

GOSSIP OF STATE CAPITAL

BY F. A. OLDS.

Raleigh, July 10.—Surely The Observer must have a wide circulation or else subscribers and buyers must mail it into many States, for letters have come to the writer from at least a dozen States...

Some of the local Republicans here are immensely proud of the fact that they have, since the front of the "Young Men's Republican Club," and one of them said with an air of great pride...

I have but just come from the coast, which is so charming a place to visit in the summer and which always has a fascination quite beyond the telling...

To go back to the cruiser North Carolina, it may be said that Captain Marshall and her other officers will be very glad to get as many North Carolina sailors on board as possible...

At Beaufort one can see the largest oleander trees in the State and some of them almost approach the dimensions of those at Palm Beach and Miami in Florida...

Some of the Republican leaders thought as late as ten days ago that Greensboro would be the place for their convention and one of them said that they had come to look upon that place as being a good one...

Some of these days fig culture will get to be a great thing in the State, for two crops are produced each year, in June and August. The earliest figs are generally the largest...

I was very sorry to hear of the death of Capt. John Wilkes, the oldest living graduate of the Naval Academy and for a number of years past the president of the alumni association...

Very few people know that the State itself has the biggest farm in North Carolina, bigger even than Mr. Vanderbill's—many times bigger...

Casual mention has been made of the waterspout seen last Thursday, while on the very lively trip from Morehead City to the North Carolina coast...

A lot of people have asked me what I thought about the selection of Beaufort as a place for the convention of the silver service to the cruiser North Carolina...

The season has been extremely favorable for partridges so far, and the birds seem to be everywhere, their cheerful notes being heard by the writer every time he goes afield...

The return of bird life to the woods and to the well-shaded towns like Raleigh is very charming. In one afternoon a party of observant boys and myself saw thirty-three kinds of birds...

The last whale captured in North Carolina, the one taken at Beaufort, proved a distinct disappointment. Its length had been reported to be over 50 feet and the State Museum officials...

Beaufort must be reckoned with as a great proposition in this little white and blue town, for the fact that the United States engineer corps has decided to do the Norfolk and Southern Railway...

It seems very hard to understand wireless telegraphy. To me it is one of the most mysterious things in the world, ordinary electricity is strange enough, whether we take it in the form of the more modern form of the wireless telegraph...

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northeast of Beaufort, to one off Cape Hatteras. Reports which come in from the wardens there are all good. There have been no big storms and the birds have been very generally this season...

I had the pleasure of spending a week at Asheville and find that up in that section and to the northward and southward of it more attention than ever has been paid to re-stocking the streams of trout. This has progressed wonderfully in Mr. George Vanderbill's great forest reserve...

Up in the Linville river section where there is another notable preserve, known as "Pisgah Forest," and first described by the writer in Forest and Stream in August, 1899. There are about 225,000 acres in this preserve, and there are nine streams...

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The Smoky mountains in this State, near the Tennessee line, and he has been mounted. He was an immense bird and very friendly. No crow could be a bigger thief than he and a favorite trick was to snatch a handkerchief out of the pocket, if one's back was turned, and hide things very adroitly...

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