

# The Pinehurst Outlook.

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## THE SAND HILL REGION.

### Extracts from the Board of Agriculture's Publication.

#### Description of the Section of this State in Which Pinehurst Is Located,

Where "The Healing Touch of Nature, Though Seeming Slow, Is Yet More Cunning Than Science."

The State Board of Agriculture of North Carolina has done and is doing a great and good work in furnishing important information regarding the resources of this state to prospective residents and investors, as well as aiding the present inhabitants in many ways. Its book, *North Carolina and Its Resources*, contains a wealth of information about all sections of the state. Below are a few extracts concerning the region around Pinehurst:

#### PINY-WOODS RESORTS.

"North Carolina has a large region of piny-woods noted as a resort for those suffering from throat, lung and kindred diseases. The healing touch of nature, though seeming slow, is yet more cunning than science. Once disease takes hold in the harsher northern climates, the sufferer must find a milder and more benignant sky, and find in its genial, dry and invigorating air a balm to heal. There are healing virtues in the balsamic breath of the long leaf pine. Professor Schrieber of Vienna, states: 'that turpentine exhaled from the pine is the most effective agent known for converting the oxygen of the air into ozone,' and Mr. Tufts in his booklet, says: 'Ozonized oxygen is a powerful antiseptic and disinfectant. Its presence in the atmosphere gives the latter a remarkably healing quality for diseased throat and lungs.' Thus we have the secret which brings health and hope to the pilgrims to our Mecca of Pines."

"Dr. G. H. Sadelson, the first to adopt this section of Moore county as a home, says: 'A little more than fifteen years ago, in quest of health, I was directed to this section by the late State Geologist, Professor W. C. Kerr, as the highest, driest section in the whole long leaf pine belt. I came, and getting off the train at Manly, the then nearest point to "Shaw's Ridge," I found myself half-shoe deep in clean sand and surrounded by a dense pine forest, and breathed an air saturated and made gratefully fragrant by the balsamic odor of the turpentine pine. Having made remarkable improvement in a short time, I examined the surrounding country including

"Shaw's Ridge;" making almost daily journeys, mostly on foot, and was so favorably impressed with its natural sanitary advantages that I expressed my views through the press, at the same time giving my views to Professor Kerr, with whom I corresponded.' At that time the State Geologist was employed by the State Board of Agriculture, and reported to it at its regular meeting. The board was impressed with the facts presented by the state geologist, supplemented and amplified by the correspondence of Dr. Sadelson, and placed the matter in the hands of its then immigration agent, Mr. J. T. Patrick."

#### PINEHURST.

"Rest" the pines say to the pale health seeker, "the noises and the cares that have infested thy life elsewhere come not here. Rest, and be healed by day. Sleep, and be healed by night. Night and day we will not fail to encompass thee with life giving influences."

"The magic wand of wealth and philanthropy, in the hands of Mr. J. W. Tufts, of Boston, Mass., has caused to spring from the virgin forest of Moore county a beautifully built city, as a resort for the afflicted. Five thousand acres are included in the holding, and on it has been laid out picturesque Pinehurst. The celebrated landscape artist, Frederick Law Olmstead, was employed, and his taste and skill are amply displayed in the work at this resort. The board of agriculture also rendered assistance in locating this enterprise. As its field is rather unique in that its philanthropic originator has built with a view of relieving the afflicted with small means, as well as the more fortunate, financially, it will be worth while to reproduce a paragraph from his little book: 'Pinehurst is not intended to be a sanitarium for hopeless invalids. It has no hospital features. It is a bright, cheery village, artistically laid out, possessed of all modern comforts and conveniences, carefully controlled so as to make its sanitary and other attractive conditions permanent. It invites those in whom disease has not progressed so far as to render recovery impossible. To such, whether of large or small means, it offers advantages absolutely unequalled.'"

"Pinehurst is located six miles from Southern Pines, on the Seaboard Air Line railroad, and four miles from Aberdeen, on the Aberdeen and West End railroad. An electric car line connects Southern Pines with Pinehurst. The Holly Inn, new, modern in all appointments, is the chief hostelry at Pinehurst. The water is exceptionally fine, being supplied from a system of deep bored wells."

#### THE SAND HILL SECTION.

"This is the beginning of the great sandy ridge that extends in a southwest direction from North Carolina, through South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mis-

issippi, Louisiana and terminates in Texas. It extends in this state through parts of the counties of Hartnett, Cumberland, Moore and Richmond, and is a well marked line of division between the Coastal plain and the lower Piedmont regions. It is a region of elevated sandy ridges, covered with a growth of long leaf pine, now in most sections very largely depleted by the operations of the turpentine gatherers and the lumbermen, which is being followed by a growth of scrub oaks of various species. Until recent years it has been a wild forest with little attempt to cultivate the apparently barren soil. The dry soil and the balmy climate have of late years attracted attention to the region as a winter resort for persons afflicted with diseases of the throat and lungs, and the great benefit which has been received by many who have come there for their health, has led to permanent settlements of Northern people at Southern Pines and Pinehurst in Moore county. These settlers began to experiment with the cultivation of the soil, and it was found that this apparently barren soil has a wonderful capacity for the cultivation of fruits of various kinds, particularly the grape, peach and blackberry. About the settlement known as Southern Pines it is estimated that there are now about one thousand acres planted in grapes. These are grown entirely for shipping as fresh fruit to the northern markets, in July and August, though some experiments have been made in wine making. Grapes start from this section about the middle of July and the culture has been found remunerative to those who have given their vineyards proper attention. The Delaware and Niagara grapes grown here are noted as the best that reach the northern markets. More recently the peach has been planted. One orchard of three hundred and fifty acres paid in the fourth year a profit of twenty per cent. on its cost in its first crop, and peaches are being planted more extensively than any other fruit, several hundred acres being set out the present spring (1896). The blackberry, mainly the Wilson Early variety, has been largely planted, and as the fruit reaches the northern market before strawberries are ripe they have been very profitable. Some have grown the Lucretia dewberry, which goes to market the last of May, and it has been found to be particularly profitable. Few experiments have been made here with strawberries, but there is evidence that in proper locations they will be a very profitable crop. It is believed that other fruits can be grown equally well here, such as the Japanese and American plums, and some planting has been done. The state horticultural society in connection with and under the supervision of the N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station, has organized an extensive series of experiments with fertilizers on fruits of various kinds and vegetables which it is hoped will develop results of value to

this section. At present it seems to be the peach and grape region par excellence of the state. The low price of land, and the ease with which it can be placed under cultivation, together with the healthy climate and splendid water, are attracting a class of intelligent settlers from the North, and the country will soon become a community of fruit growers. It is elevated above the humid climate of the coast from five hundred to six hundred feet, while the winter climate is warmer than that of the mountain region and the dry air is very soothing to invalids, who can spend nearly all the winter in the open air."

"As intimated, the peach thrives in the sand hill region as well as the grape, and the development of the culture of this fruit has of late outstripped even the grape there. The most notable orchard there is owned by the J. Van Lindley Company, near Pinehurst. This company has now in bearing over three hundred and fifty acres in peaches, and has extended its planting the present spring (1896), to the extent of about one hundred acres more. The intention is to make the orchard finally cover one thousand acres. The crop from this orchard, in 1895, was the first crop from the trees, and is said to have paid twenty per cent. on the investment on the whole tract of over one thousand acres. The same company has planted about ten thousand pear trees, which are in a flourishing condition, but not as yet in a bearing state. The success of this large peach orchard has greatly stimulated the planting of trees in the Sand Hill country, and the available land in the immediate vicinity of the railroads, is rapidly being taken up and advancing in price."

#### EXPERIMENTS.

"The state horticultural society has lately undertaken, in connection with the agricultural experiment station, the most extensive experiments in the fertilization of fruit trees, vines and vegetables that have ever been attempted in the United States. The grounds are situated near the great Lindley peach orchard, between Pinehurst and Southern Pines, and comprises two separate plats covering about one hundred and twenty acres of land. The grounds are accurately staked out into tenth and twentieth acre plats, with walks and drives separating them, and the experiments are made in various series to test the proper mode of applying fertilizers to promote the growth of fruits and vegetables, every conceivable variation being made so as to get at the proper combinations of the various forms of plant foods and re-agents. This work, being done with the greatest exactness by experts, will be of great help to those engaging in the culture of fruits and vegetables in this locality. These grounds will soon be one of the most attractive resorts to the visitors and residents of this section, and cannot fail to be of value to any student of fruit or vegetable culture."