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# The North Carolina Booklet

GREAT EVENTS
IN
NORTH CAROLINA
HISTORY

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY
BY
THE NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION

## CONTENTS



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# The North Carolina Booklet.

## Great Events in North Carolina History.

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*"Carolina! Carolina! Heaven's blessings attend her!*
*While we live we will cherish, protect and defend her."*

Published by
THE NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION

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THE NORTH CAROLINA BOOKLET.

Vol. VI OCTOBER, 1906 No. 2

# THE BOROUGH TOWNS OF NORTH CAROLINA

BY FRANCIS NASH.

Human progress—human life, indeed—is so much the resultant of the impact of external forces upon peoples or individuals, that freedom of action, to say nothing of freedom of thought, is rather ideal than real, and can be attained only approximately, never absolutely. We inherit our temperament, our tastes, and our aptitudes; so much so that quite frequently the habits of our ancestors become instincts to us. We are also, to some degree, creatures of our training and environment, and as members of society we are subject to the will of that society, whether expressed in its legislation or in its unwritten law—public opinion. But man and nations struggle to attain this ideal freedom, and the result of this struggle, on the whole, is progress. In this struggle are two opposing forces—radicalism and conservatism—and these are but the outward expression of two instincts that are common to all humanity—the desire for the new, and the love of the old. In the action and interaction of these forces is found safety; for radicalism unchecked by conservatism is destructive, while conservatism uninspired by radicalism is stagnant.

The erection of little hamlets into boroughs, or franchised towns, in our early colonial history, is an instance of conservatism which had become stagnant. As, regardless of beauty, privacy and utility, the colonists located their residences on the street lines of these towns, because their ancestors had done the same in crowded England or Scotland, so

these little communities of twenty or thirty families must be franchised because the greater towns of England had been. Thus the influence of inherited tastes, aptitudes and manners proved stronger than common sense.

It is my purpose in this article to deal with these towns as political entities. I could by no possibility compress within the limits of a BOOKLET article any satisfactory account of their social, industrial and educational life and progress.

In England, before representative government was established, the term "borough" bore the signification of a pledge; that is, when a number of men congregated in a community, thus forming a village or a town, that town or village became responsible for the acts of its inhabitants—became, in other words, a borough or pledge for their good conduct.

Later, as the merchants increased in wealth, and through that wealth acquired power, the monarch conferred the franchise upon these towns, both as a reward for services rendered and that there might be some check upon the overweening arrogance of the landed gentry.

It is well known that the first successful struggle for liberty in England was that of the lords and barons against the arbitrary power of the King; the second was that of the commercial classes against the tyranny of the aristocracy. In the latter struggle the King was on the side of commerce; and so trade, through these franchised towns, was represented in Parliament. The system itself thus forms part of the great scheme of checks and balances upon which the English Constitution is builded. In England it was a necessary safeguard against the encroachments of a landed aristocracy, and so constitutes one of the landmarks in man's progress towards civil liberty. In the Province of North Carolina, however, while in a sense there was a landed aristocracy, in no sense was there any appreciable commerce.

The Board of Trade, September 8, 1721 (2 C. R., 419), writes thus to the Secretary:

"There are great tracts of good land in this province, and it is a very healthy country, but the situation renders it forever incapable" (it must be remembered that this was before the day of railroads and river and harbor bills) "of being a place of considerable trade, by reason of a great sound, near sixty miles over, that lies between this coast and the sea, barred by a vast chain of sand-banks so very shallow and shifting that sloops drawing only five-foot water run great risk of crossing them. The little commerce, therefore, driven to this colony is carried on by very small sloops, chiefly from New England, who bring them clothing and ironware in exchange for their pork and corn, but of late they have made small quantities of pitch and tar, which are first exported to New England and thence to Great Britain."

Besides, in North Carolina the few merchants were almost without exception also land owners. If they resided in these towns their slaves, under the direction of an overseer, cultivated their plantations near by. Indeed, the merchants were as much a part of the aristocracy of the province as the land owners or the lawyers. In addition to this, the representation of these boroughs was quite frequently in the hands of lawyers and others whose interest in trade was only secondary.

The right to confer the franchise upon a town was part of the King's prerogative. At first, however, it was not asserted; New Bern, Bath, Edenton, Wilmington and Brunswick being created boroughs by act of the Assembly (23 S. R., pages 79, 133, 251 and 398). Section 31 of the Act of 1715 reads thus: "For the further encouragement of this town of Bath, and all other towns now or hereafter built within this government, it shall and may be lawful for the freeholders of said town of Bath, and of all other towns now or hereafter built or to be built within this government, at all times hereafter,

when representatives or burgesses are to be chosen for the precinct wherein the town lies, to elect one burgess to represent the same in all succeeding Assemblies: Provided, that this election for members of Assembly to serve for the town of Bath, or any other town whatsoever, shall not begin nor commence till such town shall have at least sixty families." In the next section, however, New Bern is allowed to send a representative, regardless of the sixty-family provision. In the time of Governor Dobbs, 1754, the King's prerogative to confer this privilege was asserted and established. (5 C. R., pages 406-7; see also 6 C. R., page 752, and 23 S. R., page 251.)

There were some variations in the qualifications of voters in these towns. Stated generally, they must have been householder or freeholder residents for some definite period—in some instances three and others six months. (23 S. R., pages 133 and 140.) To be eligible as a burgess, one must have been a freeholder, but not necessarily a resident.

It was only at the beginning of their existence that any of them could have been considered pocket boroughs, in the sense that a single man or family could dispose of an election to the Assembly from them. Later, indeed, the elections in many instances were hotly contested and the majorities were very small.

Bath.—Though New Bern was the first town to be represented in the General Asembly, Bath was the oldest town in the province. It was laid off in 1705, but was not represented until after 1715. Of the borough towns, therefore, Bath shall be considered first. Rev. William Gordon, an intelligent missionary, gives us this account of Bath County and town in 1709 (1 C. R., page 715):

"Bath County contains most of that land which lies to the southward of Albemarle Sound to Pamlico River and thirty or forty miles more southerly to the Neuse River, which

(being but lately peopled by a few French who left Virginia) is not laid down on the draft. They have divided the whole county into three precincts or parishes, though the inhabitants of all are but equal in number to any one of the other, most of which are seated on Pamlico River or its branches. Here is no church, though they have begun to build a town called Bath. It consists of about twelve houses and is the only town in the whole province. They have a small collection of books for a library, which were carried over by Rev. Dr. Bray, and some land is laid out for a glebe, but no minister would ever stay long in the place, though several have come hither from the West Indies and other plantations in America; and yet I must own it is not the unpleasantest part of the country—nay, in all probability it will be the center of a trade, as having the advantage of a better inlet for shipping, and surrounded with the most pleasant of savannahs, very useful for stocks of cattle." In 1711 that picturesque misfit of a parson, John Urmston, styled it the most obscure, inconsiderable place in the country. He wanted Dr. Bray's library, though, and was provoked at its location at Bath. (1 C. R., page 772.) During the Indian outbreak of 1711 that town was in very serious danger, but it was protected by a stockaded fort and a small garrison, so its inhabitants were not massacred, though in much alarm. (1 C. R., 826.) In 1714, Mr. Urmston again writes: "We expect to hear that famous city of Bath, consisting of nine houses, or rather cottages, once styled the metropolis and seat of this government, will be totally deserted; and yet I cannot find means to secure that admirable collection of books sent in by the Rev. Dr. Bray for the use of the ministers of this province, but it will in all probability serve for a bonfire to the Indians. (2 C. R., 144.)

Dr. Bray had been a missionary to the province and had married Martha, daughter of Thomas Pollock, the elder. He

is said to have been learned and to have originated the first systematic movement in the Church of England for missions to the dependencies of Great Britain. When he returned home in 1699 he sent a few of his own books to the colony, and the following year, 1700, was instrumental in having others sent over. (1 C. R., 572.) The Assembly, in 1715, enacted an elaborate law to secure this library. (23 S. R., 76 *et seq.*) It, however, shared the fate of all such enterprises in communities where there are few readers and no book lovers. Commenting on this act in 1731, Governor Burrington said: "This, though a long act, only concerns a town where little improvements have been made, and for securing a small library that was too much embezzled before the act was made." (3 C. R., 187.)

At its foundation there were some anticipations of a future greatness which have never been realized. In 1716 the Proprietors made it a seaport town, with the privileges of the same. It was the county-seat of Bath County, and many of the prominent officials of the province lived in its neighborhood, including Tobias Knight and Teach, the pirate. It was badly located, however (on sixty acres of land lying on Old Town Creek, a short tributary on the north side of Pamlico River), and was crowded to the wall first by New Bern and then by Beaufort and Washington. For these reasons, it, in its best estate, grew slowly, and never at any time became an important point. It has long since ceased to be more than a memory. It was disfranchised by the Constitution of 1776. The following is a list of its representatives, so far as they can now be ascertained, to the adoption of the State Constitution:

Roger Kennion, John Lahey, Roger Kennion, Robert Turner, Richard Rigby, Robert Turner, Michael Coutanche, Wyriot Ormond, Michael Coutanche, Robert Palmer, Wyriot Ormond, Patrick Gordon, John Maule, Wyriot Ormond and

William Brown. The latter also represented Bath in each of the four Provincial Congresses or Conventions.

New Bern.—New Bern was, from DeGraffenreid's own narration, the child of his sorrow. Hunger and starvation, disease and death preyed upon the Palatines after their arrival in the province in 1710, and when he came later in the same year with his Bernese he found them in despair. "I cannot," said he (1 C. R., 910), "enough insist on the wretched and sorrowful state in which I found these poor people on my arrival—nearly all sick and at the last gasp, and the few who had kept their health despairing entirely." Mrs. Kennedy thus beautifully describes the tongue of land on which they had been located: "A long point of land, bounded north and south by a strip of shining river; and on this land a virgin forest, draped in long, gray moss; here and there a tangle of vines, a rainbow blending of parti-colored blossoms, with brilliant grosbeaks and red-winged blackbirds darting like living flowers through the golden sunshine, leaving a trail of song behind, or whip-poor-wills and chuck-will-widows calling wistfully to each other through the lonesome darkness. And out beyond the apex of the tongue of land the two rivers, blended into one wide current, flowing ceaselessly to the distant waiting sea." Over this beautiful scene hovered the Angel of Death. Many of these recent comers from the purer atmosphere of the Upper Rhine and the mountains of Switzerland were prostrated by the fever that lurked in the low-grounds and swamps which surrounded them. The coming of DeGraffenreid with his Switzers, however, inspired the dejected colonists with new life, and they entered more heartily into the improvement of their surroundings. The town of New Bern was founded and many settlements were cleared about it. They were beginning, as their crops were maturing the following year, 1711, to look with hope to the future, when the Indians in overwhelming force burst upon them,

massacred eighty of them and carried twenty or more off into captivity. During the rest of that war they were little troubled by their savage foes. DeGraffenreid, himself escaping death and imprisonment, had made a treaty with them, by which his colonists would be exempt from attack so long as they remained neutral in the war, which in a desultory way continued four years longer. Financial and other troubles coming thick upon DeGraffenreid, he, after making over all his property to Thomas Pollock, left his colonists and the country, and they (the Palatines and Swiss) being scattered about the section, lost their distinctive organization. In 1715 the town was franchised, and in 1723 it was incorporated and its limits extended to include 250 acres. A curious provision of this law was contained in section 7: "If any person or persons shall die possessed of any of said lots without leaving heir or without making a will of the said lot, then and in such case the absolute fee to the same shall come and revert to said Cullen Pollock, his heirs and assigns, forever."

The Assembly for the first time met in New Bern in 1738. The seat of government was fixed there in 1746. (23 S. R., 252.) This, however, did not mean that the Governor was to reside there, nor that he could not call the Assembly together at another place. It will appear later that it met at other places after this period. Indeed, until Tryon came, New Bern seems not to have been a favorite of any of the Governors. Johnston was evidently partial to the new town, Wilmington on the Cape Fear, while Dobbs, living at Brunswick, did all he could to make that an important place. New Bern, despite of this, continued to grow in population and to thrive commercially, and when the Tryon Palace was completed in 1770 it became the political metropolis of the province. The following were its burgesses to the adoption of the Constitution: Walter Lane, Samuel Powell, Walter Lane,

George Bould, William Wilson, John Caruthers, Jeremiah Vail, Solomon Rew, James Davis, Joseph Leech, Alexander Emsley, Richard Caswell, Christopher Neale, and in the first Convention Abner Nash and Isaac Edwards; second *idem,* Abner Nash, James Davis, William Tisdale and Richard Ellis; third *idem,* Abner Nash; fourth *idem,* Abner Nash.

Edenton.—The Towne on Queen Anne's Creek was established by an act of the Assembly in 1712. There a courthouse was to be built and a house to hold the Assembly in. In 1722 it was incorporated as the town of Edenton. It was located in what was then the best settled and the most prosperous section of the province. And thus it continued for many years, but, the center of population moving further west and south, it was found too much out of the way to remain a political capital. So much culture, wealth and ability were grouped about it, however, that no community had so great an influence upon affairs in the province, and later, in the founding of the State, as Edenton. Men like Samuel Johnston, Thomas Jones, Joseph Hewes, James Iredell and others could scarcely be found elsewhere in North Carolina, or, if found, had not formed themselves into a compact and efficient coterie. From 1720 to 1738 the Assembly met in Edenton. In 1738 and 1739 it met in New Bern. It resumed its sittings in Edenton in 1740, but in 1743 was the last of its meetings in that place. The following were its burgesses to 1777:

Thomas Parris, Robert Lloyd, William Williams, Charles Westbeer, William Badham, James Craven, Samuel Stillwell, Thomas Barker, Joseph Hewes, Samuel Johnston, Joseph Hewes, Samuel Johnston, Joseph Hewes, and Joseph Hewes, in all of the Provincial Congresses, with Jasper Charlton with him in the second Congress.

Wilmington.—If there was any section of North Carolina that vied with Edenton in culture and wealth, it was the Cape Fear section. Governor Johnston, writing of the in-

habitants of this section, December 24, 1734, says: "They are a very sober and industrious set of people and have made amazing progress in their improvement since their first settlement, which was about eight years ago. As proof of this I find by the Collector's books forty-two ships went loaded from this river within these twelve months last past. There are now several of them planting mulberries for raising of raw silks, and cultivating vines for producing wine, in which they seem very expert. Some few are likewise making attempts for oil from the olive and from divers sorts of nuts and seeds which grow almost spontaneously here, for all which both climate and soil seem wonderfully adapted."

The little hamlet of Newton existed as early as 1732, and Governor Johnston opened a land office there on the 13th of May, 1735. It was incorporated in March of that year (4 C. R., page 43). Governor Johnston became the patron of this little town, very much as Governor Dobbs afterwards became the patron of Brunswick and Governor Tryon of Hillsboro. He owned lands adjoining it on the northeast, and in 1739 had it incorporated as a town under the name of Wilmington, and made a borough (23 S. R., page 133). It was found necessary to include in the borough those who resided out of the limits of the town "between the bounds of said town upwards and Smith's Creek, and within 120 poles of the northeast branch of the Cape Fear River," and who should be the inhabitant of a brick house of the length of thirty feet and width of sixteen feet. It was through Governor Johnston's influence that one session of the Assembly was held at Wilmington in 1741 and one session in 1746. During his long administration, with these exceptions and also a session at Bath in 1752, the Assembly met at New Bern. Wilmington was granted a royal charter, March 5, 1763 (23 S. R., 654.) The following were the Burgesses from Wilmington from 1740 to 1777: William Farris, Thomas Clark, Lewis DeRosset, Cor-

nelius Harnett; to the first Convention, Francis Clayton; to the second, Cornelius Harnett and A. Maclaine; to the third, Cornelius Harnett; to the fourth, William Hooper.

Brunswick.—The Moores, Maurice and Roger, were the founders of Brunswick. It was begun in 1725, but Governor Johnston threw his influence in favor of its rival, Newton, and it was not incorporated until 1745, and was franchised by special act of the Assembly in 1754, though it did not contain more than twenty families. (5 C. R., 158 and 151.) There was for years great rivalry between Brunswick and Wilmington, but the open roadstead of the former, together with the better location of the latter, soon settled the fate of both towns. The site of Brunswick is known now only from the ruins of St. Philip's Church, while Wilmington is a thriving city of 30,000 inhabitants. The Burgesses of Brunswick to its disfranchisement by the Constitution of 1776, were as follows: Maurice Moore, William Dry, Maurice Moore, and in the first Convention unrepresented, in the second, Maurice Moore, in the third, the same, in the fourth, Parker Quince.

Halifax.—This town was incorporated in 1757. The Assembly applying the old Bath town 60 family law of 1715, admitted Stephen Dewey as Burgess from Halifax in April, 1760, and again in 1761, Alexander Emsley, but this was disapproved in England (6 C. R., 752). In 1764, however, a charter was granted to the town by Governor Dobbs, and thence forward until 1835 it continued to send Burgesses to the General Assembly. It is well known that in and about Halifax from 1770 until the Civil War, there continued to be many well-to-do and cultured planters and merchants. During the Revolutionary War it, too, became an important political point, the third and fourth Provincial Conventions meeting there. There the first instructions for independence were adopted, April, 1776, and there, too, was the birth of the State in December of the same year. A session of the

Legislature of 1780 was also held in Halifax in 1781. The Burgesses of the town from 1764 to the adoption of the Constitution were: Abner Nash, Joseph Montfort; in the first Convention, John Geddy; in the second, Willie Jones and Francis Nash; in the third and fourth, Willie Jones.

Salisbury.—Salisbury was laid off by William Churton, that founder of towns in the middle section of the Province, in 1753, although it appears not to have been regularly incorporated until 1770. Governor Tryon, no doubt influenced by the inequality of representation between the East and the West, created it a borough by charter in 1765 or 1766. The Burgesses from it to the adoption of the Constitution of 1776 were: John Mitchell, John Dunn and Hugh Montgomery; to the first Convention, William Kennon; to the second, Hugh Montgomery and Robert Rowan; to the third and fourth, David Nesbit.

Hillsboro.—In 1754 William Churton laid off a town on the north bank of the Eno River, where the great Indian trail crossed it. This town was in 1759 incorporated under the name of Childsburg. In 1766 its name was changed to Hillsboro. Governor Tryon seemed to be much interested in this flourishing settlement in the back country, and, July 9, 1770, made it a market town and borough by charter. He has been criticised for this, it being said that he franchised a little hamlet that his friend, Edmund Fanning, who had been defeated by Herman Husband in the county, might have a pocket borough to represent in the Assembly. I suppose that the desire to have Fanning in the Assembly did influence the Governor in thus exercising the royal prerogative, but in doing so, he at no point strained the law. Bath, Edenton and New Bern were the only boroughs in the province that had been franchised by the Assembly. It was attempted in the case of Wilmington, Brunswick and Halifax, but in each case the act of the Assembly was repealed in England, and

these boroughs were re-franchised by charter. The old Bath 60-family act, 1715, had been construed as allowing a town with due proof that it contained 60 families to apply to the governor for a charter, and thus construed it did not limit the King's prerogative, but it did not and could not prevent the King or his viceroy, the Governor, from chartering a town, though it might have contained less than 60 families. This was done in the case of Salisbury in 1766, a smaller town than Hillsboro. It is very probable, too, that the latter place, counting free blacks as well as whites, had the full complement of 60 families in 1770. The following were the Burgesses from Hillsboro to the adoption of the Constitution: Edmund Fanning, Francis Nash; unrepresented in the first Convention; in the second, William Armstrong and Nathaniel Rochester; in the third and fourth, William Johnston.

Campbelton.—Campbelton was incorporated as a town in 1762. Being at the head of the navigation of the Cape Fear River, and having dependent upon it for a market an extensive and fertile back country, then rapidly filling up with settlers, it was thought that it was one of the most eligible localities in the Province for a town. It soon had a rival, however, in the near-by village of Cross Creek, the latter seeming to absorb the lion's share of the trade. The Legislature of 1778, first session, included Cross Creek in Campbelton, and so that village ceased to have a legal existence independent of the latter place. Campbelton was made a borough by charter in 1773, Martin being Governor. In April, 1783, the Legislature, reciting that the said town from its convenience to the western settlements and the easy transportation of goods down the Cape Fear River, must necessarily become a great mart for the produce of the interior country, changed its name to Fayetteville. Campbelton was disfranchised by the Constitution of 1776, but Fayetteville was franchised by an ordinance of the Convention of 1789,

which had met at that place to consider, and, in fact, adopt the Federal Constitution. The Burgesses from Campbelton to its disfranchisement were: William Hooper, Robert Rowan; in the first Convention it was unrepresented; in the second, James Hepburn; in the third, Arthur Council; in the fourth, Thomas Hadley.

Disfranchisement.—Bath, Brunswick and Campbelton were disfranchised by the Constitution of 1776, leaving New Bern, Wilmington, Edenton, Halifax, Hillsboro and Salisbury still boroughs, and as above stated, Fayetteville again became a borough town in 1789. The Convention of 1835 did away entirely with all borough representation. The Act of January 5, 1835, (the Convention Act,) gave the Convention a discretion to abolish borough representation in whole or in part. The act itself, thus committing their fate to the Convention, was enacted by the aid of the borough members. The debate in the Convention arose on a resolution of Dr. James S. Smith, a representative from Orange and for forty years a resident of Hillsboro, in these words: "It is expedient to abolish borough representation entirely." Judge Gaston opposed this, because, first, the towns had certain definite and distinct interests of their own, which could be adequately protected only by their own representatives. In them property was in a more concentrated form, and they paid a large proportion of the taxes of the county in which they were located; second, agriculture was represented through the counties—trade and commerce should be represented through the towns; third, boroughs were more apt than the counties to send their best men to the Legislature. Later in the same day, June 10, 1835, he elaborated the second point thus: "It is vain to deny that commercial communities have peculiar interests of their own. These they must endeavor to protect and advance through some agent or other. If we deny them a constitutional agent, they will be driven to get agents of another

kind. If they are to have no member in the hall of legislation, they may be compelled to send you lobby members. Heard in the Legislature, they can do no harm. So few in number, their voice can be effectual only when it is the voice of truth and justice. But when members of the Assembly shall be approached through the other agents, means of persuasion may be used of a different character. The intelligent may indeed be addressed by reason, and the just by fair statements—but the uninformed may be misled by falsehood, and those whose consciences are in their pockets, may be convinced by arguments directed to the seat of their sensibility."

These arguments were met by the suggestions, first, representation in the House of Commons was to be based upon Federal population. If these small, though compact and populous communities, were to be allowed a special representative this principle would have to be disregarded, and as a consequence there would be an unequal representation, the very evil that the Convention had been called to remedy.

Second, if there had ever been anything in the doctrine that trade and commerce were entitled to special representation, the Federal Constitution had removed this by placing interstate and foreign commerce under the care of the Federal Government. On this point Mr. Jesse Wilson, of Perquimans, trenchantly asked: "If it be true that this right of representation is essential to the protection of their interests, why has not the fostering care of the Legislature, for more than fifty years, been able to prevent them from sinking into ruin? Halifax, sir, is gone; Edenton is gone, and New Bern is not far behind." And again: "But, sir, it is said that there are mysteries about this trade and commerce that only mercantile gentlemen can understand. Why then, sir, do they not send merchants, instead of lawyers or doctors?"

Third, though it was true that the majority of borough representatives were men of intelligence and character, the counties may still avail themselves of the services of such men, so the State will in reality lose little in this regard. But what seemed to have most weight with the members of the Convention was the debauchery and corruption and violence that accompanied nearly all these borough elections. In 1825, in a contest between that brilliant, but thoroughly unprincipled, firebrand, Robert Potter, and Jesse A. Bynum in Halifax, the election became first a free fight and then a riot in which one man was killed and a number injured. Dr. Smith said in the Convention: "Has the moral condition of the borough towns been improved by the privilege which they possess of sending members to the Legislature? On the contrary, the annual elections, it is notorious, in most of the towns are productive of feuds, quarrels and bloodshed. Mechanics and others are excited by the parties interested in such elections, business is neglected, and the morals of the people are corrupted." This of Hillsboro. Mr. Charles Fisher, of Salisbury, said: "Who has not witnessed the excitement caused by these borough elections? Who has not seen the worst passions of our nature brought into active exercise by them? Who has not heard that corruption of the basest kind is frequently practised to carry a doubtful contest. He knew these things and how the whole system worked. Every man is known, as are his calling and necessities. His weak side is sought out, that he may be successfully approached. Sir," (to the Chair, Judge Daniel, of Halifax), "you know all these things. Have you not witnessed at the elections in your borough scenes of the most violent character, which not unfrequently terminated in bloodshed? Have you not seen men pressed for their debts, in order to drive them to pursue a course in direct opposition to their convictions of right? Have you not, sir, like myself, seen the elective franchise

abused in every variety of form? * * * I have seen in these contests family arrayed against family—carried to the extremes of bitterness. I have seen neighbors separated and estranged, and social intercourse destroyed. Yes, sir, even has this pestiferous influence penetrated the church, and disturbed its harmony and brotherhood." And then Mr. Holmes, of Wilmington: "But, sir, great as are the evils which he (Mr. Fisher) portrayed, they are infinitely magnified in our commercial towns. Our population is of a more abandoned cast. We have more dependent and more pliable materials to work upon. He alluded to seamen and others who went to their employers to know how they should vote. Nothing was more common than a day or two before the election to house the voters as they housed their cattle. This was no extravagance; he had participated in these contests and knew the fact."

Certainly there could not have been a more forcible arraignment of the whole system than this, and it proved effective, notwithstanding it was opposed by such able men as Gaston, Swain, Daniel and Toomer. These sought to save from the general wreck of the borough towns, Edenton, New Bern, Wilmington and Fayetteville, but could not. After debating the question for two days, it was, on June 11, 1835, referred to a committee of 26, at whose head was Governor Swain. That committee reported on June 23 in favor of the franchise for Edenton, New Bern, Wilmington and Fayetteville. The report, after discussion on the 25th, was disagreed to by a vote of 50 yeas to 73 nays, and so, though other votes were taken with the same result, all these towns were disfranchised.

Mr. Wilson, of Perquimans, said irreverently in the debate: "The monkey is not the only imitative animal. Men are equally so. Our forefathers scarcely touched this soil before they began to exercise this imitative faculty. You have seen, sir, little misses dressing their dolls, and boys switching their

stick horses. Like them in the exercise of imitative powers, our fathers, to ape Great Britain with her Manchester, her Birmingham, and her Liverpool, gave the right of representation to Halifax, to Edenton, and to Hillsboro." However defective Mr. Wilson's knowledge of history may have been, it must be admitted that there is some truth in his assertion. The fact that neither Birmingham nor Manchester was a franchised town until after the Reform Bill became a law in 1832, may impeach his accuracy, but it detracts little from the force of his remarks.

From the Lords Proprietors' day to the beginning of the Civil War, those in authority in North Carolina continued to deplore the lack of an adequate seaport. Among the earliest of the Proprietors' instructions was one requiring the establishment of three towns in the Colony. In addition to what has already been said of the physical difficulties in the way of such a project, was this, which has been suggested by Capt. S. A. Ashe: In the early days the small vessels plying to colonial ports could readily approach the private wharves of the rich planters, thus rendering the concentration and regulation of trade difficult. On this account the attempt to establish central marts was a failure. This of course applies only to the towns on navigable waters. As to the interior towns other reasons prevailed. The inhabitants of the country districts had few interests in common with those of the towns. Says Prof. C. L. Raper: "Town life never became very attractive to many of the colonists of North Carolina, and what few towns there were became much more important as centers of political activity than they did of commercial, industrial or social life. They were centers of local government, and often of political conflicts. They were places where a few products were bought and sold—not places of their making. The surplus products of the farms for miles about them were taken there and exchanged for

a few simple articles, salt being a very important one, and now and then converted into currency. At times they were the centers of religious devotion and of intellectual life. There churches were erected, but during the last fifty years of the province more places for religious worship were to be found in the country than in the towns. Here, too, were a few schools and libraries, but there were more in the rural districts."

Of course the making of certain of these towns boroughs was, throughout their whole history, intended as a stimulus to their growth, but it may well be doubted whether the possession of the franchise added anything to their commercial or industrial development. The Convention of 1776, still impressed with the view that commerce, being a special interest, was entitled to special representation in the Legislature, determined to continue the tide-water towns as boroughs. Selecting these—New Bern, Wilmington and Edenton—there immediately arose a political necessity, in order to placate the western interest, to continue an equal number of the western towns as boroughs. The continuing of the franchise to Salisbury, Hillsboro and Halifax was probably based wholly on such a compromise as this. By 1835, however, the people had thoroughly tested the system, and no doubt they were wholly right in doing away with it forever.

There is a debt of gratitude that the State owes these towns, to which I must refer before I close. They had been recipients of special favors from the royal government, and might perhaps have been excused for some degree of lukewarmness in the controversy between that government and its colonies. But they were not lukewarm. Instead, the history of the times, properly interpreted, shows that the revolutionary movement had its origin in these towns and spread from them to the country districts, where, finding excellent food

to feed upon, it grew so great as to cover the whole province. Wilmington, New Bern and Edenton were the head and front of this "sedition and treason," and following immediately after them were Halifax, Hillsboro and Salisbury. The story of the Revolution in North Carolina would be very tame, very fragmentary, very inconclusive, if the part that the great men who lived in or about these towns took was eliminated from it. They were the men whom Providence raised up for the emergency, and without them North Carolina would probably have remained a hot-bed of Toryism. So we who live to-day may well acknowledge our indebtedness to them.

# GOVERNOR THOMAS BURKE.

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Among those who accompanied William of Normandy on his victorious expedition to England in 1066 were two brothers, sons of Eustice de Burgo, Serlo and John *de Burgo,* or, as it soon became, *Burke.* For their services the Conqueror rewarded them with the grant of several manors in York, where Serlo built the castle of Knaresborough. Dying without issue, he was succeeded by his brother John, now called Monoculus, on account of the loss of one of his eyes. The latter married a Norman lady of large fortune, Beatrice de Vessey by name, and from this union were born two sons, James of Knaresborough and Richard the Red. Richard had one son, Walter, who in turn was the father of three distinguished sons, Haburt, Earl of Kent and Chief Justice of England; Jeffrey, Bishop of Ely; and William, surnamed de Adelmel, who was sent to Ireland by Henry II and was given a grant comprising the greater part of the Province of Connaught. The line of descent of the branch of the family remaining in England must have been lost, as a letter from Edanus Burke to Thomas Burke, dated December 2, 1769, states that all trace of the family in England had disappeared. Of the Irish branches the same writer states that from the similarity of arms[1] until 1627 he judged that all were related. One of these branches was known as the Burkes of

[1] The arms were as follows:
The field. Or. Cross-Gules, in the dexter canton, a Lion Rampant, Sable.
Crest: A wreath, a cat and mountain. Proper.
Motto: Un Proy, Une foy, Une Loy.

Tyaquin, after the family estate which had descended lineally since Henry II, and from this branch was born the subject of this sketch.

Thomas Burke, the son of Ulick Burke and Letitia Ould, was born in Galway, Ireland, about 1747. Almost nothing is known of his early life, except that he spent some time at a university, probably Dublin. Before he reached manhood he became involved in some family quarrel, the particulars of which are unknown, and about 1764 he came to Accomac County, Virginia, and commenced the study and practice of medicine. He tells in a letter to an old acquaintance in Ireland, a Mrs. Jones, that his proficiency was equal, if not superior, to that of most physicians in the colonies, and that his success was very great. But the pecuniary rewards were small, and he soon found that law would be more profitable and of far less responsibility. After pursuing his studies for a few months with great earnestness, he was licensed at his first examination, and, as he said, "with great applause." At some time during this period he removed to Norfolk, where, in 1770, he married Mary Freeman.

Soon after this, probably about 1771, he moved to North Carolina and settled in Orange County, about two miles north of Hillsboro, on a place which he named Tyaquin, after the family place in Ireland. He had already gone to Halifax with a view to settling there, but decided in favor of Hillsboro. There he was licensed to practice before the Superior Court in March, 1772. In his new home he soon won distinction in his profession and made many friends.

When the relations between the colonies and the mother country became strained in consequence of the Stamp Act and other measures which the colonies thought oppressive, Burke was a strong advocate of American rights. While living in Virginia he had written against the Stamp Act. Concerning his position he wrote his uncle: "I am and ever

shall be avowedly a passionate lover of Liberty and Hater of Tyranny. The essentials of the former I take to, being governed by Laws made with Constitutional consent of the community, ultimately Judged by that Community, and enjoying and disposing of their property only agreeable to Will, and the latter is undeniably anything Subversive of those Privileges. How far the Stamp Act was so, sufficiently appears upon the very face of it."

Dr. Burke's first official public service was as a member from Orange to the Provincial Congress which met in New Bern in 1775. He was again a member of the Congress which met in Hillsboro August 20, 1775. In the first day's session he was placed upon two important committees—the first, to prepare a test to be signed by all the members of the Congress; the other, to confer with such of the inhabitants of the province as might entertain religious or political scruples in regard to taking part in the American cause, with a view of inducing them to unite in the common defence of the rights of the province. The test, as prepared and signed, declared that the Parliament of Great Britain had no right to impose taxes upon the colonies, and that any attempt to do so ought to be resisted by the people; that the people were bound by the acts of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, because they were representative of them; and, finally, the members bound themselves to support all such acts to the utmost of their power. A few days later Burke was placed upon the committee to prepare an address to the inhabitants of the province. He was also a member of the Ways and Means Committee, of which Richard Caswell was chairman.

Dr. Burke was also a member of the Congress which met in Halifax April 4, 1776. In this body he was on the following committees: Privileges and Elections; Claims; to take into consideration the usurpations and violences attempted by the King and Parliament of Britain against America, and

the further measure to be taken for frustrating the same; and for the better defence of the province; Ways and Means; to prepare a temporary civil Constitution; to supply the province with arms and ammunition; a standing committee to form a temporary form of government; and ways and means to prevent the desertion of slaves. He was chairman of the Committee of Secrecy, Intelligence and Observation, and was also on nine minor special committees. On April 12th the Committee on Usurpations reported a resolution empowering the delegates of the colony to the Constinental Congress to concur with the delegates of the other colonies in declaring independence, reserving for the colony the sole right of forming a Constitution and laws for the colony, and of appointing from time to time delegates to meet those from the other colonies in regard to matters of common welfare. This was passed unanimously. Before the Congress adjourned Burke was elected paymaster of militia for the Hillsboro district.

Before he went to Halifax the people of Orange had caused Burke to sign certain instructions which, it is said, he wrote himself, in regard to the form of the proposed new government. In brief, they were as follows:

1. Political power of two kinds, principal and supreme, derived and inferior.
2. Principal possessed only by the people at large. Derived by their servants.
3. Whatever persons chosen by people can possess only derived power.
4. Whatever constituted by principal power can be altered only by people.
5. Rules for derived power's exercise made by principal.
6. No power but principal shall exist.
7. Derived power never to subvert principal.
8. Constitution to be submitted to the people.
9. No established religion.
10. Three branches of government, Executive, Legislative, and Judicial, all distinct.
11. Two houses in Assembly.
12. All elections by ballot.
13. Executive elected every year.

The election of delegates to the Congress held at Halifax in November of the same year was accompanied by great tumult, and in consequence a petition was sent up against those elected, with a request for a new election. The Congress at first refused to unseat the sitting members, but later rescinded their action and ordered a new election. This was probably due in large part to Burke's influence, as he was present at the sessions of the body. It is very likely that the leaders in the body wished for his presence. When the new election was held he was among those elected, and took his seat on December 16th. Here, besides being placed on a number of minor committees, he was a member of a committee appointed to consider, prepare and report on the business necessary to be transacted by the Congress. The Bill of Rights and Constitution adopted at this session is said to have been largely the work of Thomas Jones, Thomas Burke, and Richard Caswell.

On December 20th, Burke, with William Hooper and Joseph Hewes, was elected a delegate to the Congress of the United States. For their services each was allowed the sum of $2,000 per annum. Dr. Burke now resigned his position as paymaster of militia, but remained at Halifax until the close of the session, December 23, 1776.

In the Congress Burke seems to have taken quite a prominent part in the debates, particularly when he thought the rights of the individual States were threatened. His letters express great fear lest an attempt should be made to give Congress more power than was compatible with the rights of the States. In fact, he was opposed to any forms of government, not absolutely necessary, being set up until entire independence should be secured.

During the first part of his attendance upon the sessions of Congress, Burke wrote regular and full accounts of the proceedings to Governor Caswell, but this did not continue.

In April, 1777, he was re-elected. At the same session of the General Assembly a new county was erected from a part of Rowan and was named in his honor.[1]

In the autumn of that year Burke left the sessions of Congress for a few days and took part as a volunteer in the battle of Brandywine. This adventure of his was the indirect cause of a serious quarrel later. He became convinced that the American defeat there was largely due to the inefficiency of Gen. John Sullivan, and preferred charges against him in Congress. General Sullivan wrote a letter to Congress containing reflections on Burke, though he was not mentioned by name. A correspondence between the two followed, resulting in a challenge from Burke, and seconds were named. No meeting was ever brought about, probably on account of the distance separating them.

In October Dr. Burke returned to North Carolina, and on December 1st took his seat as a member of the House of Commons, to fill the unexpired term of Nathaniel Rochester, who had shortly before resigned to become Clerk of the Court of Orange. As usual, Burke seems to have served upon most of the important committees.

It is not known when Burke returned to Philadelphia, but he was there by the middle of February, 1778. The preceding summer he had recommended the appointment of Hand, of Pennsylvania, as an additional brigadier for North Carolina, and this excited great feeling among the North Carolina troops and in the State. Probably this was the reason why he was not re-elected to Congress in April, 1778.

[1] There has been some discussion as to whether or not Burke county was named for Governor Burke or Edmund Burke. Wheeler says it was for the latter, and his statement has usually been accepted. But the following extract from a letter of Abner Nash seems final authority on the subject: "Our Assembly have paid a compliment to our worthy delegate Dr. Burke, which no private man has experienced before. A new county taken from Surry (*sic*) is called for him."

He was, however, very anxious to get home, and this may have had something to do with it, though it is scarcely probable. But for an incident which occurred in April, 1778, his political career might have closed here.

The report of a committee of Congress appointed to reply to a letter of General Washington contained certain expressions which seemed to reflect upon Washington. A prolonged and bitter debate followed, in which Burke took an active part in opposition to the reply of the committee. The opposition was so strong as to secure an amendment to the reply. The final vote on the amended reply came late at night. It was then discovered that there was no quorum, nine votes being necessary, and Dr. Burke, who was worn out by the long session, having gone to his lodgings and to bed. A messenger was sent for him, and returned with a most violent message of refusal to comply with the demand of Congress. It turned out that the messenger had not made himself clearly understood to Dr. Burke, who thought that he was hearing a message from Colonel Duer, of New York. He repeatedly expressed his regret for his language, but when Congress was not inclined to accept his explanation, but debated the matter for fifteen days and actually served a rule upon him as for contempt, Burke, while acknowledging that he had been wrong in absenting himself without the consent of Congress, which had a right to compel the attendance of its members, said:

"An unreasonable exercise of any power is tyranny and to keep a member at such unreasonable hours, and under such circumstances is, in my opinion, tyranical, and I will not submit to it but by force upon my person. I consider every freeman as having a right to judge for himself when the exercise of any power is unreasonable, and if I err in my judgment, the power of punishment lies within the State which I I represent."

He further stated that he would regard any attempt of Congress to act in the matter as an infringement upon the

rights of his State, and that to North Carolina alone would he be responsible. Congress then appealed to the General Assembly of North Carolina, which referred the matter to a committee headed by William Hooper. Before the committee could report, the Assembly elected Dr. Burke and Whitmel Hill as additional delegates to Congress, thus showing where the sympathies of the members were. The committee reported, August 14th, exonerating him from all blame and agreeing with him that Congress had no power in the matter. This naturally closed the incident.

Burke was again elected in 1779 and 1780. In October, 1779, he and Whitmel Hill were invited to the State Senate and formally thanked by the Speaker for their long and faithful service in Congress. The Speaker of the House of Commons also expressed the thanks of that body. In May of the same year Burke had been elected by the Legislature a trustee of Granville Hall, an institution of learning in Granville County.

By this time Burke had become heartily tired of Philadelphia, and in April, 1780, he wrote Cornelius Harnett that his health was declining, and, said he: "I am satisfied that another year's close application in Congress would make a perpetual citizen in Philadelphia and give me a right to the soil from whence nothing short of the final Judgment of the World could evict me."

In the summer of 1780 Burke returned to Hillsboro. His presence at the time was most fortunate, for the conditions in the section around Hillsboro were most distressing and alarming. General Gates, with the army, was there on his way south, and no provision having been made for feeding the troops, they subsisted for the most part by foraging and impressment. Not only was food taken, but there was wanton destruction of property. Horses and wagons were seized, horses were turned into fields of standing grain, and numerous other outrages were committed, which excited the anger

of the most loyal and roused the slumbering disaffection of those already inclined to Toryism. This was increased by the insolence and haughtiness of the officials who had charge of the matter of procuring supplies. Burke declared that he would resist any such injustice with force, and, his neighbors appealing to him for advice and assistance, he at once entered into correspondence with General Gates and the President of Congress, stating that he would see that supplies were furnished if the people were fairly treated. To him, largely, belongs the credit of settling what threatened to be a most serious matter.

On June 25, 1781, the General Asembly which met at Wake Court House elected Dr. Burke Governor to succeed Abner Nash, and he entered upon the duties of his office the next day. The Speaker of the Senate, Alexander Martin, in his announcement speech, said, among other things:

"It gives me a particular pleasure to have at the head of the Executive, a Gentleman on whose Integrity, Firmness, and Abilities, we can rely with confidence at a Time this State is invaded by a cruel Enemy, and threatened with all the Horrors of War, which to oppose and avert call for the most spirited Exertions of this Country, that Independence and Peace be secured to it on a lasting Basis."

Governor Burke, in expressing his thanks and appreciation for the honor conferred upon him, said:

"At any period less difficult, dangerous and critical than the present, I should beg leave to decline an office so much above my abilities and so illy suiting my private Inclinations and Circumstances. But no considerations of private convenience or of difficulty or danger shall deter me from any duty to which my Country may call me while her affairs labor under unfavorable Appearances. I therefore consent to take upon me the Office and Dignity to which the Honorable the General Assembly have been pleased to elect me, and shall entirely devote myself to the Establishing of Internal Peace, Order, and Economy and Security from External Enemies."

For the next three months Burke devoted all his energies to the task of properly arming and equipping the North Carolina troops. He became involved in a disagreement in regard

to executive power with the Board of War, but notified them that he had the alternative of obeying the Constitution or the laws, and preferred the former, and that if he could not exercise the powers given him under the Constitution, he would immediately resign. This ended the discussion.

He spent most of the summer in Halifax, but early in September came to Hillsboro. When he reached there he heard that McNeill and Fanning were advancing with a large force against General Butler, who was on Haw River. Burke warned Butler, and the Tories were disappointed in the main object of their expedition. But they at once turned to Hillsboro, and, before daylight on September 12, 1781, captured the town. Burke was then residing on Queen street, at what is now the residence of Mrs. Edwin Heartt. The house was besieged, and Burke, believing that all would be massacred if they surrendered, decided to hold out as long as possible. After some hot firing, a British officer, brought up by Captain Reid, Burke's aid-de-camp, assured him of proper treatment and received his surrender. The jail was then opened and the town sacked. The party then set out for Wilmington. At Cane Creek they were attacked by the Whigs, who, if properly led, would have won a decisive victory. As it was, a drawn battle was the result. Colonel McNeill was killed and Fanning was wounded. A bit of contemporary doggerel on the subject is interesting:

"The Governor and Council in Hillsborough sought
To establish some new laws the Tories to stop.
They thought themselves safe and so went on with their show,
But the face of bold Fanning proved their overthrow.
We took Governor Burke with a sudden surprise,
As he sat on horseback and just ready to ride.
We took all their cannon and colors in town,
And formed our brave boys and marched out of town.
But the rebels waylaid us and gave us a broadside
That caused our brave Colonel to lie dead on his side.
The flower of our company was wounded full sore
'Twas Captain McNeill and two or three more."

Governor Burke was taken to Wilmington and kept as a prisoner of State for some time. From there, in October, he wrote to Willie Jones, giving a rather humorous account of his uncomfortable surroundings. He described his room as a grotto in winter and a hot-house in summer, and said it had, at first, utterly lacked furniture, but that later he had been given a bed and some other furniture by a Mr. William Campbell. He stated that, although he was not shut up in a seraglio, yet he was as difficult of access as his Majesty of Constantinople. The following extracts from his letter seem worthy of quotation:

"My pride if I have any, has this consolation that my most trifling movements are considered as dangerous to a Prince who is lord of so many brave battalions and so invincible a navy and such inexhaustible resources as his Majesty of Great Britain. And this perhaps it is, that has restored my good humor. I knew before that I was upon the axle-tree of the chariot but never thought that I made much of the surrounding dust. You will no doubt perceive I sometimes smile while I am writing, but I beg you not to conclude from thence that I am upon a bed of roses and that I may well stay there sometime longer. You know, Sir, that tho' I have some firmness, I have also much sensibility of spirit, that tho' the one enables me to bear, the other obliges me to feel my situation, and with peculiar poignancy, that restraint which prevents me from employing such talents as nature has given me, be they what they may, for the bringing to a complete and happy Issue the cause in which our country is engaged. You know me well enough to believe that I cannot lose sight of what I was, nor cease to compare it what I now am and what I have the prospect of being if this absurd and vexatious question [1] should be drawn to any length.

* * * * * * * * *

"I will not injure you by thinking it necessary to urge you to hasten my exchange. I will only add that the opinion my enemies entertain of my power of injuring them ought to have some weight with my country since I must be capable of serving her in proportion, but do not take this as a promise. I will be assured always to do my best, but the Enemy think me capable of more than I ever thought myself, altho' I am no pretender to humility, but enough in all conscience on such a subject."

[1] Governor Burke was here referring to the difficulties which were being put in the way of his exchange, and the question as to whether he was a prisoner of State or merely a prisoner of war.

From Wilmington Governor Burke was removed to Sullivan's Island, where he was closely confined. Burke at once wrote Lieutenant-Colonel Balfour, the commandant at Charleston, demanding an explanation of the difference between his treatment and that of the other prisoners. Colonel Balfour answered that he could make no decision, but offered to parole him to James Island. On November 6th Burke accepted the parole and went to James Island, where he was treated with consideration and respect. After he had been there for some time a number of refugees were sent there. They were of the lowest type, and outrage and crime at once became frequent. Many of them were from North Carolina, and Burke was to them an object of venomous hatred. He was often threatened, but at first made no complaint, hoping that he would soon be exchanged.

Finally a group at his quarters was fired on, and a man standing on one side of him was killed and one on the other wounded. Further violence was only prevented by a British officer who interfered. The next morning Burke wrote General Leslie, explaining the danger of his situation and requesting a parole within the American lines. No answer was made to the letter, nor was anything done for his safety. For sixteen days he waited, exposed always to great danger and finding it necessary to change his sleeping place constantly and secretly. Finally he was notified that General Leslie was prevented from keeping his promise of paroling him to North Carolina by Major Craig's making it a point that the governor should be kept as a subject of retaliation for the Tories in North Carolina, particularly Fanning. Governor Burke had seen a letter from Major Craig to Abner Nash, in which he said he would not hesitate to deliver to those who were in arms for the King such prisoners as would most gratify them in their sentiments of revenge. After thinking over the treatment he had received, and remember-

ing how James Island was regarded with horror in Charleston, even by the British, he decided that he had been exposed intentionally to the dangers of the place. Nor can the impartial student of the facts in the case fail to arrive at a similar conclusion.

After long reflection, he decided that as a parole was given in exchange for protection, failure to protect a prisoner would have the effect of releasing him from his parole. He then decided to make his escape, and wrote a letter to North Carolina, asking that the laws might be executed against the Tories, regardless of him. Finally, on January 16, 1782, he made good his escape and at once went to General Greene's headquarters. From there, at the advice of General Greene, he wrote to General Leslie, informing him of his escape. He said at the close:

"But though I carried this resolution to escape into effect, I do not thereby intend to deprive you of the advantages which my capture, by the rights of war, entitle you to. I purpose returning to my Government, and there to expect an answer from you to the following proposition:

"I will endeavor to procure for you a just and reasonable equivalent in exchange for me, or if this cannot be effected, I will return within your lines on parole, provided you will pledge your honor that I shall not be treated in any manner different from the officers of the Continental Army when prisoners of War."

No answer was returned, and Governor Burke, who had gone to Halifax, North Carolina, where his wife had been during his captivity, notified General Greene that he would wait no longer than April 1st before assuming the reins of government. This was his most fatal mistake, but there were many reasons to cause him to make it. When he left Greene's headquarters it was with the avowed intention of having nothing to do with political affairs. He expected to find the General Assembly in session at Salem and to resign to them his office. But it did not meet, and Governor Burke decided to go to some other State in order not to embarrass the acting

Governor. But Alexander Martin, the Speaker of the Senate, reminded him that the office of Speaker would expire at the next general election, and that the State would be left without an executive head. So Burke, fearing that confusion and injury to the affairs of the State would result, decided to undertake again, and at once, the duties of his office, comforting himself by coming to the conclusion that it was not unjustifiable unless his escape was equally so, which he declined to concede.

In the meantime General Leslie had written to General Greene that the reasons Burke had advanced were so chimerical that he could not give them the smallest credit, and expressing the belief that General Greene would at once direct Burke to deliver himself up to the commissary of prisoners at Charleston, where he would be assured of every protection. General Greene replied that while he could not justify the breaking of a parole, he could not agree with him in regard to Governor Burke's reason for doing so, stating that Colonel Washington had said that he would prefer a dungeon to going on parole to James Island. He desired to know in what light Governor Burke was regarded—whether as a prisoner of war or of state.

As might be expected, criticism was at once aroused by Burke's action. Col. William R. Davie wrote him in February from Salisbury that Colonel Williams, who had lately come from Greene's headquarters, had stated that Greene and his officers believed that his conduct was reprehensible and dishonorable to the State, and that the enemy still had a claim on him. He advised Burke to take some measures for his justification, at the same time offering his services in the matter. Governor Burke at once wrote General Greene, stating what had been said and thanking him for his efforts to procure an exchange. At the same time he informed him that he would not feel bound to consent to any arrangement

which provided for his return, as he had decided that if General Leslie did not answer him he was done with him, and that if he (General Leslie) asked anything unreasonable he would not feel bound to accede.

On March 18th, on learning that Burke had resumed the duties of his office, Greene wrote him, expressing his regret that he had done so, and informing him that all attempts at exchange had proved futile. On April 8th he again wrote him, denying that Colonel Williams had any authority to make the statements concerning Burke. In his letter he shows that he thought Burke's escape justifiable, though he said on another occasion that his idea of the sacredness of a parole was such that he would sooner have abided the consequences than left the enemy's lines. Burke had already written to Colonel Williams, accusing him of misrepresentation. His letter shows traces of the bitterness which was already rising within him at the general misunderstanding and disapproval of his course. April 12th he wrote Greene that the enemy placed a higher value upon him than his own country did, but that he was fast preparing to take a final leave of all public business. Greene replied, expressing sympathy for his hard case, and closing the personal part of his letter with these words of advice:

"If the people intend to treat you with ingratitude, I am sorry for it. Much is due to your zeal and ability and as far as I am acquainted with the people of your State, they think your captivity a very great misfortune. I beg you will not copy the example of many other great men who have gone before you, refuse your services because the people appear at the time to be insensible of their importance. We all have our dark days. No man has been under greater censure and reproach than myself; but I was always determined to persevere to the end in the persuasion that the public would be just at last."

The General Assembly met on April 16, 1782. Governor Burke, in his message, gave the members a full account of the circumstances of his capture and escape. On April 23d,

when the election of Governor came up, he was placed in nomination. He at once wrote the Assembly, in part, as follows:

"This afternoon is appointed for the Election of a Governor, and I am in nomination. Permit me to say it was my wish that the several Intimations I have given the General Assembly might have prevented any Gentleman from naming me as a candidate for an office which I sincerely wish to be filled by a much abler man, or by any man rather than myself. When the General Assembly did me the honor to make choice of me for their Chief magistrate, tho' nothing could be more injurious to me or repugnant to my inclinations, I accepted the trust because I was apprehensive that declining it would be construed into a doubt of our success, which at a time when our prospects were overcast, might have had bad Consequences. Happily that reason no longer exists, and I do not now feel the necessity of sacrificing my time and Industry which are absolutely necessary to retrieve my private affairs from the ruin in which my being constantly employed in public Service for several years has very nearly involved them. My misfortunes during this year have been heavy and complicated and have involved me in debts and in private distresses which it would be painful to particularize. I hope it may be sufficient to say that it will require the best exertions of my Industry to Extricate me from them."

The General Assembly at once passed a resolution of thanks to Burke for his services as Governor, and elected Alexander Martin to succeed him.

Burke was notified on October 25th of his exchange. The following extract from General Greene's letter is interesting, particularly when Burke's States' Rights views are remembered:

"That you can retire from public life with honor I never had a doubt, but I am by no means satisfied that you should. Your State, and indeed all the Southern States, require many singularities and improvements to render civil government perfect. Few men have the necessary abilities and still fewer a proper degree of industry to effect it. Many improvements are also wanting in the plan of Confederation and national government. Those characters who have long been in Congress and have had their views and ideas enlarged and their minds unfettered from local attachments and directed to National policy are the only men fit for this undertaking. Unless our governments are rendered more per-

fect and our Union more complete I fear we shall feel but in a negative way the blessings we expected from Independence. Think not therefore of retiring too soon. Private interest has its advantages and domestic ease its charms; but the glory of establishing a great empire is a noble object and worthy of great sacrifices, and that you may think on the matter with perfect freedom and independence, I have the pleasure to inform you of your exchange."

Burke seems to have been approached in regard to removing to Georgia, but the plan did not suit him and he declined to consider it. There was much criticism of his conduct in the State, and, while he still had the confidence and friendship of men like Davie, Johnston, Hooper, Iredell and McClaine, the reproach of others, which he felt to be undeserved and ungrateful, rankled. With his capacity for making warm friends, he had its usual accompaniment—the capacity for making bitter enemies, and these were very active. Burke's was a most sensitive nature, and the accusations which affected his honor were more than he could bear. He seems to have given himself over to dissipation, and died, December 2, 1783, at Tyaquin. His body rests in a grave, unmarked save for a heap of stones, in a grove on his old plantation.

He had only one child, a daughter, named Mary, who, after teaching for many years in Hillsboro, moved to Alabama, and died there, unmarried, after the close of the Civil War. His wife, a few years after his death, married a Major Dogherty. Of this marriage there are numerous descendants.

Taking into consideration all the known facts of his history, Burke is one of the most interesting and certainly the most pitiful figure in North Carolina history. That he made a mistake in violating his parole and then assuming the reins of government is undeniable, but it cannot be believed that his conscience was otherwise than free of guilt in the matter. Further than this, it must be believed that he was actuated by the motives of purest patriotism.

Burke's personality seems to have been particularly attractive. In person he was of middle stature, well formed, with his face much marked with smallpox, which had caused the loss of his left eye. In spite of this, it is said that his face was not without charm. His remaining eye was blue and very expressive. He was very convivial, a capital *raconteur,* sang a good song, and, without effort, wrote verses, of which many are preserved, that, while possibly as good as the generality, even a partial critic could not adjudge of much merit. Most of them are addressed by him to some fair Chloe or Phyllis, for he was inclined to be very gallant. But the following is of a different kind. Two passages—one to Pitt and the other to the ladies—are quoted:

"Triumph America! Thy patriot voice
Has made the greatest of mankind rejoice,
Immortal Pitt, an everglorious name!
Far, far unequalled in the Rolls of Fame,
What Breast (for Virtue is by all approved
And Freedom even by Asia's slaves beloved)
What Breast but glows with Gratitude to Thee,
Boast of Mankind, great Prop of Liberty."

* * * * * * * * *

"And you, ye fair, on whom our hopes depend
Our future Fame and Empire to Extend,
Whose Fruitful Beds shall dauntless Myriads yield
To Fight for Freedom in some Future Field
Resign each dear.
To-day let gladness beam in every face,
Soften each Smile and Brighten every Grace,
While the glad roof with lofty notes resound,
With Grace Harmonious move the Mazy Round;
Make our Hearts feel the long forgetted Fire,
Wake into Flame each spark of soft Desire;
Too long Indignant Tumults and Alarms
Have made us heedless of your lovely Charms;
With Freedom blest, our care will be to please,
Each day the genial pleasure to improve
And add new Sweetness to Connubial Love."

These qualities, as may be imagined, coupled with a genial and frank manner and great cordiality, won for him numerous friends. He was of an ardent temperament and was frequently betrayed into rash acts. Ready to resent any fancied insult, he was equally ready to atone for any wrong he might commit. He was probably the most versatile of the men of his time in North Carolina.

Mention has already been made of his quarrel with General Sullivan. He also became involved in a difficulty with Richard Henry Lee, which would probably have resulted in a duel but for the intervention of General Wayne, who settled the difficulty, which was one of misunderstanding.

Burke was a Roman Catholic, but there seems to have been no question of his right to hold office. His case was quoted in the Convention of 1835 as proof that there was no intent to bar Roman Catholics from office.

He was a man of good education, as is shown by his letters. The following catalogue of his library, an unusually good one for the time, is somewhat indicative of his tastes:

Piere Williams' Reports, Atkyns' Reports, Burrows' Reports, Brown's Abridgment, Raymond's Reports, Carthew's Reports, Gilbert's Reports, Finch's Reports, Nay's Reports, Salmon's Abridgment of State Trials, Shower's Cases in Parliament, Treatise on Equity, Dalton's Justice, Dawson's Origin of Law, Abridgment of Cases in Equity, Lillie's Entries, Coke's Institutes, Laws of North Carolina (two volumes), Jacobs' Dictionary, Cases in Chancery, Blackstone's Commentaries, Sidney on Government, Abbe DuBois' Critical Reflections, Ferguson on Civil Society, Attorneys' Practice in Civil Pleas, Law of Devises, etc., Moley's Maritime Law, Law of Evidence, B. G., Gilbert's History and Practice of Civil Actions, Collection of Statutes, Foster's Law of Trade, Bacon's Law Tracts, Law of Errors, Lutwyche's Reports (Abridged), Law of Trespass, Foster's Crown Law, Lord Francis' Principles of Equity, Wilson's Reports, Hub-

bart's (*sic*) Reports, Hale's Pleas of the Crown, Shower's Cases in Parliament, Cases in Chancery, Coke's Reports, Robertson's Lexicon, Boyer's French and English Dictionary, Dormat's Civil Law, Lord Littleton's Works, Political Disquisitions, Smellger's Midwifery, Gibson's Surveying; 2d, 3d and 5th volumes of Pope's Iliad; 1st and 5th of the Odyssey, Pope's Essays, Euclid's Elements, Locke's Human Understanding, Orrery's Pliny, Littleton's Henry II, Beattie's Essay on Truth, Robertson's History of Charles V, Vergil, Horace, Terence, Juvenal, Cicero's Orations, and Cæsar's Commentaries.

As to his ability, it was undoubtedly equal to that of any of his contemporaries. His whole course as a public man would indicate that, without the testimony of men well qualified to judge. Samuel Strudwick said he was "the ablest advocate and completest orator our country affords." Abner Nash, his predecessor as Governor, said he was "a gentleman of activity, experience and ability and public spirit." Richard Henderson wrote Judge John Williams in 1778 regarding Dr. Burke's conduct of the case of the Transylvania Company before the Virginia Assembly: "It is universally given up on all hands that Mr. Burke did Justice to the Cause, and, for my own part, think we could not have been better served on or off the Continent."

Taking him as he was, with all his faults and mistakes, and they were comparatively few, he deserves honor and grateful remembrance from North Carolinians.

Authorities: State Records, X–XVII, Encyclopædia of American Biography, The University Magazine, Carruthers, *Old North State in 1776*, McRee, *Life and Letters of James Iredell*, and certain unpublished records of Orange county.

The writer also wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to Mr. Marshall DeLancey Haywood's sketch of Governor Burke in the Biographical History of North Carolina, and to Mr. Francis Nash for much material relating to Burke, and for numerous suggestions in regard to this paper.

# COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY RELICS IN THE HALL OF HISTORY.

BY COL. FRED A. OLDS.

The development of literary activity in North Carolina during the past five years has been accompanied by the ripening of a taste for historical research and for the collection of matter bearing upon the history of North Carolina—not only documents, but the more tangible and personal things which have gone to form the history of the State, and which, more than aught else, put the people of this day and generation in touch with those of the olden time. Thus it has come about that the "Hall of History" has taken its place very firmly as a feature of historical development—one of those outward and visible signs which indicate a great movement, and which is full of hope and promise of yet greater things to come. When the agricultural building was enlarged it was decided, at the request of this writer, to build a noble room especially for the proper display of those objects which bear directly upon the history of the State, and on the 15th of December, 1902, the work of installation began, the writer having been engaged since 1885 in collecting, always hoping that such a place for historical objects would be sooner or later provided. North Carolina is yet rich in such objects, notably of the Colonial and Revolutionary period; but until this collection began, a little over three years ago, nothing had been done, except in what may be termed very justly a local way, to gather together such objects. By such failure the State has suffered enormous loss, due to the burning of court-houses, public buildings, and, most of all, private homes, in some of which there were extensive groups of objects, the loss of which is irreparable. But at last the gathering to-

gether at Raleigh, where by all manner of means the collection ought to be, has been begun, and the fact that the number of objects now exceeds the 4,000 mark shows not only zeal in collecting, but also an awakened public interest. It must be borne in mind that collecting is no easy matter, since, first, there must be obtained knowledge of the existence of particular objects; next, of their location and ownership; then coming the work of getting in touch with the owners and securing the objects, as loans or gifts—their acquisition by either of these methods being desirable at the earliest possible moment, since losses by the failure to acquire them are occurring all the while. It is felt that the present Hall of History is what may truly be termed a stepping-stone to higher things; in other words, that it is but a forerunner of a far more noble one, generous as to space, and built on the most modern lines as regards the elimination of risk by fire. Given such a building, and the writer can undertake to secure almost everything in North Carolina; only relatively few persons being unwilling to place objects in such safe-keeping. Of course there are a few who hide their treasures away, "under a bushel," so to speak, instead of letting them be set broad and fair before all the world to instruct and to stimulate the people of their State who pour through the great North Carolina Museum by so many thousands every year.

The task of telling a story about a collection so great and with so wide a scope as the one here presents no little difficulty, since if there be too much detail it is very apt to degenerate into a sort of catalogue; and so it will be the effort now to touch only upon those salient things which stand out and which ought to be seen, as taking a place in the State's history from the remotest time of which there are white men's records.

In another room will be found the relics of the Indians,

since it is extremely difficult to locate the period of the latter; the making of weapons of war, and the chase, as well as various other Indian articles of domestic use, sport, etc., having been continued until a comparatively recent period. The story, therefore, as told by the objects in the Hall of History, begins with the coming of the white men, those daring voyagers who, sent out by the great Raleigh, crossed the sea and landed on the Isle of Roanoke. The story of this landing of the whites themselves, and the Indians, is set before the visitor in a wonderful series of pictures, photographic reproductions of the engravings on copper in the 1590 edition of DeBry's book, the first to contain the pictures, from the drawings made by John White, the special artist sent over with the expedition of 1585. A map in this series of twenty-four pictures shows the English vessels and also one of their small boats going to the Isle of Roanoke, with an Englishman holding up a cross in the bow of the boat, which is nearing the island on which is the Indian town, with its palisade or stockade of sharpened timbers, this seeming to occupy a spot very near that on which the Englishmen built their first fort in what is now the United States, this being "Fort Raleigh," which is wonderfully preserved, and of which a map, photographs and a painting are also shown. Among the objects in the cases are ballast brought over by the English vessels and thrown out at a point on Roanoke Island yet known as "Ballast Point," and charcoal which was dug up a few years ago when the excavation was made for the monument to Virginia Dare, which now stands in the center of the venerable earthwork, and of which there are also special pictures. When the writer was at the fort last January, soundings were made with slender steel rods all over the place. The well which the colonists used was by this means located. No objects were found, and it was discovered that for perhaps much more than a century the ground, both within and without the fort,

had been again and again the object of curiosity to relic or treasure seekers. Gone are the tiny cannon which the colonists left there when they abandoned the fort, and which were seen somewhere about 1615, and only a low mound, like a star, marks the boundary of this most interesting of American fortifications. It is a neglected spot, the rude fence and ruder gateway having almost completely decayed. In any other State than this it would be marked in a splendid fashion, and it would be also a place of pilgrimage.

There is a long skip in white life in North Carolina after the abandonment of Roanoke, an intermission of almost three-quarters of a century. The next document bears upon a meeting held in what is now Perquimans County in 1684. Then there is a will of John Trueblood, of the Province of Albemarle, dated 1692, and this is interesting as showing that the style of handwriting had changed hardly at all from the date of the great days of Queen Elizabeth and the knightly Raleigh, that fosterer of adventure and promoter of daring deeds, to whom North Carolina owes so much. There are memorials of the oldest towns in North Carolina, the chief one being Bath, which was really founded about 1694, though its charter was not granted until eleven years later. Bath, as the picture shows, is unique in North Carolina, as being the one place at least where time has stood quite still. The pictures of the oldest church in the State and of the oldest residence, formerly known as "Government House," the chimney of which, the largest in the United States, was built for use as a fort, a place of refuge and defence, tell the story of the quaint village far better than any words. There are relics of the historic Blackbeard, or Teach, that bloodiest of all pirates along this coast, together with his pistol, a button from his coat, a brick from his house at Bath, and part of a wine bottle or flagon from which no doubt that roystering devil had drank deeply many a time and oft. There is an

English coin from Bath, taken from a pit near Teach's house, in which some three thousand or more were found, this being of the reign of William and Mary and dated 1694, and there are other strange coins of that time, known as brass farthings, which were taken from the same hoard.

Some of the oldest papers are records of the Quakers, who got an early footing in eastern North Carolina, particularly in Perquimans, where there is yet quite a colony of these worthy people. A document of a singular character tells of one of the two recorded Spanish invasions of North Carolina, if these may be termed invasions—one being an attempt at the capture of Beaufort, and another an attempt upon old Brunswick, when it was the seat of government, on the Cape Fear river, below Wilmington. The document in question is a bill for looking after the wounded Spaniards who were taken at Beaufort, and part of it is for "physiking and dieting" them; the charges including quite a variety of food and drink. One of the most thrilling periods of North Carolina history was that of the Tuscarora war, in the days of brave old Governor Thomas Pollock, who, to be sure, with all his English courage, was well put to it to save his colony from what looked like almost sure extermination; and had not South Carolina come to his aid with whites and friendly Indians in great numbers, the Tuscaroras must needs have gotten the upper hand and have soon killed ten where they had slain one of the settlers. There is the treaty of peace between the whites on the one hand and the portion of the Tuscaroras headed by Tom Blount, who was declared to be the king of those most bloodthirsty of all red men in North Carolina. The treaty itself breathes cruelty in every line, though cruelty in that day meant safety. The text of the treaty is as follows:

"Preliminary articles in order to a Gen'l. Peace, had, made, concluded and agreed upon this 25th day of November, Anno Domini, 1712, between Tom Blunt, Saroona, Heunthanohnoh, Chountharuntshoe, Newoonttootsere, chief men of several of ye Tuskarora Townes for and on behalf of themselves and ye Townes of Eukurknornet, Rarookshee, Tostohant, Rauroota, Tarhunta, Keuta, Toherooka, Juninits, Consotoba, on ye one part and the Honble. Thos. Pollock, Esq., Presdt., of and ye rest of ye Councill for and on behalf of themselves and this Government of North Carolina on ye other part, Witnesseth:—

"Imprimis. The afs'd Great Men doe hereby covenant and agree to & with ye said Presdt. and Council that they shall and will with ye utmost Expedition and Dilligence make warr ag't. all ye Indyans belonging to ye Townes or Nations of Catachny, Cores, Nuse, Bare River and Pamlico and that they shall not nor will not give any Quarter to any male Indyan of those Townes or Nations above ye age of fourteen yeares and also that they shall and will sell off and dispose of all ye males under that age, and that further after they shall have destroy'd those Townes or soe soon as this Government shall think proper to require it, the said Great Men doe hereby promise to join ye English with soe many Men as may be thought proper to distroy and cutt off all Matchapungo Indyans.

"2dly. The afs'd. Great Men doe hereby covenant and agree that if in this Warr they shall take any armes which shall be proved to have been owned by ye English and taken away in ye late horrid massacre such arms shall be delivered to ye right owners thereof.

"3dly. It is hereby further agreed by said Great Men that they shall and will well and truly deliver up to ye English all ye white captives and horses that they shall find among ye Indyans.

"4thly. It is hereby further agreed by ye Great Men afs'd. that these Severall Townes of Tostochant, Rauroota, Tarhunta, Keutah, Toherooka, Junitis, Caunookehoe, nor any of ye Indyans belonging to them or either of them shall not nor will not hunt nor range among ye English plantations or stocks without leave or then above the number of three at one tyme, neither shall they clame any proprty in ye land on ye southside of Nuse caled Chatooka River nor below Catachny Creek on Neuse nor below Bare Creek at Not-Sha-Hun-Han-Rough on ye south side of Pamptico River.

"5thly. It is mutually agreed by and between all ye said parties to these presents that if any injurey shall hereafter be done on either side, upon complaints made to such persons as shall hereafter be appointed for that purpose, full satisfaction shall be made.

"6thly. The afs'd. Great Men doe hereby agree that from & after ye

Ratification of a Gen'l. Peace they shall and will pay into this Government such a yearly Tribute as hereafter shall be agreed upon.

"7thly. The afs'd. Great Men doe hereby further agree that for ye full & true performance of all and every ye above articles on their part to be performed, ye several Townes of Tostehant, Rauroota, Tarhunta, Keuta, Toherooka, Juninits & Caurookehee shall bring in and deliver up to this Government at ye Honble. Col. Thos. Pollock's six of ye chiefest women and children from each Towne, for Hostages, by ye nexte full moons, provided that they doe not distroy ye Enemy afs'd. by that tyme.

"8thly. The said President & Councill doe hereby covenant and agree with ye Great Men afs'd. that upon the just and true performance of these articles the severall hostages afs'd. shall be well and truly delivered up againe and a free and open trade shal be had with said Indyans as existed formerly.

"Lastly, the afs'd. Great Men doe hereby agree that they will endeavor to bring in to some of their Townes alsoe Chauaneckquockenerook, Enuquner-called Johetaoin shrdluap uapapup called John Pagett, Ekehorquest called Lawson, Correuiena, called Barbar, Colsera, called Henry, Lyahe Oumskinneree, called Suarehooks, Touhquinanch, Erunvanhyne and Young Yyler, and send two Runners to Mr. Redding's Garrison, give there three Hoops, then show a white cloth for a signale in order to pilott such prsons as we shall think proper to send to see the operation done upon ye afs'd. murderers.

"In witness hereof the several parties to these presents have interchangeably sett their hands and seals the day and yeare first above written.

"TOM T. B. BLUNT,
"I. P. SAROONTA,
"H. HEUNSHANOHNAH,
"I. CHAUNTHARUNTSHOE,
"I. NEWOONTTOOTSERY,
"SAROONTHA HORUNTTOCKEN, absent.

There is also a map of the lands which the whites gave to Tom Blount in return for his co-operation with them, these lying in Bertie County, and to this day being known as the "Indian Woods." Surveyors in those days were generous, and when in later years it was found necessary to re-survey this tract, it was discovered that the area was more than thrice as great as originally stated. There are tomahawks,

made of iron and evidently obtained from the Indian traders; that is, white men who sold guns, ammunition, tomahawks and, worst of all, "fire-water"—that is, whiskey—to the red men, and who aided more in debauching them than did the very worst Indians. The tomahawks show by their shape that they were for no peaceful purpose, far unlike the English hatchets, and their very lines seem to tell a story of those days of horror.

While DeBry's pictures were the first ever printed about North Carolina (then "Virginia"), it was a great many years before the colony printed its own first book, and this did not appear until 1752, being a compilation of the laws of the colony, printed by James Davis, the official printer, at New Bern. It was bound in yellow leather, and hence became known in common language as the "Yellow Jacket." The example of it shown is perfect. New Bern had then become a place of importance. It was the east which in those days was the real seat of life, progress, culture and development, since the colonial towns were necessarily along the streams or sounds or broad estuaries—places which could be easily reached by vessels from the other side of the ocean. The early settlers showed much judgment in their selection of sites for their towns, and to this day the site of old Bath will strike any person with a practical eye, by reason of its situation. Old Brunswick, Edenton, Hertford, Plymouth, New Bern and other points were all well chosen. The collection is rich in objects illustrating the colonial life in all of these.

Edenton remains the most interesting of all the towns in the State, from a colonial point of view, and the illustrations of it show that it ought to be a place of pilgrimage for the Colonial Dames and the Daughters of the Revolution as well, since there is a remarkable blending of life of the two periods in North Carolina.

The stately court-house, with a "spring floor" on the upper

story, built for the special purpose of dancing, was modeled after assembly rooms in England, at such places as Bath and Tunbridge Wells. On this second floor is the Masonic Hall, with the chair in which Washington sat when master of the lodge of Masons at Alexandria, Va. Very beautiful pictures of "Hays," the great estate of the rich and powerful Samuel Johnston at Edenton, show this building to be one of the most beautiful of all existing country houses in America, and photographs which are wonderfully fine reproductions show some of the treasures of the library at this house, which has come down through a century and a half in such perfect condition. Of these treasures is the only known copy of the New Bern *Gazette* of June 16, 1775, containing the Mecklenburg Resolves of May 31, 1775, this paper having been sent to Richard Caswell, then a member of the Congress at Philadelphia, by Richard Cogdell, the chairman of the New Bern Committee of Safety, this letter saying, in part: "You will observe the Mecklenburg Resolves exceed all other committees or the Congress itself. I send you the paper in which they are inserted, and I hope this will soon come to hand." This letter is dated June 18th. These resolves did not appear in the Wilmington *Mercury* until a week after they had appeared in the New Bern *Gazette*. There are water-colors of the House with a Cupola, once the residence of Francis Corbin, Lord Granville's agent, and of the house where the patriotic women held the "tea party," and there are photographs of the former building and of the bronze tea-pot which Mr. Julian Wood has placed on the site of the tea-party house.

A pair of pistols of unique and striking form were the property of Capt. Hugh Waddell, and were carried by him in the expedition against the French and Indians in 1758, at which time the British troops and militia captured Fort DuQuesne, in Pennsylvania, and by the capture really broke

the French power in the colonies. These weapons are perfectly preserved and have what are known as cannon barrels, because of their shape, tapering from breech to muzzle.

Recent acquisitions to the collection are portraits of the first Lords Proprietors, these being photographs, the gift of Mr. James Sprunt, of Wilmington, of the portraits in his private collection, which are copies made to his order of the originals, which are in libraries and private homes in England. They include King Charles and all of the first Proprietors except Sir John Colleton, whose portrait has never been found. There is the Earl of Craven, who gave his name to the county of that name; Hyde, who is yet paid a similar honor; that Berkeley who was the only one of the Lords Proprietors who came over to this side and whose stay here was marked by death and destruction, mainly the execution of Governor Drummond of Virginia and the burning of Jamestown, the next place settled after ill-fated Roanoke. There is Anthony Ashley Cooper, Sarl of Shaftesbury, who wrote the Habeas Corpus Act, and for whom Locke wrote his "Fundamental Constitutions," which was intended as a chart of laws for the government of the colony of North Carolina, and who himself made additions to that interesting document, which to be sure provided a most impracticable mode of government, hard to be even imagined in these latter days. There is a deed by the Lords Proprietors to George Burrington for the fisheries in North Carolina for the term of seven years, this being a striking document, of great size, on parchment, and bearing the autographs and seals of the gentlemen who then owned North Carolina. Later it came about that all of the Lords Proprietors except Granville surrendered their proprietorships. There are interesting documents signed by him and by his agents, one of whom was Francis Corbin of Edenton, whose house is yet perfectly preserved and who was visited by the "Regulators" and made to

give bond that he would be just and true in his financial dealings with the people. There are also deeds signed by Nisbet, Granville's agent in the up-country, for lands granted to the United Brethren, otherwise the Moravians, whose headquarters were then and now are at Salem. There are royal seals, some weighing a quarter of a pound and of wax; bullet-moulds, button-moulds, candle-sticks, snuffers, pewter platters and plates, tuning forks and scores of other relics of the Colonial times. There are deeds and newspapers bearing the stamps used in collecting the stamp tax, which presently became so odious as to form one of the key-notes of the Revolutionary uprising. There are relics of the earliest Scotch settlement along the Cape Fear, with its center at Fayetteville, including wonderfully fine pictures of "Bonnie Prince Charlie" and his savior, the brave though unlucky Flora McDonald.

Very interesting indeed is the collection of maps of the State, dating from 1585, the most accurate of the early ones being that by Lawson, the Surveyor-General of this colony, which was made about 1708. An original edition of Lawson's history of the State is on view. This particular copy is a gift from President James Madison, to replace a much-prized one lost in the fire which destroyed the State capitol here in June, 1831.

Photographs of Edenton include the burial-place of a number of notables, among these governors Pollock and Eden, and the wife of Governor Edward Moseley, who is truly a lost governor, since no amount of search has so far availed to find his remains. Capt. Samuel A. Ashe, so well informed about all things North Carolinian, thinks that his grave is at Rocky Point, Pender County, and search will probably be made there. These remains of notables were gathered at various points and interred in this cemetery of old St. Paul's Church, Edenton.

There are many extremely fine examples of penmanship in the collection of colonials, and notable among these are maps or plots of lands, some of these going back to the time when the Roanoke River was known as the Morotoke or Morotuck. These maps show the origin of many of the present names. One of them shows the location of an Indian town, Tauhunta, which was on the Tau river, now known as the Tar.

Of the Regulators there are a number of relics, chief among these, perhaps, being the bell which they used for the double purpose of calling themselves together, having no drum, and also giving notice of the approach of the British. The bell has a very thin and peculiar tone, like a cow-bell. There is a pay-roll of the company commanded by Captain David Hart, of the Orange County Regiment, which served 70 days in what was then termed the "Insurrection." There is also a plan of the battlefield of Alamance, made on the spot by an engineer the day after the battle, and showing the positions of the militia under Governor Tryon and the Regulators.

But few old taverns yet remain in North Carolina, yet fortunately there is a very striking example at Hertford, the building being of wood, long and rambling, two-storied, with double portico its entire length, and this is excellently illustrated by photographs.

The most noted collection of letters in all North Carolina is unquestionably that of the Iredells, now in the possession of Col. Charles Earl Johnson, of Raleigh, this being very extensive and containing letters from practically every man in high public life in this colony and the others during the late colonial period and throughout the Revolution. Two cases of these documents are shown and there are some striking relics among these, one a proclamation by Governor Josiah Martin, who used on public documents his private seal instead of the State seal. There are other special cases, contain-

ing the documents of the Devereux family, which go back to the time of Governor Pollock; documents, rare books, etc., collected by Bishop Joseph Blount Cheshire, and the very important collection of autograph letters made by Governor Swain while in office, this being of documents from the executive office, and covering not only the Colonial period but the Revolutionary, and coming down to a later date.

The period during the Revolution, when North Carolina was what may be termed an independent commonwealth, is illustrated by various articles, but certainly by none more striking than the currency issued by authority of congress at Halifax, April 2, 1776. This money is excellently well printed, the plates having been made on copper, and the designs are striking, being in sharp contrast with money issued a little later. Very perfect copies of the journals of two of the most notable State conventions are on view; one, that held at Hillsboro in 1788, which declined to ratify the Federal Constitution; the other, that at Fayetteville the following year, which ratified that great document. The "Resolves" of the Committee of Safety of Surry County and of Tryon County are unique as showing on their face that there was great loyalty to the King, while there was the sternest opposition to the policy of oppression practiced upon the colonies by England. The Surry County resolves, exquisitely written, bear in graceful design upon the cover the inscription, "Liberty or death. God save the King."

Mention has been made of the Johnson collection, covering a number of Iredell documents. A special case in this collection is devoted to the portraits of Colonial and Revolutionary celebrities, including Willie (or Wiley) and Allen Jones, the former of whom was to exercise a remarkable influence upon John Paul Jones, the first admiral of the United States Navy, the patronage and affection shown by Willie Jones having led John Paul to add Jones to his name and to

show in many other ways his regard for the great and warm-hearted North Carolinian who had done so much for him. There is in the Swain collection a characteristic note written by the Chevalier Paul Jones, while in Paris, to a friend, desiring a copy of the Constitution of North Carolina to be shown to a gentleman in high favor at the French court. The collection of portraits is mostly composed of etchings, and upon the borders of some of these Mrs. Robertson, a daughter of the late Col. Cadwallader Jones, has painted in colors the family arms, she being the official painter to both the Colonial Dames and the Daughters of the American Revolution in the United States. The collection embraces portraits of the three signers of the Federal Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia—Hooper, Hewes and Penn—and there are various other memorials of these worthies.

The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, claimed by some to have been made on the 20th day of May, 1775, and by others to have been made (in the shape of what have been known as the Resolves) May 31, 1775, is a disputed point in North Carolina. The evidence as to the 31st is beyond any human question. There is a special collection of autographs of Hezekiah Alexander and others, whom it is asserted signed the Declaration of May 20th. As has already been stated, the Resolves of May 31st appear in the New Bern *Gazette* of date sixteen days later, and also in the Charleston *Gazette,* the latter paper having been sent to England, and the most obnoxious of the Resolves having been marked by the royal governor, the original of this particular paper being in the British archives, but the photographic copy being of the precise size and very clear.

Of the Revolutionary period proper there are over four hundred relics, among these some of Richard Caswell, the first governor under American rule, being naturally prominent, including a cup and saucer made in France for him,

while there are particularly valuable documents bearing his autograph and the State seal of the time.

As has been stated, it is difficult to draw the line between the Colonial and the Revolutionary periods, so much do these blend in certain respects. Thus there are shown superb copies of the Bible and Prayer Book of the Church of England, both royal gifts from King George III. to the vestry of Christ Church in the good town of New Bern, when it was the capital of the State. These books were in continuous use in the church until a comparatively recent period. The "Palace" of Governor Tryon, at New Bern, built at what was considered a vast expense in those days, is illustrated by a very old wood-cut. This building did not a little part to fan the flame of unrest of the "Regulators." They harped upon it, and not a few of the colonists objected to paying taxes because of the fact that their money was going towards paying for this edifice, which provoked both their contempt and their hatred. It was the boast of Tryon that the building was to be the handsomest in the southern colonies if not in the whole country. Of it but a wing remains, long used as a stable, but now as a private residence.

There is a "letter of orders" from the Bishop of London (Compton), authorizing the holding of services in the Colony by a clergyman. There is money issued at a number of points in the State prior to the Revolution and during that period. Some of the colonial currency is what was known as "Proclamation Money," and the enormous depreciation of the revolutionary currency is shown by the fact that in a bill rendered in 1786 iron is quoted at four pounds, English money, the pound; sugar 12 pounds, pepper 90 pounds, rum 165 pounds a gallon, a glass tumbler 75 pounds. This bill, by the way, is for a total of over 1,500 pounds, and two of its entries are in these strange words: "By spirits rum drank at my father's funeral, 45 pounds." "A difference of seven pounds;

so near a balance that a drink of grogg settles it." Of the money issued during the Revolution some was emitted at Hillsboro, some at New Bern, and some at Smithfield and Fayetteville. There is a journal of the Provincial Congress at Halifax, April, 1776. Some of the bills issued by the Provincial Congress at Hillsboro, August 21, 1775, are signed by Richard Caswell and Samuel Johnston. There is a printed order, dated at Johnston Court-House, December 24, 1775, signed by Cornelius Harnett, the president of the council. Another document which shows how stirring were the times is a letter from the Wilmington Committee of Safety, or Committee of Intelligence, as it was termed, to the New Bern committee, signed by Cornelius Harnett and others, dated July 2, 1775.

In striking contrast to the bell used by the Regulators, so thin in material and in tone as well, is a great hand-bell which was used by Governor Tryon at the "Palace" and later by the provincial assembly and by Governor Caswell. It is deep in tone, rotund and heavy.

The wearing apparel of the blended periods is shown, and from it, certainly as to the shoes, we learn that our grandmothers were addicted to high heels and the most papery of slippers, with toes so pointed as to put to blush any modern creations. There are buckles of paste and other gewgaws of the time, and from these relics of the gay days of old there floats out like incense the subtle yet pervasive odor of sandalwood, since my lady of those far-away days must needs have a case of this wood in her boudoir, to contain some at least of her fripperies. What tales of dancing days, of the stately old assemblies, the graceful if slow minuet, of hoops so great as to render the curled darlings of the time unapproachable to caresses unless they bent over like a tree in a storm; with towering headdresses, tier upon tier, hair and feathers, with powder galore, and the faces, fair enough, disfigured by

rouge and beauty-spots most cunningly placed. There are combs of tortoise-shell most daintily carved, which were a fad in those days, and one of these was worn by a lady, herself a member of a great family, who it is said was for a number of years engaged to one of the signers of the National Declaration of Independence and who yet never became his bride. Soon after her death he died, brokenhearted.

There are more humble articles of domestic use, including a foot-warmer, in those days thought to be a necessity for those who went abroad in vehicles; lamps, made in some cases by a native blacksmith, to contain lard and twisted wicks of cotton; some being in rude imitation of ancient Greek and Roman lamps; flax-hackles, linen cloth, spun and woven by the good house-keepers of that time, cotton not being in much favor then, some of this cloth having been made by Mary Slocumb, a revolutionary heroine; pins made in rudest fashion, the head being twisted around the shank and rudely soldered.

There are Revolutionary warrants which were issued by the State to soldiers as pay, and there are also warrants which the State issued for considerable sums, one being for $7,500; this particular one being endorsed as having been "Rejected by the United States in 1791, upon presentation on loan." There is the roster of the North Carolina troops who served in the Continental line, some of whom had such hard fortune in falling into the hands of the British at the capture of Charleston.

Written school-books are another evidence of the hardships of those early days, one being an arithmetic written with great skill and at infinite labor and showing large numbers of examples under all the various heads.

The early Moravian life, from the first settlement by the United Brethren of the region round about Salem, is illustrated in various ways, and a catechism printed in Germany for use by the Brethren in North Carolina is quite unique.

The illustrations of Colonial and Revolutionary architecture are both numerous and varied. Happily a number of the older buildings, which have escaped the usual fate of destruction by fire, have not been tampered with. Some have been destroyed by fire and some torn down. There are some iconoclasts in North Carolina, and these do not spare upon occasion. Some of the handsome structures on the great estates in the eastern counties have been destroyed or so changed as to be unrecognizable, while the noble groves around others have been cut down and sold. In other ways iconoclasts have shown what they can do. The church at Bath is a pitiful example. The old windows were recently taken out, the antique high pews removed and the tiled floor except the aisle; the lofty pulpit with its shell-shaped sounding-board was carted off as rubbish, and now unsightly modern benches fill the church, the pulpit is something of the commonest, while the windows are those vari-colored abominations which one can see in any cheap new church here and there in the little towns and sometimes in the country. Over the front of this striking old building is a brown-stone slab containing date of erection, etc. This, too, was removed, and some relic-hunter took it up to Washington, N. C., where luckily it was found on a hotel counter and given to a lady of the place, who took it to Bath and had it replaced where it belonged. This is only one story out of many. The enlarged and very striking picture of the church at Bath shows it as it is to-day.

Among the Revolutionary autographs will be found those of generals Wayne, Lincoln, Davidson, Greene, Nash and Davie. The fact developed upon inspection of these that General Davidson sometimes signed his name simply William Davidson and sometimes William L. Davidson. Of Davie, who was so eminent in civil life, there are very interesting memorials, one of these being his appointment as an envoy

extraordinary to France, his letter of credit issued by that country, and also a note from Citizen Joseph Bonaparte, expressing his appreciation of a call by Davie during the Frenchman's illness.

The Revolutionary battlegrounds are being illustrated. The picture-story of that at Guilford Court-House is very complete and impressive. It has the honor of being the best marked of all the Revolutionary battlegrounds, and this has been done to a large extent privately, though the State has aided somewhat by an annual appropriation. Pictures are to be made of the battlefield at Alamance and the monument there, and also of that at Moore's Creek, the latter being a battle which had a notable effect in cheering the patriots, having been the first success of the American arms in the struggle. Mention has been made of the Regulators and of the battle of Alamance. Of them and of this engagement there are two views in North Carolina, one being that the affair bore directly upon the Revolution and tended as much as anything else to precipitate the latter; the other view being that there was no connection between the two and that the Regulator movement was merely what some writer has termed "An uprising of peasants." The juster view seems to be that the affair did bear upon the Revolution, though in a somewhat indirect way, having perhaps as much connection with it as did John Brown's raid upon the Civil War—disconnected yet connected. Of King's Mountain, so important an engagement of the Revolution, there is not a single relic, strange to say, though there are several of these in the State and a number in other States, one or two being in the possession of the United States government. Of Revolutionary uniforms there is not an example, only the gloves of Benjamin Cleveland being shown. Of the weapons of the Revolutionary period there are a number of examples, including swords, pistols, and muskets. The most interesting of these is a

musket of extremely fine workmanship, for that date, which was carried by a soldier in one of the Scotch regiments which was in the army of Lord Cornwallis, who fought at Guilford Court-house and then marched, or as we may say, retreated, to Wilmington. There this particular soldier was on duty when Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, and then he and his musket went together into what is now Robeson county and settled. The Revolutionary swords of home manufacture show what the native blacksmiths could do at that day, as their construction was not upon lines at all graceful, but solely for lethal purposes. The bullet-moulds are of the time when the women used to lend their hands and make the bullets, and when, upon occasion, they could shoot them, too.

One of the most interesting places in the State during the Revolution was Hillsboro, a small town but containing noted men and being much visited by those from the low-country, being considered much in the west at that time, before the mountains became civilized enough for resort. Hillsboro has, until recently, preserved a number of its old examples of architecture, and its streets, paved with cobblestones, were reminders of the days when Cornwallis sojourned there and of that yet earlier period when Tryon paid the place visits. It is most unfortunate that illustrations were not made years ago of such places as Hillsboro, as now but few striking features remain. One of these is the court-house, in the belfry of which are a clock and bell, the gifts of King George III., who seems to have had much regard for the town, which was named in honor of the Earl of Hillsboro, while the county bears what may be termed a royal name, in honor of that Dutch King who came over and saved England at so critical a time. There is a picture of the court-house and some other views of places of note. There is luckily a picture, the only one known, of the building at Fayetteville, long destroyed, where the convention met which ratified the constitution.

These pictures are found to tell the stories as well as direct objects and this process of illustration is to continue until every part of the State which is historical is covered. The writer last January made the first tour for the express purpose of gathering historical objects of any and all periods. This was in what may be termed in the footsteps of the pioneers, embracing Fayetteville, Wilmington, Southport, New Bern, Washington, Bath, Plymouth, Hertford, Elizabeth City, Edenton and Roanoke Island. It was a resultful tour, as no fewer than four hundred objects were collected, in addition to more than one hundred photographs, most of the latter being originals made by special order. The result is that there is to-day more knowledge by the mass of the people as to the fine old towns in the early settled parts of the State than ever before. There pass through the State Museum and the Hall of History each year more than 100,000 visitors, representing nearly every county in North Carolina and a large number of other States. The interest in the historical collection is not local, not confined to Raleigh or North Carolina, but is widespread and some acquisitions to the collection come from persons from other States, who thus show their appreciation of the work of preservation which is being so earnestly pressed. One of the facts which is very plain is the influence which North Carolina has had upon other parts of the country in settlement and otherwise, notably in the great middle-west. Visitors from that part of the country manifest the keenest interest in the Colonial and Revolutionary objects in view, and there are students of those periods who are availing themselves of the Hall of History as a medium of information. To show the scope of the collection already, it may be stated that books are being illustrated by pictures made of the objects therein, notably readers and histories by such writers as Capt. Ashe, Prof. D. H. Hill and Prof. R. D. W. Connor. The photographs taken are not only of pictures,

but of objects in every department. The Colonial Dames and the Daughters of the Revolution are frequent visitors to and close students of the exhibits which closely interest them, and they have been no small contributors, while their influence is regarded as of very high value by the writer. It is felt that more ought to be done in regard to the Revolutionary period. The fact that articles are equally available as loans or gifts should have its weight upon the public mind, and the Colonial Dames and the Daughters of the Revolution, so closely linked in their work, should see to it that the most notable objects in private collections should come here. There is in the Raleigh a picture of King George III, which is of deep historical interest. Upon its back these words are written with red chalk, "O, George! Hide thy face and mourn!" General Nathaniel Greene wrote those words himself, having turned the King's face to the wall in a house at Salisbury.

What has been written here is designed merely to show in a partial way what has been done in so brief a space, comparatively speaking, in forming North Carolina's first collection of historical objects. This much may be added, that no collection was ever made at so small an expense, the writer's work being solely that of a volunteer, and this very fact being an incentive of endeavor to make the collection as good and as complete as if it were the work of some paid specialist. Surely the people of North Carolina will give hearty co-operation, and will see to it, sooner or later, that every object which bears upon their colonial and State history comes here.

The oldest documents in North Carolina connected with the history of any family now living are those of the de Rossets at Wilmington, which reach well back into 1500, and are mainly commissions issued by the kings of France.

The writer, it may be said, keeps very closely in touch with

the North Carolina Historical Commission, which by gift has placed a number of extremely interesting pictures in the Hall of History, and he has had these prepared under the auspices of the Commission. There is, of course, also close co-operation with the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, as chairman of its Museum Committee. The co-operation of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture has been very thorough and generous; in fact, all the surroundings and influences have been such as to very greatly aid in facilitating the work.

It is proposed to make special tours through other portions of the State than the east, and to revisit that particular section also. Wherever such visits are made there are conferences with and addresses made to such bodies as the Colonial Dames and the other societies of ladies, and these have proved resultful in every case. It is found that the personal equation enters very largely into this matter. State pride and family pride go well together, and the time is arriving when the large hall, already so nearly filled, will be crowded. The facilities for caring for documents and any and all objects, of whatever material, are of the best, with cases which are moth-proof, dust-proof, and are also thoroughly guarded against any and all insects. The fact that the collection, of which only two departments are here treated of, is so wide in its scope is found to add to the general interest in it, since something is afforded for the student of any period. It has been a distinct inspiration to teachers, of whom more than twelve hundred visited it in a body during the present year. It is set before the Legislature as an object-lesson and as the very best and most practical way of showing that it is worthy of the most complete preservation.

# THE N. C. SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION AND ITS OBJECTS.

BY MRS. E. E. MOFFITT, REGENT.

The Society "Daughters of the Revolution" was founded by Mrs. Flora Adams Darling, October 11, 1890. It was organized August 20, 1891, and was duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York as an organization national in its work and purpose.

The occasion of its founding was to provide a society whose terms of membership should be based upon *direct descent* from Revolutionary ancestors, in which organization admission upon *collateral claims would be impossible.* This rule, clearly stated at time of organization, has been rigidly observed, and the Society is justly proud of its membership, representing as it does the direct descendants of soldiers and statesmen of the Revolution.

The distinctive feature of the government of the Society is its system of State Societies and local Chapters; the officers and Board of Managers of the General Society have entire superintendence and management of the whole organization, while subject to this oversight, State Societies regulate and direct their own affairs. A State Society may be organized wherever there are at least twenty members residing within the State, and a local Chapter may be formed by five members living in the same locality. The State membership includes all members of local Chapters formed in the State.

The objects of the Society as stated in the Constitution are: "To perpetuate the patriotic spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; to commemorate prominent events connected with the War of the Revolution; to collect, publish and preserve the rolls, records and historic documents relating to that period; to encourage the study of

the country's history, and to promote sentiments of friendship and common interest among the members of the Society."

### THE NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY.

Founded by Mrs. Spier Whitaker, a lineal descendant of Wm. Hooper, a signer of the National Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, a biographical sketch of whose life by Mrs. Whitaker was published in the NORTH CAROLINA BOOKLET of July, 1905.

The North Carolina Society was organized in Raleigh, Oct. 19, 1896, the anniversary of the surrender of Cornwallis; and a Constitution and By-Laws adopted on April 6, 1897, its declaration upon honor being, that "if admitted to membership in this Society, I will endeavor to promote the purposes of its institution, and observe the Constitution and By-Laws."

### MEMBERSHIP AND QUALIFICATIONS.

"Any woman shall be eligible who is above the age of eighteen years, of good character, and a lineal descendant of an ancestor who (1) was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, a member of the Continental Congress, or a member of the Congress, Legislature or General Court of any of the Colonies or States; or (2) rendered civil, military or naval service under the authority of any of the thirteen Colonies, or of the Continental Congress; or (3) by service rendered during the War of the Revolution became liable to the penalty of treason against the government of Great Britain: *provided,* that such ancestor always remained loyal to the cause of American Independence."

As will be seen, the watchword of the Society is "Patriotism." Love of Liberty, Home and Country is a heaven-born instinct not bounded by latitude or longitude, nor is it confined by wealth or position. It is imperative and should be absolutely understood in all social and official acts members

should avoid all semblance of sectional feeling, or political or religious partisanship.

That such a society for women was needed is attested by its sure growth—its patriotic activity in marking Revolutionary sites, erecting monuments, the finding and preservation of records vital to the history of the Nation and which in many instances have been preserved from destruction through the efforts of patriotic Societies which had gained a knowledge of their value.

The North Carolina Society grew in strength of purpose, more than numerically. Their meetings were held on important anniversary days—valuable historical papers were read by members on the Revolutionary services of their ancestors, all of which are preserved in our archives.

In December, 1900, it was determined to take up some special work. At this meeting a very interesting account of the "Edenton Tea Party of October 25, 1774," by Dr. Richard Dillard of Edenton, was read, and the idea of commemorating in some tangible way this important event filled the minds of all present. It was then determined to erect a memorial to the heroism and patriotism of those women of the State who by their aid and zeal helped to make this country a free and independent Nation, thereby in a measure setting aside that ignorant prejudice which has hedged them in with such false ideas of their place and power, that the history of mothers, even of the greatest men, is not easy to obtain. As the eye of history is opening to the fact that some credit is due the women of the past for the success of the War of the Revolution, a motion then prevailed to erect in this State a memorial to the brave and patriotic women who organized and participated in the aforementioned "Edenton Tea Party of October 25, 1774," who met to endorse the "Resolves of the Provincial Deputies" in New Bern, August 25, 1774, "not to drink any more tea or wear any more British cloth" until the

tax had been removed by Parliament from these foreign commodities.

On the reception of this news, obedient to the instinct of womanhood, ever ready to do her duty, a meeting was called to testify and put on record their adherence and co-operation in any movement for the peace and happiness of their country. Fifty-one ladies signed this document, an act which deserves an enduring monument.

Ways and means for the accomplishment of this purpose were discussed, and, on motion of Mrs. Helen Wills, a committee of the following ladies was appointed to consider the matter: Mrs. Walter Clark, Mrs. Hubert Haywood, Miss Martha Haywood, Miss Grace Bates and Mrs. Ivan Proctor. The committee reported at the next meeting that they would adopt a suggestion of Miss Martha Haywood to issue a monthly publication on great events in North Carolina history. The idea was adopted unanimously, and Miss Martha Haywood and Mrs. Hubert Haywood (*nee* Emily Benbury) volunteered to begin the enterprise. The treasury furnished means for issuing circulars, for postage, etc.

Through the indefatigable efforts and enthusiasm of our Regent, Mrs. Whitaker, and her associates, "The North Carolina Booklet" has become an assured success. The first number appeared in May, 1901, and consisted of a monograph by Maj. Graham Daves on Virginia Dare, she being the first English child born in America—"a fitting subject for a magazine issued under the auspices of the North Carolina Society 'Daughters of the Revolution,' edited by women, and the proceeds to memorialize the patriotism of women."

After two years of arduous labor freely given to the cause, the editors resigned and were succeeded by Miss Mary Hilliard Hinton and Mrs. E. E. Moffitt. For the first four years the Booklet was published as a monthly, beginning in May each year. In 1905 it was decided to issue it quarterly, and the first number of Volume V was issued in July of that year.

The subscription list continues to justify the publication, and the profits therefrom have brought to the treasury of the Society a creditable amount.

Having in bank a sufficient amount for the erection of the memorial, the accomplishment of its object has been delayed in order to secure historical evidence beyond contradiction, that the heroic act of these patriotic women really took place. A correct list of the names of those who signed the document has been obtained, through the continuous efforts of Mrs. Spier Whitaker, who in correspondence with Rev. H. S. Iredell, of Tunbridge Wells, England, secured a correct list from the "*Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser* of Monday, January 16, 1775"; and through Mr. R. T. H. Halsey, a member of the Grolier Club of New York, and author of a late work entitled "The Boston Port Bill as Pictured by a Contemporary Boston Cartoonist." Additional evidence has been obtained through Mr. Horner Winston, of Durham, N. C., now at Christ's College, Oxford, England, winner of the Cecil Rhodes scholarship. The plans are so far perfected as to insure the unveiling on the next anniversary.

The North Carolina Society Daughters of the Revolution appeals to the patriotism of all descendants of those who will be commemorated, and of North Carolinians all over the United States, to co-operate in the work of "rescuing from oblivion the virtuous actions" of their ancestors, and with such encouragement and co-operation the Booklet will continue to succeed in its work for other patriotic purposes.

RICHARD DILLARD, M. D

# BIOGRAPHICAL AND GENEALOGICAL MEMORANDA.

COLLECTED AND COMPILED BY MRS. E. E. MOFFITT.

## DR. RICHARD DILLARD.

There needs no apology for presenting with this article the picture of Dr. Richard Dillard, the one who revived that incident in North Carolina history of the notable "Edenton Tea Party of October 25, 1774." His researches on the subject have been exhaustive and scholarly. As nearly all of the information regarding that important event has been derived directly or indirectly from his original researches, he may justly be called the "Reviver of the Edenton Tea Party" incident.

A monograph which he wrote on the subject in 1892 was so well received that it was republished in 1898. It was the reading of this article that inspired the "North Carolina Society Daughters of the Revolution" to memorialize in a fitting way the heroism and patriotism of representative women of the State preceding the stormy days of the Revolution. The desire to endorse the proceedings of the Provincial Congress took shape in the "Tea Party," and the resolves were signed by fifty-one ladies.*

Dr. Dillard, bachelor, born at "Farmers Delight," Nansemond County, Va., December 5, 1857, descended from the old cavalier stock, which early in our history had settled along the shores of the Albemarle; received literary education at University of North Carolina, 1875-'77; studied medicine at University of Virginia; graduated at Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, Pa., in 1879; since that time has been practicing at Edenton, N. C.

Many honors have been bestowed upon him by his State.

* American Archives, Vol. 1, p. 891.

Among these, the honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by Rutherford College in 1899. He was appointed a member of the first Historical Commission by Governor Aycock; has contributed a number of historical papers to various magazines; was a contributor to the old Magazine of American History, so ably edited by Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, in which magazine appeared his article on the "Edenton Tea Party," and which reappeared in the BOOKLET in August, 1901. The original of the picture of this Tea Party was upon glass, and by some misadventure became mutilated and broken into several fragments. Dr. Dillard, in 1893, had the painting reproduced on canvass, and presented it to the State. He was also the owner of the only portrait in existence of Martin Ross, the celebrated evangelist, called the "St. Paul of North Carolina," which he presented last year through the venerable Dr. Hufham to Wake Forest College.

He is a member of the North Carolina Society "Sons of the Revolution," through the services of Col. John Campbell, who was a member of three Provincial Congresses, during and prior to the Revolution, to-wit, the one which met at New Bern in August, 1774, at Hillsboro in 1775, and at Halifax in spring of 1776. Is passionately fond of botany and flowers, and contributes to the "House and Garden Magazine."

He resides at his old home in Edenton, which he has fitted up elaborately and named "Beverly Hall," in honor of his mother.

His descent from his Revolutionary ancestor, Col. Campbell, is contained in the manuscript archives of the North Carolina Society "Sons of the Revolution."

## FRANCIS NASH.

I. Francis Nash, born at Floral College, N. C., 1855. Son of Rev. Frederick K. Nash and Annie M. McLean. His father was a distinguished Presbyterian minister, who died in his early career.

II. Grandson of Chief Justice Frederick Nash and Mary G. Kollock, his wife—Frederick Nash was born in Tryon's Palace at New Bern during his father's incumbency of the gubernatorial office, February 19, 1781; he graduated from Princeton College in 1799; admitted to the Bar in 1801; married Miss Mary G. Pollock, of New Jersey, with whom he lived fifty-five years; he died in 1858, distinguished as legislator, jurist and orator of high rank, and a Christian gentleman. The controlling motive of his conduct through life was a sense of accountability to God.

III. Great grandson of Gov. Abner Nash, the able and active friend to the rights of the people, and a member of the Provincial Congress in 1774. Governor 1780; member Continental Congress 1781-1786; died 1786.

IV. Great grand nephew of Gen. Francis Nash, of Revolutionary fame.

I. Francis Nash, subject of this sketch, and a worthy descendant of the above, was left an orphan when a child, was reared by his aunts, the Misses Nash, of Hillsboro, educated at the school of Misses Nash and Kollock and the R. H. Graves schools. At sixteen he began life for himself as clerk; began study of law at night; clerk in law office of Judge George Howard, of Tarboro; obtained license 1877, and was given a partnership by Judge Howard; by reason of failing health resigned. After a year of rest in the country he resumed the practice of law in Tarboro; was elected Mayor; Presiding Justice of Inferior Court of Edgecombe County 1883; again became partner with Judge Howard, but his health again failing he retired from the practice for ten years.

Resumed practice in 1894 in Hillsboro; has filled for short terms U. S. Commissioner and Referee in Bankruptcy. He is a writer of ability. A series of papers on Judicial Evolution, published in Albany Law Journal 1890-1; "Belleville," 1897-8, a story of Reconstruction period; "The Mac Travis Sketches" in 1898; "A Lawyer's Mistake" in 1899; and "Wiolusing," a sequel to "Belleville," in 1900-1; "Hillsboro, Colonial and Revolutionary." For the "Biographical History," which is being published by Charles N. Van Noppen, he has written twenty-three sketches of the worthies of North Carolina. He wrote "Historic Hillsboro" for the August number of the "Booklet" in 1903. He has written many other legal, political and historical articles.

In 1879 he married Miss Jessie P. Baker, of Tarboro, N. C., who died 1896, leaving two daughters—one a teacher of English in Goldsboro High School, the other of Mathematics in the Lucy Cobb Institute, Athens, Georgia.

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### J. G. de ROULHAC HAMILTON, Ph.D.

J. G. de Roulhac Hamilton, the author of this sketch, was born in Hillsboro, N. C., August 6, 1878. Was educated at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., 1896-1900. Instructor at the celebrated Horner Military School, N. C., 1901-'02, student of Columbia University 1902-'04, Ph.D. 1906, Principal of Wilmington, N. C., High School 1904-'06, and now Associate Professor of History, University of N. C. Member of the American Historical Association, Southern History Association, N. C. Literary and Historical Association.

I. Son of Daniel Heyward Hamilton (Major of 13th N. C., C. S. A., later Adjutant 1st South Carolina); married Frances Gray Roulhac, on maternal side a granddaughter of Chief Justice Ruffin.

II. Grandson of Daniel Heyward Hamilton, of S. C.; member of S. C. Convention of 1851; Colonel 1st S. C. Regiment, C. S. A.; married Rebecca Middleton, a descendant of Mrs. Rebecca Motte, of Revolutionary fame, and relative of Arthur Middleton, the signer of the Declaration of Independence

III. Great grandson of James Hamilton; soldier of 1812; member S. C. Legislature; member of Congress; Governor of S. C.; President of Nullification Convention; Ambassador to the Court of St. James from the Republic of Texas; Senator-elect from Texas at death; married Elizabeth Heyward, a grand-daughter of Thos. Heyward, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

IV. Great, great grandson of James Hamilton; Major in Continental line on Washington's staff; married Elizabeth Lynch, a sister of Thomas Lynch, Jr., the signer of the Declaration, and a daughter of Thos. Lynch, a member of the Continental Congress of 1776.

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## COL. FRED. A. OLDS.

Col. F. A. Olds began newspaper work in 1877 in Raleigh, and has been continuously in this profession ever since, having in 1886 become the correspondent of out-of-town papers and devoting himself to this line of work, writing considerably for magazines. For twenty years he has been collecting historical objects, and since December, 1902, has given much time, labor and study to the Hall of History. He is the Chairman of the Museum Committee of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association and the Director of the Hall of History, and he also co-operates very heartily and extensively with the N. C. Historical Commission. He has written many historical articles and stories, which have been in most cases illustrated, and he edited a new edition of Lawson's History of North Carolina, which was published by the Charlotte Observer, and has prepared for publication a

new edition of De Bry's edition of Hariot's narrative of the discovery of Roanoke Island. Last January Colonel Olds made a tour, which was extremely successful, of the older towns in Eastern North Carolina, in the interest of the historical collection, and will later visit other sections. By the co-operation of the citizens of North Carolina, Colonel Olds would be greatly aided in the work he has undertaken of collecting relics and documents vital to the interest of the State's history—besides making a place of general interest to the students of our city, and in fact to all visitors to the Hall of History.

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