

The State Journal

A Weekly Mirror of North Carolina Life

Vol. I. No. 13.

RALEIGH, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1913.

Price: \$1 a Year.

The Message Ambassador Page Will Carry



AMBASSADOR PAGE.

Since Ambassador Walter H. Page goes to represent the greatest Republic at the court of the greatest Kingdom, it is important to know the kind of message he will carry. It will be of peculiar interest to the people of North Carolina, since he is a native son of this State, where others still live to honor the name he bears. The following extracts from his speeches and writings indicate clearly what his message to the Old World will be. It will be one of courage and hope, of faith in democracy and confidence in the future uplift and betterment of mankind. And the Old World will hear his message gladly.

"The only advantage that Americans have over their kinsmen of the Old World is the advantage of free democratic training. We are no more capable by nature than the English, and we are not as well trained as the Germans, but we have greater social mobility, which is the very essence of democratic training. We have built a type of society that permits more men to find their natural place in it. And thus it is that the greatest contribution to social science, to the science of training men and of building States, is the demonstration that we have made of the ever recreative and ever renewing quality of democratic society."

"Society forever needs re-enforcements from the rear. It is a shining day in any educated man's growth when he comes to see and to know and to feel and to admit that it is just as important to the world that the ragamuffin child and the worthless neighbor should be trained as it is that his own child should be. Until a man sees this he cannot be a worthy democrat nor get a patriotic conception of education, for no man has known the deep meaning of democracy or felt either its obligation or its lift till he has seen this truth clearly."

"The most sacred thing in the Commonwealth and to the Commonwealth is the child, whether it be your child or the child of the dull faced mother of the hovel. The child of the dull faced mother may for all you know be the most capable child in the State. At its worst it is capable of good citizenship and a useful life, if its intelligence be quickened and trained. Several of the strongest personalities that were born in North Carolina were men whose very fathers were unknown. We have

all known two such who held high places in Church and State. President Eliot said a little while ago that the ablest man that he had known in many years' connection with Harvard University was the son of a brick mason. The child, whether it have poor parents or rich parents, is the most valuable undeveloped resource in the State."

"I believe in the free public training of both the hands and the mind of every child born of women. I believe that by the right training of men we add to the wealth of the world. All wealth is the creation of man, and he creates it only in proportion to the trained uses of the community; and the more we train the more wealth every one may create. I believe in the perpetual regeneration of society, in the immortality of democracy, and in growth everlasting."

"The Southern people were deflected from their natural development. They are the purest American stock we have. They are naturally as capable as any part of our population. They are now slowly but surely working out their own destiny, and that destiny is a democratic order of society which will be an important contribution to the Republic that their ancestors took so large a part in establishing. Rich undeveloped resources of American life lie in these great rural stretches that are almost unknown. The foremost patriotic duty of our time is to hasten their development."

"Great changes come as silently as the seasons. I am no more sure of this springtime than I am of the rejuvenation of our society and the lifting up of our life."