

NOVA SCOTIA.

Observations of A "Tar Heel" In The "Land Of The Blue Noses."

At the request of the editor of The Lincoln County News and by promise of compliance therewith, the undersigned begs to submit to the readers of this paper a few observations relative to Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia is a land rich in romance and legends and full of charms both in natural features and local traditions. Its history is replete with incidents of more than passing interest. Here the historian can reap a rich reward for his researches, the budding poet by a simple "presto" can land the bashful muse at his feet subservient to his commands, and the lover of romance can compel the geni to his assistance in the weaving of his mystic tales. Not a race but races have here played important parts. The country has been the playground of history as no other section of Northeastern America has. Here have been witnessed scenes and have occurred events, the relation of which still thrills the blood, delights the fancy and impresses the mind. Here the savage Micmacks roamed the forests, fished in the beautiful lakes and bays, and resisted the encroachments of the "pale-face," whilst the French and British were engaged in the long and incessant struggle for supremacy and the ownership of the land.

History has left numerous traces upon the people and soil of Nova Scotia and at this day evidence of the fact is to be had in the names of its inhabitants and localities and in the lingering hold upon ancient customs. Even the names by which the country has been called—"Meggumage," "Markland," "Acadie," "Nova Scotia," and "Land of Evangeline"—are but appellations suggestive of epochs and events in its history. "Meggumage" (Land of the Meggumacks) was the name given the country by its original inhabitants, the Meggumacks (or Micmacks, as they are called today), a tribe of the great Algonquin family, who held sway over the land before the European came and deprived them of their rightful possessions. Of these savage people, a remnant of which still remains in the land, and of their traits, customs, and mode of life, their language, superstition, and religion, much of interest might be written, but space here forbids.

"Markland" is the name that commemorates the visit to our shores of the hardy sea-rovers of the North, the Northmen, or Norsemen, who led by the renowned and adventurous Lief the Lucky in the year 1002, A. D., according to a well-authenticated record in the sagas of the Icelanders, visited this part of the coast, named the country "Markland" (Land of Woods), sailed thence across the Bay of Fundy, and made land again away to the South on the New England Coast, to which they gave the name "Vinland" (Land of Vines.)

"Acadie" or "Acadia," (an Indian word, said to mean abundance) is the name given the country by the French, and as originally applied included also the province of New Brunswick. The name is first found in the petition of De Monts to the French King for leave to colonize this portion of the new world. The petition granted, De Monts led an expedition and formed a settlement in the spring of 1604 at Port Royal, now Annapolis Royal, the oldest town except St. Augustine in all North America. Port Royal was the first settlement ever attempted on any part of the peninsula, and with this event the authentic history of Nova Scotia begins.

The name "Nova Scotia" (New Scotland) was first used in 1621 when Sir William Alexander, a Scottish Knight at the court of James I, obtained from the King a grant of the peninsula, which in the royal charter was named "Nova Scotia" instead of "Acadie," the old name given the colony by the French. Sir William who was ambitious of founding a colony in America and anxious to expel the French who were rapidly taking possession of the country, endeavored to colonize his possessions on an extensive scale but his attempts were frustrated by the French.

For many years the conflicting claims of the English and the French to the country gave rise to an almost uninterrupted struggle between them, and the country was now in possession of the English and again of the French and thus "it passed back and forth like a shuttle between the two nations" until 1713 when the country was transferred from the French to the English flag and it became a permanent English possession. But its inhabitants were French Acadians and they refused to transfer their allegiance to the English crown. At length, as a last resort, the English determined to deport the Acadians and scatter them among the American colonies. This event occurred in the year 1755 and is memorable both on account of the wide-spread interest which it has excited and its important bearing on the history of the province. The characters, incidents, and scenery described in Longfellow's immortal story of "Evangeline" are all connected with this sad expulsion. The poet has thus made a part of the early history of Nova Scotia familiar to all lovers of true poetry and his famous poem has given this country the beautiful name "Land of Evangeline."

Besides the names of historical significance, there are two other appellations by which Nova Scotia is known, namely: "The Land of the Blue Noses" and "The Long Wharf of the Dominion." The former name was given the country some years ago by the people of Boston who were eager purchasers of a fine variety of potatoes raised here of a bluish color which they designated "blue nose potatoes." Eventually the country began to be spoken of as "The Land of the Blue Noses" and today every native of this country is referred to as a "Blue Nose" just as one born in North Carolina is called a "Tar Heel." The fastest train of the province is designated "The Blue Nose Flyer."

Stretching out into the ocean highways and possessing safe and accessible harbors, the finest in the world, Nova Scotia has acquired the name "The Long Wharf of the Dominion." This being the seventh appellation, and the number seven signifying perfection, the list may now be regarded as complete.

THE COUNTRY ITSELF.

And what is Nova Scotia? "Why, it is the land of Evangeline" replies the average American, as though Evangeline and her sad story and the history of the unhappy Acadians were the Alpha and Omega of Nova Scotia. There is, however, something more than that to give to the province its individuality. It holds a place in history and the great family of countries beside which that of the poet's creation is but a single circumstance. For an inadequate description of Nova Scotia the space of a volume would be required and even then the interesting features of the land could only be touched upon.

To sum up briefly, Nova Scotia is a province of the Canadian Do-

minion made up of a rock-bound peninsula within whose territory, which is less than half that of North Carolina, are stored rich samples of nearly all the natural beauty, mineral and agricultural riches, and industrial enterprises of the North American continent. Nature was in a very prodigal mood when she endowed Nova Scotia, and seems to have shared with it the best of all her possessions. The entire province, including Cape Breton Island is 300 miles in length and 100 miles in extreme breadth. It is bounded on the North by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, on the East and South by the waters of the Atlantic, and on the West by the Bay of Fundy and New Brunswick. It is connected with this latter province by a narrow neck of land thirteen miles in width—"unlucky thirteen" that prevented its becoming an island! But after all, Nova Scotia has every advantage of an island and is indented by hundreds of fine bays and magnificent harbors. Its coast is without a peer upon the continent. Its indentations give it a sea-shore mileage surprisingly out of proportion to the journeying distance between its Northern and Southern points. The principal ports of the coast are open the year around to the commerce of the world, and are distant only a short water journey of one to three days from Portland, Boston, New York, and Philadelphia.

The interior of Nova Scotia is intersected by chains of lofty hills and is threaded by winding rivers and sparkling lakes. While there are no elevations really entitled to the name of mountains, the land sometimes takes a very ambitious turn and appears itself to a height of 600 or 1000 feet, so that there is never any monotony to the scenery and once in a while there is something akin to grandeur. The province being a narrow peninsula, the rivers are consequently short, but the country is particularly well-watered and has a great number of streams, some of which are navigable for large sea-going vessels for a distance of from twelve to eighteen miles. The country is a perfect network of lakes, nearly one-fifth of its area being water. In the county in which the writer resides (Lunenburg county) there are 242 lakes, including those that border on the county line, and in Yarmouth county the number is even greater. The other sixteen counties of the province likewise are dotted with them. For the most part these lakes abound in fish of various kinds which come to the surface and make plaintive appeals for some one to come and catch them!

The larger bays, which in many places extend far into the interior, are thronged with islands. One of these alone, which we have had the pleasure of viewing, contains 366 islands, one for every day in the year, with an extra one added for leap year!

Magnificent growths of woodlands—many of them still "the forest primeval" and many so dense that a deer could not penetrate them—abound in almost every part of the province. In the woods are plenty of birds, partridge, woodcock, ducks, and snipe, and through the vast forest tracts moose and deer range in goodly number. As a resort for sportsmen Nova Scotia rivals Maine and New Brunswick. It affords all possible pleasures of the forest, the lake, the river and the sea.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Miss Margaret Tiddy, who has been undergoing treatment for her eyes at the Lincoln Hospital, left Tuesday, much improved.

ASHLEY HORNE'S PLATFORM.

States His Position on the State Issues of The Campaign.

Clayton, N. C. Feb. 21, 1908.
Mr. J. A. Lockhart, Chairman,
Wadesboro, N. C.

My Dear Sir:

I wish to express my appreciation of the invitation you so kindly extended me to be present at your celebration on the 22nd of February. I wish that my engagements would permit me the pleasure of mixing with your people, and shaking hands with them, even if I did not make a speech on the occasion. Speaking is not my specialty; I only claim to be a business man. Remembering, however, some of the experiences of our party in the past when our democratic candidates have joined in public discussions, and loving the welfare of my party above all other considerations, I am loath to participate in a discussion that might tend to array some democrats against other democrats. Of course if I am nominated, I shall take the stump against the nominee of the other party.

We are all pretty close together in our policies. To be sure, our creed is democracy, as it is declared in our platforms, both State and National; to all of which I am loyal in every particular. I realize, however, that the people of my party at whose hands I am asking the nomination for Governor are entitled to know my position upon any and every issue that may confront us; and for that reason, I take pleasure in stating my views in respect to certain matters of interest in this State. I shall not refer to National issues, because with those the candidates for the office of Governor are not primarily concerned:

FARMERS.

My first desire, if elected, will be to do all that is in my power to promote the welfare of the farmers of this State. I have no hesitancy in declaring this in the very beginning of what I have to say. I am a farmer, myself, and have been interested in all that makes for the good of the agricultural interests of this whole State. It was my pleasure to have a hand in the establishment of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of North Carolina, and I rejoice in the work that it has been doing for the betterment of farming conditions. For a short time I have been a member of the Board directing the Department of Agriculture of the State, and it is my earnest desire to make not only this department of the State government more fruitful of good to that class of men who make up so large a percentage of our population. Herebefore this department has been burdened with the expenses of undertakings not pertaining entirely to agriculture, and its efficiency thereby in a measure crippled; but with this impediment removed, I hope to see it make itself not only beneficial, but even indispensable to our farmers. It should be made a department strictly by and for the farmers.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

Since the settlement of the race question eight years ago, the State of North Carolina has made wonderful progress along lines of education and temperance. While keeping steadily in view these great purposes, I believe the time is now ripe for a forward movement in our business and industrial development. Realizing that I am not a politician, nor an orator, and that my shortcomings in this respect might be a disappointment to some of our citizens, I should, if elected to the office of Governor, give my best energies as a business man to promote the wel-

fare of the State by upbuilding her industries, helping her laboring men, and developing her wonderful resources. I shall try to make up for my deficiencies as a speaker by earnest work.

EDUCATION.

We must take no backward step in the matter of education, but must maintain, and as far as possible advance our achievements in this direction.

PROHIBITION.

I shall vote for prohibition in May, as I did in 1881. If the people ratify prohibition, and I am elected, I shall do my best to enforce the law.

RAILROADS.

I rejoice that the railroad litigation is about settled, and that the people of the State may avoid the expense and vexation which the further progress of that litigation might entail. The new rates should be given a fair trial. If it proves sufficiently remunerative to enable the railroads to give good service, pay living wages, and a fair return on the true money value of the property (but nothing upon any watered stock), we may regard the matter as settled for some years to come. I am sure that the people of this State do not want rates so unprofitable as to force railroads to cheapen service, reduce wages, discharge employees, or stop improvements.

In making rates, three factors must be considered, the wages paid employees, the service due the public, and the profit due the owners. Of these the first is vital. The work of the railroad employee is arduous and dangerous. He must go regardless of time or weather. Every hour he is in jeopardy. No thoughtful man will deny that he is entitled to a fair living wage commensurate with his labor and the hazard of his employment. The public ought not to demand a rate so low that the workman must suffer, and no stockholder should expect a dividend until after the employees are paid fair wages. The public should be given good service, and granted every protection in the power of the railroads which will increase their comfort and prevent their injury, such as the establishment and enforcement of the block system and double tracking as early as business demands it.

The railroads, after paying their employees good wages, and after paying the cost of maintaining and completing their extensive improvements, are justly entitled to a good profit on the real value of the property. I am opposed to any dividends on watered stock, and am in favor of the enactment of laws preventing the taxation of the people for the wrongful purpose of paying dividends on such stock. I believe in the rigid control of railroads, and when so controlled, in treating them fairly. I have never owned railroad bonds or stock (except two shares in the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company, which I took for a debt from another merchant), and I have never ridden on a pass.

FREIGHT DISCRIMINATION.

The flagrant discrimination against North Carolina towns in the matter of freight rates must cease. However much we may have suffered from high rates, business has been injured ten fold more by unequal rates and discriminations against us in favor of Virginia cities. We demand equality with our sister States, and to obtain that equality and justice the whole legal power of the State must if necessary be put in motion.

CORPORATIONS.

Corporations are necessities for modern business. They are pow-

erful agencies for good when controlled by and kept within the law. I favor their firm control and regulation. So controlled, they should be treated fairly and justly, the same as an individual. I favor a law making political contributions by corporations illegal. They should avoid the very appearance of evil.

TRUSTS.

The suppression of competition is a crime. The man or corporation that suppresses competition and establishes a monopoly is a criminal, and should be treated as such. The Protective Tariff is the prolific mother of trusts, and State regulations cannot reach her. But State legislation can to some extent reach her progeny,—these pirates of commerce; and every attempt to restrict competition in buying and selling should be made criminal.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings should be made more expeditious and less expensive. When the docket is full of important matters, it seems a waste of time for a Superior court to be trying a multitude of cases which could more appropriately be disposed of in a police court.

PARDONS.

Pardons should be granted whenever the innocence of the defendant is established after conviction; and upon failure of health, and for other cogent reasons they can be properly granted. But ordinarily a court and jury, with the defendant present and represented by counsel, and with the witnesses on both sides present, furnish the best tribunal for the trial and punishment of crime. Usually their decisions had best not be disturbed by the Executive.

FRAUDULENT STATE BONDS.

If elected Governor, I shall with all the legal power of the State resist any attempt to collect the fraudulent special tax bonds issued by the Legislature of 1868.

THE PENITENTIARY.

The penitentiary should be self-sustaining. The present policy of making it contribute to the support of the State government is a wise one. Crime is expensive, and it is nothing but right that criminals should be made to contribute towards defraying the expenses they make necessary.

PUBLIC CHARITIES.

Our unfortunates, insane, deaf, blind—must be treated liberally. If times become hard, and our resources lessened, economies and deprivations must fall upon those of us who are well and able to take care of ourselves. The unfortunate and defenseless must not be forgotten.

CONFEDERATE SOLDIER.

Our State must do all possible for the comfort and cheer of those brave men who dared all perils for the welfare of this State from 1861 to 1865. I shall be glad to have an opportunity to do all that a governor may to brighten the last years of my surviving comrades of those memorable days of hardship and privation. As increase of age augments their needs, our bounty must be liberal. We should not regard this expense as a tax or a burden! It is a proud privilege to minister to the comfort of these brave men.

IMMIGRATION.

Immigration is to be desired, provided the immigrants are the right kind of people; but no immigrants should be sought from undesirable foreign sections. We have been sorely troubled already by one race problem; it would hardly be wise to import another. If our industries were more fully

(CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.)