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AN IRREGULAR HISTORICAL ODE, AT AVOCA, APRIL 23, 1889.

BY R. B. CREECY. [At the request of Gov. Fowle and other prominent gentlemen, we publish the following Ode:] The ancient writers tell us, that in the olden time, When Greece was in her palmy days And filled with old renown, Her men of note and virtue, Her youth of noblest aims Met on the plains of Elia, At the Olympic games.

Those Greeks were sturdy men and true, They reached the heights of fame, Their limbs were trained to manly strength, Their minds to highest aim, They bent the bow; they tossed the quoit, They wrestled in the ring, They drove the foaming chariots All whirling to the goal,— They listened to their orators who fired the patriot throng, They listened to their poets who sang in dulcet song, Their historians, their patriots, their statesmen all were there And every brow was bent in thought or loosed from every care.

Time moves in an enlarging ring, 'Tis nature's chosen law, As the spiral force of physics Follows almost everything, And so the ancient sports, embalmed In classic song and story, Avoca reproduces here In all their former glory.

We form a new Olympic here, On this majestic shore, We play the sports that gathered them In the days long gone before, 'Tis history's repeating of two thousand years and more. At this new Olympic, I, all unused to song, Present my humble offering To this distinguished throng, And as in meditation I dwell on scenes long gone, The thought comes back to cheer me I'm on historic grounds.

At the gateway of our history, Stands one whose fame is ours, A gallant man and noble, our father and our son, "A man to note right, as one, Who shot his arrows straightway at the sun. His was all the Norman's polish And sobriety of grace, All the Goth's majestic figure, All the Roman's noble face, And he stood the tall exemplar Of a grand historic race."

His fame is ours, This foster-child of fame, Who made his Queen and Country His brightest, noblest aim. Who dare challenge our heritage Of Walter Raleigh's name! His fame is ours. As he rides with knightly bearing Down the corridors of time We bow in homage to his name And claim him as our own. We weep at his misfortunes, We rejoice at his renown, And at his final ghastly doom, We place our green forget-me-not In sorrow on his tomb.

As I look back through the vista Of three hundred years ago, My heart is swelled with varying tides— Alternate joy and woe— I pause in thought and sadness at those immortal men Who perished at Roanoke, but how, or where or when, Will ne'er be known while time endures to any mortal man 'Till that great day, when all shall see, the secrets of the past. But this sad thought comes to cheer us, In this far—distant time— If round the brow of any land We twine the cypress leaf, It is lovely in its sadness— With its coronet of grief. So cheer up Carolinians,

The seed watered by your tears Has grown to mighty greatness in all the coming years.

But as I search again our ample store Of vast and misty legendary lore And view its scenes and sights with pleasure rife, I find the old kaleidoscope of life, The thorns and rosebuds nestling side by side, The bane and antidote of life allied, As ofttime at the fall of some sad tear There stands a smile to comfort and to cheer, And so the fountain of our grand old State Was not all bitter waters, At that time of ancient date. The purple grape, the perfume laden air The weird music from the mockbird's note, The willet's whistle and the gull's wild scream Wrapped all their senses in a soothing dream When first they anchored in old Ocean's stream.

[Continued on eighth page.]

THE NEXT CENSUS--FARM STATISTICS.

In 1890 an officer of the Federal Government will call upon every farmer in this State, and expect to receive correct answers to many questions propounded in regard to his farm and operations thereon.

These statistics are very important, and all are interested in them. They will refer almost exclusively to the crops of the present year, 1889. It behooves every farmer, therefore, to make correct answers to all questions propounded by these officers. Among the many questions asked will be the number of acres in the several crops, and the aggregate in cultivation; value of farm implements and also of live stock; cost of fertilizers used; estimated value of all farm productions for the present year, 1889; number of horses, mules, oxen, milch cows and other cattle, sheep, swine; wool, milk, butter, cheese, etc.

Every one should feel interested in these statistics, and endeavor to have them correct and full, so as to make a creditable showing for our commonwealth, as well as to furnish a large and growing demand for correct statistical information of our agricultural interests, which at present is very inadequate. J. W. ROBINSON, Commissioner.

SCHOOL LAW.

Mr. Sam'l. J. Skinner, our County Superintendent of Public Instruction, has received for distribution the School Law as amended by the General Assembly of 1889.

Justices of the Peace, County Commissioners, Register of Deeds, members of the Board of Education, School Committees, Public School Teachers, Merchants who sell school books and Editors of County Papers are entitled to one copy each. Call and get them.

MERIT WARS.

We desire to say to our citizens, that for years we have been selling Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption Dr. King's New Life Pills, Bucklen's Arnica Salve and Electric Bitters, and have never handled remedies that sell as well, or that have given such universal satisfaction. We do not hesitate to guarantee them every time, and we stand ready to refund the purchase price if satisfactory results do not follow their use. These remedies have won their great popularity purely on their merits. Dr. W. J. Leary, Druggist.

SOME WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL RELICS.

A correspondent to the Raleigh Daily Call, of April 27th, says: Now that the great Centennial exhibition in New York is so near at hand, it is to be supposed that all the relics connected with George Washington will be collected and exhibited in New York next week.

Notably, one in North Carolina should have been carried and given a conspicuous place. In the Masonic Lodge, over the Court House in Edenton, N. C., is the massive chair in which George Washington sat during the whole time he was Master of the Lodge in Williamsburg, Va. It is elaborately carved, showing all the emblems and ensigns of that honored fraternity. It was sent during the war to the lodge in Edenton for safe keeping, and now our Tar Heel Masons won't give it up. It is quite a curiosity.

Also, there are two ladies (sisters) now living in Edenton, who have now in their possession the tea set put before George Washington at an entertainment given him by their ancestors in that place.

In the same lodge room can be seen an Episcopal prayer book printed by His Majesty's printer, Alexander Kincaid, in 1768, and also a copy of the Holy Bible, printed by John Bassett (printer to the King's most Excellent Majesty) 1738.

I am also informed that there is in Salem, N. C., the veritable piano that was used on the occasion of a concert given in honor of George Washington during his visit to that town.

A SAFE INVESTMENT.

Is one which is guaranteed to bring you satisfactory results, or in case of failure a return of purchase price. On this safe plan you can buy from our advertised Druggist a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. It is guaranteed to bring relief in every case, when used for any affection of Throat, Lungs or Chest, such as Consumption, Inflammation of Lungs, Bronchitis, Asthma, Whooping Cough, Croup, etc., etc. It is pleasant and agreeable to taste—perfectly safe, and can always be depended upon. Trial bottles free at Dr. W. J. Leary's Drug Store.

TO WHOM DO THE HONORS BELONG?

Republican organs of the North are seemingly anxious that to President Harrison the oratorical honors at the centennial banquet shall be given. It will be remembered that Gov. Lee was there, Ex-President Cleveland was there and our honored Fowle also, with others, whose reputations forbid any conclusion favoring the President's preeminence.

Neuralgic Persons And those troubled with nervousness resulting from care or overwork will be relieved by taking Brown's Iron Bitters. Genuine has trade mark and crossed red lines on wrapper.

ATTENTION, TEACHERS!

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Maj. S. M. Finger, proposes to send a competent person to assist in holding a County Institute in this county, beginning the 5th Monday in July next, in accordance with the recent statute. Let the teachers of the county, black and white, take notice and arrange to attend. Only a one week session will be held.

FOR DYSPEPSIA Use Brown's Iron Bitters. Physicians recommend it. All dealers keep it. \$1.00 per bottle. Genuine has trade-mark and crossed red lines on wrapper.

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