from Scotland Neck Monday.

Mrs. W. E. Roberson spent several days in Stokes last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Congleton spent Sunday in Washington.

Mrs. R. H. Hargrove, of Kinston, is visiting here this week.

Lester Roberson returned home from the A. & M. College Tuesday.

Mesdames J. W. Hight and Ed James spent Wednesday in Williamston.

Miss Marguerette Everett is visiting Miss Bessie Congleton near Oak Grove this week.

Miss Bettie Mizell, of Williamston, spent Monday here with her brother, J. A. Mizell.

Mrs. T. J. Roberson and little son are visiting her mother, Mrs. A. C. Smith, near here.

Misses Emma and Maree Robertson left Tuesday for Greenville to attend the summer school.

Mrs. Ed James and children spent several days in the country with Mrs. James Everett.

Elder G. D. Roberson, who has been in Maryland and Pennsylvania for several weeks, returned home Tuesday.

On Tuesday, June 6th, the home of S. E. Barnhill was saddened by the death of his mother, Mrs. Annie Barnhill. She had been suffering for several years from paralysis. Four children and a host of friends are left to mourn her loss.

A serious accident happened to J. L. Everett and Miss Carrie Whichard Saturday afternoon, while they were out driving. The mare which Mr. Everett was driving got frightened and ran away throwing both out. Miss Whichard received a wound on her face, and Mr. Everett has been confined to his room ever since.

Shriners and Elks Folders

The Atlantic Coast Line has issued beautifully illustrated folders of standard form in two colors, advertising the low roundtrip rates to Rochester on account of Imperial Council of the Mystic Shrine, July 11, 12 and 13, and of the Grand Lodge of Elks at Atlantic City, N. J., July 10 and 15th.

These folders are replete with information to those contemplating the trip, as they contain the rates, stop-over privileges, many pretty half-tones and brief write-ups of the many attractions of those two beautiful cities. The round trip rates, which are open to the public, from Williamston via Richmond is \$23.80 to Rochester and \$16.75 to Atlantic City and the tickets are on sale for each point on July 7, 8 and 9. While the return limit is comparatively short an extension of about a month can be obtained by depositing ticket with agents and upon the payment of \$1.00.

Every Shriner and Elk should write to Mr. White, the General Passenger Agent at Wilmington for copies of the folders and they will find much therein to interest them.