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A Seasonable Song.

Come, love, let's pluck the daffodils
Upon the hills and mountains;
Let's sit beside the murmuring rills
That break in little fountains;
We'll take our lunch and think it May,
Amid the blooming heather,
And pass a sweet bucolic day,
This January weather.

The calendar declares that June
Lies seven months behind us,
But what of that? The sun at noon
Of this doth not remind us.
Behold the sparrows in the park
A preening every feather;
And, listen! wasn't that a lark,
This January weather?

Perhaps the sun at last has tired
And jumped up the seasons;
Perhaps Apollo has been fired
For sundry chauffeur reasons;
But what care we? Our course we steer
To seek the fields together,
And don't forget your sun hat, dear,
This January weather.

—William Wallace Whitelock, in N. Y. Times.



Education.

The family wished to ornament
Their high and cultured station,
And every one save Pa professed
A thirst for education.

Jack went to Pigskin Institute,
The other teams all licking,
But somehow when it came to bills
'Twas Pa who did the kicking.

Clorinda went to cooking school
Compounding grub amazing,
But somehow when it came to dough
'Twas Pa who did the raising.

Tom to business college went,
Financial ways divining,
But somehow when it came to checks
'Twas Pa who did the signing.

Kate took a high toned boarding school
Sharp angles to diminish,
But somehow after she came out
'Twas Pa who saw his finish.

And Pa? He's plodding right along
And hasn't got much knowledge,
In fact his standing is but this—
A senior in life's college.

—McLandburgh Wilson, in N. Y. Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA GAME

There is probably no state south of
Maine which has such wonderful re-
sources in the matter of game as North
Carolina. Ever since the days when Sir
Walter Raleigh's colony first saw the
waters of Pamlico Sound, says T. Gilbert
Pearson, secretary of the North Carolina
Audubon Society, man has never ceased
to marvel at the vast flocks of wildfowl
which in Winter darken the waters of
Eastern Carolina.

Currituck Sound is famed far and wide
for its wildfowl shooting. The wild cel-
ery here forms a natural food product
which draws annually swarms of red-
head, canvasback and the toothsome ruddy
duck. Here also come swans by the
thousand, and great rafts of these swim-
ming birds at a distance resemble ice
floes, and when they take wing the sun-
light reflected from their plumage pre-
sents a spectacle of surpassing beauty. The
Canada goose is also abundant here; in
fact, they may be found in great numbers
in suitable localities all along the coast.
Brants are seldom met with north of
Roanoke Island, but about Cape Hatteras,
Ocracoke and Beaufort they gather in
astounding numbers.

This wealth of water birds naturally
attracts to Eastern Carolina many hun-
ters from this and other states. Club
houses have been built at various points,
and the sandbanks and marshes, wholly
useless for agricultural purposes, are
bought at a low figure and make admir-
able preserves for the wildfowl. In Cur-
rituck County there are seven such clubs,
and the past season an even hundred
northern sportsmen foregathered here to
enjoy the luxuries of fine sea air and good
shooting. In Dare County there are at
least two such clubs, and two more are
situated in Carteret.

The attention of sportsmen has not
been drawn to this field of investment
until of recent year, and large areas of
fine territory for shooting purposes may
still be had almost for a song. The local
inhabitants reap a rich harvest from the
wildfowl. Scores of them are employed
as guides and boatmen.

Deer are abundant in many sections of
the state. This is the case not only in
the swamps of the eastern region and
the mountains of the west, but is true of
a considerable area of the Piedmont sec-
tion, close to the main lines of railway
running north and south. In fact, so
abundant are the deer in some regions
that last Winter many farmers petitioned
the Legislature to remove all protection
from the deer, the claim being made that
these animals were becoming very de-
structive to the growing crops.

Wild turkeys have been steadily on the
increase in many counties since the law
passed some years ago making it neces-
sary for stock to be kept in an inclosure.
The underbrush quickly grew up as a re-
sult, thus affording more cover for the
turkeys. Many hunters annually enjoy
the sport of shooting this great game
bird, which is not by any means one of
the least of our resources.

The ruffled grouse, locally known as
pheasant, is an abundant bird in the moun-

tain regions, and since the state has taken
steps in the past few years to enforce the
law prohibiting the shipment of these
birds to northern markets, there has been
a marked increase in their numbers.

The most splendid of all our game re-
sources is the Bob White, the "partridge"
to the Carolinian, the "quail" to the
northern man. This is an abundant bird
throughout the state, with the exception
of a few unsuitable localities. It is this
bird which we all turn out on the first of
November to hunt, and this is the bird
whose far-ringing whistle annually at-
tracts hundreds of non-resident sports-
men to the state.

It is a common custom for interested
parties to lease the shooting privilege
from land owners over an area of ten or
fifteen thousand acres. Here the birds
receive every possible protection, and
are only shot occasionally by the lessee
and his friends. In return for surren-
dering the shooting privilege, the farmer
usually has his taxes paid. Often the
hunters buy a tract of land within the
lease and build a hunting lodge. This
custom has especially increased during
the past three years, owing, probably, in
a great part to the fact that the laws pro-
hibiting the shipment of quails to north-
ern markets and the laws regarding close
season for shooting have been more rigidly
enforced than heretofore. More than a
hundred hunters come annually to Guil-
ford County, where the shooting rights
on 153,000 acres have been leased by
sportsmen. There are many club houses
here, as examples, Mr. George Gould has
a hunting lodge near High Point; not
far from Jamestown, Mr. Clarence Mac-
key has recently built a hunting lodge,
which is locally estimated to have cost
\$30,000.

The hotels receive much revenue from
hunters, as do also the liverymen and the
grocery men; but the farmer is benefited
most of all. In Guilford County the land-
owners received about \$7,700 the past
year from leasing their shooting rights,
and in addition to this scores of them
were employed as guides, dog trainers,
drivers, etc.

I regard it as a reasonable estimate to
say that the annual income to the people
of Guilford County from the non-resi-
dent hunters is not less than \$50,000, and
all this on account of our beautiful Bob
White.

While much depleted in some sections,
owing to the unwise habit of throwing
sawdust into the streams, lining pools,
and by other methods of destruction,
there are many regions where trout fish-
ing of late is much improved. This is par-
ticularly the case on the large game pre-
serves controlled by the Toxaway com-
pany, Mr. Vanderbilt, the Linvell com-
pany and other similar tracts.

From every standpoint, North Carolina
has much to be thankful for on account
of her bird and game interests, and the
game, if properly cared for by the rigid
enforcement of reasonable laws, will be
an unending source of income to our peo-
ple through countless years to come.

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